

**Minutes of the Town of Farmington  
Special Town Council Meeting  
June 16, 2020**

**Present:**

C. J. Thomas, Chair  
Joe Capodiferro  
Brian F. X. Connolly  
Christopher Fagan  
Edward Giannaros  
Peter Mastrobattista  
Gary Palumbo

Kathy Blonski, Town Manager  
Paula B. Ray, Clerk

**A. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**B. New Business**

**1. To Adjourn to Executive Session Related to the Town Manager Performance Evaluation.**

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to move to the Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss matter pertaining to the Town Manager regarding performance evaluation and the attendance in the Executive Session shall be limited to the Town Council and Kathleen Blonski, Town Manager.

Adopted unanimously.

Kathleen Blonski left the executive session at 6:40 p.m.

The Town Council returned to open session at 6:40 p.m.

**2. To Adjourn to Executive Session Related to the Town Clerk.**

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to move to Executive Session at 6:44 p.m. to discuss personnel matters related to the Town Clerk the attendance in the Executive Session shall be limited to the Town Council and the Town Clerk, Paula Ray.

Adopted Unanimously.

Paula Ray, Town Clerk left the Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

The Town Council returned to Open Session at 8:06pm.

**3.To Take Any Action on the Town Manager's Employment Contract.**

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to amend the Town Manager's contract to July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023.

Adopted unanimously.

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to set the Town Manager's annual base salary at \$177,555, a 2.5% increase for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Adopted Unanimously.

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to contribute a onetime lump sum of \$9,500 to the Vantage Care Retirement Health Savings Plan.

Adopted Unanimously.

(See Attachment 1 for the Town Council Chair's comments on the Town Manager's yearly evaluation.)

#### **4. To Set the Town Clerk's Salary for Fiscal-Year 2020-2021.**

Motion was made and seconded (Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to set the Town Clerk's salary at \$111,341, a 2.5% increase for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

Adopted Unanimously.

#### **C. Adjournment**

Motion was made and seconded ((Mastrobattista/Capodiferro) to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Adopted Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B. Ray, Clerk

## Attachment 1

### Comments from C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair

The Town Council unanimously approved of the incredible job the Town Manger has done in the first six months of 2020. Kathy Blonski (KB) worked to get all of the new Council members up to speed on Town operations, helped navigate and form a new set of goals for the Strategic Plan, and provided support and direction in the Town Budget process.

In early March of 2020, the world changed with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. This put public safety at risk and led to KB bringing the Emergency Management Team together in order to plan the best strategy for Farmington. This team has continued to meet on a regular basis. The normal business operations of Farmington ceased to exist. It was through the experience of years in the position that KB could rewrite the book on operations, resulting in limited reduction in services for our residents.

With health concerns, social distancing, business closures, and financial devastation the Council decided to change the proposed budget in order to avoid a tax increase. This second budget process was completed while many on the Town staff were working remotely and all meetings occurred virtually. The ever changing executive orders from the Governor were adhered to and implemented without issue.

The leadership exhibited by Kathy Blonski during such a critical time was noted by all members of the Town Council and each member expressed his appreciation of her hard work and dedication.