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REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 5, 2002

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, August 5, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

Present: Councilors Cascio, Fitzpatrick, Flynn, Gardow, Hemmann, Morin, Sassano (7:40), and Chairperson Czernicki.

Also present: Joseph Swetcky, Acting Town Manager, and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Absent: Deputy Mayor O'Connor.

All stood for the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was led by Councilor Flynn.

The Chairperson announced the meeting was being recorded but not going out live due to a lightning strike.

PRESENTATION - RESULTS OF 2002 AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL in Old Wethersfield

The Mayor welcomed Neill Walsh and John Avignone of the American Heritage Festival in Old Wethersfield.

Neill Walsh, 49 Woodland St, spoke as Chairman of the American Heritage Festival. This year it focused on architecture and restoration and we presented many new demonstrations, tours and activities. You have already received in your package the financial information. We also have a marketing schedule if you would like to see it. We would be happy to address any questions you may have.

Councilor Cascio asked, having been a volunteer there the last few years, what impression Mr. Walsh had of this years festival. In comparison to other years, Neill Walsh stated every year the committee looks at the event and tries to evaluate what we could do better. One of the things we tried to do was to compress the event into a small space. Our programming ideas were good, it is an educational event, we marketed not only in Wethersfield but also to outside the area. We have a breakdown of zip codes, collected at the museums, to give you a general idea of where people were coming from when they came here. We felt the weather was wonderful, the crowds in some real respect were disappointing; we think those people who did come came specifically for the events that we had, and they enjoyed the exhibits and tours and they were enthusiastic. The overall crowds were less than...there is a lot of competition. It is really a niche event, historical cultural tourism, is not Cooney Island. Councilor Cascio asked if the change of dates affected the event. He responded we had a lot of discussion on the date and when we changed it last year we did not have great weather. You can not say that this year, we had wonderful weather and when you were working outside the Keeney Center I think you saw a lot of people you had not seen before. In some respects marketing outside the town, which was one of our goals was successful. The Board has looked at and decided not to hold an event of this type next year. We would like to take the year off and evaluate exactly what it means for this event; what it means to try to develop economic development in Old Wethersfield. As a child of the Town Council and the Economic Development Improvement Commission, we have yet to give a final report to the EDIC, we want to get their input and suggestions of the event in regards to economic development in Old Wethersfield. Perhaps the American Heritage Festival could be a kick off event, which would be a series of events throughout town and work with the newly revised Tourism Committee. We will give a report to EDIC and get their input at well.

Mayor Czernicki asked if the committee had ever given any thought to piggybacking onto the Cornfest. Mr. Walsh responded that bringing people into town over a longer period of time rather than bringing everyone into town in one weekend. I think in terms of the Cornfest, it is a great moneymaker for the town and the Chamber of Commerce. I have worked on that many times as well. It is different, sometime there are so many competing events that one cannot stand out. I think if we take time off, we will be able to look at our role as marketing historical Wethersfield and

continue to work with the museums and look at the events that are currently in place. The American Heritage Festival has a good group of events and tours. These can be brought out and inserted into a program should another group in Town wish to utilize them. The Fire Department is having a big event next year, if they would like to have a Lantern Light Tour we would look forward to working with them or any group who would like to come forward. We are open to suggestions to arrange events for them. Currently the Tourism Commission has been working on some marketing plans and we have some interest in working with them. I think that would be a good mix with us right now.

Mr. Avignone said he thought the committee was great and wanted to thank them, the Town and especially the Recreation Department. We are very proud of the amount of money we raised, the balanced budget and the marketing that took place. This festival really needs to be part of a year round campaign. His greatest observation was the town, the historic district in particular, needs to have a greater awareness. Perhaps by having a kick off event for a historic season, a season where houses are open for public visits, it would be a much better use of all the assets not just a weekend of events and activities but promoting the whole town.

Thank you very much.

This evening Town Manager Lee Erdmann is on vacation and we have with us, as Acting Town Manager, Joseph Swetcky, who is our Finance Director.

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO TAKE ITEMS C.2.G. TRANSFER STATION SCHEDULE AND FEES, C.2.K. PROPOSAL FOR USE OF WETHERSFIELD COVE PRESERVATION FUND AND C.2.L. WEBB SCHOOL OFF THE TABLE"**, seconded by Councilor Gardow.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HEARING

Resolution Concerning an Application to the State of Connecticut to Obtain Local Capital Improvement Grant Funds for the Church Street Reconstruction Project, Phase I: Drainage Improvements

John Miller, Pine Lane

This hearing on applying on this \$200,000 grant for Church Street from Main Street to the Railroad for drainage, I do not know if this was on the list of drainage projects.

Acting Town Manager Mr. Swetcky said when we talk of drainage here, it is a situation similar to Wolcott Hill Road, a road reconstruction project and because of the cost of the project we do it in phases. The first phase is to replace the drainage, the second phase is recondition the road. We anticipate the drainage improvements, upgrading the storm sewers, replacement of the catch basins will cost about \$200,000. The reconditioning of the road will be about another \$400,000 but because the money only comes in \$200,000 a year, we apply for the money now, the money becomes available now, we can start the bidding process, the design process for this whole project. This will probably be a three year project based on the funding availability. Mr. Miller asked if we know we have the money coming after we do the work. Acting Town Manager Swetcky acknowledged that we do know. Every year the state allocates \$200,000 for this program. Mr. Miller wanted to know if we automatically get the grant. Acting Town Manager Swetcky said if we apply for it, yes. Mr. Miller said it is really another town aid program. Acting Town Manager Swetcky said it was very similar.

No one else wished to speak. The Chairperson declared the Hearing closed.

GENERAL COMMENTS

John Miller, Pine Lane, under D.1.1, sale of town property, you did not get any bidders. I would suggest, there has never been a better time to sell a building lot in this area. I do think the 81,500 approaches the absurd. I would go so

far as to say in terms of building lots they might be a liability. Because you have other money tied up based on that money, I would go right out to bid, go out with \$25000. You have that clause where you can always reject all bids for any reason. Find out what you could get for them. They are tied into the drainage. Under D.1.m., status of flood and drainage, you are showing \$437,000 of State money, which you can not get at without coming up with some local money. If you get the \$200,000 and use it for something on the drainage list, you might free up some more money for drainage projects. It is certainly worth taking a look at.

Jim Clynch, 903 Ridge Road, I am here tonight to respond to the Assessors memo to Mr. Swetcky. I have questions, starting with the first line. It says 219 veterans, it is \$657,000 of exemptions. The 219 veterans are disabled veterans who get a \$3000 exemption. This legislation is for low-income veterans. The Town now has an exemption for low-income veterans, \$1000 for a single veteran receiving not more than \$14,000 and \$16,000 for joint. This new legislation raises the amount up to \$25,400 and \$31,000, gross income. I am looking for some relief for these veterans. He also cites the multiplier rule, 12 - 62 g. Evidently the town has the discretion when there is a reevaluation in town, the council can increase the exemption the veteran receives during the reevaluation process. I think you should take another look at this memo and 12-62. These exemptions are long overdue.

Good Evening, My name is Agnes Reynolds, 54 Northbrick La, and I have come before council tonight to raise public awareness regarding issues of health and safety of the proposed cell towers at the new police station and Kelleher Road. I also have concerns regarding aesthetics and potential property devaluation. I request that my comments be part of the minutes of council.

As a registered nurse and mother of a child diagnosed with leukemia in 1996, I have been searching causation for well over 6 years. 2 central areas of concern for me are ionizing and non-ionizing forms of radiation.

Electromagnetic radiation also known as Microwave radiation, Radio frequency radiation or EMR, is emitted from cellular phones and base station cellular towers.

Because my expertise is in nursing and not electromagnetic field science, I have been consulting with an organization known as the EMR network. I believe you will find their mission statement central to my purpose here.

The mission statement states as follows:

We believe that EMR, which includes ELF, RF and MW radiation may be hazardous to life and may constitute a significant threat to public health. This belief is based on credible research, spanning decades of scientific inquiry. Our mission is to enhance local regional, national and international efforts to reduce, mitigate and where possible eliminate hazardous exposure to EMR. As you can see, their mission goal is to also to protect public health.

The science of EMR continues to unfold. Until many questions are answered regarding its safety, we need to continue to utilize the precautionary principle and practice prudent avoidance. Consider the ongoing debate of HRT and the recent studies released regarding long-term effects. Practice has been to encourage its use ... now we are not so sure....

Examples of health effects of electromagnetic radiation include but are not limited to: sleep disorders, fatigue, stress, seizures, burning sensations and shaking. The cellular industry is presently facing litigation regarding brain tumors.

EMR exerts both thermal or heat effects where actual material damage to DNA cells and tissue occur. Newer research regarding non-thermal effects, or in other words, how cells communicate with each other, is ongoing. I have included a summary of the Hyland paper on how base station radiation can adversely affect humans, for your review.

Unfortunately, the Federal Telecommunications Act prohibits localities from barring cell masts based on health effects as long as the FCC safety guidelines are adhered to. Some scientists are questioning those exposure standards and feel they do not adequately address the realities. I have included this opinion for your review.

I understand that because the towers are to be erected related to public emergency communications, that they are exempt from hearing. I would like to propose to council that the fact that a commercial venture i.e. allowing AT&T to utilize the towers rent free as well as receiving revenue from others, that this may constitute hearing. Utilizing other telecommunications on base stations will increase electromagnetic radiation to the public. In contrast to mobile telephones, the use of which is voluntary, the exposure to the emissions of a mobile telecommunications base station is usually involuntary and 24 and 7.

I have several questions I would like to address to council and planning and zoning.

1. Have other areas or towers been investigated. It appears the two towers in question are in the heart of the town, increasing exposures to residents and commercial businesses including schools. Placing towers in densely populated areas is poor planning. I have enclosed the Clarkstown NY decision where the judge points out that a responsible town government will endeavor to site towers as far away from residential areas as possible and that evaluating alternate sites is the responsible course to follow.
2. Who would assume the liability for the following:
 - a. Insurance for health effects of chronic exposures to MR I have included documentation from one insurance company refusing to cover this. Since the town will be the landlord of those sited on these towers, liability issues are crucial to the taxpayers in this town.
 - b. Lightening strikes with subsequent fires and explosion.
 - c. Environmental damage related to lead acid batteries and sulfuric acid currently on the EPA's list of extremely hazardous substances.
 - d. Liability for RIF interference with a variety of industrial, medical and home electronic equipment including home security systems.
 - e. Liability for property devaluation. Cell masts are included in one book citing 50 top environmental hazards to avoid when buying a home. Historically, towns have litigated successfully barring cell towers for this reason. Unfortunately, attracting responsible businesses to the Silas Deane Highway may be more difficult as its look becomes more industrial. Not only do we have strings of power lines and double telephone poles, now we will have base stations and we will have them in residential areas. Would you buy a home next to one?
3. Has the town considered satellite installations for our emergency system? Satellite systems decrease EMR exposures to humans and are not vulnerable to geography issues, weather issues i.e. ice storms, or terrorist attacks as are land base systems. I have included the name and telephone number of an RIF consultant who can explore this issue.

In closing...

Allowing AT & T to "slide through the back door" sets bad precedent. As a health professional, I understand the great necessity for a safe public communications system for our emergency personnel and residents and feel it is imperative to explore all options. Allowing other telecommunications companies to rent space increases our exposures to EMR and its potential health consequences ... a serious concern for all. Thank you for listening

Dick Sparveri, 322 Church St, I have a question on the lightning strike. I turned the TV on to watch the meeting tonight and I was shocked to see that 14 was not broadcasting while 15, 16 were on the air. Friday night channel 14 was broadcasting after the storm. I would like to know just how our connection got blown off the air when Cox Cable knows nothing of a power outage. I do not know if that can be addressed but it seems odd and curious that Wethersfield is the only one affected by this lightning block.

Mayor Czernicki asked Acting Town Manager Joseph Swetcky if he knew anything about the lightning strike.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky replied this morning when we attempted to broadcast out of Town Hall we were unable to do so. When we called and checked our in house equipment it was working, we then called in Cox Cable. This afternoon they notified us that there was a lightning strike on equipment outside this building and they hope to have us on line tomorrow. Mr. Sparveri stated he talked with Tom at Cox Cable and he checked and they have no difficulties with Channel 14. Acting Town Manager Swetcky stated Channel 14 does not have difficulties, they can broadcast from their facility, it is with this building.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd, I would like to address the workshop on the discussion on the Webb School and the recommendations put forth by the BOE for the Webb School. First, recommending a 440 pupil, K-6 elementary school and improvements for the ADP program. I believe that school can support more students and become more efficient if it were used to its full extent. We should be shooting for 100% usage for that school for students and that should be the goal. Overcrowding will diminish and disappear but the fact remains it should be a school 100%. I would like to see K-6 in that school and ADP. Do not send any supervisors to Webb. Soundbridge students should go to the Webb. Utilize Webb to its fullest for classroom instruction. Another issue is the Media Center--the Auditorium will be needed when it is a school. The current Meeting Room could be made into the Media Center and all meetings could be held in the Auditorium. Let's not destroy the Auditorium. Utilize what we have. Leave the maintenance people there and we would not have to worry about renovating that space now. The school administration must find another home. Maybe we should see the cost of putting them at the Town Hall addition if the footings are good. I would like to see the Stillman building being used. If you are not going to use it for public use, give it back to the heirs and let them have

the problem. I know there is grant money out there. We should be going after it.

Susan Fennelly, 90 OxYoke Dr, I have always had respect for anyone serving in elected office whether or not their political affiliation was the same as mine but I have become very disgusted with the Republican Council members. I was unhappy and angry during the last election when the Sassanos were targeted but I had hoped that once the elections were over, the issue of the Town Clerk would be put to rest. However, over the past few weeks, it has become clear that this has not happened. The immature, whining unprofessional behavior of many republican council members during the executive session called to evaluate the performance of our department heads was a prelude to the calculated and deliberate assault on our Town Clerk at July 15 council meeting. I sat and watched that council meeting and I was appalled and I was appalled to watch our Mayor and our Deputy Mayor attempt to put a positive spin on the dirty deed. This type of mean spirited and vindictive behavior has to stop. It serves nobody. Wethersfield deserves better from its elected officials.

Harry Lichtenbaum, 16 Townhouse Lane, I come to express my disappointment with the members of this council who proposed and supported the motion to reduce the Town Clerk's salary completely without justification. The manner in which it was done, was inappropriate and insensitive. The reasons given were, to quote the Hartford Courant editorial "bunk". Let's be honest, this was obviously a mean spirited attempt at retribution by the Republicans since the Town Clerk was appointed when the Democrats held the Council majority. And this was there right, like it or not. As a matter of fact, no sooner had the Republicans taken over the Council, campaigning on the slogan stop the arrogance then they arrogantly appointed a new town attorney and a new assistant town attorney. Oh a grand stand play was made to give the impression that an open selection search for the most qualified candidates was made but we all know that was a farce. They handpicked two Republicans. And that was their right since they now held the majority. Let's be honest, as far as the Town Clerk being paid more than her assistant, what's the problem? Again to quote from the Hartford Courant editorial, Pay cut was Pay back. The Clerk's pay reflects the responsibility and accountability invested in the position. Responsibility and accountability equal more pay, sounds logical to me. Here is the responsibility and accountability chart, which is part of the Town budget. You have all seen it. It shows that the Town Clerk is directly responsible to the Town Council not the Assistant Town Clerk. The Town Clerk is the one responsible and should be paid more. Again to quote from the Hartford Courant, Sandra Hutton, President of the State's Town Clerks Association, said the disparity of pay and experience between Town Clerks and their employees is not unusual. We have many newly elected Town Clerks and many new clerks appointed who need to learn the job. In conclusion, I don't know who dreamed up this bogus scheme to extract retribution on Mrs. Sassano but I do know it was a poorly thought out vindictive gesture having nothing to do at all with equity and parity among employees. It was government by retaliation and this is no way to run a Town as I said I am disappointed in you.

Dave Delisle, 77 Longvue Drive, I am here to speak on two issues on behalf of my neighborhood, the intersection of Longvue and Stillwold Drives. Here is a drawing so you will get the idea of the area. [Engineering] Hopefully on the first issue I will be enlightened and maybe with some good news, under D.1.b. as we talk about town paving schedule for 2002. However, three or four years ago, Stillwold Drive was paved to Coleman Rd., and then it stopped. A few years ago Longvue was paved in its entirety. The particular area around our house and down to the Silas Deane Highway is in very bad shape. We constantly get puddling of water in the middle of the road, so it is not graded properly, and out in front of the driveway at 156 Stillwold Drive. We have contacted the public works department and they responded that there is a computer program that tells us that. When asked when the road will be done they could not give us an answer other than say we would have to go to the Town Council and find out. So here I am. If I can not find out that they will be paved soon at least I hope to find out when they will be paved. I did bring with me some photos with the road condition. [Engineering] Please look at them before finalizing paving plans for this year. I would like an answer as to when we can expect to have the rest of Stillwold Drive paved after all these years. Also, to find out why it was started and then stopped and why they keep patching it, the patches fall out and we keep getting water all over the place. The other issue is the speed on Longvue Drive. Is there a way we could have some stop signs or speed bumps to slow the traffic down? It becomes a speedway from Wells Rd to Prospect. Some years ago I witnessed a child get hit in front of my house and more recently and certainly not as serious, we have had two animals get hit. It is a concern of the neighbors not only because of the safety factor but also because of the noise. We certainly would like to see if the Town Council could look into as far as getting some way of speed control on Longvue Drive as well as finding out what our paving situation might be on Stillwold.

Ballou Tooker, Harmund Place, speed bumps could be used on our street as well somehow speed bumps or speed dips are a dirty word, climate and plowing are not the same here as in Florida where they are used quite frequently. I want to add to the school issue. Stillman and Moeller home are still standing there and if we go to referendum and they are not being used, you will need to have a pretty good excuse to tell the people as to why we are not using them. Give them a reasonable explanation they will accept it. I would hate to see something like this voted down because of some buildings. On the agenda, C.2.k. a memo from Director of Physical Services Joe Hart where he indicates it is not advisable to use seasonal employees to clean up around Wethersfield Cove because of the dangers associated with it. I know these things have been around but isn't it the responsibility of the MDC. It's through their doing these things happen. I see seasonal employees doing things. For example, the plantings around town are watered weekly by an employee. Now we have a seasonal doing the watering for the regular employee who is standing around not doing anything, can't we put that person to better use, we paying for one person not to do anything at all.

Ron Zdrojeski, 68 Old Common, I think I have a concern and a half. I have noticed in the last few months we have had a brain drain going on in our Town. The Superintendent has gone to Weston, our Police Chief announced his retirement, I've read news reports of our Town Manager, Lee Erdmann inclination to move onto Hartford, I understand perhaps even Mr. Swetcky is thinking about leaving and even Mr. Popper tendered his resignation. There are many who say you should run government like a business and while I think there is much in business that one should emulate when running a government, I have never entirely agreed with that principle. I would say that if you were running a business and all your management is leaving, it should leave you to question and perhaps to move more carefully and deftly when dealing with managers on a going forward basis. Frankly, I am very concerned about our Town because I think the wealth of experience that these men and Dr. Pierson had is something that you can't replace. Certainly these vacancies will present opportunities and I am certain that we will have a search committee and they will do a wonderful job but they can't replace these people in what they know. It is this concern and one other thing, which brings me to comment about the action taken with respect to the Town Clerk. This issue has been caught up in a vortex of passion which ill bespeaks our Town for too long. I am not a Republican, expect for Mr. Gardow, I think I have worked or served along with you in one capacity or another for 15 years. I do not know if the Town Attorney has reached a decision on whether the action was appropriate or not or legal but the actions really bespeak a lack of grace that I know none of you process. You are all good people. It is not consistent with your character, what you did because it really did bespeak a level of spitefulness and vindictiveness, which I truly believe none of you possess. I certainly hope you revisit this decision because I personally think Dolores does a good job and she deserves the opportunity to do her job and be fairly evaluated. While I certainly can understand the Deputy Mayor's concern about evaluating an employee in front of her spouse. I have two comments: I have been in organizations where relatives were allowed to work in organization's and in some of those organizations people were allowed to participate. I could agree with what Dan had to say there, it was a little unseemly. But it was somewhat belied by the fact that just a week or two later when it was in executive session and now it was out in the public I think she was fairly eviscerated and I don't really think she ever had an evaluation that merited that. When I sat on the opposition end here of Tom, in more ways than just physically, I would often say and remember Lee and Joe Hart giving a nervous chuckle, look if they are not doing their job you evaluate them and fire them. I certainly don't think Dolores deserves to be fired but if she is not doing her job, then do your job, evaluate her and then make a decision. The actions that you took, I don't know why you took them and I'd like to give you the benefit of the doubt truly, but I'd like you to do the right thing and put this issue behind you. I think it is doing the Town great damage.

Joe Tralongo, Longvue Drive, I agree with Dave about speeding on the street. We have young children and cars are going by, 40, 50, 60, it is a straight road, wide road, perfectly straight and ready to go. Has the council ever thought of street easing, putting up islands in between intersections so people can not see what is in front of them and they are forced to slow down.

Mayor Czernicki told him the Police Chief is here with us and has heard these comments about the speed.

Doug Ovian, Broad St, I agree with a lot of what Mr. Zdrojeski said, but I can also say since my experience with all of you is shorter, I have the pleasure of that experience always being positive on both sides of the aisle. What I would say with respect to the Town Clerk issue, even if you accept the action was taken with the best of intentions it still may be that this was the wrong method to try to accomplish those ends. Other methods, charter revision or whatever would have been the more appropriate route to take and I hope that still will be considered because I think that a recision of

the action a few weeks ago is still called for. Unfortunately I missed some of the public comments since the television is not in real time tonight, I want to speak to two issues: Stillman School and school administration. I attended a Historic District Commission meeting when Stillman School was first presented as a possible place for the ADP and the Administration. Friar Associates came to see us and it was an imposing thought that it would intrude upon Standish Park and the necessary parking spaces that would be needed. That would cut out the vista of the area from Stillman Park and change its nature. At the time there weren't any models that show it with the rest of the park so it seemed like an imposing thought. Since that time I have thought if I knew the Francis Stillman could be saved I would accept certain modifications to that building for that end. Maybe other commissioners would feel that same way. If it were presented in the context of the whole park, and if certain functions, ADP, are not going to be a part of that, it may be worth investigating further a return to that building. Part of the problem with Francis Stillman, at least with what has been presented thus far, is we think of schools being universally accessible, we tend to build them flat. The most obvious use would be to extend classroom space Hanmer School as the Hanmer population expands. If it cannot be used as classrooms then the next best thing is administration space. Look at the Keeney Memorial and all that it provides the town in so many ways. If we have that foresight now we might have that kind of saved building in the future even in a modified, expanded size. With respect to the back and forth on the new elementary school, I still think the town Board of Education made the wrong choice. I realize there was public support for it. I believe developing a fifth elementary school is the wrong choice for Wethersfield. Part of the struggle we face right now is trying to decide what to put into that renovation. This is a reflection of the fact we are taking a middle school, which was meant to serve a wide purpose from the beginning and create a school which will serve only one fifth of the population. A 5-6 school continues to be the trend in competitive towns, Avon, Farmington, Manchester and Glastonbury, these towns are going in that direction. These are the towns we will be competing with for other families who we hope to attract to town. We in Wethersfield would be better at uniting our students at a younger age and a 5-6 block will allow us to focus for the five and six graders everything the Town has to offer them without quintupling. In the long run we will face less of a brain drain when children start at Silas Deane when children start at a younger age we come together as a community at 5-6. So many parents say the elementary schools are nice and safe and quiet and that is where they want their children, they feel comfortable. They start to feel uncomfortable with this radical change at 7th grade. If you had that change happen two years earlier when children may still be less adventurous you will hold onto more families right through to the high school years. I ask you all to consider that still as the ideal, I think the elementary plan is not the way to go.

Jerry Arienzale, 96 Stillwold Drive, I would like to speak to and agree with comments about the speeding conditions on Longvue Drive. We have been here since September and have a four year old daughter we take out for a ride on her bicycle on the sidewalks on Longvue. To cross we have to wait quite a while for a few cars to go flying by. As for paving Stillwold from Longvue Drive to the Silas Deane, it has been patched in the potholes. It has been fixed but the patches are coming up. The area for paving is from the curve of Stillwold Rd. going down to the Silas Deane.

Barbara Ruhe, 79 Main Street, I am a connoisseur of education. My husband and I both have Doctorate's and education is something we value and cherish. I am always fascinated by the bricks and mortar discussion because some of the most important education takes place outside of that brick and mortar. We are going to have to face brick and mortar issues in the next few years but I think there needs to be some other things you need to think about. The Supreme Court has said that voucher programs are constitutional. There is a charter and magnet school movement across this country and in parts in Connecticut. I sat on the board of the Charter Oak Preparatory Academy, a charter school that functioned for about three and a half years. It was the charter school, which was the itinerant charter school. We almost got the site where the Police Station is and the Town of Wethersfield was the most gracious town we spoke with and met with. Newington was terrible and the neighbors on Terry Road in Hartford did not want those kids in their neighborhood. One on those kids was my kid. One of those kids was a kid that my husband and I felt needed a little larger horizon and different opportunities. My tax dollars have not educated my children in the past 3- 4 years. I drive my daughter every morning to Bristol because that is what she needs. She needs St. Paul's High School. We need to think in bigger terms. If we are going to compete with other communities we need to be creative and creativity does not always require bricks and mortar. I have this dream that the school buildings would be used on a daily basis, 6 days a week, from 7:00 AM until midnight, because you see I am a cruel mother and have sent my kids to Saturday German School for ten years. There are many, many opportunities. As the discussion has gone on about renovating Silas Deane I thought of the study that said high school students don't learn in the morning, having had two high school students, they cannot wake up until noon. So why didn't we send the junior high kids to the high school, the

high school kids to school in the afternoon and everybody would have learned better. But that's creativity and that upsets the apple cart that is what it is to think outside the box. But that is the kind of thing that I believe this community is rich in. I worry about the brain drain but I look at the gentlemen who all sit in the front two rows on the left side. They are our talent and our brains and that is the glue that keeps this community together. As you think of the school issues, think of that. As you think of what to do with the administration, I'll share and experience I am having at the moment. I have a large desk with a lot of junk on it. We are going to be moving to slightly different quarters and they are taking the desk away from me. They have measured the space they are going to allow me to have and they have reconfigured it so I can pile things on shelves. My father has literally measured the filing cabinet space that I really need. That is what you need to do to analyze administrative space. I am not going to have and have never had a 425 sq. ft office and cannot imagine what I would do with it except put stuff in it. My suggestion would be to look at things with new eyes, measure file cabinets and think how differently children can learn. I have this dream that someday they are going to give every kid in high school the GED test and if you pass they are going to let you out, even if you are a ninth grader. There is distance learning. There are kids who you could turn loose in the library and they would learn. So think about options and remember something, this is a special town. My family and I are celebrating our 40th year in town, this is a place called home and it is worth investing in it.

John Miller, 375 Pine Lane, I would be remiss in not noting that, I for one am very disappointed in seeing we are losing the Town Planner, Stuart Popper. Particularly when I see the job he is taking, the Economic Development Director in a neighboring town. I will say I have made my own feelings clear many times in the past, here was an asset being under utilized for many years. We paid consultants, well into six figures, and we sat with someone on the staff who I thought was very capable of doing the job. A lost to us and I certainly wish him well and I think another town has benefited. I had a couple of questions last meeting, particularly with what I am hearing here tonight, there might have been other candidates. Who selected Church Street for the project we are getting a grant for?

Acting Town Manager Joseph Swetcky responded. Looked at the complete survey of all the candidates and looked at the computer ratings of the streets with the highest ratings for complete renovation.

Did it even show up in the Capital Improvements Projects? This project comes up every year. We look at it every year. This street was ranked based on submission. This street is part of the LOCIP program.

I am somewhat familiar with the town. What did we do in the Tanglewood open space, which shows up under the drainage program for \$47,000? Acting Town Manager Joseph Swetcky said the money was used for the contract we have with the engineers to design for the runoff there. It is not actually spent money but it is obligated.

I asked a question at the last meeting, I don't know if that is what generated this report but at a bare minimum it is still confusing. You obviously are leaving \$437,000 state money on the table and I would look hard now when it appears there is some opportunity to get that money.

Ed Kardas, 850 Cloverdale Circle, I have a hand out and would like to read it.

Thoughts on joint Council-Board Meeting of 7-31-02 addressing the BOE Proposal for the Webb Facility

First relative to Government and Citizenship:

- a. Our systems of Government generally consist of three distinctly separate branches: Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary -- controlled by amendable "contracts (constitutions)." This structure is intended to provide *checks and balances*. While readily identifiable to National and State levels of Government, the *checks and balances* at the local level, unfortunately, to frequently resemble the Wethersfield Cove after a heavy rainstorm -- muddy.
- b. As co-owners of this value system, we, you and I, have a responsibility to apply *checks and balances*!
- c. While (i) the contracts and processes of our Town Charter, ordinances, and regulatory decisions on local issues may have been consistent with the times in which enacted, (ii) our responsibilities of citizenship are daily and do not stop, and includes an on-going obligation to continually monitor, challenge and decide whether the contracts and processes of any number of days or years gone-by, are yet "living standards" of our value system today. *This raises the composite question: What do we know and what do we do?"*

1. Relative to projected enrollment and classroom shortages over the next 10-years in the School District:

- We know the number of students projected to be enrolled in elementary school grades and of the three organizational projections that of the Central School Administration is routinely updated yearly.
- As to existing school buildings, we know: (i) the number of interchangeable general classrooms; (ii) whether there is a full-size cafeteria, gym, library, music, art, etc.; and (iii) whether there are conference-size rooms for reading, technology, psychologist, nurse, social worker, speech, teachers, etc.
- We know the number and general physical condition of all Town owned buildings.
- We know the age and square footage of each Town owned building as well as the surrounding acreage.
- We have the NESDEC report and other reports as well as cost and demographic data available to us.
- And, as voters, we made bonding referendum decisions in 2002 on a limited number of Town owned buildings,

2. Relative to Town Council and BOE responsibilities:

- We know that education programs of the School District are the responsibility of the Wethersfield BOE. And, we know that the BOE can readily *identify educational classroom criteria* per grade today and for the next 10-years.
- We know that the Annual Town Budget and capital expenditures are the responsibility of the Town Council. And, using educational classroom criteria from the BOE database plus construction cost data from the State BOE, the Town Council can readily formulate capital improvement classroom solutions and their cost estimates.
- We know that the Town has many boards, commissions, and committees composed of volunteers and that the responsibilities of the Council includes appointing an "Advisory Building Committee for each capital improvement project for which a referendum is required."
- We know that Adopted Budgets include a 10-Year Capital Improvement Budget schedule addressing: (i) Economic Development; (ii) Drainage; (iii) Fire & Safety; (iv) Recreation & Parks; (v) Town Buildings; and (vi) School Buildings as well as (vii) other entities. And, we know outstanding capital improvement bonds, currently in the pipeline, are having a significant impact on our property taxes in these difficult economic times.

4. Relative to meritocracy talk on our streets, in our households, businesses and community groups:

- We know the inevitability of future capital improvement needs of other Districts School buildings.
- We know modular classrooms are used today and more could be added if the need arises.
- We know that renovation of the Silas Deane Middle School is out-of-sequence in resolving the Elementary School System classroom shortage. And, we know that the approved SDMS bonding should have been part of a 10-year capital improvement plan applicable to all Town owned facilities.
- We know of NO report by the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee that addresses how to financially schedule capital improvements to eliminate classroom shortage in the School District over the next 10-years.
- We know that circumstances -- understandings, needs, requirements and costs -- have changed since the original projected enrollment increases and classroom shortages were first identified -- versus today.

Summary and recommendation:

- Voters routinely apply our value system of *checks and balances* when voting at bonding referendum time;
- Voters know that it is important that the Town Council also apply our value system of *checks and balances* in resolving the Elementary School System classroom shortages. Plus, Voters know the importance of having the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee (or an ad hoc committee) estimate financial costs, establish priorities, and to schedule all capital improvements over the next 10-years, to minimize the yearly impact on property taxes.
- Voters know *such is practical* before the Town Council moves onto architectural or other studies and the requirements of the ED049 process. And, as previously noted: (i) circumstances change and (ii) long-range capital improvement planning by the Town Council need not be sophisticatedly complex and time-consuming.

Thank you. 8-5-02/ek

Peter Maxwell, 117 Maple Street, seems like this is the same old approach, which was rejected a year ago. A costly proposal to include an excessive amount of school administration space in the package instead of using a school as a school. I would suggest we first do an analysis of what square footage is required to accommodate our school administration. What is typical in the State of Connecticut. You would find the range of 200, 250, 300 square feet per person is appropriate. For the 26 employees (ED49 application) would be in the range of 6500 to 8000 square feet. We have the Francis Stillman School, with 12,800 square feet. We have 13,000 downstairs here in the vacated police facility. Silas Deane construction cost report came in last week. The report shows the study was done by a Professional Construction Services, Inc., and not R2D. Did the town advise any of you of this change in consultants? Did any councilors meet with this new consultant? Report is only half done. Item number 6 is listed, there is nothing in the report. Phasing costs in the study, identifies four costs with phasing. 1. Minimal; 2. Swing space fit-up, cost \$177,000; 3. Minimal; and 4. Shortening schedule, \$86,000. No back up or explanation for numbers 1 and 3. Citizens and councilmen spoke regarding cost impacts on the construction trades, maintaining operating systems, maintaining a safe, clean environment, liability to contractor and to the town, problems with material handling, fire protection, hours of operation, limited building access, change order cost, total in the report for all these is zero. Are you satisfied with this in depth analysis? I have spoken with architects, construction managers, Department of Education about this study that we had or what should the difference in cost be. Actually, this is a very unusual situation. No one could steer me to a case where a town or city actually looked at case A, option A or option B. It looked like Hartford was going to, but they went a different route because they absolutely could not come up with another way to accommodate the students. They found a different way to sequence the construction to get construction savings but towns typically do what common sense dictates. Why are we paying 1.5 million to the professional consultants who avoid exploring the obvious? Particularly since we all know what is a serious budget deficit in the Silas Deane project. What are you going to do?

Leigh Standish, 278 Hartford Avenue, I would like to speak on a couple of issues. The first one is item 2.j, the Deming-Standish House, which was referred to the Major Contract Committee. I had submitted a letter for the June 3 meeting and apparently that was never read into the public record. I would like to do that now:

" It is encouraging that there are proposals afoot to reopen a restaurant in the Deming-Standish House. However, it is just as discouraging to read that there is discussion regarding the sale of the property to a private party or parties. "

" When the house was, for all intents and purposes, given to the Town (for one dollar and other "valuable consideration"), the express intent of the heirs was to preserve its pristine colonial architecture for future generations. My relative, Cynthia Standish, grandfather Jared, uncle Myles, father Paul and those of that generation were specific about the desire that the Town maintain the Colonial Structure as an historic landmark. "

" I have not reviewed the deed to determine whether a restriction to that effect is in force, but I call assure you that efforts contrary to the heirs' intent will, at least, discourage such gifts in the future, if not prove illegal in the present, despite council's legal advice to the contrary. "

" Historic District regulations provide minimal protection against the alteration of the building's exterior and no protection for its historically significant paneling. nor other interior architectural features. Those protections the District does provide are far too broad to protect the integrity of a property of this significance to the old village, nor do they offer sufficient enforcement options to assure the level of security the town must expect. "

" I urge this, and future councils, to think about the loss to the history of this town that private ownership of the Deming-Standish House might prove to be. We have an obligation to future generations to guard that which has been placed in the public domain for protection and preserve our history for future generations. Some of our citizens have already made such contributions. I only hope they continue to be honored by this generation. "

I would like to read an e-mail I sent to this Council, which may be in your packet, although I am not sure these always get to you. This is in regards to July 15 meeting. I saw that last evening's meeting included some discussion of the Francis Stillman building again. I am pleased to see that council has not forgotten that that building exists though its deteriorating condition would suggest otherwise. Apparently at least some on Council and the entire audience did not know that there are deed restrictions on what can be done at that site. Fortunately, the Francis Stillman and Standish

families at least protected that block from the foibles of future generations. Either the land on which the building resides can be used for a school, a park or other town building. It cannot be sold. It cannot be used by the private sector. In fact it cannot be employed for a State, or a Federal public sector use, it's for Town use, according to the Deed and I refer you to it. I refer you to this Deed to the Standish property to the Town for Standish Park as well for other restrictions you may want to also consider as you look forward to other things which you may do. Something has to be done to that building. If the plan is to wait until it deteriorates until it can be condemned in order to override the Historic District Commissions ruling, shame on you. Please remember the school buildings that were either converted to other uses or demolished for which we would do much to have now. Given the need for classrooms, Webb should be devoted to that purpose. Perhaps maintenance and operations for the Board of Education can be relocated the town garage or other town facilities. Thus the final requirements for Board of Education would fit nicely within the existing shell of Francis Stillman at a reasonable cost if they were looked at reasonably as well. I think the Taj Mahal that had been proposed historically is certainly not what the administration requires.

Finally I will actively oppose both legally and politically the sale of the Standish House. Apparently though, there was reference last night to those who favor it's sale, my letter to Council in opposition to this sale and my standing as heir, Lee Kuckro's concerns regarding the paneling and many other citizens and organizations concerns, expressed or silent, have disappeared from the radar. This sentiment for the sale will face an uphill fight. Must we have another?

Finally I would like to comment on the situation with the Clerk's salary. I would like to say that nepotism is wrong and the election paid a price for that. I think the town has extracted its pound of flesh for that nepotism. The town charter prohibits you from dismissing for other than cause in the case of the Town Clerk and I believe the Town Manager, whereas the Town Attorney is a patronage position and typically changes with each Council. So I think there are apples and oranges when you consider those both. However, I do think the time to address the salary is in the review process and two wrongs won't make a right. So I would ask you to consider another way to address this problem.

Rocco Orsini, 95 Broad St, Wethersfield Taxpayers Association, Inc. We are not going to make any comments relative to the Webb School tonight. You had a meeting last week, a meeting between Council and the Board of Education and you made the right decisions where you are going to be looking at 6, 7, 8 different alternatives. We would suggest that you take your time. We would suggest that you make business decisions. There is a memo in here by Mr. Derr where he speaks about emotional decisions versus business decisions and we agree with him on occasion. We would say you set the referendum date when you are ready. It doesn't need to be November, it can be when you are ready. I would like to comment quickly on the R2D report. This is the report where we are going to spend \$18,000 for R2D, a consulting firm, to study what we would save if the Silas Deane Middle School were empty. And the second one would be what it would cost to open Webb. Phase I came out last week and this is not a believable report. This may be a report that we want to put on the shelf and not look at it again. It is a 13.5 million Bond and I have 1.5 million in fees in there so we are talking \$12 million of brick and mortar. I have been a financial manager for a long time. When I look at a report of \$12 million and I am doing something significant, I will find 5% without batting an eyelash. This came out to be 2% and it is not even believable. It is very disappointing. I was also surprised that R2D did not do the work. Does that mean they billed us 20% off the top? It seems to me we could have gone directly to the Stamford firm, but we did not. On the Silas Deane Middle School we are continuing our efforts to beautify the eastside of that school, we are trying to only have an 18 foot roadway rather than a 44 foot roadway. However, we have heard that some business owners on the Silas Deane Highway have now heard that they will need a turning lane for buses and that means it is going to take turning lanes for the businesses away. We have heard some businesses are not pleased with this, it may come up in the future. If it is economic development and we want to be friendly to our businesses we don't want to jam something down their throats. C.2.g is the analysis on the Transfer Station, fee increases. I believe the one you are going to support is the one which raises all the fees by \$5, keeping the station open 38 hours per week. This will come very close to break even, within \$5000. Make it break even, look at the hours reduce them by 5 and make it appear to break even. On the job descriptions, I understand Mr. Popper is leaving town to go to work as an economic development administrator. One of the jobs is a grants administrator. My suggestion is, as Mr. Popper is leaving why don't we hire the new economic developer/planner and let him look at these two job descriptions. If they are going to work for him it may be wise to hold off on these two part time jobs. I would like to see a grant writer. We are looking for someone in Town to go out and find where are all the grants. C.3.d the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities are asking us to make a contribution to them to take the lead to purchase street lights for us. I would support this if the Acting town Manager gives a copy of these two write-ups from Cape Cod. Two towns were able to

get their lights for free. We should at least take a look at it.

No one else wished to speak and the Chairperson declared the General Comments portion closed.

COUNCIL ACTION

Chairperson Czernicki asked the Acting Town Manager Swetcky for his comments. He explained that it is for the drainage portion of the renovation to Church Street, Main Street to the railroad tracks, this is a two phase project, the second phase taking place in subsequent years when more grant money becomes available. For clarification, this grant money cannot be leveraged against other state grant money. Mayor Czernicki repeated that it cannot be used with other grant money.

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION CONCERNING AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT TO OBTAIN LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, PHASE I: DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS"**, seconded by Councilor Flynn.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Next we have an appointment to Boards and Commissions.

Councilor Cascio moved **"TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF THERESA A. FORSDICK TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF AUGUST 5, 2002 TO JUNE 30, 2003"**, seconded by Councilor Fitzpatrick.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C.2.g Transfer Station Schedule and Fees had been referred to the Refuse Disposal Committee. Chairperson Czernicki asked Councilor Gardow for his comments.

During the budget process we came up with a target point of recovering \$5000 more from Permits and Trip Coupons for use of the Transfer Station. We met in June, Councilor Sassano, the Deputy Mayor and myself, discussed different options to keeping fees the same, decreasing the hours the Transfer Station was open. We had a gentleman who works there present a typical weekly use of the station. There might be some lulls on certain days, it was used everyday, Monday through Saturday. People have routines so we looked at recouping some money by raising rates because tipping fees at the landfill are getting higher. Mr. Hart went back and worked some numbers as noted by the Town Manager. We will recoup, if the amount of permits and coupons stays the same, \$1500 more than the targeted amount.

Chairperson Czernicki asked Councilor Sassano for additional comments, stating that he had attended the first meeting but not the second one.

That is correct. I agree with Chairperson Gardow. The solution developed was in the best interest of all those concerned; we did not reduce services and was the least invasive way to recover some cost without unduly affecting the hours of operation or the quality of service rendered. I was and am in support of this.

Chairperson Czernicki said that there is an Ordinance on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chairperson Czernicki asked for Councilor comments. She asked Councilor Gardow if there was any thought given to reducing the hours. He responded there was thought given to reducing hours but if the fees keep going up we may need to reexamine that in the future, but this meets our goals from the budget session.

Proposal for Use of Wethersfield Cove Preservation Fund

Chairperson Czernicki said C.2.k Proposal for Use of Wethersfield Cove Preservation Fund was tabled at our last

meeting pending the answer to our discussion as to whether our summer help could do some of this work. Mr. Swetcky, please give us a brief overview. The concern with having seasonals, as Mr. Hart's letter indicates, is the debris that washes up on the shore, specifically, the types of needles and the exposure to them. There are various inoculations provided to our permanent employees and also training on how to handle and disposal of potentially dangerous debris that does come up. This is not provided to the seasonal, it is not very cost effective to do it, based on the number of inoculations we do provide for protection purposes and also the training that is involved. We do use the full time for this type of work.

Chairperson Czernicki said, Mr. Hart's memo also states that it was originally proposed as additional maintenance to be done on an overtime basis and has to be offered to the full time bargaining unit employees so we have some restrictions on this, it could never go to the seasonals. Is that correct? Acting Town Manager Swetcky said it would need to be refused by the full time employees. Chairperson Czernicki stated that in times past seasonal employees were provided the option to take advantage of the Hepatitis inoculations and also to take advantage of the instructional seminars on blood born pathogens. Is that not provided for any of our seasonal help, lifeguards? Acting Town Manager Swetcky said for people who are in contact, for example lifeguards, and people who are in contact with any type of lifesaving operations, we do offer that training and inoculations. Chairperson Czernicki stated we do offer the seminars on blood born pathogens and the Hepatitis inoculations at the beginning of the summer. So going forward we could offer it to seasonals, is that correct? He said the situation or problems with the seasonals hired with the Physical Services division, the seasonals are not always hired at the beginning of the summer. They come and go. You would constantly be training and inoculating.

Councilor Flynn moved **"TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR USE OF WETHERSFIELD COVE PRESERVATION FUND FOR THE CLEANUP OF THE COVE"**, seconded by Councilor Fitzpatrick.

Chairperson Czernicki asked for discussion. Councilor Gardow asked the number of seasonal help we have on average throughout the summer? Acting Town Manager Swetcky said for the Physical Services department, on average, 10 or 12, maybe as high as 15. Councilor Gardow asked if, from Mr. Hart's point of view, are we getting are money's worth? Acting Town Manager Swetcky could not answer. Councilor Gardow stated he cannot support paying overtime when we have 10 or 12 seasonal helpers, extra help, 400 man hours a week. The number of hours on the chart from our previous meeting it list 500 hours, a couple of weeks of work where the folks with vaccines go and clean and the summer guys go out and do the other work.

Councilors Cascio, Flynn, Fitzpatrick, Hemmann, Morin, Sassano and the Chairperson, voted AYE, Councilor Gardow voted Nay. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Webb School

We had a very fruitful meeting, everyone was in agreement with opening it as a K-6 school. The new Board of Education was in agreement with the previous Board and everyone would like it to open as quickly as possible. However in order for that to happen, we feel it would be in everyone's best interest to have some further information. That would have to do with the best usage of space in today's market as opposed to space as defined in the 60's, 80's or 90's. We are very cognizant of the cost of doing professional studies which would have to include, 10 options were present last Wednesday evening. I would like to entertain any thought Councilors had in paring this down.

Councilor Casio stated we have all looked at and had field trips through all of the facilities and he would like to look at the cost to move the Board of Education to the Town Hall.

Chairperson Czernicki said that wasn't part of the initial list other than if it was cost effective or more cost effective than keeping the Board of Education at the Webb school. Part of the plan was also to include the cost of keeping administrative offices at the school and opening the school as a K-6.

Councilor Gardow said one of the points of consences was to move the Maintenance to Physical Services. In addition because the school board asked for this, we might look at the cost of leaving the Administrative Offices at the Webb School without removing the auditorium. There might be some space needs to work out, I feel they would be best out of that school but the Board of Education had reasons for leaving them there. It is a school but I think it would be best

to look at it with the auditorium. With that we have had a lot of discussion of the Stillman building. We had an estimate without ADP, removed by Dr. Goldman, of \$3.7 million that should be part of the study for just the Board of Education. With these configurations I think it is important we look at modern methods of housing employees. As I mentioned last week, it doesn't look as if the tables and chairs have been moved since the building was opened. I think it is imperative that we look at the stuff, management and say to the architects and look at the new furniture, steel, use your space wisely. We went on a tour of the Webb building and it was not very good use of the space and I don't want to see that repeated wherever the Board of Education goes to.

Councilor Morin, Thanks Mayor, There was quite a bit of discussion and I thought at the end of the meeting you had summarized quite a bit of what was said and I thought those were what we wanted to look at. I don't know if there was a summary prepared of the meeting, which we can just bring forth and move on. I agree with Councilor Gardow, that one of the issues brought up was the use of the Stillman Building. The discussion was whether it would be appropriate, cost appropriate and some thought it would be just too expensive to use it was money ill advised to be spent. I think we have to look at it for use, Board of Education or Town Staff, I think the money we now spend on it is wasted for the condition it is in. My wish would be not to send our Board of Education staff in this building unless some type of addition was done. We need to adequately house our other town employees who have been in need of more space and a lot of which was addressed when the Police were moving out. So I don't want to say I'm against Councilor Cascio proposal I would like to see us address our current space needs for our Town employees. I don't just want to put someone in a space because it is there, and forget about what we were going to address, the other space needs issues for almost everything in Town, when we move the Police out. We need to look at all our town buildings and schools, because these are issues that are going to continue years.

Chairperson Czernicki said these were issues presented Wednesday night and we are looking at an addition for here to give us plenty of space.

Councilor Flynn, Thank you Mayor, in addition to the options we have already discussed around the table, there were two which caught my attention and deserve consideration. If we are going to look at moving the administration either to Stillman or to Town Hall, is there going to then be necessary for us to move the Board of Education's Maintenance Department down to the Town Garage. It is estimated to be at a cost of in excess of \$1 million. If the Administration leaves the Webb Building do we then have sufficient space so that Maintenance can stay. We also will need to get a detailed cost estimate of what it would entail to move the Maintenance down to the Town Garage. I know Deputy Mayor O'Connor expressed reservations about looking at getting updated cost estimates of the Stillman but I think we ignore that option at our peril. I think the numbers there are two years old, they deal with a different set of assumptions. I think even if we eventually don't go that route the credibility of any question we send to the voters may very well depend on that.

Councilor Cascio brought up other needs of the Town, one of them being storage, whether for Town Hall, Board of Education, facilities for youth programs and other activities currently going on around Town which are housed in various locations. I am wondering, right now we are looking at various options is it time to discuss them all now. I heard from Mr. Standish that the Stillman Building needs some attention, I don't know if it would be cost effective as a storage facility and some town offices. This is another option for us to look at rather than have an empty building that won't go anywhere. The other analysis we did in the year 2000 was our Moeller facility. I believe the Town received grant for \$250,000 to do some type of renovations and I am wondering if we have the information to open that up as a functioning building as well at this point. This is the time and opportunity to ask all the questions to our architects for various options. I'll make a motion on all these topics we have discussed.

Chairperson Czernicki asked for other comments from the Councilors. She then stated we have the initial presentation from the Board of Education that included Administration at Webb, Maintenance at Physical Services, looking at Administration here, we are looking at a cost to open Stillman for a usable building and/or town wide storage and Moeller as storage. Is that correct? Councilor Gardow would like, when you talk about opening the Webb Building, I don't want to see that with the auditorium being dismantled. Chairperson Czernicki added leaving the auditorium as a auditorium rather than reconfigured to something else. Councilor Flynn I think I share his sentiment but I think we should look at both options, with and without the auditorium. Are we going to need an addition, I don't know the answer but I think it is something the architects could tell us. Councilor Hemmann I would consider leaving

Maintenance at Webb with a consideration, if you are looking at that space, if it were needed as educational space with the projections of potential classroom needed or preschool area or classrooms needed kept in mind. In looking at that, keep in mind it is usable space.

Chairperson Czernicki said we want to go out to bid for an Architectural Study to use:

- Webb as a K-6 with Administration there, including Maintenance there and an Auditorium;
- Webb as a K-6, Maintenance at Physical Services and No Auditorium;
- Administration here at the Town Hall;
- Stillman Building as a usable building for offices and a storage.

Do we want to include Moeller... the date of the study is two years old as well. Councilor Cascio said the study was done in 2000.

Councilor Morin wanted to know what the use of Moeller would be, offices. Councilor Gardow said he thought it would be fine used for storage, One of the things that has come up is that we just have a lot of stuff. If there are 8000 needed for Board of Education and they could fit into Stillman, where are you going to put all their stuff? Put it in the Moeller Building. Councilor Morin, we should look at Stillman and see what the numbers and see if it is feasible. If it is not, so be it. At the Moeller home, people talk about it as just stuff in there with no value to it, and it's almost a waste of our money that we don't do anything with that building. There are many organizations that benefit from being able to put their stuff there like Little League, Teen Theatre, Visiting Nurses, and we have provided space to these groups for many years. They will have to find a way to take care of their stuff if we take that away from them. That is okay. There are people who do use it. It failed in November, the monies that we had procured was let go because there was no interest in doing anything with that building. Let's keep going in the manner in which you discussed, Mayor, let's get on the ball with Webb K-6 and all the other options people are talking about. Whether we have administration there or at Stillman or here or whether we have maintenance there or at the town facility of the Moeller Home, we could keep going on. Let's go on with what you said, go on with your ideas and support that with all options looked at. I don't we should put 12 different options. Chairperson Czernicki said she thought the architects, when they look at it, they will have the intent of our desires.

Councilor Fitzpatrick, stated he understood Councilor Gardow's point about looking at the Moeller Home. We've talked about the Moeller Home, but there are legal requirements for the Board of Education "stuff", they have to retain student records. To outfit a building to store this "stuff" obviously you don't need outfit it for six people, but you do have to invest a little more in the building than you do to store volleyballs and signs etc. There may be some money that needs to be spent and we could consolidate all the storage and stuff. We don't have to make it Iron Mountain but we do have to bring it up to a certain level of safety for all these documents. We may never use it but down the road we may to think it. As we move people around, they may not have to bring their stuff with them. It is cheaper to renovate storage space than to renovate as office space.

Councilor Flynn said he is interested in getting a cost analysis for what it would take to locate the School Administrative offices at the Stillman Building, not just using the cost of opening Stillman as a general office building. The cost may be the same but they could be different and it is important to specify the different uses. Is general office space different the school administrative office space? I don't know if there are different specifications or requirements for the needs of the Board of Education. I am not in position to answer those questions. I think the distinction has to be made for this work. The other point, and if this has been mentioned, forgive me, but last week we talked about moving ADP to the high school as to whether there would be any cost implications associated with it. Chairperson Czernicki said her memory of it was that Dr. Goldman said it would be negligible. Councilor Flynn said he thought he said something around \$100,000 or less than \$100,000. Councilor Hemmann and Chairperson Czernicki recalled it being around \$50,000 but it would offset by moving three department heads.

Councilor Cascio stated with all the options we are putting out there, when we find who is doing this for us, do we have to include the recurring costs? If Stillman opens as a full school or administrative office, what is the recurring expense? Can they tell us that as well on all of the options that we are going after. Chairperson Czernicki asked Acting Town Manager Swetcky if that is something they could supply us with? He said they could supply us with estimates of

that as well. Chairperson Czernicki said that should probably be included so we have a clear idea. Specifically we want to know in today's space configuration, is that correct? Okay.

Councilor Flynn motioned **"TO GO OUT FOR AN RFP FOR ALL OF THESE THINGS, THE ACTING TOWN MANAGER HAS A RECORD OF"**, seconded by Councilor Fitzpatrick.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson vote AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Cascio asked do we as the Council have a start date, end date, a timeline that we are looking at. We voted tonight to do these options, but do we want to try to put a target date on these? Chairperson Czernicki asked Acting Town Manager Swetcky if that is something we can ask for. It certainly is, we can indicate a time frame for when they have to have them back. The shorter the time frame, the higher the cost. Councilor Cascio asked if there was a window of time we were looking at, this year, 2002.

Chairperson Czernicki said she would like to move this along as quickly as possible.

Councilor Gardow asked Acting Town Manager Swetcky how long it would take for an RFP to go out and come back? Typically, it takes three days to put it together, advertised, hold it open for 10 days, it comes back, about three weeks. Councilor Gardow asked if the first time to vote on the bidders would be September.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky said that before a vote is taken, Council would probably want a subcommittee of the Council or some Ad Hoc Committee. They would actually review the proposals, interview the firms, make sure they know what you want and that they have an understanding of what you want and then come up with a recommendation for the full Council. I think it will be an easier process if you do it that way.

Councilor Gardow thought that would bring the time frame into the second week of September so maybe by the middle of November.

Councilor Fitzpatrick stated none of us is experts on this subject. Part of the interview would be to see what a reasonable timeframe is, I heard Mr. Swetcky mention that to drive the train faster may cost us a lot more money. We may want to look at the trade off between the costs. His recommendation of a subcommittee that sits down and interviews and comes back and at that point we will have a better idea of a time frame. If we say November it might cost us a lot more than if we ended up waiting until December or January may be more realistic. We are probably better off waiting and seeing whatever these architects will say, it may be part of the discussion when we sit down with them.

Councilor Morin asked if it would be appropriate for Major Contracts Committee to oversee this process. Councilor Fitzpatrick agreed.

Councilor Flynn suggested that since the motion had been made for RFP maybe they should refer it to Major Contracts.

Councilor Flynn made a Motion **"TO REFER THE RFP TO THE MAJOR CONTRACTS COMMITTEE"**, seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Chairperson Czernicki said she would look forward to having this done, hopefully sooner rather than later.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Fitzpatrick moved **"TO ACCEPT THE 2003 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES"**, seconded by Councilor Flynn.

Councilor Cascio questioned the February 18th date, mentioning that this year it was moved to the following week. He

wanted to know if Council wanted to do the same thing this year.

Chairperson Czernicki said the decision was made closer to the date after determining the availability of the Council.

2003 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

January 6

21 (Tuesday - Due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

February 3

18 (Tuesday - Due to President's Day - this is also school vacation week - last year Council met the week after)

March 3

* (Meeting w/Board of Ed. - Date, time and location to be established)

17

April 7

21

28* (Budget Hearing - Tentatively scheduled at Wethersfield High School Auditorium)

** (Adjourned to Budget Workshops in Town Manager's Conference Room, dates and times to be established)

May 5

* (Budget Adoption- On or before May 15th, date and time to be established)

19

June 2

16

July 7

21

August 4

18

September 2 (Tuesday- Due to Labor Day)

15

October 7 (Tuesday Due to Yom Kippur)

20

November 3

17

December 1

15

*Mandatory Meeting (Town Charter)

**May be adjourned for continued budget deliberation

Chairperson

Town Clerk

All Council Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Town Hall unless otherwise stated.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Job Descriptions in Economic Development

Chairperson Czernicki explained the Councilors were provided with the draft of the job descriptions and the Personnel Committee had met a couple of times.

Councilor Fitzpatrick, given the recent news that Mr. Popper is leaving, it is important since we are going out to look for a new Town Planner/Economic Developer that we need to have the job description in force. One of the things mentioned earlier that we could hold off on the other two but I think we need to accept this right away. We did spend a lot of time trying to address the issue of Economic Development was included in the job description and hopefully that will draw the appropriate candidate to the position. I encourage you to accept the Town Planners position.

Councilor Hemmann said she did not have a problem with adopting the job description with the thought of going out to hire the Town Planner/Economic Development, Economic Development/Town Planner individual with that person having input in the other part time positions.

Chairperson Czernicki explained tonight we were going to adopt job descriptions.

Councilor Flynn moved "**MOVED TO ADOPT THE JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN PLANNER/ECONOMIC DEVELOPER**", seconded by Councilor Morin.

Councilor Morin asked if it would make sense to hold off on until we get this new person on board to see what their vision is for the job descriptions. Maybe a new person would have a different view. I am definitely not opposed to these positions and if it is the will of the Council, I will adopt them.

Councilor Cascio agreed with Councilor Morin and think the process has to take it's course first and look at hiring the Planner first and the Planner can have some input into the other two positions as Councilor Hemmann had mentioned.

Councilor Hemmann, if we hire the Planner, and adopt the two positions tonight we could not pigeon hole them, we could change them if the new Planner wanted to change them.

Councilor Fitzpatrick explained these were the two positions which were drawn up by the current Town Planner based on what he envisioned the jobs to be with his job focused primarily on Economic Development. They were to take some of the clerical work away from him. He agreed at the time though that all three of these positions would be reviewed in six months. We were not going to bring in any full time positions. You could argue not to accept these job descriptions, until the new person comes in, but it may be easier for the new person coming. They can always make changes down the road.

Chairperson Czernicki said she could see the Director of Human Resources in the audience and he nodded vigorously that they could be changed.

The motion and second is to adopt these three positions with a review in six months. With the knowledge that under advisement they could be modified in some way but at least they are at this time a step in moving forward as identified by Council during the Budget Hearing and moving forward since that time.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Local Option Property Tax Relief for Veterans

Councilor Flynn **moved to refer this to Budget and Finance**, seconded by Councilor Fitzpatrick.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Municipal Purchase of Street Lights - Financing of CCM Intervention

Councilor Sassano made a motion and Councilor Fitzpatrick seconded it. Councilor Fitzpatrick would like to see this tabled. The reason is, CCM indicates that our fair share is \$1300, I have a question for CCM, our share of what? If you figure there are 169 towns in the State, maybe 120 of them participate in CCM, if CCM is charging \$1000 apiece to each one of those, it's \$120,000 is that the cost? What are the other towns paying? During several Budget sessions I have had reservations about the number of organizations and the amount of money we spend. Some of them have a benefit to us but I get a little concerned when you shell out xx amount of dollars then the organization comes back and asks for more. I would like to get some information from CCM before I move forward on this. What is the actual budget to do this work? What Towns are participating, how did they calculate our fair share?

Councilor Flynn stated that in addition to Councilor Fitzpatrick's questions, and they are important ones, I would like to know what proceedings CCM is actually talking about. When the came into Budget and Finance the implication was that some of the proceedings had concluded. DPUC issued rulings on certain areas. Other issues remain outstanding. Is

CCM talking about us contributing to proceedings that finished or about new petitions or actions to be filed before the DPUC, if so what; are they talking about appeals to the Superior Court on the DPUC rulings, if so, what. I would also like to know if this \$1300 is the maximum, an amount not to exceed. The school funding litigation is a case in point when municipalities signed on, it was ongoing and they pulled the funding. We need to know what we are buying here.

Councilor Hemmann in reference to the Budget and Finance meeting, both sides presented the case the hearing on the DPUC is going on regardless of how many people sign on because there are communities looking into it and they are going to set the purchase price. This I know was a effort to lobby on those communities behalf to get a better purchase price, but they weren't very clear as to detail. Councilor Flynn said his understanding was a proceeding involving Torrington concerning the rights of municipalities to purchase street lights and if so at what cost. The folks from CL & P also spoke on a proceeding they intended to file which would allow them to amend their rates which would go to the essence of the cost savings that CCM was projecting so is CCM talking about that new petition that is to be filed or is it talking about one that has concluded or is pending.

Councilor Fitzpatrick **motion to table until we have more information** and a second by Councilor Gardow.

Chairperson Czernicki asked the Acting Town Manager to get the information requested this evening from CCM.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Legal Opinion Concerning Reduction of Town Clerk's Salary

Chairperson Czernicki said a letter from the Town Attorney is at the Councilors places. You didn't see it until today, so take a few minutes to read it. Are there any comments? It would appear from this and I've only just scanned it, but it appears that the action was allowed but the process was flawed. We have the opportunity to put this on the agenda at our next meeting and perhaps that would be appropriate.

BIDS

Councilor Cascio moved "**TO AWARD THE BID TO BIDDER # - IN THE AMOUNT OF \$158,615 FOR MISCELLANEOUS PAVING PREPARATION**", seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky said this is the annual bid, we received only one bid, Tabshey Construction it is part of our annual maintenance program.

Councilor Flynn asked Acting Town Manager Swetcky if are we piggybacking on the State bid here.

No we are not. This is specifically a local bid. We search out a local contractor to do the pavement prep work. There is actually a three-stage process we go through with our pavement program. Pavement prep, pavement milling which Council approved at the previous meeting which was a State bid and the next bid which is actual pavement itself. I'm glad to see that we have a local bidder here but I am disturbed that we only have one bid and this is a sizable bid. Any indication on why we only got one bid?. No. In the past it was the time frame involved, the size of the project involved, we have had other bidders in the past but a lot of the contractors are busy with other work and don't have time to fit it in. Also, concern with the local bid ordinance, it tends to favor the local vendor and we do have a local vendor in this case.

Councilor Cascio, asked for a point of clarification. We discussed it at our budget meetings regarding paving, and it came up tonight asked the question as to when there street is going to be done and the computer doesn't tell them. I asked that question. If you have a program that your street was supposed to be paved in the year 2002 but for some unseen circumstances, we never got to that road. We don't go to that in 2003. Acting Town Manager Swetcky said he was not certain about that, I hesitate to answer that. My understanding is, based on our computer program, we do schedule roads for specific years. There will only be two reasons why the road the road would be delayed from the year scheduled. The primary reason would be financing. For example, this year the budget was cut, not the Town Budget but the State Budget for this program was reduced. It was reduced so it means less roads can be done. The other part of that would be when you run into problems with the roads you scheduled, when you have to do a deeper

surface repair and you have to do more pavement and anticipated for a specific road, so you use up more resources. In that respect, you would do less roads. My understanding though is because we try to do these in sections, if your road isn't done one year you get moved up to the next year unless funding was cut back or the computer comes up with another road that needs to be done.

Councilor Cascio, when the computer comes out and says we need that road and it is a cul-de-sac, do we go out and look to see if that road really needs to be dug up again or do we just tell you the computer says? Acting Town Manager Swetcky said we look at the roads before we actually formulate a list to make sure they are actually in need of repair. For the most part, you have to understand, and this was completed last year. We do have inspectors who go out and review all the roads and classify and grade the roads based on a set of criteria and that data is input into the computer. There is human factor involved in here. People do inspect these roads.

Councilor Cascio clarified, It is not the Council's responsibility to tell you what roads need to be paved, correct? That's my understanding. I just wanted that viewer or the gentleman who spoke and said he was told to come to the Council and we would tell him when the road was to be paved, that we don't do that. I hope that gets addressed to him. Just an additional note, I did look up the particular road we are talking about and it is scheduled for 2004, barring any problems between now and 2004 in terms of financial resources or some roads that come up and fail. That road will be done in the Fall of 2004 or the Spring of 2004.

We have a motion and a second, any further discussion?

Councilors Fitzpatrick, Gardow, Hemmann, Morin, Sassano and Chairperson Czernicki voted AYE, Councilor Flynn voted NAY. The motion passes: 7-1-0.

Councilor Morin moved **"TO AWARD THE BID TO BIDDER # - IN THE AMOUNT OF \$328,000 FOR BITUMINIOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT"**, seconded by Councilor Fitzpatrick.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky commented that this was a State bid.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Morin moved **"TO AWARD THE BID TO BIDDER # - IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,345 FOR SCAT MACHINE REPAIR"**, seconded by Councilor Cascio.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky commented this was to repair the machine we use to turn the compost, specifically the leaves. We are recommending the award to the low bidder. We had budgeted \$20,000 and the bid came in slightly higher, we will find the money in the Physical Services budget. We need it repaired and in place in time for the fall leaf collection.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Flynn moved **"TO AWARD THE BID TO BIDDER # - IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,403 FOR MEDIUM DUMP TRUCK"**, seconded by Councilor Sassano.

Acting Town Manager Swetcky commented this is to replace a truck in our medium dump fleet. This is the backbone of the fleet, the medium dumps, we did have three bidders. We recommend going with the low bidder, who also met all the specifications.

Councilor Gardow noticed that the winning bidder, Sterling, do we have any other Sterlings in our fleet? Acting Town Manager Swetcky commented the short answer is yes. Our 10 wheel dump truck is a Sterling. The long answer is all our medium dumps are technically Sterlings. Ford branched off their heavy duty truck component to Sterling. So these are actually Fords, Ford chassis are now called Sterlings. A certain model year, they switched over to selling a Sterling. So it's like Chevy selling a Nova, so we don't have any problems with parts and tools?

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson, voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the Wethersfield Police Division, on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield, made application to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety for funding of a project known as "Traffic Enforcement Equipment Program."

WHEREAS, State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety has notified the Town Manager that an 80% Federal (\$20,000.00) - 20% Municipal (\$5,000.00) equipment grant not to exceed the total amount of \$25,000.00 has been awarded for the purchase of Traffic Enforcement Equipment.

Police Radar
Police Traffic Counter
Public Safety Trailer
Public Safety Accident Software
Safety Signs
Safety Equipment

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wethersfield Town Council authorizes the Town Manager, Lee C. Erdmann, to accept this funding for the Police Division.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 136 SOLID WASTE REGULATIONS OF THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

BE IT ORDAINED THAT Part II General Legislation of the Municipal Code of the Town of Wethersfield, Connecticut is hereby amended as set forth below. Deletions are noted by strike through and additions are noted by bold typeface.

CHAPTER 136

SOLID WASTE

§136-6. Collection license required fee; responsibilities of collectors.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of collecting or disposing of solid waste in the town without first obtaining a Commercial Hauler license from the Director of Physical Services. Application for such license and holders of such license shall place on file with the Director of Physical Services an up-to-date schedule of collections, and such shall be kept up-to-date. [Amended 12-20-1999]

B. Term; fees [Amended 5-6-1991; 6-15-1992; 10-3-1994]

(1) Each Commercial Hauler license shall be for a period of one year beginning July 1, and the fee thereof may not exceed \$100 per vehicle per year. [Amended 6-16-1997]

(4) Residential users of the transfer station shall be charged an annual permit fee of \$25, which will expire one year from date of purchase, and a fee of \$10 per pickup truck visit. [Amended 6-16-1997; 7-6-1998]

Wethersfield residents shall be charged \$30 for an annual permit to use the transfer station and \$15 for each additional * cubic yard of residential bulky waste disposed of throughout the year.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT

WHEREAS, the Wethersfield Police Division made application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs requesting Local Law Enforcement Block Grants Program funding to facilitate the expansion of problem solving and community oriented police services in town; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2002, the U.S. Department of Justice awarded the town a \$11,041.00 grant for police overtime to enable the Division of Police to continue its efforts to improve the quality of life in Wethersfield;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wethersfield Town Council authorizes the Town Manager, Lee C. Erdmann, to accept this grant funding for the Division of Police.

MINUTES

Councilor Flynn moved **"TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2002 MEETING"**, seconded by Councilor Morin.

Councilor Cascio for clarification I had received a phone call from a resident on the 24th of July regarding the minutes of the July 15th minutes and the individual had alluded to parts of the minutes and I didn't any idea as to what she was talking about. As far as the receipt of the minutes and Dolores had supplied it to me prior to the Council meeting on Thursday. But is it my understanding that minutes are subject to FOIA and that people can receive them prior to Council? Town Clerk Sassano said they may come in and view them, they are unapproved and they realize that. Councilor Cascio asked if it was because they are subject to FOIA. Chairperson Czernicki asked if they are given copies of them? No, they are allowed to read them.

Councilors Cascio, Flynn, Fitzpatrick, Gardow, Hemmann, Morin and Chairperson Czernicki voted AYE. Councilor Sassano abstained. The motion passed 7-0-1.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Reports

Chairperson Czernicki reviewed the reports included with the agenda. She also announced the new Dunkin Donuts opened today. She asked Mr. Swetcky to comment on the \$7Million Bond Sale.

Thank you, Mayor. Briefly, we did sell Bonds on July 24th, approximately half for the Police Facility and the other half for the Silas Deane Middle School. The 20 year Bonds received an interest rate of 4.0251%. It was better than projected for this sale. The result of the lower interest rate will be a savings of \$59,000 in interest costs for the 2003/2004 fiscal year budget.

We have notification from the Town Manager that he is going to take vacation through the month of August.

We have a report from Peter Grose from Fuss and O'Neill on Cove Modelling and Mr. Swetcky will comment on that.

He indicts there has been some progress since the last June 18 Council meeting and indicates the Draft Scope of Study has been prepared and is being reviewed. Some Modelling has taken place and some water quality sampling has taken place. He does not anticipate any final reports or any finalization until the later this month. Hopefully a more thorough report will be supplied to the Council at the September 2 meeting. Chairperson Czernicki asked if some progress was being made. Some progress has been made, they have had several meetings and workshops with all the parties involved. The Draft Scope of Study has been prepared and reviewed by everyone and it is just now being finalized.

We have a report on the dredging history of the Wethersfield Cove, I believe Councilor Hemmann had asked the Town Manager to get some of this information. Councilor Hemmann is this the information you looked for? Most of it, I have to do a little research and I may have a couple of questions to be re-looked at, but I will get back.

We have a sale of town owned property. Mr. Swetcky would you comment on that,

We did advertise for sale the two lots for sale in Rocky Hill. We did have considerable interest, several firms and individuals picked up proposals, unfortunately, none were returned to us. As I indicate in my memo, the overriding concern was the price was too high and also the whole process is too cumbersome. The process to sell is laid out by Charter, we are following that process for the sale. What I suggest in my memo is we look at alternative ways to use to sell this property. I will make a report back to Council.

Thank you and we will wait for your report.

Also, Councilors had asked for a report on the status of Flood & Drainage projects and also on the Middletown Avenue/ Spring Street Intersection Realignment.

a. Economic Development Status Report b.Fall 2002 Paving c.Police Chief Recruitment and Selection Process d.CCM Legislative Update e."State Budget for 2002-2003 - Impact on Towns and Cities" f.CRCOG News Update Fax g.CRCOG Report on the 2002 Legislative Session h.Riverfront Recapture Board Meeting - July 25, 2002 i.\$7 Million Bond Sale - July 24, 2002 j.Vacation k.Wethersfield Cove Modeling l.Sale of Town Property m.Status of Flood & Drainage Projects n.Middletown Avenue - Spring Street Intersection Realignment, which is underway.

COUNCIL

Councilor Cascio, I am happy to see the area around the Webb tennis court is cleaned up. It is something I asked for about seven years now and I didn't know who was the party that did that. If they continue working like that let's keep them on the job. It looks great. It is a visible area. Please send a thank you to those people when you find out who did it. The other thing, I asked through Lee, to find out who would be the party instructing the Board of Education as to what location they would need to go and I didn't know if there was an answer to that yet. Acting Town Manager said he had conversation with the Town Attorney and he has agreed to look at it.

PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT

At p.m., moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano

Town Clerk