

Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
December 11, 2018

Present:

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair
Patricia Boye-Williams
Bruce Charette
Paul Cianci
Edward Giannaros
Beth Kintner
C. J. Thomas

Kathy Eagen, Town Manager
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Council and members of the public recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Hearing

1. A public hearing to amend Chapter 51 "Pensions" of the Farmington Town Code.

The Chair called the hearing to order at 7:05 p.m., and the Clerk read the following legal notice:

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF FARMINGTON
PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:05 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers to amend Chapter 51 "Pensions" of the Farmington Town Code.

Dated at Farmington Connecticut this 27th day of November 2018.

Kathleen A. Eagen
Town Manager.

Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager gave a presentation on the Code changes.

The Chair opened the public hearing for public comments and hearing none closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

D. Presentations and Recognitions

There were no presentations or recognitions.

E. New Items

There were no new items added to the agenda.

F. Public Comments

There were no public comments made.

G. Reading of the Minutes

1. November 13, 2018 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

There were no communications or written appeals.

I. Report of the Committees

1. UCONN Health Committee

There was no report for Agenda Item I-1.

2. Land Acquisition Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the next meeting was December 14, 2018.

3. Green Efforts Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Committee had met the previous week and were continuing to concentrate on waste reduction for the Town's restaurants. They were preparing a check list for the restaurants to follow and were going to highlight the restaurant's efforts on the Explore Farmington Page.

4. FHS Ad Hoc Community Survey Committee

Ms. Kintner reported the Committee had held a joint meeting with the FHS Ad Hoc Facility & Financial Committee to review the findings from the survey and make some recommendations to the FHS Ad Hoc Facility & Financial Committee. They were planning to present their findings to a combined Town Council and Board of Education meeting.

5. FHS Ad Hoc Facility & Financial Committee

Mr. Giannaros reported the combined meeting with the FHS Ad Hoc Facility & Financial Committee had been successful, and the Committee would be meeting to formulate their recommendations to the Town Council and Board of Education.

6. Farmington Village Center Committee

Mr. Charette reported the Committee had met and reviewed the RFQ's for landscape architects and narrowed it down to 3 candidates to be interviewed. The next meeting was scheduled for January 10, 2018.

7. Auditor Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Cianci reported the Committee was meeting December 13, 2018 to create an RFP for candidates.

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair

The Chair reported having attended a Valley Collaborative Meeting at which the following was discussed:

- the problems and possible solutions to the bear problems the towns were experiencing
- that around a 2% budget increase seemed to be the target for many towns
- youth vaping and possible legislation to address the problems
- that governor elect Lamont was touring the state to hear the concerns of the towns and cities
- the difficulty towns were having filling vacancies and the possibility of sharing resources.

2. Board of Education Liaison

Ms. Kintner reported the Board of Education had met the previous evening at Irving A. Robbins Middle School, that Mr. Ed Manfredi had received the CTAHPERD Award, that Principal Scott Hurwitz and Assistant Principal Nilda Irizarry had made a presentation on student social and emotional growth and that the school calendar for the next year had been set.

3. Chamber of Commerce

There was no report for Agenda J-3.

4. Economic Development Commission Liaison

Mr. Giannaros reported the last meeting had been cancelled.

5. Farmington Historic District Commission

There was no report for Agenda Item J-5.

6. Housing Authority

Ms. Kintner reported there was a waiting list of 78 singles and 5 couples for Maple Village, the Town's Housing Authority scored a 93% percent on the Section 8 Management Assessment and the next meeting was December 12, 2018.

7. Human Relations Commission

Ms. Kintner reported the Commission was working with Rose Ponte, Director of Economic Development to organize an educational conversation with small local businesses regarding disability issues, accessibility issues and possible employment opportunities. The Commission was also working to coordinate events and activities with the Irving A. Robbins Middle School diversity network group.

8. Library Board

Mr. Giannaros reminded the public the Library had the Challenge Cup mini golf event coming up on February 22, 2019.

9. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison

Mr. Charette reported the Commission had selected 3 additional candidates for the Architectural Design Review Committee.

10. Unionville Historic District Commission

Mr. Giannaros reported the Commission had begun discussions on an educational meeting for the winter of 2019. The topic was an historic homes seminar.

11. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Jingle Bell Jubilee had been the past weekend, with caroling, cookie decorating and the Unionville Museum had a tree display.

12. Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Cianci reported the next meeting was December 12, 2018.

13. Other Liaisons

Retirement Board

Mr. Charette reported the Board had met and reviewed the performance of the investment portfolio for 2018. The Board was considering developing an RFP for investment advisor services at the next meeting.

Ms. Kintner reported having attended the Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Board meeting at Tunxis Community College. The Advanced Manufacturing Program was being brought to Tunxis Community College, and the mission of the Advisory Board was to get employers in the manufacturing field-together with educators to find student candidates that match the needs of the employers. The program is set up as a certificate program but can lead to an Associate Degree at Tunxis or a Manufacturing Bachelor Degree at CCSU.

K. Report of the Town Manager

Additional River Crossing Summary

The Manager reviewed the following update and answered Council questions regarding the possibilities for an additional bridge over the Farmington River in Town.

The Town of Farmington 2016-2018 Strategic Plan calls for an evaluation of an additional Farmington River crossing to alleviate traffic in both Farmington and Unionville Center. In the past, the Town of Farmington has proposed an additional river crossing on two separate occasions; however the previously proposed locations and associated residential impact prevented the projects from receiving community support and funding.

A new proposed location, which would be an extension of Monteith Drive over the Farmington River to New Britain Avenue, received Town Council consensus in September 2016. The proposed location is recommended for the following reasons:

- Minimal environmental impact
- Connection to various town owned properties
- River access & Connection to Trail System
- Minimal residential impact
- Connects Unionville Senior Housing with Senior/Community Center & Library
- Provides connection between Town Hall/Library/High School on the North side and; Police Station/Community Center/Public Works on the South Side
- Improves the longevity of the existing Unionville Bridge, which the Connecticut DOT has identified as a non-redundant structure, by reducing the average daily traffic that would utilize that corridor.

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has evaluated this project's estimated traffic impact and concurs with the project's merit.

The Farmington River dissects the Town of Farmington and only two river crossings in town create traffic congestion in the town centers. The proposed bridge will be a benefit to the region as a whole and will alleviate traffic congestion in both Town centers, thus alleviating traffic congestion regionally.

After confirming the extension of Monteith Drive as the proposed location, the Town worked diligently to collect and analyze data, hire a consultant, and create preliminary design drawings in anticipation of a grant opportunity through CRCOG. Presently, CRCOG has not opened up the application process but the Town has submitted funding request/grant applications to the following entities:

- Funding Priorities 2018, Representative Elizabeth Esty's Office- submitted February 27, 2017
- Funding Priorities 2019, Representative Elizabeth Esty's Office- submitted March 12, 2018

- 2018 Bond Request, Representative Mike Demicco-submitted August 6, 2018
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (FEMA)-submitted August 29, 2018
- Letter to CROG requesting funding consideration in their Long-Range Transportation Plan- submitted December 5, 2018

The Town continues to look for opportunities for the funding of the design and construction of the third river crossing.

Update to Housing Code

The Manager reviewed the proposed changes to the Housing Code and answered Council questions.

Beautify Farmington Program

The Manager thanked Rose Ponte, Economic Development Director for the program to have kissing balls on the Farmington River Bridge and Unionville center and explained that it was still possible to sponsor the program.

Joint Town and Board of Education meeting

The Manager recommended the January 22, 2019 Town Council meeting be a joint meeting with the Board of Education to review and discuss recommendations on next steps on the Farmington High School facility from the Farmington High School Ad Hoc Committees.

L. Appointments

1. Building Code Board of Appeals (Hammerberg)
2. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission (Markuszka) – **Alternate**
3. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission (St. James) – **Alternate**
4. Economic Development Commission (Russell)
5. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council
6. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Bernier)
7. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Markuszka)
8. Tourism Central Regional District
9. Unionville Historic District & Properties Commission (Martin) – **Alternate**
10. Water Pollution Control Authority (Charette)
11. Water Pollution Control Authority (Thompson)

There were no appointments made.

M. Old Business

There was no Old Business conducted.

N. New Business

1. To approve a resolution for the Security Vestibule at Union Elementary School

Motion made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Security Vestibule at Union Elementary School.

Resolution

The Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Security Vestibule at Union Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Security Vestibule at Union Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Security Vestibule at Union Elementary School.

Adopted unanimously

2. To approve a resolution for the Security Vestibule at East Farms Elementary School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Security Vestibule at East Farms Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Security Vestibule at East Farms Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Security Vestibule at East Farms Elementary School.

Adopted unanimously

3. To approve a resolution for the Security Vestibule at Irving A. Robbins Middle School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Security Vestibule at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

Resolution

That the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Security Vestibule at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Security Vestibule at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Security Vestibule at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

Adopted unanimously

4. To approve a resolution for the Security Vestibule at West Woods Upper Elementary School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Security Vestibule at West Woods Upper Elementary School.

Resolution

That the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Security Vestibule at West Woods Upper Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Security Vestibule at West Woods Upper Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Security Vestibule at West Woods Upper Elementary School.

Adopted unanimously

5. To approve a resolution for the Office Relocation at West District Elementary School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Office Relocation at West District Elementary School.

Resolution

That the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Office Relocation at West District Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Office Relocation at West District Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Office Relocation at West District Elementary School.

Adopted unanimously

6. To approve a resolution for the Roof Replacement at Union Elementary School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Roof Replacement Project at Union Elementary School.

Resolution

That the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Roof Replacement Project at Union Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Roof Replacement Project at Union Elementary School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Roof Replacement Project at Union Elementary School.

Adopted unanimously

7. To approve a resolution for the Roof Replacement at Irving A. Robbins Middle School

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following resolution which is required for submission of State of Connecticut grant applications for the Roof Replacement Project at Irving A. Robbins Middle School (A, K, D, M, O, N, P, H, E, G, F, I, J, S and R).

Resolution

That the Farmington Town Council authorizes the Farmington Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Roof Replacement Project at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

And

That the Farmington Board of Education is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Roof Replacement Project at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

And

That the Farmington Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Roof Replacement Project at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

Adopted unanimously

8. To affirm the appropriations for school roof replacements in the amount of \$1,995,000 approved by the voters at a town-wide referendum on April 26, 2018

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that pursuant to a borrowing and appropriation resolution in the amount of \$1,995,000 approved by the voters at a town-wide referendum on April 26, 2018 for school roof replacements, the Farmington Town Council affirms that the appropriation shall be spent in the following manner:

From:

Irving A. Robbins Middle School (Sections K, N, & O)	\$500,000.00
Irving A. Robbins Middle School (1959 Section)	\$550,000.00
Union School Roof	\$736,000.00
Farmington High School Roof Replacement (O, Q, R, U)	
<u>\$209,000.00</u>	
Total	\$1,995,000.00

TO:

Irving A. Robbins Middle School Roof	\$1,303,953.00
A,K,D,M,O,N,P,H,E,G,F,I,J,S,R:	
Union School Roof	\$482,047.00
A,B,C,D,E,F,G, H	
Farmington High School Roof Replacement (O,Q,R,U)	<u>\$209,000.00</u>
Total	\$1,995,000.00

Adopted unanimously

9. To ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 1689 for the Period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 1689 for the Period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

Adopted unanimously

10. To authorize the Farmington Town Manager to execute on behalf of the Farmington Town Council a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to West Woods Elementary School Playground

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to authorize the Farmington Town Manager to execute on behalf of the Farmington Town Council a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to West Woods Elementary School Playground and to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

Adopted unanimously

11. To amend Chapter 51 "Pensions" of the Town of Farmington Code to reflect the approved changes negotiated with Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the motion recorded with these minutes as Agenda Item N-11.

Adopted unanimously

12. To authorize the Town Manager to write a letter to Probate Judge Evelyn Daly in support of the name change from "the Farmington-Burlington Probate Court" to "the Farmington Regional Probate Court."

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to authorize the Town Manager to write a letter to Probate Judge Evelyn Daly in support of the name change from "the Farmington-Burlington Probate Court" to "the Farmington Regional Probate Court."

Adopted unanimously

13. To waive the bidding requirements under Section 55-1 of the Town of Farmington Purchasing Ordinance so that the Fire Department may contract with Shipman's Fire Equipment Company of Waterford, CT to replace the Scott's self-contained breathing apparatus' at Farmington Fire and Oakland Gardens at a cost not to exceed \$150,000

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to waive the bidding requirements under Section 55-1 of the Town of Farmington Purchasing Ordinance so that the Fire Department may contract with Shipman's Fire Equipment Company of Waterford, CT to replace the Scott's self-contained breathing apparatus' at Farmington Fire and Oakland Gardens at a cost not to exceed \$150,000.

Adopted unanimously

14. To award a contract for the upgrade of the radio communication systems at various WPCA pump stations to Northeastern Communications, Inc. of Naugatuck CT at a cost not to exceed \$66,000

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to award a contract for the upgrade of the radio communication systems at various WPCA pump stations to Northeastern Communications, Inc. of Naugatuck CT at a cost not to exceed \$66,000.

Adopted unanimously

15. To approve property tax refunds

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the following property tax refunds.

NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
Acar Leasing	Assessor adjustment	\$199.40
Clark Constance	Assessor adjustment	\$134.54
Ct Water Company	Assessor adjustment	\$44.98
Financial Ser Veh Trust	Assessor adjustment	\$331.43
Ford Credit	Assessor adjustment	\$94.40
Guannu Amanda	Assessor adjustment	\$315.0
Honda Lease	Assessor adjustment	\$1313.19
JP Morgan Chase	Assessor adjustment	\$665.64
Levin Robert	Assessor adjustment	\$69.04
Madigan Lauren	Assessor adjustment	\$17.02
Sienicki Anita	Assessor adjustment	\$315.0
Scinto Michael	Assessor adjustment	\$232.22
Toyota Lease	Assessor adjustment	\$3431.47
VW Credit Leasing	Assessor adjustment	\$678.07
Waters Stephen	Assessor adjustment	\$34.22
Grand Total		\$7,875.62

Adopted unanimously

O. Executive Session

1. Land Acquisition

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to move to Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. for discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate with the Town Council and Town Manager present.

Adopted unanimously

The Council returned to Open Session at 8:19 p.m.

2. Collective Bargaining

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to move to Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. for the purpose to discussion of records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining with the Town Council and Town Manager present.

Adopted unanimously

The Council returned to Open Session at 8:28 p.m.

P. Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Adopted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B. Ray

Paula B. Ray, Clerk

Agenda Item N-11

To amend Chapter 51 "Pensions" of the Town of Farmington Code as attached to reflect the approved changes negotiated with Farmington Public Schools Employees United, AFT.

Chapter 51

Pensions

Part 2

Nonpolice Employees

Article XII

Establishment of Plan

§ 51-35 Purpose; applicability.

The Town of Farmington Employee Pension Plan (hereinafter referred to as the "plan") is established, subject to the provisions hereinafter set forth, for the purpose of providing old-age security to employees of the Town of Farmington (hereinafter referred to as the "Town"). The plan has been divided into Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 for convenience only. Except as otherwise indicated herein, all Articles of this Part 2 shall apply only to eligible employees of the Town of Farmington other than police employees and library employees.

Article XIII

Definitions

§ 51-36 Terms defined.

As used herein, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BOARD

The Board of Administration provided for in Article XIV of the plan.

CREDITED SERVICE

Computed to the nearest 1/12 year, time commencing when a person qualifies as an employee under the plan pursuant to the definition of "employee" below and ending with the date upon which an employee ceases to be an employee as defined below, subject to the limitations set forth in Article XVIII.

- A. An employee shall be deemed to be an employee of the Town during all periods in which the person is in an employment relation with the Town; is on military leave, subject to the approval of the Board; or is on approved sick leave, not to exceed one year.
- B. An employee, other than secretarial employees of the Board of Education, whose service was previously excluded from his credited service under the definition of employee may purchase an amount of credited service (not to exceed the number of years of service previously excluded) at the cost of 5% of the employee's current base rate of annual earnings multiplied by the number of years of credited service desired to be purchased. An employee shall have 30 days to accept the Town's determination of the cost of purchasing such years of credited service and, upon acceptance, shall have 12 months to pay for such credited service through payroll withholding. Credit for such service shall only be given when the full payment has been made.
- C. Employees with military service prior to their credited service with the Town may purchase years of credited service for such years served in the military. The entire cost of purchasing such service, as determined by the actuary for the plan, shall be borne by the employee.
- D. School secretarial employees of the Board of Education may purchase years of service previously

excluded from their credited service under the definition of "employee" as are necessary to meet the vesting requirements of Article XVII of this plan. The cost of purchasing such service, as determined by the actuary for the plan, shall be borne equally by the Town and by the employee.

EMPLOYEE

Any person, other than a police employee or an employee of the Farmington Village Green and Library Association, who, on or after the effective date, is an employee of the Town; provided, however, that the term shall exclude those who regularly perform services for the Town for less than 30 hours per week and with less than 1,500 hours per year, except for secretarial employees of the Board of Education, who shall be considered "employees" under the plan if they work more than 30 hours per week and more than 1,000 hours per year. An elected official who is an employee of the Town and meets the above qualifications shall be considered an "employee" under the meaning of this definition. All teaching personnel of the Education Department shall be excluded. Each "employee" shall qualify as an "employee" under the plan on the employee's date of hire. Under prior plan provisions, an employee qualified as an "employee" on the later of the employee's date of hire or the employee's twenty-fifth birthday, except that an employee who was hired on or after July 1, 1983, qualified as an "employee" under the plan from his date of hire. An employee who was affected by such prior plan requirements shall qualify as an "employee" retroactive to such employee's date of hire; provided, however, that credited service for such period of retroactive participation in the plan shall be subject to the rules set forth in the definition of "credited service" above.

Effective July 1, 2010, SEIU members hired after this date will not be eligible to be a part of this plan.

Effective July 1, 2011, AFSCME members hired after this date will not be eligible to be a part of this plan.

Effective July 1, 2011, unaffiliated employees hired after this date will not be eligible to be a part of this plan.

Effective July 1, 2019, Farmington Public Schools Employees United, ATF, members hired after this date will not be eligible to be a part of this plan.

FIRE EMPLOYEE

An employee who is a regular full-time member of the Farmington Fire Department. Fire employees hired after July 15, 2012, shall at the time of employment, have the option of participating in the Town of Farmington Employee Pension Plan or an alternative defined contribution plan offered by the Town. The decision by the employee shall be final and cannot be changed once put into effect.

[Amended 12-18-2012]

POLICE EMPLOYEE

An employee who is a regular full-time permanent investigating and uniformed member of the Farmington Police Department having the authority to exercise police powers.