

Minutes of the Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
November 14, 2017

Present:

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair
Jon Landry
Peter M. Mastrobattista
Gary Palumbo
Amy Suffredini
Meredith A. Trimble
John Vibert

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. Presentations and Recognitions

1. Proclamation – Veterans Day

The Chair read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, the citizens of our country are justly proud of the men and women who have fought to defend the principles of liberty and freedom on which our nation was founded, and

WHEREAS, from the Revolutionary-era militias through today's sophisticated defense structure, American service members have defended our country in times of challenge, brought honor to the United States and created a solid foundation for its continued security, growth and prosperity, and

WHEREAS, despite the tremendous perils and pressures of wartime, our Armed Forces have defended the country with conviction and courage. In admiration of the strength of our convictions, other nations have looked to America for leadership, and our allies have always been secure in the knowledge that our proud country will not allow its principles and beliefs to be compromised, and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the United States will forever owe an immense debt of gratitude to our Veterans for the sacrifices they have made to secure the safety of our country, and

WHEREAS, as an expression of that gratitude, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law an act calling for the observance of Veterans Day on November 11th of each year, and in 1921 that date was originally designated as Armistice Day in remembrance of the end of World War I and as a perpetual reminder of the blessings of peace, and by 1954, the observance widened to honor the courageous Veterans of all foreign conflicts, and

WHEREAS, our Veterans reflect the preeminent qualities of patriotism and courage in all of us and continue to make countless contributions to military and civilian life. In addition, many men and women from the Connecticut National Guard are serving all around the world, or are scheduled to be deployed there shortly, along with many other Connecticut residents serving with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Farmington Town Council hereby thanks the many contributions and accomplishments of all our Veterans.

DATED AT FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT this 14th day of November 2017.

Nancy W. Nickerson

Chair Farmington Town Council

2. Eagle Scout - Stewart Buzdon
3. Eagle Scout- Christopher Moreno
4. Eagle Scout- Dylan Suffredini

Mrs. Suffredini read the following proclamations into the record:

2. WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America help train the youth of our community with skills which serve them well in the future, and

WHEREAS, many of our youth participate in activities of the Boy Scouts of America which benefit our community, and

WHEREAS, one of the crowning achievements of Boy Scouting is the attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Stewart Buzdon from Troop 68 Boy Scouts of America recently completed the requirements for Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, for his project titled "Identifying Organisms in Vernal Pools", Stewart Buzdon monitored pools for two seasons on the Winding Trails property, built an informational kiosk about vernal pools, and created QR codes that link to a website providing information about organisms living in each pool, and

WHEREAS, Stewart Buzdon is a member of the Farmington High School Crew Team, Finance Club, and Economic Team, and Orchestra, and

WHEREAS, Stewart Buzdon is an exceptional scholar, as he was a finalist at the National Science Bowl, and is a recipient of the Dr. Bernard Harris Supernova Award, and

WHEREAS, as a result of Stewart Buzdon's work, the lives of the people of Farmington will be enriched and enhanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Farmington Town Council, we hereby extend to Stewart Buzdon our best wishes and we hereby proclaim November 7, 2017 as Stewart Buzdon Day in Farmington, Connecticut.

Dated at Farmington, Connecticut this 5th day of November 2017.

Nancy W. Nickerson

Chair Farmington Town Council

3. WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America help train the youth of our community with skills which serve them well in the future, and

WHEREAS, many of our youth participate in activities of the Boy Scouts of America which benefit our community, and

WHEREAS, one of the crowning achievements of Boy Scouting is the attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Christopher Moreno from Troop 68 Boy Scouts of America recently completed the requirements for Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Christopher Moreno's project benefitted the Farmington Land Trust by building a bird blind and installing additional bird houses to enhance the bird watching experience for visitors to the Carey Pasture on Mountain Spring Road, and

WHEREAS, Christopher Moreno has demonstrated leadership through his participation on the Farmington High School Boys Crew team and Swim team, and he was named co-captain for both teams his senior year, and

WHEREAS, as a result of Christopher Moreno's work, the lives of the people of Farmington will be enriched and enhanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Farmington Town Council, we hereby extend to Christopher Moreno our best wishes and we hereby proclaim November 5, 2017 as Christopher Moreno Day in Farmington, Connecticut.

Dated at Farmington, Connecticut this 5th day of November 2017.

Nancy W. Nickerson

Chair Farmington Town Council

4. WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America help train the youth of our community with skills which serve them well in the future, and

WHEREAS, many of our youth participate in activities of the Boy Scouts of America which benefit our community, and

WHEREAS, one of the crowning achievements of Boy Scouting is the attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Dylan Suffredini from Troop 68 Boy Scouts of America recently completed the requirements for Eagle Scout, and

WHEREAS, Dylan Suffredini's project included the design, planning, and construction of a ten-station fitness trail along the Farmington River, which required 32 volunteers and 435 volunteer hours of work, and

WHEREAS, Dylan Suffredini has demonstrated leadership at Farmington High School, serving as captain of the Debate Team, President of the Economics Club, President of Model United Nations, Founder of the Political Action Club, and his participation in the Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, and Marching Band, and

WHEREAS, Dylan Suffredini has displayed a dedication to public service through his involvement in Democratic campaigns on the local, state and national level, and is currently completing a research project for US Senator Chris Murphy on the positive impact of refugees in Connecticut, and

WHEREAS, as a result of Dylan Suffredini's work, the lives of the people of Farmington will be enriched and enhanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of the Farmington Town Council, we hereby extend to Dylan Suffredini our best wishes and we hereby proclaim November 6, 2017 as Dylan Suffredini Day in Farmington, Connecticut.

Dated at Farmington, Connecticut this 5th day of November 2017.

Nancy W. Nickerson

Chair Farmington Town Council

5. Nicholas Spencer & Jack Nelson - 2017 Firefighter of the Year Award by the Exchange Club

Postponed

D. Public Hearing

There were no public hearings held

E. New Items

There were no new items added to the agenda.

F. Public Comment

Amanda Strauss of 16 Townsend Rd. told the Council her public comments had been reflected inaccurately in the minutes of the meeting. She had said that the proposed lights caused excessive glare, which could cause problems for people who wear glasses, people with cataracts or people with Lasix surgery, which could cause traffic accidents.

Mike Demicco, Representative of the 21st District offered congratulations to the Eagle Scouts and the newly elected Council officials. He thanked the leaving Council officials for their service. He reported on the recently adopted State of Connecticut report. He emphasized the grant money coming to Farmington was going to be reduced 5% and the Town had budgeted for a 30% reduction leaving the Town with extra money; no Teacher Pension expenses were shifted to the Towns; the car property tax wasn't eliminated. He felt that Farmington's legislative team had worked hard and successfully to protect The Town of Farmington's grants and interests.

G. Reading of Minutes

1. October 10, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Motion and second were withdrawn.

H. Reading of Communications and Written Appeals

1. Kathleen A. Eagen - Letter to State Legislators
2. Ruth Grobe - Thank You Letters

The Manager called the Council's attention to the letter regarding the State Budget and the letters from Ruth Grobe regarding help the New Horizons residents had received during the Unionville Fireman's parade and carnival.

I. Report of Committees

1. UConn Health Committee(s)

The Chair reported they had had a meeting at which the UCONN Health Center officials reported they had received the funding that they had anticipated from the State of Connecticut for their budget, and they anticipated an operating deficit for their budget this year. They were doing all they could to mitigate the deficit. The Chair told UCONN Health officials they were willing to meet at any time beyond the scheduled quarterly meetings if budget issues arise.

2. Land Acquisition Committee

There was no report for Agenda Item I-2.

3. Green Efforts Committee

Mr. Vibert reported the November meeting had been cancelled but the Committee was still moving forward with Farmington Clean Up Day in April and exploring the use of solar panels on the municipal buildings.

4. Joint Town of Farmington/City of Hartford Committee

The Chair reported the City of Hartford has hired Goldman York to perform a redevelopment analysis to determine the best development options for the parcel on Batterson Park Road.

5. Bicycle Advisory Committee

Mr. Vibert reported the Committee had been exploring several issues. He reported the bridge over Route 6 would be open for bicyclists the end of November and the use of signs to direct riders to businesses were being considered.

6. Farmington Gateway Committee

There was no report for Agenda Item I-6.

J. Report of the Council Chair and Liaisons

1. Chair Report

2. Board of Education Liaison Report

There were no reports for Agenda Items J-1 or J-2.

3. Unionville Village Improvement Association Liaison Report

Mrs. Trimble reported the Jingle Bell Jubilee was scheduled for December 2, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

4. Town Plan and Zoning Liaison Report

5. Water Pollution Control Authority Report

6. Economic Development Commission Liaison Report

There were no reports for Agenda Items J-5 or J-6.

7. Human Relations Commission Report

Mrs. Suffredini reported the Commission would be meeting the next day at New Horizons, which would give the New Horizon residents the opportunity to express any concerns they had.

8. Chamber of Commerce Report

Mr. Landry reported the Chamber had had a Business After Hours meeting at Brookdale and a meet the candidates night at Tunxis Community College during the past month.

9. Other Liaison Reports

There were no other liaison reports.

K. Report of Town Manager

Town Council Reception

The Manager reported prior to the next Town Council meeting there would be a reception honoring the outgoing Town Council members from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Update on the Director of Fire & Rescue Services

The Manager reported that Steven Hoffman had been hired after an extensive recruitment as Director of Fire & Rescue Services. He has a significant back ground on both the career and volunteer ends of fire service. She had planned to bring him to a future Council meeting to introduce him to the Council.

State Budget Update

The Manager acknowledged Mr. Demicco's good news for Farmington regarding the State Budget. She cautioned even though the budget had been finalized with a positive outcome for the Town there could be midyear cuts due to significant issues still not resolved.

The Chair thanked the Council and staff for all the hard work they had done to manage the Town during the stressful time of no State Budget and the various solutions that were discussed.

Mrs. Suffredini asked that the Council looks for ways to avoid the turmoil of this budget season.

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

Adopted unanimously

L. Appointments

1. Building Code Board of Appeals (Hammerberg)(D)

There was no action taken on Agenda Item L-1.

2. Building Code Board of Appeals

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that George Santos be appointed to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2022.

Adopted unanimously

3. Building Code Board of Appeals

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Ned Statchen be appointed to Building Code of Appeals for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2022.

Adopted unanimously

4. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Guy Wolf be appointed to the Conservation and Inland Wetland Commission for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2021.

Adopted unanimously

5. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission (Markuszka) (R)

There was no action taken for Agenda Item L-5.

6. Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Ned Statchen be appointed to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission for the balance of a four-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

7. Economic Development Commission (Howard) (R)

There was no action taken on Agenda Item L-7.

8. Economic Development Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Dan Kleinman be appointed to the Economic Development Commission for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

9. Farmington Historic District Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Jaye O'Leary be appointed to the Farmington Historic District Commission for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2022.

Adopted unanimously

10. Farmington Valley Health District

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Mary Jane Parlow be appointed to the Farmington Valley Health District for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

11. Human Relations Commission

Motion was made and seconded (Vibert/Suffredini) that Lisa Berzins be appointed to the Human Relations Commission for the balance of a two-year term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2019.

Adopted unanimously

12. North Central Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. (Wienke)(R)

13. North Central Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. (Parady)(U)

14. Plainville Area Cable TV Advisory Council (R)

15. Tourism Central Regional District (Bernier) (R)

16. Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission (Pogson) (D)

There was no action taken on Agenda Items L-12 to L-16.

17. Water Pollution Control Authority

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) that Jim Thompson be appointed to the Water Pollution Control Authority for the balance of a five-year term beginning immediately and ending September 30, 2022.

Adopted unanimously

18. Green Efforts Commission (Hinze)(R)

There was no action taken on Agenda Item L-18.

M. Old Business

There was no Old Business conducted.

N. New Business

1. To Accept Wisteria Lane as a Town Road, from the intersection of Meadow Road, a distance of approximately 740 Feet, to its existing terminus.

Motion was made and seconded to accept Wisteria Lane as a Town Road, from the intersection of Meadow Road, a distance of approximately 740 feet, to its existing terminus.

Adopted unanimously

2. To recommend acceptance of the donation of the proposed boathouse expansion from the Friends of Farmington Crew to the Town of Farmington, valued at approximately \$130,000.00.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Suffredini) to recommend acceptance of the donation of the proposed boathouse expansion from the Friends of Farmington Crew to the Town of Farmington, valued at approximately \$130,000.

Adopted unanimously

3. To authorize the Town Manager to sign the revised Farmington Boathouse lease amendment with the Friends of Farmington Crew and Miss Porter's School, Incorporated, on behalf of the Town of Farmington.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to authorize the Town Manager to sign the revised Farmington Boathouse lease amendment with the Friends of Farmington Crew and Miss Porter's School, Incorporated, on behalf of the Town of Farmington.

Adopted unanimously

4. To ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreements (Supervisor and Non-Supervisor) between the Town of Farmington and Local 2001, CSEA/SEIU for the Period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreements (Supervisor and Non-Supervisor) between the Town of Farmington and Local 2001, CSEA/SEIU for the Period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously

5. To ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and Local 3103, International Association of Firefighters for the Period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to ratify the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and Local 3103, International Association of Firefighters for the Period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Adopted unanimously

6. To Approve Property Tax Refunds.

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to Approve the Following Property Tax Refunds.

NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
1)J. & C. Arcidiacono	Assessor's adjustment	\$43.09
2)Cab East	Assessor's adjustment	\$1,816.52
3)Nancy Chellgren	Assessor's adjustment	\$250.00
4)Corelogic	Erroneous payment	\$50.69
5)Daimler Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$321.36
6)Data Management Inc.	Assessor's adjustment	\$17.98

7)Dovenmuehle Mtg Inc	Erroneous payment	\$2,496.85
8)Enterprise FM Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$1,193.31
9)Cheng Fei	Assessor's adjustment	\$65.90
10)Finish Line Inc	Assessor's adjustment	\$2,028.18
11)E. & V. Golab	Assessor's adjustment	\$24.73
12)Pierre Guertin	Assessor's adjustment	\$52.29
13)Honda Lease Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$464.93
14)France Johansen	Assessor's adjustment	\$83.22
15)Kevin & April Keller	Return of carts	\$195.84
16)Paul Larose	Assessor's adjustment	\$30.44
17)William Nawrocki Jr	Assessor's adjustment	\$158.03
18)Nissan Infiniti LT	Assessor's adjustment	\$160.27
19)Michael Quimet	Assessor's adjustment	\$82.31
20)Carla & Nelson Reis	Assessor's adjustment	\$74.43
21)Kieran Rovaldi	Assessor's adjustment	\$6.19
22)Toyota Lease Trust	Assessor's adjustment	\$1,342.28
23)VCFS Auto Leasing Co.	Assessor's adjustment	\$134.33
24)VW Credit Leasing LTD	Assessor's adjustment	\$627.69
25)T. Yeung & Nae Tak	Double payment	\$315.00
	TOTAL:	\$12,035.86

Adopted unanimously

The Chair thanked the Manager for the Quarterly Reports from her report. The information was very extensive and asked the Council if they had any questions about the reports.

O. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session held.

P. Adjournment

Motion was made and seconded (Trimble/Mastrobattista) to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Adopted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B. Ray

Paula B. Ray, Clerk