

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 84
SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Robert J. Oris, Jr. Chairman; Paul A. Bowman, Vice Chairman; David Borowy, James Jinks, Sylvia Nichols, Timothy Slocum, Peter Talbot, David Veleber, Donald Walsh.

Staff: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager; Al Smith, Town Attorney; Arnett Talbot, Asst. Town Manager, James Jaskot, Finance Director; Police Chief Neil Dryfe.

Guests: Boy Scout Troops 198 and 192; Police Officer Joseph Giampietro; Ms. Kim Hayes Chong, Mr. Cole Jackson and Mr.

Chairman Oris called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag. The Colors were presented by Boy Scout Troops 198 and 192.

3. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION (None)

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Proclamation for Scouting Recognition Day

Chairman Oris read the proclamation for February 8, 2020 Scouting Recognition Day. The proclamation recognizes all the Scouting organizations, the hard work and participation of Scouts and the volunteer leaders. Stating it is always a pleasure to recognize the youth of Cheshire, Mr. Oris noted they are an important part of the community, giving back in many ways. He congratulated the parents of Scouts who support their children in the scouting programs.

**B. Presentation re: Cheshire's participation in Sustainable CT
(moved to after item D)**

C. Presentation of Lifesaving Awards

Chief Dryfe highlighted a motor vehicle accident of February 27, 2019, 8:51 a.m. which involved an elderly driver (a man) who had suffered a heart attack, and was unresponsive at the scene. Ms. Hayes Chong and Mr. Jackson arrived on the scene, began life saving techniques until Officer Giampietro and the other emergency services arrived, and they continued with techniques for saving the man's life. Chief Dryfe presented Ms. Hayes Chong and Mr. Jackson with a Certificate of Recognition for their life saving actions. Chief Dryfe presented Officer Giampietro with the Cheshire Police Department Life Saving Award.

Council members personally thanked Ms. Hayes Chong, Mr. Jackson and Officer Giampietro for their heroic life saving actions.

Chief Dryfe introduced James McCann, the driver of the vehicle.

Mr. McCann expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Hayes Chong, Mr. Jackson and Officer Giampietro for saving his life and giving him more time with his family.

Chairman Oris noted this is the 2nd Council meeting in two months at which life saving awards are presented to Cheshire Police Officers for the incredible things they do every day. Public Safety people put their lives on the line for people, and Cheshire is grateful and proud of them.

**D. Recognition of Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
Chairman Robert W. deJongh.**

Chairman Oris presented Mr. deJongh with a Certification of Recognition for his 33 years of dedicated service to the Cheshire Community on the IWW Commission including 17 years as IWW Chairman. He explained that Mr. deJongh is moving to North Carolina; he will be missed; and the Town of Cheshire wishes him well in his future plans.

Council members personally thanked Mr. deJongh for his long time volunteer service and offered good luck into his future.

Mr. deJongh thanked the Council and the community for this recognition. He has had a business in town for 40+ years, has been active in the community, has served on IWW for 33 years and Chairman for 17 years. Over the years Mr. deJongh said he has worked with great people. He wished the Council and the Cheshire community good luck with its future endeavors.

Dr. Charles Dimmick commended Mr. deJongh for his years of service and as Chairman on IWW.

B. Presentation re: Cheshire's participation in Sustainable CT

Councilor Jinks stated the presentation on Sustainable CT is open to all Connecticut municipalities, is a voluntary and free program, a coalition is formed for the town, there are grant applications and funding which helps Cheshire on projects that are sustainable for a long time.

Alyssa Norwood represented Sustainable CT which is headquartered at Eastern Connecticut State University. She gave a visual presentation on the program, how it works, available funding, support for sustainable projects, strong public benefits, Community Match Fund for dollar to dollar matching funds for sustainable projects. In the power point presentation, Ms. Norwood pointed out

areas of interest for Sustainable CT... Road Map of Actions, Resources, Services, Flexibility, Livability, Volunteer Actions (9 are defined), Culture, Thriving Economics. Currently 98 Connecticut towns (out of 169) participate in Sustainable CT. There are levels of service achievements...black, bronze, silver. In Cheshire's educational DRG there are a few towns participating in the program. Benefits of participation include greenhouse gas reduction, health and wellness, cost savings, economic well being, climate resilience, community building, equity and better environment. Community Match Funds of \$500,000 have been disbursed for projects. Any participating community can have residents present ideas; there is flexible funding; projects are quickly approved; and funds are matched in real time.

Joining Sustainable CT – Ms. Norwood cited the requirements. The Council passes a resolution to establish a Sustainable CT team; the town registers at the website; reviews the list of actions and identifies those completed; starts working on action 9.1 (required for certification); implements at least one action in category 1-9 for certification. There are many resources and support for towns, including consulting on many actions, Sustainable CT Fellows, and certificates are presented at the annual CCM meeting.

With regard to certification, Mr. Talbot noted that Cheshire is already a proactive town, and he asked about completed town projects being considered for "certification".

There is information on-line, and Ms. Norwood said there is credit for things already done, such as solar panels still in use.

Based on the inventory of things already done, Mr. Jinks said Cheshire is at a high level. Information can be pulled together by staff. Sustainable CT allows application for grant funds; there is no cost to the town to move forward and register; and the Coalition would be Cheshire's Sustainable CT team. The first step is a Council resolution.

Mr. Slocum asked about naming a municipal agent, who receives the funding, who the grants are assigned to, who acts on behalf of the town.

The IOBY (In Our Back Yard) determines who gets the funding, and Ms. Norwood said it must be a tax exempt group connected to the town. A project leader is designated; this person contacts Sustainable CT and the organization is advised on how to act with town government.

Regarding grants written by a 501c-3 organization within the town, Mr. Walsh asked if IOBY checks on the status and accuracy of the non-profit, and if funding goes through the 501c-3 or the town.

IOBY is non-profit and Ms. Norwood said the 501c-3 must be a good steward of the funding. She cited rain gardens at a school as a project.

Mr. Walsh asked about town notification of IOBY funding coming forth, or does it just go to the 501c-3 charity...and how much would a town be involved in building rain gardens on school property.

This depends on the project, and Ms. Norwood said a town is not always involved...it assists a group within the town...there are checks and balances in place.

The Sustainable CT team and how it is established was questioned by Mr. Veleber. He also asked about the team being related to projects and relationships with town staff.

Ms. Norwood said the purpose of the matching funds is to help towns implement projects for certification, so the role of the team is certification to look to what a town has done and what is in progress. Team membership varies, and could be town staff or volunteers.

The Cheshire Housing Authority project was cited by Ms. Nichols and CHA is a 501c-3 organization guided by government regulations. The Town Council has no governance over the organization, but supports its efforts to increase lower income housing in Cheshire. She asked about this being the type of sustainable programming for grant funding.

There is a document involved in the process and Ms. Norwood said towns cannot take credit for what other groups are doing...the project must be town supported to receive credits.

With regard to the Sustainable CT team, Ms. Norwood said the Council resolution empowers this group to form an application, there is flexibility and the town can empower the group.

Chairman Oris commented on Cheshire having an Environmental Committee, land acquisition program, rain gardens at a local fire station, many energy performance contracts, renewable energy, solar panels at the police station, and more could be done. He asked about a link between the Sustainable CT team and the town, and if a town intermediary must be named.

It was stated by Ms. Norwood that it is what serves the town best; there must be doers; the Environment committee is a good resource; but members should be pulled from other boards and commissions for the town team.

Mr. Oris asked about the town's financial obligations, and there being no matching funds required.

There is no financial liability for the town, but Ms. Norwood said there could be some initial investment, and projects are fully sustainable. She cited an arts program as a line item in the town budget, which would get credits.

Mr. Jinks said the Coalition is open to new members, wants more people involved, the Environment Committee is welcomed. The Coalition has experience in some areas already; it would be a sustainable team with contact and coordination with the town.

The issue of conflict in a situation where the Coalition has a sustainable project, which the town does not want to happen, or affects town property or is on town property was raised by Mr. Veleber.

Ms. Norwood said town approval is not required for projects. People look at community accomplishments; they are matched against the action list for points. She encouraged the Council to bring this program forward for more diligence.

Fiona Pearson, Coalition member, introduced other members present for the meeting, and read the names of members into the record. She has looked at action credits and Cheshire has 205 points, and there is belief things can easily and quickly be done in the town. Ms. Pearson talked about the Cheshire Land Trust, and once the town is registered there can be funding requested.

Judith Flisz, 570 Payne Drive, was pleased with the thorough and comprehensive presentation, and said Sustainable CT is perfect for Cheshire. There are enthusiastic people; the foundation is established for many projects; and we can move forward to bring things together.

Ms. Pearson and Ms. Flisz thanked the Council for allowing the presentation.

E. Public Comments

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Walsh.

MOVED to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of January 14, 2020 and Special Meeting of January 28, 2020 subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

Corrections/Additions/Deletions - are attached for the record.

Mr. Veleber referred to 1/28/20 minutes, Item #4 – should read “CJS”; the word “Nationals” should go with the competition name; the team received second

place in their age group division; spelling name of “Sarah McManus” was corrected.

Appointments – Troy Fowler and Eliana Orlinsky terms should read 1/31/21.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Borowy

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-1

RESOLUTION #021120-1 **CONSENT CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Consent Calendar for February 11, 2020 as follows:

- A. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$19.40 donation from CAF America to The Parks and Recreation gift account to be used for the dog park.
- B. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$200 donation from Kyum and Gail Pyun to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- C. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$300 donation from Jim and Jayne O’Brien to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- D. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$36 donation from Bernice and Fred Gillman to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- E. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$30 donation from Martin Cobern to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- F. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$150 donation from Cathleen Devlin in Honor of Joan Devlin to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- G. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$75 donation from Alisia Ceddia in honor of the amazing teachers at Jack & Jill Child Care Center to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- H. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$30 donation from William and Jane Tubbs In honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.

- I. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Elizabeth Dugan In honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- J. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Frank and Mary Blazek in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- K. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from Corryne and James Hamilton in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- L. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Sherry Stekloff in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- M. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Judith and William Brain in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- N. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$100 donation from Bradley and Erin Lindquist in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- O. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Theresa LaBrun in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- P. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$20 donation from Roger and Faith Quint in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- Q. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from Pam Guedry in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- R. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$25 donation from Bruce Saulnier in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- S. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from Bill and Joan Benedetto in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.

- T. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from Libby Richardson in honor of Bruce Richardson to the Library Gift Account to be used for general purposes.
- U. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$63 donation from the Yellow House Trivia Night to the Cheshire Fuel Bank.
- V. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$222 donation from the Town Hall Dress Down Days to the Cheshire Fuel Bank.
- W. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$50 donation from an anonymous donor to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.
- X. Authorization to apply for a \$20,000 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Distracted Driving-High Visibility Enforcement Grant.
- Y. Authorization to apply for a \$1,500 Connecticut Community Foundation Grant to fund Mental Health First Aid Training for Older Adults.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
None.

8. OLD BUSINESS
None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Call for public hearing for the FY 2020-2021 General Operating Budget, Water Pollution Control Department Fund Operating Budget, and Community Pool Fund Operating Budget.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Walsh.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-2

RESOLUTION #021120-2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 84 South Main Street, Cheshire Connecticut, to consider the proposed General Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the proposed Water Pollution Control Department Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and the Community Pool Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager shall cause a notice of said public hearings to be posted and published according to law.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

B. Call for public hearing on the 2020 Small Cities Program Application for public housing safety and energy improvements and upgrades for the Cheshire Housing Authority's Beachport facility.

MOTION by Mr. Walsh; seconded by Mr. Veleber.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-3

RESOLUTION #021120-3

BE IT RESOLVED, That **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 84 South Main Street, Cheshire Connecticut, to discuss its 2020 Small Cities Program Application and to solicit citizen input.

(a copy of the full resolution is attached to the minutes)

Discussion

Mr. Walsh said this is a public hearing for citizen input. He cited maximum award limits up to \$1M for public facilities; \$1.5M for public housing modernization. Cheshire submitted an application for Beachport Housing up to the \$1.5M maximum.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

C. Acceptance of FY 18-19 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

MOTION by Ms. Nichols; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-4

RESOLUTION #021120-4

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council accepts the FY 18-19 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Discussion

Ms. Nichols stated the acceptance of the CAFR is an annual event for the audit completed on the town's financial status.

Finance Director Jaskot said the Audit Committee reviewed the audit in detail. The audit had a good opinion; good credits on state and federal grants; General Fund surplus is \$1.8M; some of this money is used for the subsequent year's budget; this year the town is using \$1M; fund balance is at 10.53%; the town's policy is to maintain 9.25% fund balance; the difference is \$1.2M.

The town has a good surplus due to conservative tax collection projections; tax collection was at 99.78% or +\$425,000; there were windfalls with the grand list growth from building projects, CPD police car rentals, and BOE tuition. State grants are running into the same situation as in other years; the town budget is due on April 30th, and final State budget numbers come in after that date. The town received \$757,000 more in State revenue last year than was budgeted. There were some cancelled encumbrances; BOE cancelled purchase orders of \$186,000; investment income was lower than budgeted; expenditures were \$460,000 less than budgeted; staff retirements and turnovers helped on the expenditure side.

Community Pool Budget – will have a surplus of \$34,000; total of \$40,000 in the fund balance.

WPCD Budget – the department had an operating loss of \$500,000, which was planned for due to lump sum payment on the plant upgrade.

Bond Sale – the Town had a successful bond sale last year; there will be another bond sale in 2021; the interest rate was very good at 2.71%; there were 12 bidders; the Town maintained its AAA rating from Fitch and Standard & Poors.

The audit was submitted to peer groups for review and possible awards. Mr. Jaskot said Cheshire is proud of its quality reporting. He noted there is a lot of good financial and economic information in the document for Council reading.

Chairman Oris commended Mr. Jaskot and the Finance Dept. staff for the dedicated and hard work on the town's finances. Cheshire maintains its AAA rating and its strong financial position.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

D. Discussion and possible action re: Lease Agreement and Bill of Sale For Summit Road for emergency radio communications project.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Nichols.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-5

RESOLUTION #021120-5

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Lease Agreement/First Amendment to Government Entity Tower License Agreement and Bill of Sale between Crown Atlantic Company LLC and the Town of Cheshire for public safety emergency equipment at the cell tower facility at 1121 Summit Road per the terms and conditions as presented, and authorizes Town Manager Sean M. Kimball to execute all documents necessary to accomplish the placement of Town equipment.

Discussion

Ms. Nichols said this is a long term project with upgrading the Police and Fire Departments radios and equipment and service. Everything will be brought into line and arrangements with the tower operators.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

E. Discussion and possible action regarding the LED Lighting Upgrade Capital Project Funding.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Walsh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-6-1

RESOLUTION #021120-6-1

RESOLUTION AMENDING A RESOLUTION ENTITLED “RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$175,000 FOR LED LIGHTING UPGRADES AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$175,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

(The full Resolution is attached to these minutes)

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Borowy

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-6-2

RESOLUTION #021120-6-2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves funding the \$247,000 for the LED Lighting Upgrades and Authorizing project through Eversource’s zero percent five year on bill financing program.

Discussion

Mr. Slocum explained the Town would be paying for the project with savings derived over a five-year program.

Chairman Oris talked about the option to bond this project at a good interest rate. The alternative is for utility financing at zero percent interest, paid back with savings over five years. This is good business.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

F. Authorization to lock in natural gas rate.

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Nichols

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #021120-7

RESOLUTION #021120-7

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to enter into a contract to lock in the natural gas rate for a term of 24 months or less at the rate not to exceed \$5.40 ccf.

Discussion

Town Manager Kimball advised these rates are subject to change in the market on a daily basis.

The Council discussed going with 21 months at \$5.40ccf, but decided to go with the stated 24 months or less not to exceed \$5.40ccf.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

10. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Status Report - in Council packets

**B. Department Status Reports: Police, Fire, Fire Marshal.
 In Council packets**

C. Other Reports (Town Manager's report is attached to the minutes)

Town Manager Kimball reported the following to the Council:

State Budget Update and Town Budget Development – The State budget reflects a slight revenue increase to Cheshire of \$25,469 due to higher ECS funding. Staff continues to monitor the State budget and legislation that would impact Cheshire.

2019 Grand List Filing and Appeal Deadlines – As of 10/1/19 the total Grand List is \$2.84 Billion; an increase of \$42.7Million or 1.52% from the 2018 Grand List. Property Owners wishing to appeal their 2019 Grand List assessment must file, in writing, before February 20, 2020 on a form available on the website at www.cheshirect.org, and from the Assessor's Office in Town Hall, 84 South Main Street.

School Modernization Committee (SMC) Consultant RFP – the SMC is holding full committee and subcommittee meetings; the RFP has been advertised; the closing date is March 12, 2020.

Tennis and Basketball Court Upgrades – The WBA Group has been contracted to design/create reconstruction documents for replacement basketball courts utilizing a FY 16-17 appropriation of \$135,000. WBA has also designed renovations to the Cheshire Park Tennis Courts with the FY2020 \$290,000 appropriation. Mr. Kimball thanked the PW Department crews for assisting in some of the pre-construction removal of net posts and fence fabric to keep the project under budget.

Jarvis Street Sidewalk Project Status – Final construction plans are complete and acquisition of easements is in progress. PW and Engineering Departments estimate awarding the contract to Martin Laviero Contractors of Bristol CT; the costs will be slightly under the DOT grant award amount of \$386,100.

Safe Travels – CPD officer Dave Maliar and Lt. Mike Durkee leave next week, traveling to Tanzania as part of an expedition to climb Mount Kilimanjaro as a fundraiser for Special Olympics of Connecticut. They are wished a safe travel and best of luck on their journey for this great cause.

Economic Development Update – A new business, Counter Weight Brewing Company, has announced plans to relocate to Cheshire. This exciting and creative business is welcomed to Cheshire and wished success as they begin their project. Mr. Kimball expressed appreciation to Jerry Sitko for working closely with Counter Weight over the past year, encouraging them to consider relocation in Cheshire.

Upcoming Town Council and Sub-Committee Meetings

SMC Meetings

February 13, 2020, 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Teacher/Staff Input Subcommittee, CHS Library.

February 19, 2020, 2:55 p.m. Chapman School Teacher/Staff Input Subcommittee in Library; 7:00 p.m. SMC full Committee meeting; location TBD.

February 20, 2020, 2:00 p.m.- Teacher/Staff Input Subcommittee Highland School Library Ref. Room

February 27, 2020, 3:45 p.m. –Teacher/Staff Input Subcommittee, Norton School Library Media Center

March 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m. - SMC full Committee meeting; location TBD.

Town Council Meetings

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – Town Council Regular Meeting (Council Chambers)

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL.

A. Chairman's Report

- i. **Referral of building permit re-inspection fees to the Ordinance Review Committee.**
- ii. **Review of contingency plans to the Planning Committee.**
- iii. **Referral of Charter-required electronic recording policy for public meetings to the Ordinance Review Committee.**

B. Miscellaneous

12. MISCELLANEOUS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Liaison Reports

Arts Place – Ms. Nichols reported that Arts Day will be held on Sunday, March 15th at Cheshire Academy; this is a great event and fun time; more information will be forthcoming.

Pension Committee – Mr. Borowy reported the Town had a good return on investment at about 17% in the pension plan.

The Beautification Committee – Mr. Jinks reported the TBC has met; they are two members short; replacement appointments are needed by the RTC.

B. Appointments to Boards and Commissions - None

13. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
None

14. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letters to Council - None

B. Miscellaneous

Councilor Bowman informed the Council that he delivered a letter to the Town Clerk's Office a short time ago with formal notification that as of midnight February 11, 2020 he will resign his office as a Town Council member.

Mr. Bowman read the letter into the record of the meeting. He stated volunteering in the Cheshire Community sometimes comes at a price that he and his family are no longer willing to pay. As a public official, his hands have been tied and not afforded him the opportunity to react and respond to defend his family's name. Mr. Bowman thanked his Town Council colleagues, elected officials, volunteers and town employees for giving so much of their time for the greater good of Cheshire. He further thanked the electors who had confidence in him to elect him to represent them in the Council seat for many, many years.

Chairman Oris expressed disappointment but understanding of Mr. Bowman's position. He said this is a huge loss to the community, and acknowledged the time Mr. Bowman has given to the community, which is greatly appreciated. Mr. Oris is not convinced the community truly understands the time and effort it takes to do the job of a Councilor well. He commented on the partisan politics on the national scene, which is creeping down to Cheshire, and is disgusting. Mr. Oris has tried to lead the Council in a partisan and collaborative manner...the reality is that Cheshire's Town Council works hard and has a history of doing that.

Mr. Oris thanked Mr. Bowman for his service, and reiterated his resignation is a huge loss for the Cheshire Community.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Borowy; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk