

Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
May 14, 2019

Present:

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

Kathy Blonski, 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. Presentations and Recognitions

1. Farmington High School Boy's Basketball Team

The Chair congratulated the FHS Boy's Basketball Team on winning the State Championship. Mr. Jack Phalen, Athletic Director FHS and Duane Witter, Head Coach FHS Boy's Basketball Team talked about the success of the team. The Chair read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Farmington High School Boys Basketball Team also known as "*The Farmington Indians*" finished the season with an overall record of 21-3, winning the Division 3 Basketball Championship, and

WHEREAS, under the leadership and guidance of Head Coach Duane Witter and Assistant Coaches Tim O'Connor, Jeff Daddio, Sean Mongillo, and Athletic Director Jack Phelan, the Team competed in the finals at the Mohegan Sun Arena against Amistad Academy of New Haven, overcoming a nine-point halftime deficit to outscore its opponent 39-20 in the second half on route to a 55-45 victory, and

WHEREAS, the Farmington High School Boys Basketball Team won their first ever State Championship in their first championship game since 1939, and were named this year's Central Connecticut Conference Patriot West Division Champions, and

WHEREAS, the Farmington Town Council recognizes Town of Farmington Boys Basketball Varsity Team members Timmy Arnold, Niko Bouzakis, Jake Brickner, Tyler

Cortland, Nick Duncan, Jacob Dunst, Tristan Grande, Makhi Hawkins, Grayson Herr, Bube Momah, Ricky Podgorski, Jake Schaedler, Jacob Smith, Clark Strauss, and Jeffrey Sytulek for the accomplishments they demonstrated over the past several months and for their hard work, dedication, perseverance and love of the sport of basketball.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Farmington Town Council, in recognition of the accomplishment of the Farmington High School Boys Basketball Team, hereby proclaims May 14, 2019 as Farmington High School Boys Basketball Team Day.

Dated at Farmington, Connecticut this 14th day of May 2019.

Nancy Nickerson, Chair
Farmington Town Council.

2. Joseph Kall- Stephen A. Flis Scholarship Recipient

Mr. Thomas called congratulated Joseph Kall on his accomplishments and read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, the Stephen A. Flis Scholarship was established in 1985 and dedicated to Stephen A. Flis, who served as Town Manager of the Town of Farmington from 1955 to 1985, and

WHEREAS, the scholarship was established for Farmington residents seeking a college degree in Public Administration and/or Public Service, and

WHEREAS, Joseph Kall of Farmington submitted his application to the Stephen A. Flis Scholarship Committee, and

WHEREAS, the Stephen A. Flis Scholarship Committee unanimously chose Joseph Kall's application and has approved a scholarship award of \$500.00, and

WHEREAS, Joseph has been a Town of Farmington Fire Cadet all four years of high school, he has expanded his knowledge and leadership abilities with Introduction to the Fire Service and Advanced Skills and Concepts at the Connecticut Fire Academy, he volunteered at the Town of Farmington Fire Department Car Show for the past three years, he has volunteered at Fill the Boot for Muscular Dystrophy with the West Hartford Firefighters Association, volunteered at the Firefighters Grill with the West Hartford Firefighters Association; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Kall will be attending Gateway Community College in New Haven, Connecticut where he can continue his dedication to public service by pursuing studies in Automotive Tech and Firefighting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Farmington Town Council commends Joseph Kall on his scholarship award and hereby encourages his continued success with his future studies.

Dated at Farmington, Connecticut this 14th day of May 2019.

Nancy W. Nickerson
Farmington Town Council Chair

C. Public Hearing

There weren't any public hearings held.

D. New Items

There were no new items added to the agenda.

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

F. Reading of the Minutes

1. April 1, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

1. Kathleen Blonski – Letter to State Legislature re: Teacher's Pension

The Manager reported she had written a letter to Farmington's legislators expressing the Town's opposition to the proposed shift of teacher pension costs to the Towns and Cities.

I. Report of the Committees

1. UCONN Health Committee

The Chair reported the Committee had a meeting scheduled for June 7, 2019.

2. Land Acquisition Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the Committee had had a meeting the previous week and were continuing to explore properties for the list. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

3. Green Efforts Committee

Ms. Boye-Williams reported the town wide clean up had been a success and over 2,000 tons of trash had been collected. They were continuing to explore ways for the Town to reduce waste production and the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. The Chair congratulated the Committee on the Green Efforts Newsletter, and Ms. Boye-Williams thanked Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager and her staff for the work they had done to produce the Green Efforts Newsletter.

4. Farmington Village Center Committee (Attachments)

1. Kathleen A. Blonski Public Testimony for S.B. No 1128
2. Nancy Nickerson Public Testimony for S.B. No 1128
3. S.B. No 1128 – 1 Page Summary
4. Quality of Life Recommendations

Mr. Charette reported the Manager and the Chair had testified on S.B. 1128 to allow the Town of Farmington to negotiate with the State of Connecticut a fair price for the Parson's property by including the clean up of the various brownfield areas on the site into the price. The Quality of Life Committee had met to discuss the priorities for the plan and were obtaining quotes for cross walks. The Manager was hopeful S.N. 1128 would pass and expected to know by the end of the session. The bid for stamped crosswalks and concrete had gone out and were being returned the end of May. The Manager anticipated having some items regarding the costs on the agenda of the June Town Council Meeting.

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair

The Chair reported having attended the Valley Collaborative and CRCOG meetings. The main topic of both meetings had been the State Budget. At both meetings the legislators in attendance were asked to keep the Town's apprised of any updates to funding levels for the Towns. The Manager reported the latest news from CCM and COST was that the current level of funding in the proposed budget for the Town was approximately \$100,000 more than had been included in the Town's adopted budget but cautioned there was a long way to go before the budget was finalized.

2. Board of Education Liaison

Ms. Kintner reported the BOE had met twice since the last meeting and had set Farmington High School Graduation for June 12th. The BOE had to defer maintenance projects due to unanticipated roof repairs at Farmington High School and that there were other areas straining the budget such as special education consultations and evaluations, nursing services and in Town transportation. Teacher contract negotiations were beginning in the summer. The BOE had received a presentation on the K-12 Art programming and a presentation on health, physical education and wellness. The summer programming was to be located at West Woods Upper Elementary School. The State Department of Education Performance and Profile Report for the 2017-2018 School Year was reviewed, and Farmington emerged

at the top of the State in several measures. Russ Crist was appointed to the Assistant Principal opening at Farmington High School and Susan McMahon was appointed to the Assistant Principal opening at Irving A. Robbins Middle School.

3. Chamber of Commerce

There was no report for Agenda Item J-3.

4. Economic Development Commission Liaison

Mr. Giannaros reported the Commission had met and issued a positive referral for the Collinsville Savings Bank addition to Post Office Square, and the EDC was hosting their quarterly Business Breakfast the following morning. The next meeting was scheduled for June 12, 2019.

5. Farmington Historic District Commission

There was no report for Agenda Item J-5.

6. Housing Authority

Ms. Kintner reported at their Annual Meeting the budget for Maple Village, housing documents and policies and Section Eight documents had been approved. The next meeting was scheduled for June 12, 2019.

7. Human Relations Commission

Ms. Kintner reported the Commission had begun a partnership with the Friends Program at Farmington High School to provide input to the FHS Building Committee regarding issues of access. The next meeting was May 22, 2019.

8. Library Board

9. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison

There was no report for Agenda Item J-8 or J-9.

10. Unionville Historic District Commission

Mr. Giannaros reported the Commission was beginning planning a for a fall tour of Suburban Park and Sanford & Hawley tentatively scheduled for September 29, 2019. The next meeting was scheduled for June 6, 2019.

11. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison

There was no report for Agenda Item J-11.

12. Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Cianci reported construction was ongoing and some pump issues were still outstanding but expected to be resolved soon.

13. Other Liaisons

Bicycle Advisory Commission

Mr. Thomas reported there were new signs on certain roads indicating bicycles could use full lane such as Burlington and River Roads. May was National Bike Month. Several activities had been planned such as Bike to School Days, Bike to Work Day, a

Fire Fly Ride and a Trail Ride. Farmington had been awarded the Bronze Level by the Bicycle Association of America as a bike friendly community.

FHS Building Committee

Ms. Kintner reported the Committee had met and reviewed their charge. They discussed the concept of all Building Committee members being champions of the project. They established the four following subcommittees: Professional Partnerships, Site Evaluation, Communication and Financial. They had had a presentation from the town's legal counsel on Election Enforcement statutes and recommendations that pertained to their process.

The Site Evaluation Subcommittee had met and decided to review sites outside of the current location both Town owned and privately owned for a new high school in addition to the current site.

The Professional Partnership Subcommittee had issued an RFP for an Owner's Representative that was due that day, and it was expected a selection would be made at the June 7, 2019 meeting.

The Site Committee had asked for guidance from the Town Council regarding the buildings on the municipal campus. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Town Council to allow the architects to consider the entire municipal campus with the understanding that if the Town Hall or Library were to be removed the cost of reproducing them at their current level or better be included in their proposal and that the Staples House would have to be moved and not demolished.

K. Report of the Town Manager

Memorial Day Parade

The Manager reminded the Council the Farmington parade stepped off at 8:30 a.m. and the Unionville Parade stepped off at 10:30 a.m.

Bond Sale Report

The Manager reported the Town had held a successful bond sale for various projects totaling \$44,000,000. Moody's had affirmed a AAA Rating for the issue, which contributed to the favorable interest rate received for the issue.

Personnel Update

The Manager reported Kat Krajewski had been promoted to Assistant Town Manager, which was part of some restructuring that was done in the Town Manager's and Economic Development offices.

Farmington Community & Recreational Services

The Manager reported that the Community & Recreational Services had received several grants, and Nance Parent, Director of Community and Recreational Services would be coming to a future meeting to talk about the CLICK project.

Farmington Fire Donations

The Manager reported the Fire Department had received a donation for thermal imaging cameras and a donation of cleaning services for apparatus cabs.

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to accept the report of the Town Manager.

Adopted unanimously

L. Appointments

1. Building Code Board of Appeals (Charette)
2. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Bernier)
3. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (Markuszka)
4. Water Pollution Control Authority (Thompson)
5. Justice of the Peace (Noe)

There were no appointments made for Agenda Items L-1 through L-5.

6. Justice of the Peace

Motion was made and seconded (Cianci/Thomas) that Joan Valenti be appointed as Justice of the Peace for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending January 4, 2021.

Adopted unanimously

M. Old Business

There was no Old Business conducted.

N. New Business

1. To set the Property Tax Rate and Solid Waste Special Service Charge for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) that a property tax rate of 27.97 mills be levied on the net taxable Grand List of October 1, 2018 in the amount of \$3,669,373,325 to meet the appropriations of the Town of Farmington for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020,

And,

That such taxes shall be payable in equal installments on July 1, 2019 and January 1, 2020 except that property taxes as defined in Section 12-141 of the Connecticut General Statutes in an amount not in excess of one hundred dollars shall be due and payable in a single payment on July 1, 2019 as provided by Section 12-144 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and except that any tax on any motor vehicle shall be due and payable in full on July 1, 2019 as provided in Section 12-144(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes,

And,

That the Solid Waste Service Charge be set at \$235.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

2. To approve the transfer of uncollectible property taxes to the Suspense Tax Book

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve the transfer of uncollectible property taxes to the Suspense Tax Book.

Adopted unanimously

3. To approve a resolution adopting the Capital Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to approve a resolution adopting the Capital Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024 (see attached certificate of adoption).

Adopted unanimously

4. To award a contract to Galasso Materials LLC to supply in place bituminous material on town roads for the 2019 paving season at a cost not to exceed \$750,000.

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to award a contract to Galasso Materials LLC to supply in place bituminous material on town roads for the 2019 paving season at a cost not to exceed \$750,000.

Adopted unanimously

5. To cancel the May 28, 2019 Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to cancel the May 28, 2019 Town Council Meeting.

Adopted unanimously

6. To Change the Time of the June 25, 2019 Town Council Meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room "A" at the Farmington Town Hall.

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to change the time of the June 25, 2019 Town Council Meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in conference room "A" at the Farmington Town Hall.

Adopted unanimously

7. To ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and Local 331, International Brotherhood of Police Officers, 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 Local 331, International Brotherhood of Police Officers, for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

Adopted unanimously

8. To approve property tax refunds.

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

NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
CCAP Auto Lease	Assessor adjustment	\$156.55
Corbin Theresa & John	Assessor adjustment	\$40.77
Chamberlain Maryann	Assessor adjustment	\$62.79
Cherubini Donald	Assessor adjustment	\$242.25
Corelogic	Assessor adjustment	\$1,624.02
Difabio Richard	Assessor adjustment	\$1,043.78
Honda Lease	Assessor adjustment	\$71.22
McCue Mortgage	Assessor adjustment	\$61.16
Marwah Manish	Assessor adjustment	\$1000.00
Nissan Infiniti	Assessor adjustment	\$419.66
Toyota Lease	Assessor adjustment	\$450.70
VW Credit	Assessor adjustment	\$244.40

Wells Fargo	Assessor adjustment	\$8,522.30
Wiechmann Merrill	Assessor adjustment	\$24.95
Total		\$13,964.55

Adopted unanimously

O. Executive Session

1. Land Acquisition

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to move to Executive Session for discussion of selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate at 8:45 p.m. with the Town Council and Town Manager present.

Adopted unanimously

The Council returned to Open Session at 9:04 p.m.

2. Pending Litigation

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to move to Executive Session for discussion of strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation at 9:04 p.m. with the Town Council and Town Manager present. Ms. Boye-Williams left Executive Session at 9:22 p.m. because of a professional conflict.

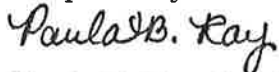
The Council returned to Open Session at 9:40 p.m.

P. Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded (Charette/Giannaros) to adjourn the meeting.

Adopted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



Paula B. Ray, Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION
TOWN OF FARMINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CAPITOL REGION NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION
PLAN UPDATE, 2019-2024**

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmington has historically experienced severe damage from natural hazards and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of those natural hazards profiled in the plan (e.g. *flooding, high wind, thunderstorms, winter storms, earthquakes, droughts, dam failure, and wildfires*), resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Farmington Town Council approved the previous version of the Plan in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmington and Capitol Region Council of Governments developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024 under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held and public input was sought in 2017 and 2018 regarding the development and review of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024; and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedure for the Town of Farmington; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of Farmington, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of Farmington eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Town Council:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of Farmington;
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them;
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution.
4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the Town Council.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2019 by the Town Council of Farmington, Connecticut

Chair

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has affixed his/her signature and the corporate seal of the Town of Farmington this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Town Clerk