

**MINUTES OF WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 23, 2010 LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER AGENDA No. 8**

President Scott Slifka called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

President Slifka: Okay. It looks like everybody is here so we will call the meeting to order and begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Slifka: Can we have a roll call please, Ms. Labrot?

ITEM #3: ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors Steven Adler, Tim Brennan, Shari Cantor, Leon Davidoff, Rob Durbin, Denise Hall, Scott Slifka and Joe Verrengia.

Absent was Judy Casperson.

President Slifka: Thank you, Ms. Labrot. I just want to point out Mrs. Casperson could not make it due to a last minute family conflict so she sends her regrets. I'd like to entertain a motion to suspend the rules to take up Item #24.

Vice President Brennan: So moved.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Okay. I'd like to remove Item #24.

ITEM #24: FROM RONIT SHOHAM, SCOTT FRANKLIN, AND MIKE MICHAUD, CO-DIRECTORS OF THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF GREATER HARTFORD (03-02-10) REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COUNCIL REGARDING THE PROPOSED MIRACLE LEAGUE FIELD.

RECEIVED

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. There they are. Come on up.

Mr. Franklin: Mr. Mayor and members of the West Hartford Town Council, my name is Scott Franklin. I'm a 35 year resident of the Town of West Hartford and just very pleased for a couple of things - number one, that you've permitted us to present this to you and number two, that you've moved us up on the Agenda so thank you very much. We understand we only have five minutes and we will do our best to keep to that. We are here today to talk to you about the Miracle League of Greater Hartford which is a league that we formed as part of the West Hartford Little League to construct a baseball/softball field for special needs children and a handicapped-accessible playscape at the UConn Sports Complex at the corner of Asylum Avenue and Trout Brook Drive here in town. We've been working on it for several months now and we just want to give you a little report as to what we're doing and keep you apprised of it. Some of you came to a presentation that we made here at Town Hall several weeks ago and you were nice enough to ask us to come before you to tell you a little bit more about it and to tell the public a little bit about it as well. With me tonight are Mike Michaud who is a former president of the West Hartford Little League and really has taken the ball and run with it on this project and Ronit Shoham who is one of the cofounders of the West Hartford Little League and also along with myself runs the Challenge Division which is our special needs division for handicapped children or special needs children in town so without saying anymore I'd like to introduce Ronit Shoham to tell you a little bit about our league and how it started. Mike's going to tell you a little bit about what we're proposing. I'm going to tell you about our fundraising efforts to date and then hopefully we're going to do that in four minutes. Thank you.

Ms. Shoham: Two seconds for me. Good evening and thank you. Eight years ago we formed West Hartford Little League and we had a very important goal in mind which is to provide every child with the opportunity to play baseball regardless of their ability. Five years ago we realized that we have almost accomplished that goal by letting a lot of children...more kids play baseball and softball in West Hartford but there was a group of kids who did not have the opportunity to play baseball and they were the kids with special needs. So five years ago we established the Challenger Division which we coach now and, you know, it's a wonderful part of West Hartford Little League. The Challenger Division provides the opportunity for children with different challenges to play baseball but not entirely because we feel that kids that have physical disabilities are very challenged by the field that we play on which is a regular baseball field. It has dirt and rocks and grass and they fall and I think some of them having to face so many challenges as it is do not want to face that so that's why we decided to go forward... I mean, which was actually part of the original plan to build a rubberized field that has no raised surfaces that will enable kids from West Hartford and it's surrounding towns to play baseball and other sports without facing the challenges of falling as it is hard for them to walk with a walker or wheelchair so, like Scott mentioned, like five months ago we joined the Miracle League which is a national organization that Mike will tell you more that will help us to fulfill that dream since they've been doing it for many years so Mike Michaud will tell you more about the Miracle League.

Mr. Michaud: Thank you. My name is Mike Michaud. I'm a 15 year resident of West Hartford. In our search for how to go about building this type of field I just Googled

"rubberized baseball field" and came upon the Miracle League which is a national organization out of Conyers, Georgia. They are about 10 years old and it was a couple, Dean and Diane Alford, who came up with this idea to bring this to their town and in conjunction with the Rotary Club down there they built the first fields in Georgia and HBO Sports Brian Gumbel's show did a piece on it and it got so much attention that they decided to make this a national organization and help other communities to build these fields. The first field was built in 2000. There's about 100 fields that have been built across the country and about 100 more in the planning stages. Up till now there is none in New England. We will be the first one in all of New England to build a Miracle League field and we are the first Miracle League in the State of Connecticut. The closest field right now is in Westchester, New York. Our plan once the field is built is to make this truly a Greater Hartford project. It's too expensive and too important a project I think to just limit it to the town so our goal is to have Miracle League teams from every town and if a town can't get it together to form their own team we'll welcome them and we'll find a team for them to play on. An important aspect of the whole Miracle League concept is not just for the kids who are disabled but the buddy system they call it where we pair volunteer usually middle and high school students with these kids and they serve as their buddy on the field. They stand right by them and assist them in any way and develop real bonds with these kids and I think it's teaching these kids, the buddies, as much as it is the kids who are playing. As we mentioned the field is made of either a poured or rolled rubberized surface. All the lines and bases are painted on so there is not a single raised surface on the entire field for anybody to trip on. The dimensions are a little smaller than a regular field. It's only a 50 foot base pass, about 115-125 foot fence so a kid may be able to hit a home run that they, you know, on this field rather than, you know, a 200 or 215 foot regular Little League field. The total budget for the project we're projecting is about \$500,000 to \$600,000. That includes the field, the handicap-accessible playground and improvements that would be needed at the current site which would be better paving and handicap-accessible bathrooms. Scott will speak to where we're going with our fundraising and a little bit more about the project.

Mr. Franklin: The approval for the field, the UConn fields that you're familiar with that you've seen maturing over the past few years included already on it a Challenge Division field and a playscape and so we're hoping, and I don't think we're going to have to come back to you for the approval to have that. I don't think we'd have to go to TPZ either. It's on the approved plan from three, four or five years ago so we're very happy about that. As far as what we've done just real quickly some of you may have seen on the Mayor's report and also on other networks Marcus Apter who is a young man who is 13-years-old who just had his Bar Mitzvah and as part of his Bar Mitzvah he had to do a Mitzvah project and he plays in our Challenge Division team. In fact, he has been with us since he was 7 I think or since we started this. His project was to help raise money to bring this Challenger's Field to town and his original goal was something like \$1000. He was going to sell bracelets that say "Let's Play Ball for All." In fact, Mike's wearing one right here and it just took off like wildfire. He just has an infectious personality, a wonderful, wonderful young man. He has now raised over \$8000 primarily selling \$5.00 bracelets. When you start talking about this project people get excited. When we talk about this project we get incredibly excited. It's something that... We're going to make it happen.

Some way there's going to be a Challenger Field and a handicapped-accessible playscape there for our children. You know, we have Blue Back Square which is great. We have a tremendous educational system here in town. We have an opportunity to do something here not only for West Hartford but regional that will bring incredible value, much of it intangible, to the Town of West Hartford and, you know, we're very excited about doing that. Some of the other fundraising efforts besides Marcus - we have a grant in to the Greater Hartford Jaycees. We've received many donations from individuals just who have seen Marcus on the Mayor's report or on TV and other people who just have heard about the project. We're going to be putting a grant request in to the Baseball Tomorrow Fund which is Little League International's fundraising arm. We've made presentations at a whole bunch of civic groups - Kiwanis and others. We're also going to be talking to the Moose Club of Hartford, the Elks of Glastonbury and we certainly would be happy to talk to any other organizations in town who would like us to make a presentation. Every time we've done it it's really been so well-received and really touching. We're doing a golf tournament on July 14 solely to raise money for this. We're looking for some TARP money. There's been a request put in to the federal money for TARP money. We are looking into state grants through some of our state reps. and hopefully we can get some town support as well. We've talked to a few of you as well and our goal is to raise this money and to have this built if possible so it will be up and operational next spring and we feel that once we get the money we can make this happen very quickly so, you know, we're here just to tell you about what we've done, to let you know about our fundraising efforts and to hope that we can also have your support and the support of the people in West Hartford in making this become a reality so thank you very much for your time.

President Slifka: Thank you Scott, Ronit and Mike. We do appreciate it. I know that most if not all of us had sat through a lengthier presentation and we were all very excited about it and appreciate your efforts and I'm glad that you mentioned Marcus Apter. He's really been the inspiration and kind of the face of this for all of us. I know Mr. Brennan, you wanted to mention something?

Vice President Brennan: I just wanted to say quickly that when I was 8 years old playing Little League I had on my team somebody with muscular dystrophy and somebody who was visually impaired and the young ballplayer who was visually impaired, that wasn't disclosed to the coach, my father, and it was a shame because, you know, if they had had a Challenger Field or Challenger Division they could have played in that. The young ballplayer with muscular dystrophy - there was assistance for him but he did get hurt a couple of times and it's great to see that baseball has evolved in a very positive way. I'm also thrilled that, you know, this is to me the best part of West Hartford where, you know, a group of people get together doing, you know, for the right reasons fundraising, making the town better and just, you know, making everyone aware and bringing everyone into the process so, you know, we all support it. I, you know, want to encourage everyone out there to, you know, help. Buy a wrist band, go to the golf tournament, whatever you can do. Spread the word. I think it's regional too. It's fantastic. It's great that you're all doing this so thanks.

President Slifka: Mr. Davidoff?

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'd like to thank my Council colleagues for suspending the rules to allow this item to come up earlier in the meeting. I'm the one who's requested that and I do appreciate that. I'd like to go on record as an enthusiastic supporter of this project. I attended a meeting a few weeks ago to learn the details of this Miracle League field. What a great opportunity for the Town of West Hartford to be home to this type of baseball diamond. Not only will children from West Hartford be able to play on this special surface and enjoy the sport that we call America's past-time, so will children from other towns in this region. Also, disabled veterans and other handicapped individuals will have the ability to play ball on this diamond. Baseball, like all organized sports, teaches teamwork, builds self-confidence, are healthy pursuits and instills fond memories. I still remember the day I hit my first Little League homerun and struck out my first batter. I would like all children to have the opportunity to pursue their dream about becoming an All-Star baseball player. This project is a win-win for our town. In addition to serving a recreational purpose this project also will spur economic development. Imagine teams competing on this field and after the game visiting one of our fine dining establishments to celebrate the play on the field. I respectfully ask the residents of West Hartford to lend their support to this project in any way they can. This project is not beyond our financial reach. This past November all the candidates collectively in the last municipal election raised more than \$100,000 to serve on this Town Council and the Board of Education. Wouldn't it be great if that same fundraising effort was put forward to fund a project as wonderful as this Challenger Field? I'm hopeful that this project can be completed before the end of the Council term. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Davidoff. Mrs. Cantor?

Councilor Cantor: Thank you. I also... I know Marcus personally. He's a very good friend of my son and they go to summer camp together. This is an incredible dream and I know the three volunteers up there are movers and shakers and it will happen and I echo a lot of Councilor Davidoff's comments but I know that there are going to be some exciting fundraising events that we're all going to be able to participate in and they're going to serve a great purpose and this is going to be a fabulous regional draw and you're right, when you tell the story people are incredibly moved by it. I was going to add Rotary Chair list. I think that's an important organization for you to present and I'm sure there are...we'll think of more as we brainstorm but thank you so much for committing your energy and your time to another fantastic project and we really, really appreciate all your efforts.

President Slifka: Thank you. Ms. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Thank you. Just one quick question. Where can we get the wristbands?

President Slifka: Can you guys... Mike, can you guys turn the mike on?

Mr. Michaud: They're certainly available still through Marcus. If you go to our website, www.westhartfordlittleleague.com there is a story and you can see Marcus' video about his project and we'll be sure that the address is up there that you can send a donation to.

President Slifka: Thank you. Anyone else? Thank you again. On a personal note I just would say... I've shared this with you before that about 25 years ago my brother was the first person in a wheelchair to go through the youth baseball here in town and he had to play on those grass fields like what he was describing and, you know, it was a great effort by the coaches and everybody else involved to get him there but you always had to make some kind of exception. He couldn't run the bases himself. He had to have somebody run for him after he hit. If he was in the field he could pitch, he could stay stationary more or less but it was very hard to move, you know, forward to back or laterally to field the ball. All things that he could do to some degree if the field had been rubberized and I thank you for this. You know, we only wish you were a little more visionary by say 25 years. You all would have been 5 years old at the time but seriously, thank you. It's very touching that you're doing this. Thank you. Okay.

Mr. Franklin: Mr. Mayor, I just wanted to let you know...

President Slifka: Go ahead.

Mr. Franklin: We have booklets here that describe the project and some of the research that we've done. Some of you have already gotten them but I'm going to leave them with Mr. O'Brien and if you would like to take a look at them you're welcome to have them and if you could pass them around as well. Okay? Thank you so much, very much.

President Slifka: Okay. Thank you again. We're up to #4, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive Town Council minutes of March 9, 2010.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. We're up to the Public Forum.

ITEM #5: PUBLIC FORUM

President Slifka: The Public Forum section of the Town Council meeting provides our citizens with the opportunity to address items on the Town Council Agenda, those items that we will act upon at tonight's meeting. To ensure that everybody has an opportunity to be heard and the Council can efficiently administer its business certain rules have been traditionally followed by the Council over the years and they're fairly simple. If you are to speak at the Public Forum first please state your name and address for the record. In

the event that you're not from West Hartford, i.e., if you're not a taxpayer or a resident, please let us know. We may entertain a motion to suspend the rules to allow you to speak. You have up to three minutes to speak and you're allowed to speak to any item that is on the Agenda which is not the subject of a Public Hearing. The only person on the sign-up list is Ms. Bordeaux who I spoke with a few minutes ago and she is on the Agenda actually for later so I open it up. Is there anyone who did not sign up who wished to speak to an item on the Agenda tonight? Okay, seeing none, we'll move to #6, Report from the Town Manager. Mr. Van Winkle?

ITEM #6: REPORTS OF TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Van Winkle: Good evening. Thank you. As you may know I spent many years as a teenager. My wife thinks it's about 30 actually and I grew up in West Hartford. I grew up in West Hartford and I grew up at a different time obviously. My mother used to tell...there were five of us...children should be seen and not heard. We were heard quite often and probably disappeared often but we live in a different time. Our children are more outgoing. They have more adventure. They have more experiences in their lives. This past weekend we had one of the most glorious spring weekends in memory almost and if you went into the center it was just filled with people everywhere. It was also filled with teenagers that were there and I would just ask parents and teenagers to be mindful of being respectful to others. We had lots of people in the center and lots of energy in our teenagers. We didn't have anybody doing anything wrong. It's just a matter of respecting other's space and not blocking sidewalks and being respectful. We have this wonderful center that draws lots of people and this weekend we had a couple of complaints from people who thought our young people were being a little too vociferous and a little too excited about the beautiful spring day so I offer that as just a comment to our teenagers and to our parents out there.

This is budget season. You have been in meetings over and over again with me. I'm really tired of talking to you about it but we have many more this week as we work our way through the budget and next week also so each of the committees has been meeting, walking through the department budgets, asking questions. This is a very intensive process and I just want to thank you all for all the time that you've put in with us to work on this budget.

We sold bonds today. We actually refunded...refinanced some of our existing bonds. Now this may sound a little strange cause we just refinanced last September but interest rates and finance markets are operating in very strange ways and we were able to sell our bonds at about a 3 percent rate or refund our bonds at about a 3 percent rate and save the town \$1,150,000 through that refinancing. Last fall we sold \$24,000,000 and saved substantial money and prior to that we had postponed a lot of capital projects so we were able to move our bond sale from the middle of the financial chaos to the summer...the following summer and were able to sell bonds at the lowest interest rate we've ever seen. These three bond sales probably have saved us well over \$6,000,000 in debt servicing costs so it's a wonderful thing having low interest rates. It's a two-edged sword also because on the other side when we invest our cash we invest it at numbers which are less

than 1 often because interest rates are so low but this has been just a wonderful time for this refinancing and one thing that we have always touted in West Hartford is our AAA. In this market our AAA has meant more than anytime in our history. Prior to this another community that might even be a single A would go out and buy insurance on their bonds that would raise it up to a AAA and then go out and sell those bonds and so we competed against those insured bonds when we sold our AAAs but the companies that insured those single A bonds also got into trouble because of the financial problems and so their guarantee wasn't so good. We're a pure AAA. West Hartford is a town that is well-known. New England is a conservative area in our financial decisions and so when we go out to sell our bonds get snapped up very quickly and we're able to get much better prices according to the people we've been working with on Wall Street because we're a West Hartford AAA, pure AAA so more than ever this year that AAA rating has meant a lot to this community and saved us a lot of money.

We continue to invest in energy conservation. You probably don't get too often down to Brixton Street, our Public Works garage. It is much brighter but we have cut our energy costs down there by about 17 percent by replacing lighting from some lighting that's been in there for about 15 years with new energy-efficient lighting. We were able to get a \$30,000 grant from Northeast Utilities. The project totally was \$77,000 and our payback is 2.3 years. We've been looking at each of our facilities for energy conservation savings and doing evaluations. Cornerstone pool, built in the 90s, has those beautiful lights over the pool. We're trying to craft the means to provide enough light into the pool because that's important to see to the bottom of the pool and remove those lights from the center. Again, another real opportunity to save significant dollars through energy conservation. We have several other buildings that we are in process with on that same issue.

That's really all I have tonight. If you have any questions I'd be glad to answer them.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Are there any questions for the Manager? Mr. Verrengia?

Councilor Verrengia: How much was the grant from CL&P?

Mr. Van Winkle: The grant from Northeast Utilities was \$30,000 of the \$77,000.

Councilor Verrengia: Okay.

President Slifka: Ms. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Thank you. I don't mean to take you by surprise with this question but since a couple months back we talked about reducing the number of polling places and since we're in budget season and this was a cost-saving initiative... I know there's a whole lot of work that goes on beyond that but maybe you can update all of us on the process so far.

Mr. Van Winkle: Sure. Actually, our Town Clerk, Essie Labrot, and our Corporation Counsel have been working together to take a look at this issue about our polling places. I don't think we're going to have an answer to that question prior to the end of this budget and we'll have an election...we have primaries and elections this year. We have a lot of activity so we may not be able to put that into place for this election season but they have been meeting with the registrars and looking through the history of the polling places, the requirements and whatnot so I would expect...I'm looking at Essie...late this year we could have a report back as to...? Absolutely she said. So late this year we should have a report back of what our options are and what we might be looking at.

President Slifka: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Hall. Anyone else? Okay. Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. We move to #7, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #7: CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR: ITEMS 19-21 TO RECEIVE.

Vice President Brennan: I move that we place items 19-21 on the Consent Calendar.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries.

There is no Unfinished Business so we get to New Business and I'd like to entertain a motion to suspend the rules to discuss a **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE A UTILITY EASEMENT WITH AT&T.**

Vice President Brennan: So moved.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? I'll just mention that the reason for the suspense is as you'll see in a moment we anticipate we'll just simply refer this to the Town Planning and Zoning Commission. This had intended to be on the Agenda. We did not get it on in time and we need to do it tonight in order to refer it in time for TPZ to take it up at its next meeting so this is a...saves the TPZ a month of sitting on it. All those in favor? Oh, I'm sorry. Mr. Durbin, I apologize.

Councilor Durbin: Just a quick question - so the TP&Z, they do a full review of the proposal?

President Slifka: I'm going to ask Corporation Counsel to give you the full description.

Mr. O'Brien: Yeah, by charter anytime we either convey or acquire an interest in land the TP&Z has to provide its advice, a report to the Council on that so they have 30 days to do

so upon referral so since they're meeting the first I think Monday in April that will give them time to get back their advice to the Council but it's a mandatory referral.

Councilor Durbin: And they come back and give us advice and then we ultimately...

President Slifka: We can't act until they've officially advised.

Councilor Durbin: Oh, we ultimately have the say in it?

President Slifka: Yeah.

Mr. O'Brien: Right. If they advise negatively then it takes a two-third vote to override them.

President Slifka: Okay. Anything further? Okay. All those in favor? This is on the suspension of the rules. Those opposed? Motion carries. Okay. Now the item itself, Mr. Brennan.

Vice President Brennan: The item itself is suspense item - resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute a utility easement with AT&T. I move that we refer to TP&Z.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Any discussion on this? All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries.

And we have a second suspense item. I regret that. I entertain a motion to suspend the rules to raise a resolution changing the date of Town Council meeting regarding budget adoption.

Vice President Brennan: So moved.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Just to clarify this, we discovered this...actually it happened last year as well. This is the first time in recent memory. The charter of the town specifically West Hartford Charter, Chapter 7, Section 4 requires the Town Council to adopt the fiscal year budget for this coming year not later than 65 days before the end of the fiscal year and we discovered that the date that was set by our calendar, which would have been April 27, the second Tuesday of the month following our normal calendar, would occur fewer than 65 days before the end of the fiscal year so that would...the result of that would be if we did not adopt in time the manager's proposed budget just goes into effect as a matter of law and that would probably not be anybody's desired result with all due respect, Mr. Van Winkle, so we're just...by this when we get to this resolution all we're doing is we're moving it back one day to Monday, April 26 at 7:00 P.M. Note that... We changed it. It's 7:00 P.M. Yes. To 7. Yes. So again,

Monday, April 26 at 7:00 P.M. Just moving it back by one day to comply with the charter. Okay, so we're still on the actual suspense. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Now the resolution itself, Mr. Brennan.

RESOLUTION CHANGING THE DATE OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING REGARDING BUDGET ADOPTION

WHEREAS the Town Council has previously adopted a schedule of meeting dates for the 2010 calendar year which identifies Tuesday, April 27, 2010, as the date of the Town Council's second meeting in April; and

WHEREAS Rule 1 of the Standing Rules of the West Hartford Town Council generally provides that regular meetings of the Town Council are to be held at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and that the second meeting in April shall be exclusively for budget-related resolutions and ordinances; and

WHEREAS the provisions of West Hartford Charter, Chapter VII, §4 require the Town Council to adopt the 2010-2011 fiscal year budget "not later than sixty-five days before the end of the fiscal year"; and

WHEREAS April 27, 2010 occurs fewer than sixty-five days before the end of the fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT the date of the second Town Council meeting in April is hereby moved to Monday, April 26, 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the time of said meeting shall be changed from 7:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Vice President Brennan: So suspense item resolution - changing the date of the Town Council meeting regarding budget adoption. I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

Vice President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. I just also want to credit Mr. Van Winkle who apparently picked this up today in reviewing documents following what occurred last year so thank you for catching it before too much more time went by. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Alright. Back to New Business on the Agenda. Number 9, Mr. Brennan?

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM #9: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) APPROPRIATING \$500,000 GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, in May 2008, the Town Council of the Town of West Hartford approved the filing of an application for State financial assistance for the relocation of the Children's Museum, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Economic and Community Development of the State of Connecticut has approved a grant of \$500,000 for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the Assistance Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of West Hartford requires the Town to act as the financial administrator of the grant, and

WHEREAS, the grant will be included in the annual State Single Audit of the Town, and

WHEREAS, there is a financial assistance pass-through agreement between the Town of West Hartford and the Children's Museum, and

WHEREAS, the Town will request funds from the State and disburse them to the Children's Museum as needed to fund the museum's activities relating to this project, and

WHEREAS, the Town will retain the documentation required by the Assistance Agreement relating to the expenditures that are being funded, and

WHEREAS, the Children's Museum has a budget for this project that has been approved by the State,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD that the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget of the Capital Projects Fund is hereby amended as follows:

<u>Increase Estimated Revenue</u>		
41-831050-80004-9071	State Grant – Children's Museum	\$500,000

<u>Increase Appropriations</u>		
41-831050-80004-3025	Professional Services – Children's Museum	\$500,000

Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Mr. Van Winkle, the next four...actually six items on the Agenda, all of the New Business all deal with grants this evening, which is a good thing I think. We ask for a description on this one.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes, this is a grant that is probably more than two years old. It took us a long time for the Children's Museum to work this through the Office of Policy and Management at the State. They are receiving a \$500,000 grant. OPM has chosen to pass that through the Town of West Hartford so we will receive it and then as they submit bills to us we will pay those bills for the Children's Museum. The purpose of this grant originally was to try to help the Children's Museum stay in West Hartford and figure out what their options were for staying in West Hartford. It is not connected to any particular site or any particular location. It is merely a grant to assist them in architectural search and other kinds of activities they may have to find an appropriate site for the Children's Museum.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Is there any further discussion? Okay. Ms. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Yes. I'm just curious about how this came about because this is sort of an unusual arrangement. Maybe you can expound a little bit upon that and also if you could tell us what controls would be in place to make sure that the town does not end up being liable for any costs that may be in excess of the grant and just what is the cost to the town to do this administration and is there any way that we recoup those costs?

Mr. Van Winkle: The grant is going fully to the Children's Museum so we do not receive a portion of that grant. We have both a grant agreement with the State of Connecticut and with the Children's Museum...an agreement with the Children's Museum which defines how these costs are going to be paid and what their responsibilities are and any overages that might occur in their work, that will not be paid by the Town of West Hartford and will be their responsibility so we've put a belt and suspenders on it and one of the reasons it's taken some time is to make sure that we are covered for that cause this is a different kind of a grant. Normally a grant like this would go directly to the recipient and not the town. I'm not really sure exactly what the drivers were. OPM felt that it was better to give this grant to the Town of West Hartford directly. If you go back in history the Children's Museum had received a grant from the State of Connecticut to relocate. They were called the Children's Science Center I believe at the time and that project failed for a number of reasons and the Children's Museum still owes the state some money and because of I think that history the state was just more at comfort with giving the money directly to us and making sure that we just were a little closer to monitoring the money. It shouldn't cost us a lot. We are obviously going to have to process paper for each one of these applications for funds but at this point in time our goal is to try to save the Children's Museum in West Hartford, to make sure that this institution which has been here for a very long time continues to stay so this is a first step in a process. They'll need to raise money, find the right site and make this all work but I would think we're probably still talking about several years before we get to fruition here.

President Slifka: Thank you, Ms. Hall. Mr. Adler?

Councilor Adler: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Through you. Mr. Van Winkle, so our relationship regarding this grant is really we're a pass-through administrator just in terms

of paying bills and just managing the overall grant but I think just to make sure, and correct me if I'm wrong, in I think it was in Budget and Finance, Councilman Cantor's group, that we're not as a fiduciary responsible for how that money is being applied and whether or not it's appropriate and that's really the state responsibility to that so, you know, just confirm or correct me if I'm right.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes. I mean we are obviously going to look at bills that get submitted for payment. They will come to us. We will submit them to the State. There is an agreement. We're going to look at it and make sure that it's being expended but it is the State's decision to pay those costs that come up, so yes.

President Slifka: Mr. Verrengia?

Councilor Verrengia: Yes, at one point not too long ago this issue was on the front burner and we were working closely with the Children's Museum to identify a site and the importance of identifying a site was for their fundraising efforts so that they can begin those. My question is now with this grant in place to what extent does this get back to the front burner? You know what I mean? Because the first step, and correct me if I'm wrong, is still identifying a site.

Mr. Van Winkle: I don't know if that's the first step but one of the things that sort of took it off the front burner was that Kingswood-Oxford gave them more time. Originally they had been told they needed to be out in a year or two years. They gave them more time to stay so that allowed them some time to think about how to do the fundraiser. I think a site is important to raising money. If you're going to tell somebody we'd like you to make a donation to our new Children's Museum you should have a place for it and this funding will help them understand what that means and what those costs will be. If you're going to build a new building you've got to have some architectural estimates. If you're going to...to find a site you're going to have to make sure that site would function well for the kind of use you're putting so these dollars are to get answers to those first questions so that they can then begin that process of fundraising for a new site.

President Slifka: Okay. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. If I could just divert for a moment, Mr. O'Brien, one of my colleagues has just pointed out that the substitute resolution that we adopted a moment ago dealing with the date of the Council meeting... I believe there's a typo that said it's Thursday, April 26 as opposed to Monday I think in at least one portion of it. If you'd offer some guidance in how to address this. I think we've made clear it's April 26. It's a Monday, not a Thursday but we want to make sure we're following the rules.

Mr. O'Brien: Right. We actually stated it on the record so that this resolution should just be prepared in final form substituting the word Monday for Thursday. That's all you have to do.

President Slifka: Thank you. It's back to New Business. Number 10, Mr. Brennan?

ITEM #10: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) APPROPRIATING \$45,419 IN THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF DIGITAL VOICE RECORDER.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the Town of West Hartford has a Drug Enforcement Fund to account for the drug enforcement activities of the West Hartford Police Department, and

WHEREAS, this fund receives proceeds from State and Federal governments for drug asset forfeitures, and

WHEREAS, the fund balance that results from these forfeitures is available for appropriation, and

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Police Department is in need of a new digital recorder that is reliable, of current technology, and expandable to meet future needs, and

WHEREAS, a new digital recorder will benefit all West Hartford Police Department programs, including drug enforcement, and

WHEREAS, several voice recorder systems were reviewed by the Police Department and the Purchasing Division of the Department of Financial Services, and

WHEREAS, the digital voice recorder system that best meets the department's needs is a CyberTech system with a cost of \$45,419,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD that the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget of the Drug Enforcement Fund is hereby amended as follows:

INCREASE ESTIMATED REVENUES

20-220305-20406-9399	Fund Balance	\$45,419
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

20-220305-20406-3202	Capital Equipment	\$45,419
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Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Another grant, Mr. Van Winkle?

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes, it's the night of grants. This is a...drug enforcement money is money that we get from bad guys that are selling drugs. We're able to take their car and sell it and cash laying around. We have an officer here who could probably explain that

better than I but that money builds up. It's something we share with the federal government and we are allowed to expend it not to replace the money we spend on our existing expenditures but to do additional improvements. In this case our 911 system has an antiquated recording system. This is going to be a new digital system that will provide recording for all of our 911 calls, better clarity. It will also allow us to do searches of those whereas right now you've got to listen to the whole tape in order to get to it. You can search for words or incidents or that sort of thing with a digital file so it will be an enhancement to our efforts at the Police Department and it is fully funded by money from our Drug Enforcement Fund.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Any further discussion? Okay, seeing none all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Number 11, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #11: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) TO APPROPRIATE \$1,830 IN THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF "IDLERIGHT FUEL SYSTEM" FOR PRIVATE DUTY POLICE CRUISERS.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Comprehensive Energy Plan has set a goal of reducing the amount of fuel used each year by Town vehicles both for energy conservation and for budget savings, and

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Police Department has three police vehicles which are used primarily to provide traffic control at construction sites, and

WHEREAS, these vehicles frequently must stand idling at these sites to use their emergency lighting equipment, and

WHEREAS, these three cruisers combined use approximately 10,000 gallons of fuel each year while idling at these construction sites, and

WHEREAS, there exists a fuel conservation system, called Idleright Fuel System, which can be installed in a cruiser which allows the emergency lights to be energized by the vehicle's battery and turns on the engine only long enough to charge the battery, and

WHEREAS, cars equipped with this system would need to idle for 20 minutes once or twice per shift instead of idling the entire shift, saving up to 8,000 gallons of fuel each year, and

WHEREAS, the cost to equip three police cruisers with this system is \$610 per vehicle, for a total cost of \$1,830,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of West Hartford does hereby authorize the use of \$1,830 from the Drug Enforcement Fund for

the purchase of the Idleright Fuel System for three police cruisers and amends the fiscal year 2010-2011 budget of the Drug Enforcement Fund as follows:

Estimated Revenues

20-220305-20406-9399	Use of Fund Balance	\$1,830
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Appropriation

20-220305-20406-3202	Miscellaneous Capital Equipment	\$1,830
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Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Back to you, Mr. Van Winkle. Another grant.

Mr. Van Winkle: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. This actually comes out of some of the comments we've got in past Budget Forums or from residents who said, you know, I see a police officer, you know, directing traffic. He has his car there and the car is running all the time or we have a private duty job, a construction job where we have an officer out there making sure that traffic behaves and everyone is safe on the site but why do we have to have the car running all the time and we do that because it has to operate the lights and if you've been inside a police car it's a little electronic... In the front seat.

President Slifka: Just for the record you look you look great in the back.

Mr. Van Winkle: Mr. Adler, yes. Yes. *(Laughter.)* Mr. Adler spent some time with our officers to see what the evening is like for them in the front seat of the vehicle. We have three cruisers that we dedicate to this kind of use and they use approximately 10,000 gallons of gasoline each year primarily just idling and you can't turn it off because it's not set up to run all that electronics and the lights. It will just run the battery down. We were able to find a piece of technology, a smart thinker out there that came up with IdleRight Fuel System that measures how the battery's charge is and the car turns off and when the battery starts to run down it turns the car back on, recharges the battery and will turn it off. Our estimate at this point is that we will save 8,000 gallons of gasoline by doing this. It's just remarkable and again this is something we've been knowledgeable but we've had citizens who have said, you know, why can't we find a way to improve this and 8,000 gallons of gasoline is a lot of money and also a lot of pollution that we will eliminate by experimenting in essence because this is a brand new product with this new IdleRight Fuel System.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. I had three people on tap, Mr. Verrengia, Mr. Brennan and Mr. Adler to address this issue.

Mr. Verrengia: I would just like to add one thing just for the benefit of the residents that those extra gallons of gas and that cost is incurred by that utility or contractor and not the

town...that we're reimbursed for the use of that cruiser and the officer working that road job.

Mr. Van Winkle: If I could just expand on that. When you see an officer working at a utility site the officer's pay, the cost of that car being there, the gasoline, the pension contribution that we have to make because we have an officer working on that site is all charged to that utility so it doesn't come out of the general fund when you see them working what we call private duty jobs. It is coming from the contractor that's doing the excavation in the road so we often get that question of, you know, I see our officers out there doing this work. Why do we have to have them there? Doesn't that cost us a lot of money? And in fact it costs our utilities or our contractors that are doing work out there money but it does not cost the taxpayers of West Hartford.

President Slifka: Thank you. Mr. Brennan?

Vice President Brennan: Mr. Mayor, I would like to commend Assistant Chief McCue in bringing up this idea. He brought it up in Public Safety and it's not only a good idea on its own, it's also consistent with our town's Comprehensive Energy Plan which means that people are paying attention and it's exactly...the goal is for every department to, you know, read that, to think about it and to be creative. I don't know of anyone else in the town who knew of this product and, again, it was contemplated in the plan so I'm very pleased that, you know, that the thought process...the idea turned into reality and it's, you know, an important step toward implementation so I think that Assistant Chief McCue deserves those accolades. Thanks.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Brennan. And to Mr. Adler?

Councilor Adler: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Through you. Mr. Van Winkle, a comment or a question and then a comment. The question is could we... As we monitor this idle device in the cruisers, could we possibly think about maybe expanding that to Public Works and to other vehicles that we use because if we're saving that kind of money certainly there's an opportunity there?

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes, Mr. Adler, we have in place a no-idle policy with the Public Works vehicles. They don't have lights on them. They don't have all the electronics so there is no requirement so if you are out of your vehicle I'm going to say for a few minutes, we have a specific time on that, the employee is directed to turn the vehicle off so even in the winter except for in extreme cases we should be turning that vehicle off and every once in awhile I do get somebody who calls and says I saw a Public Works vehicle and we sit down with that employee and make sure they follow that policy so we shouldn't need it on those vehicles. We should have a policy...we have a policy in place and we enforce it with our employees to turn the vehicles off when they're not needed to be on.

Councilor Adler: And just a quick comment: You know, tonight we're hearing from you on several grants and I've said this before and we're always quick to catch people doing things wrong. I think we need to obviously catch people doing things right. In this case

your department does a great job in writing grants, in getting grants and I don't think the public may not have a full appreciation on that but I think we do here at the table and if we weren't getting this money one, we would not probably be getting the services or two, the taxpayer would have to pony up at some point so I've asked from you periodically just to give us a total listing of what the total grants are cause I think people need to know that, I think particularly during these challenging times and that would be appreciated so...

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Adler. Ms. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Thank you. Just a suggestion. I think I remember it was probably about a year ago that Meriden, the City of Meriden, had installed this device. I remember reading that. I'm thinking it might make sense to check with them to see what their experience was and maybe if it was great we'd get some more. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Ms. Hall. Mr. Durbin?

Councilor Durbin: Just wondering based on what Joe said if the contractor is paying for the police officer and the gasoline so is this device saving... Are there instances where police cars are idling to keep the lights on that isn't paid by the contractors so that this device is saving us money?

Mr. Van Winkle: I am looking at Mr. Verrengia. I'm sure there are moments at crime scenes where we have cars sitting there with their lights on and that's another potential. We are putting this in only three cars that are used on those construction duties but there's another opportunity where an officer's car is stopped and they're not in it and they might have that opportunity to have this operate in this fashion. It turns off I believe nearly everything except for the lights on the car so I'm guessing that in certain police events you're not turning off a lot of things in your car, the radios and the computers and whatnot, even if you're out of the car for a few minutes so there's that potential. These three cars will show us the use of this, you know, the opportunity we might have and we'll then generate I think further ideas when...if this works out and works out well we can begin to look at other opportunities where they might exist.

Councilor Durbin: I'm just trying to make sure I understand. So this is not... The device sounds like a great idea but it's not, you know, you referenced 8000 gallons of gasoline. The town is not saving money on those 8,000 gallons of gasoline, right? Because we weren't paying for them in the first place.

Mr. Van Winkle: That would be correct. In the case of a private duty job the contractor would be paying for that gasoline so it would be not directly. As you also know, the Town of West Hartford does a substantial amount of construction work on its roads and so wherever we're rebuilding we pay for those costs and, you know, because they're our roads I'm guessing nearly half of the work that's going on out there is being done by our Public Works people or our contractors that we're paying for here so we would save that money on our projects.

Councilor Durbin: So we... So it's interesting. So the Department of Public Works will pay the Police Department to have a police officer and a car there?

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes. We have... The most common thing is when we repave a road we use contractors to do the paving, replace curbing. Those are contractors, not the Department of Public Works. That work on arterial and collector streets, they're our more main streets, we require that an officer be there if they're going to be there for a certain amount of time. I think it's more than three or four hours. So all of those projects would be ones where our contractor is working and we charge our capital budget the cost for the officer to be on that project and we would save that money.

Councilor Durbin: So I was wrong. So we will...this will lead to significant savings.

Mr. Van Winkle: It certainly will lead to significant savings, not to underestimate the point of 8,000 gallons of gasoline which is a substantial amount of pollution that we put into the air when we operate this way.

President Slifka: Thank you. Anything further? Okay. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Number 12, Mr. Brennan?

ITEM #12: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) TO APPROPRIATE AN ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT AWARDED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROTECTIVE GEAR.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Fire Department applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant Operations and Safety Program funds, and

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Fire Department is in need of replacement personal protective clothing, know as turnout gear, for firefighting and emergency response as the 84 sets of gear currently in use by the Town are nearing the end of their six to seven year wear life, and

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Fire Department was awarded a grant to replace this personal protective clothing in the amount of \$168,000, and

WHEREAS, the grant funds 80% of the cost (\$134,400) and requires a 20% match of Town funds (\$33,600), said funds being available for appropriation in the Capital Non-Recurring Expenditure Fund (CNRE),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the purchase of personal protective gear is hereby accepted and the use of CNRE fund

balance in the amount of \$33,600 to meet the matching component of the grant is hereby authorized. The fiscal year 2009-2010 budget of the CNRE Fund is amended as follows:

Estimated Revenues

33-910800-30506-9049	FEMA Grant	\$134,400
33-910800-30506-9399	Use of Fund Balance	33,600

Appropriations

33-910800-30506-3094	Fire Protective Gear	\$168,000
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Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Mr. Van Winkle, back to you.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes. This is turnout gear. This is what a fireman wears when they go to a fire and it has a life to it that is approximately eight years. It is required by OSHA and by standards for firefighting that we replace that gear. We were about to put into our budget this year additional dollars to replace sets of gear and because we had applied to FEMA and had not heard from them about this grant it was a piece that was moments away from being added to my budget when we heard that FEMA had sent us a grant for \$134,000. Our match is \$33,000 which we are taking from our capital non-recurring account to replace that equipment. It is something we will do every few years. It's expensive gear but it is required in order to keep our firefighters safe.

President Slifka: Thank you Mr. Van Winkle. Mr. Adler?

Councilor Adler: Comment through you, Mr. Mayor. First of all, Mr. Van Winkle, this is money well-spent. I had an opportunity a couple of years ago to talk with a couple of the guys at one of the firehouses and it's amazing the condition of some of his gear and that these guys are going into, you know, a couple hundred degree blazes so this is probably well overdue in terms of this funding but this is definitely money well-spent.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Adler. Anyone else? Okay, all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. We're up to #12...13.

ITEM #13: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THROUGH THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED DEMAND RESPONSIVE TRANSPORTATION EXPANDED PROGRAM.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the Town of West Hartford desires to continue its provision of expanded Dial-A-Ride transportation services to those West Hartford residents who are elderly or who have a disability; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation provides grant funding to municipalities to operate an Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation Expanded Program; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Human and Leisure Services wishes to submit a grant application to enhance Dial-A-Ride services for West Hartford elderly and disabled for Fiscal Year 2010 - 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL that the Town Manager is hereby authorized to submit an application to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for a grant for Fiscal Year 2010 - 2011 in order to secure funding for an Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation Expanded Program to be operated in West Hartford.

Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Mr. Van Winkle?

Mr. Van Winkle: This is a grant which you just appropriated I think in our last meeting. We have a regular Dial-a-Ride program and in the past few years there has been an additional grant offered to us to expand that service. Our basic services... If you need to get to a doctor we'll give you that. If you need to get to a food store through the Dial-a-Ride program you can get there. The expanded program allows us to reach more people and provide more rides. This is a grant we did not expect in the budget that we're in and yet we've received it midyear to our surprise and we're told that if we resubmit we will likely get a grant for next year's budget so this resolution authorizes us to make that application to the Department...State Department of Transportation for that expanded Dial-a-Ride grant.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Any comment? Questions? Okay. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Number 14, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #14: RESOLUTION (VAN WINKLE) APPROPRIATING \$3,250 FROM THE WEST HARTFORD SENIOR CENTER DONATION ACCOUNT TO PURCHASE A FITNESS CROSS TRAINER.

ADOPTED

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Senior Center values Healthy Lifestyle Initiatives that encourage seniors to remain active; and

WHEREAS, the Step Up To Health Fitness Center at the West Hartford Senior Center was established through a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and offers affordable and convenient fitness programs and exercise options for Senior Citizens; and

WHEREAS, Senior Center participants would benefit from the addition of a Fitness Cross Trainer to be included with the array of existing equipment; and

WHEREAS, the West Hartford Senior Center has raised the necessary funds through various donations and fundraisers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD, that the fiscal year 2009-2010 General Fund budget for the West Hartford Senior Center is hereby amended as follows:

Estimated Revenue

01-402400-40401-9340	Contributions	\$3,250
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Appropriations

01-402400-40401-3202	Capital Equipment	\$3,250
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Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Mr. Van Winkle, the last of the grants this evening.

Mr. Van Winkle: Exactly. We had a discussion just the other day that we shouldn't call these senior centers because the people think that well, those are for old people. If you go in there, these are not old people that are in our fitness centers and our centers out there. They're very active adults that are using this. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving a few years ago gave us a grant to buy equipment for senior centers to provide exercise equipment in them and over the past few years they've been actively used. If you're out there you can come to our centers and use this equipment and our West Hartford Senior Center raises money through some of their activities, through the sale of coffee, through all sorts of little things that they do and this money is actually coming from the fundraising that they do within the senior center, \$3250, to buy additional equipment for their fitness center so this is the senior's, active adults out there that are utilizing our facilities raising money to augment their fitness equipment.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Anything from the Council? Okay, all those in favor? Oh, sorry. Mr. Durbin.

Councilor Durbin: Sorry it came in late. I just want to be clear. We keep talking about grants. When I hear grant I think of the state or federal government just giving us money but this is actually part of a town fund?

Mr. Van Winkle: Sort of. A grant... You could give the town a grant, you know if you...

Councilor Durbin: Negative.

Mr. Van Winkle: If you would like to. Grants come in all forms. You think of them as state and federal kinds of things without question and the great majority of our grants are that sort of thing but we have individuals that give us grants, we have small foundations that give us grants. In this case this is a fund that's within the Senior Center. It's not really appropriated by you. Their coffee sales, various kinds of things, residuals that the Senior Centers that raise the money are allowed to make a decision about what they want to do with it so it's a form of a grant because it's not taxpayer's money. They could have chosen to do something else with it but we call it a grant because it comes from outside of our funds. These are not really our funds directly. They're sort of the accumulative funds of all those who participate in the Senior Center.

Councilor Durbin: So we need a resolution on it because technically we still have jurisdiction over how it's spent?

Mr. Van Winkle: Well, you need a resolution because when someone gives us money from the outside you need to appropriate it so that I can spend it. They could have gone out themselves and bought equipment directly probably. I'd have to check with my corporation counsel. But when they give it to us for that purpose we have to put it into a line item in the budget somewhere and appropriate it and that's what you're doing here is just taking this money that we're receiving from the Senior Center funds, coffee funds I'll call them, and appropriating it so that they can buy this equipment.

Councilor Durbin: Right so I'm not... I mean, I'm all for the...

Mr. Van Winkle: Yeah. It's a...

Councilor Durbin: ...elliptical machine.

Mr. Van Winkle: It may be a stretch of the nomenclature grant but it is in essence a similar effect.

Councilor Durbin: Right. But I'm just using this as an example to try to understand the process. So we could say no, you can't appropriate it for that. You should appropriate it for something else or they come up with the ideas of where it should be appropriated and we say yes or no?

Mr. Van Winkle: It never really gets to that point. Obviously, you know, within the Senior Center we have all the wisdom of all those years and no one ever says let's just

buy party hats with this money and that just isn't how it works. They get together and think about how to make their facility better so we've never...I can never remember us going well, gee, that's not a good idea. So... Yeah.

Councilor Durbin: Oh, no, no, no. That's why I was trying to be clear.

Mr. Van Winkle: But you could and that's what I'm saying.

Councilor Durbin: I think it's... I'm just trying to understand.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yeah.

Councilor Durbin: ...why it is if it's a Senior Center fund...

Mr. Van Winkle: Yeah.

Councilor Durbin: ...how it even gets to us in the first place.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yes. Well they...again they're granting it to us, donating it to us. This is a... It's not the appropriation. It's not the money that's appropriated to the organization which you do through your budget each time. We appropriate money for the operation of the Senior Center. This is money that they generate through some of their programs that they do there.

Councilor Durbin: So why is it they just don't go buy the machine?

Mr. Van Winkle: Because it's easier for us to do.

Councilor Durbin: Ah, okay.

Mr. Van Winkle: You know, we can... These kinds of things are bid by the State. There are organizations where we can hook into their bids and get a better price, better bidding on it. Our people are professional purchasers so rather than just showing up at a store and saying we'd like one of those which is what they might do we can negotiate a better price and get a better product for them.

Councilor Durbin: But they could do that?

Mr. Van Winkle: They could do that. Yes.

Councilor Durbin: Alright. I'm just trying to understand.

President Slifka: Okay. Anything further? All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Okay. We're up to Announcements.

ITEM #15: ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Slifka: I have a few. The Bridge will have the 23rd Anniversary of Tune Into Life Week. It goes on this year April 5-11. It's a week of programs and events to promote healthy, drug-free activities, both fun and educational for all ages. For more information please call The Bridge at (860) 521-8035.

The West Hartford Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Richard Chiarappa presents another Afternoon at the Opera on Sunday, March 28 at 3:00 P.M. at the Robert's Theatre on the grounds of Kingswood-Oxford School. To order tickets please call (860) 521-4362 or go online to www.whso.org or at the door beginning at 2:15 the day of the concert.

Art for Autism - artwork created by individuals with autism will be displayed and sold from Friday, March 26 through Thursday, April 1 at Lux Bond & Green. The debut reception is Friday, March 26 at Lux Bond & Green's location on LaSalle Road, 6:30 - 8:00. Please RSVP to (860) 561-6500. The proceeds will go to support Art for Autism.

The Memorial Day Parade is coming up. Memorial Day is this May 31. We will have our annual parade obviously. If you or your organization would like to participate in it please let us know as soon as possible by emailing to whmemorialdayparade@yahoo.com.

I'm almost done here. We have a free Cycle Commuting Clinic speaking of things that are earth-friendly. The experts at REI will be hosting a Cycle Commuting Clinic at our Elmwood Community Center March 31, 2010 from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. It is free. It will teach you how to choose a bike route that works for you, what to look for in a bicycle when you commute and all the gear that you would need to make it easy to commute everyday. You can register for this program by calling the Elmwood Community Center at (860) 561-8160.

And the last of mine before I go to Ms. Hall's is Friday Night Film at Bishop's Corner. This is the Bishop's Corner Library. It's an event that they're trying...they have been promoting Bishop's Corner as an arts destination. They're doing a great job for several years now and one of their upcoming events is the Friday Night Film. This upcoming one is March 26 at 6:30 P.M. It features "When a Woman Ascends the Stairs," a 1960 film from Japan. It sounds intriguing. And now, Ms. Hall, you had one.

Councilor Hall: Thank you. Just another event - Raising Dough to Feed the Hungry. An event to help raise money for the House of Bread. This will be Friday, April 9 from 7:00 to 11:30 right here in West Hartford Town Hall with dancing to the music of Crossroads which features some local residents. They do a great job. Food, raffle, cash bar, free parking, casual attire, \$35 a person so it should be a great event. Anyone interested can contact Eileen Brewer-Akin at eakin5@comcast.net or call her at (860) 561-8590.

President Slifka: Thank you, Ms. Hall and Mrs. Cantor?

Councilor Cantor: Yes, this is the second weekend and the last weekend of Pops and Jazz at Hall High and tomorrow at 2:00 there is a free senior show with home-baked goods there so if anybody is interested...

President Slifka: Okay, that looks like all the announcements. Okay, we'll go to Reports from Corporation Counsel: Mr. O'Brien?

ITEM #16: REPORTS FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL:

Mr. O'Brien: No need for Executive Session. I'll be happy to answer any questions you might have.

President Slifka: Thank you. Are there any questions for Mr. O'Brien other than is there an Executive Session? Okay. Thank you, sir.

ITEM #17: APPOINTED HARRY CAPTAIN AT 3-9-10 COUNCIL MEETING A MEMBER OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD. TERM CORRECTION IS 12-31-10.

We're up to Appointments and Mr. O'Brien, I need to ask if we need to move this part. At the last meeting we made an appointment of Harry Captain to the...as a member of the Risk Management Advisory Board. It had a typo on the term. It needs to be corrected to 12-31-10 from 12-31-13. Is that something that we can just read or do we need to vote on that?

Mr. O'Brien: That's something that you can just read into the record.

President Slifka: Okay. Consider that done. And Ms. Hall you had an appointment.

REAPPOINTED MARYANNE MELLEY A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES FOR A TERM ENDING 12-31-12.

Ms. Hall: I move to reappoint Maryanne Melley a member of the Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities for a term ending December 31, 2012.

President Slifka: Anyone second?

Vice President Brennan: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Okay. No Executive Session. To Consent Calendar, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #22: CONSENT CALENDAR

ITEM #19: MINUTES FROM FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE 03-08-10.

ITEM #20: MINUTES FROM PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE 03-04-10.

ITEM #21: MINUTES FROM WEST HARTFORD CENTER SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 03-09-10.

Vice President Brennan: I move that we adopt the Consent Calendar.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Up to Communications, #23, Mr. Brennan.

COMMUNICATIONS:

ITEM #23: FROM CLARE DOWD (03-15-10) RESIGNING AS AN ALTERNATE FROM THE TOWN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.

RECEIVED

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. I sense Mr. Adler is going in the same direction I am with this. I want to personally thank Clare for her years of service and express my extreme disappointment that her many, many other obligations, family and otherwise, are going to keep her from continuing to serve. We have obviously a lot of great qualified people in town with unique skill sets and Clare is one of the more interesting people I've ever encountered and she was kind enough to volunteer to serve in any capacity. Some years ago we discovered that she had a particular interesting background with community development, particularly in urban areas, and thought that might be a good fit for something like this - the TP&Z and it has just been a real joy to have her there. She's a real credit to the town and I'm just very, very disappointed that we're not going to have her service at least for a few years. I'm sure Clare is somebody who will surface again when the time is right. Mr. Adler?

Councilor Adler: You're right. We were going in the same direction, Mr. Mayor. I just want to say that when I was on Town Planning and Zoning that Clare was really one of the people that I looked to with her comments around applying the regulations around commercial properties and being really a thorough understanding of the ordinances and so forth around Planning and Zoning. Very competent, very professional and just a lot of fun to work with and probably just as much fun as Mr. Davidoff when I was there but we'll miss her.

President Slifka: Not possible to be as fun as Mr. Davidoff but thanks for... Mr. Davidoff?

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I would like to thank Clare for her many years of service to the TP&Z. She definitely challenged me on many points during many applications and we may have come to different conclusions but we did it respectfully and she definitely brought the debate to a higher level and her service to this community is going to be sorely missed and she definitely has been a total asset for a volunteer to give the amount of hours that someone gives to the Town Planning and Zoning Commission and I wish her the best in any endeavor that she takes and encourage her to come back and serve again in some other capacity. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Davidoff. Mrs. Cantor?

Councilor Cantor: Yes, Clare does serve on the Foundation of West Hartford Public Schools and has been the champion of grants and pursuing grant applications, writing them, has really researched an incredible wealth of organizations to go to so she's been very busy and in her year of service has made an remarkable difference already so...

President Slifka: Thank you, Mrs. Cantor. Okay. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Number 25, Mr. Brennan?

ITEM #25: FROM RENEE J. BORDEAUX, RD, CDN (03-10-10) REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COUNCIL TO EDUCATE THEM REGARDING THE SIGNIFICANT COST-SAVINGS BENEFITS OF ADDING MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY COVERAGE TO THE TOWN'S EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE.

RECEIVED

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Welcome, Ms. Bordeaux and once you get to the podium... Well, you can hand that out first but we could... And I was going to say once you get there remember to push the red button.

Ms. Bordeaux: Okay. So that stays on. Thank you very much. Good evening, Mayor Slifka as well as the other Town Council members. Thank you for the opportunity for me to come here and discuss with you an item that I feel is a very smart item as well as an item that is very near and dear to my heart. My name is Renee Bordeaux. I am a registered dietician and I own a practice here in West Hartford in Elmwood. I'm also a five year resident of West Hartford, also in Elmwood, and I have to credit Ms. Hall here actually, Mrs. Hall here because it was by me attending an Elmwood Business

Association meeting where she brought this idea to my attention and that is that the town itself is... Obviously we're all struggling during budget times...our nation, our states, we're all struggling with rising healthcare costs and locally here in West Hartford it was reported that the West Hartford healthcare budget may be increasing by 12 percent if I can quote that correctly so I'm offering to you a suggestion. Obviously it's not going to be a panacea to our budget questions and crisis but to be able to offer something to the Council to consider for creative ways to be able to reduce the budget. This was something that we, you know, initially were talking about when Mrs. Hall was addressing the Elmwood Business Association so if I could have you open up the folders that I have provided for you, the information that is on the right-hand side of the folder, that's pretty much peripheral information and we can discuss that later but because I only have five minutes I want to make sure that I get to the meat of the matter and that is on the left-hand side so if you would go ahead and just pull out all of those handouts that I provided on the left-hand side.

Just a little brief background...I'm not sure if you're familiar with the term, with a registered dietician but another term is also a nutritionist. I am a credentialed health provider here within West Hartford, the State of Connecticut as well as a national provider for medical nutritional therapy and the tremendous cost savings...it's just astounding if you really look at it. There's a lot of data that I have provided for you and of course I can expound upon this and provide you umpteen amount of reports but of course, for brevity for this evening's sake what I'd like to point your attention to is the first page that says "Medial Nutrition Therapy Works." I'd like to add to that it saves money. If you look down on the last item, the Oxford Health Plan saved approximately \$10 for every \$1 spent on medical nutrition therapy. I actually learned about the fact that the Town of West Hartford employees for their health benefits that they do not have benefits for medical nutrition therapy. I found that out by mistake actually. I go to the West Hartford Police Department every other Tuesday to be able to do a free discussion about nutrition, stress management, you know, for the officers and I had a few officers actually come to see me privately for nutrition counseling and because I am a member, I'm a provider for Aetna Health Benefits as well as Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, it became evident to me that I could not charge or actually I did. I contacted Aetna to be able to verify the coverage of this benefit and Aetna did tell me that it was covered and I did see these four officers as well as some other family members and then I later found out that the town does not cover nutrition therapy in its health benefits so now I'm required to reimburse for those charges which I'm not happy about but, of course, I'll appeal that and that's something different. I don't want to discuss that this evening but I really thought that through Aetna for one instance for the town's police officers that nutrition therapy was a covered benefit and unfortunately I found out that it wasn't but that's what brings me here to this evening because not only Aetna does not cover medical nutrition therapy but one of the other larger insurance carriers which covers I believe the Board of Education is Anthem Century Preferred and Century Preferred also does not have a benefit for medical nutrition therapy. These are employer driven. As I learn more being a reimbursement chair for the Connecticut Dietetic Association I find out that it's not just the insurance company that is not covering. It is an employer-driven benefit that I guess can be provided a la carte and things like that so again, I'm appealing to the Town of

West Hartford as an employer to think about this in your discussions and in your thought process for reducing the budget as well as improving the quality of health for our town's employees. So as I initially said that with that medical nutrition therapy works you'll see that for every \$1 spent on medical nutrition therapy you can realize a \$10 savings. That's tremendous. If you would move to the second page the cost effectiveness analysis of outpatient medical nutrition therapy for disorders of lipid metabolism, basically cholesterol, if you were to pan down to the area that I highlighted and that was the Department of Veteran's Affairs Medical Center Study that was done and it was estimated an annualized cost savings from the avoidance of using these lipid medications was over \$60,000 a year. I just called CVS this afternoon to find out how much it costs for a month's worth of Lipitor and it costs \$177 dollars. No, excuse me, \$117 dollars. So if we were to multiply the amount of officers or townspeople who we have on this cholesterol medication where we could actually move to improve their health status, thereby making it unnecessary for the medications in some cases, you would have a tremendous cost savings and that is just on medication. If we were to talk about healthcare costs and hospitalizations and doctor's visits and things like that it becomes tremendous.

President Slifka: Ms. Bordeaux I'm sorry. The clerk's just informed me we're at the five minute mark.

Ms. Bordeaux: Okay. Great. Thank you. So I just wanted to point your attention to the... Obviously tonight I am just initially bringing this idea to your attention and of course I am available if you need any assistance with this and I thank you very much for your attention.

President Slifka: Thank you very much and we do appreciate the suggestion and we encourage our residents to come to us with all the budget suggestions and this is particularly unique and very detailed. Thank you for your effort.

Ms. Bordeaux: You're welcome.

President Slifka: Ms. Hall? Ms. Hall do you have...

Councilor Hall: I just wanted to thank you for coming in and talking about this. You know, it's real easy for everybody to kind of complain about things. It's nice when people come in with helpful, thoughtful suggestions and this is certainly one of them. I know from my years on Risk Management and Advisory Commission we have worked with Mr. Ledwith and routinely would get the costs associated with the different prescriptions that we're providing. I've seen how expensive they are. I certainly know what we spend at home on some of these drugs so I just wanted to thank you and assure you that we are going to take a look at this.

Ms. Bordeaux: Thanks.

President Slifka: Mrs. Cantor?

Mrs. Cantor: Yes, I just did want to share I've been dealing with the Town Manager. Obviously this is a huge cost and we want our employees to be healthy. This is a risk that we share. It's a driver. Some of the medical costs are out of our control but much we can control and it's a whole project. It's food, it's activity and it's making a workplace healthy so we... I serve on the board of the American Heart Association and they provide a free service of encouraging workplaces to be heart healthy. They call them Fit Friendly Communities and we've been working in meeting their designation. They do them twice a year and West Hartford is working through Renee McCue with the American Heart Association to get the designation by July and hopefully we can make some changes that will cost either nothing or will be a wash in some way of saving health care costs to provide those costs so we have been working. We made West Hartford a HeartSafe Community and had worked hard to get that designation. It was an investment that Dr. Thornberry had actually worked on years ago and we're continuing to make that investment and keep not only our residents and visitors healthy but our employees that actually cost us money so thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mrs. Cantor. Mr. Brennan?

Vice President Brennan: Thanks to Ms. Hall for inviting in Ms. Bordeaux and thank you, Ms. Bordeaux. This is obviously a very...the timing of this is very good with the passage of the healthcare bill. There's much talk these days about health. The costs associated with health and in particular related to nutrition and obviously in your material you've talked about, you know, the cost associated with obesity and related diseases so excellent. Glad you're here. My other thought is and I'm glad you're working with the police. My other thought is if you aren't already... I would hope you might work with our schools. It's not within our purview but as a parent and I look at the menu it's not something I would serve my own children during the week most of the time. It's often more suitable for appetizers at a fast food restaurant and, you know, the costs... You've highlighted savings for a 1998 figure of, you know, 78.5 billion. That's from a decade ago. I mean, I couldn't agree with it more. We all want to be healthy. We want our children to be healthy and to set those lifetime habits early on so if you are so inclined and if the schools would have you I think that would be a great idea. Thanks.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Brennan. Mr. Adler?

Councilor Adler: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Through you. Well, first of all I want to thank the Minority Leader Hall for bringing Ms. Bordeaux here. I think it's very important. Ms. Bordeaux, I want to thank you for educating us on nutrition and what is available in the small few minutes that you had. I guess the question is where do we go from here because we hear some of this testimony from people and we have a lot of smart people in this community so what are we going to do about it. I think we need to maybe have you sit down with Rick Ledwith as well as Sue Donatelli, who is our Risk Management key person and we have a whole preventative care/wellness effort in terms of, you know, everything from ergonomics to, you know, claim review and so forth but my greatest fear is never seeing you again and I think nutrition, etc..., and I'm probably the best example

of... I'm the guy before, you know? Like in the... The guy who holds up the pants but I'm wearing the pants so... That's the second time you guys are laughing at me tonight. But the point... That's the last time I come here. So the greatest fear that I have is that you're going to go away and we're not going to see you again and you have all this information. You have a business. It sounds like that you have a business that's in demand and with the free healthcare that we did get over the weekend (I'm being facetious) we need to take into consideration the wellness opportunities that are out there so don't go anywhere. Just kind of stay there.

Ms. Bordeaux: Okay. Thank you.

President Slifka: Figuratively, not literally. She can go home, right?

President Slifka: Okay. Thank you again, Ms. Bordeaux. Okay, we're up to #26, Mr. Brennan?

ITEM #26: FROM FRANCIS ARBUGLIO (03-12-10) REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COUNCIL REGARDING ISSUE ABOUT SAFETY IN AREA WHERE ARBUGLIOS LIVE.

RECEIVED

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion is made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. Mr. Arpeggio, welcome back. You have five minutes. Make sure you hit the button.

Mr. Arbuglios: Good evening, everybody. Thank you for welcoming me to your meeting. Okay. My name is Francis Arbuglio. I represent my brother, Joseph Arbuglio. We both live at 31 Grassmere Avenue, West Hartford. The reason why I'm bringing up the issue about safety issues is because we have ongoing problems still on Grassmere Avenue. We have a considerable amount of pollution to our property which you can see here. It's all contaminated from the former body shop that was there. We still have a problem. I went to the ZBA board .. next door to a new tenant, a very nice tenant. I tried to bring up issues at that meeting about the problem I'm having with Elmer Dakin, the property owner, and Diane Tucker and Brian Pudlik turned me down. They won't let me speak at the meeting. They told me they can only talk about M&R and not the issue I'm having with Mr. Dakin. I still have three more coming from my property still, a five foot pond on my property still. He's still putting the toxic skids outside. You can see over here. These are toxic skids. Children touch these skids, put their fingers in their mouth they can get badly sick. You're supposed to keep them inside. You're supposed to properly dispose of them. I have another problem with him now. He's loading scrap barrels in his utility trailer. He leaves them outside. He's supposed to leave them in the

building. The thing is if they're outside when it rains it washes into the storm drain. The storm drainpipes go into my property. He's still putting more pollution and now the problem is he drives it up town roads and it all leaks into the storm drains so now he's contaminating the whole town. I mean, where are we going with these people? I have problems with McKenzie still breaking the speed limit. 150 miles an hour in his cars over here. Drag racing up the street. You see the skids over here? There are skid marks over here on the pavement over here. Where are we going? 150 miles an hour. Endangering kids lives. Then plus too another problem of his is there's no speed limit signs on the street. We should put speed limits on the street. Plus too I have ATV machines running all around the street too. I mean, the dike's all ripped up down there. The lawn's all ripped up. I went to Ron Van Winkle about it. Nothing's prevailed. I mean where are we going? The bike trail people can't even walk to the bike trail. The dirt bikes and ATV machines have taken over. I mean, McKenzie don't care. They got pollution coming in. Oily parts still in the ground still. I talked to Rich Patrissi He told me that's your problem. You chose to live there. I'm even worried about my rent so where am I going here people? I mean, how much more you going to contaminate a property? I mean it's all contaminated. It's all holes from core drilling tests and everything. We keep going on and on and no fines are done with these people. I mean, McKenzie I brought him in many times before this Town Council members before but, It's turned down. I mean, these people are troublemakers. The rest of the businesses on the street want him out too. I mean, they tear the street up. They work all hours of the night. I have no sleep. Ten, eleven o'clock I got to put up with it. I called the police. They just give him verbal warnings on the speeding. People down on Fenwood Road and Alameda, they've have had it. They're tired. These guys racing up and down the streets. Scare the kids. You figure - if a kid gets scared with just cars taking off real fast, that loud sound, he might not run away from this car. He could run in the path of the car and get killed. I mean, where are we going with these people? They're only renters. Get rid of them. Bring some nice people in that want to run a decent business there. I mean, I got a package to give to you people here. You can look it over and give me your opinion on it. Put it on display for people in this town to see it. I'd like people's opinions on it and I'd like to try to push this program for you people to do it. I'd like to see people make up a thing where you put an online complaint form where people can fill it out and show where the complaints are. It's all in this package here. I mean, we got to start doing something here. I mean, I bet you other people in this town got problem too. I mean, it's got to end. It can't keep going like this. Here's the package here. You people are welcome to look it all over and also I have the packet here that was turned down at the ZBA Board with Diane Tucker and also Brian Pudlik. Tom Foley did back me up at that meeting. He wanted me to speak. Those two said absolutely not and I don't remember the Commissioner's name. She turned me down too. Well that's not fair. Attorney Blumenthal is on board with this problem I have at home. He says this is the worst devastation this town has taken with this pollution I have at home. Now they told on town record there... Back on March 18, 2009 it was mentioned on town record in the ZBA when M & R moved in they told me they don't want...Blumenthal doesn't want anymore devastation of our property anymore. Well, it's still going on. People don't do something about it, then I have to write a letter to Blumenthal and he's got to deal with this town. I'm not going to tolerate it no more. I give you three... You people can have

that for two weeks and review everything that's there. I'd like a letter back to me on what the turnout's going to be and I'd like people to view this, come to the Mayor's office, put it on a table where people could see what's really going on in this town. They may have other issues too but I think this program would be a great thing if you people would vote it in. I mean everybody's...probably everybody's got problems. Maybe we can try to control things in this town a lot more better than what we're doing. If you want to meet me, call me and leave a voicemail. I'd be glad to come meet with you sometime after work. But I got to start doing something here because things are getting really ridiculous here. I mean, how can... They can still drive around with a utility trailer with scrap barrels and it's leaking oil all over the ground, it's leaking over the street and the storm drains. He's putting the whole town down. He polluted my property at home. Now he's going to go pollute everybody's property. You can see little kids pick this stuff and put it in their mouth. They don't know.

President Slifka: Mr. Arbuglio, the clerk confirms that your time is up. Maybe you can give us a chance to look at the material.

Mr. Arbuglio: I appreciate it.

President Slifka: Okay.

Mr. Arbuglio: I mean, I'd like you to look at it and please get back to me on what we're going to do and also get people views. I hope people that are watching this Town Council meeting would email to you people and try to push this issue that it comes about.

President Slifka: Okay. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Arbuglio: Thank you very much for your time.

President Slifka: Okay, we're up to #27, Mr. Brennan.

ITEM #27: FROM GEORGE KENNEDY, PRESIDENT OF THE WEST HARTFORD TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION (03-16-10) REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COUNCIL ON MATTERS OF TOWN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE.

RECEIVED

Vice President Brennan: I move that we receive.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: A motion has been made and seconded. Mr. Kennedy informed us he was not actually going to attend tonight so there won't be any reading of the letter. All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries but related to that before we adjourn just a reminder that the Budget Public Hearings are coming up. They are April 6 at 2:00 in the afternoon. That's our traditional one for seniors but everyone is welcome and April 8 at

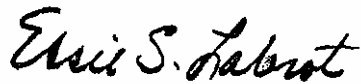
6:00 P.M. Both of those will take place in this very room in the Council Chamber and with that I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Vice President Brennan: So moved.

Councilor Cantor: Second.

President Slifka: All those in favor? Those opposed? Motion carries. We're adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.



Essie S. Labrot
Town Clerk/Council Clerk

/sab

APPROVED AT APRIL 13, 2010 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.