

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016, AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL,
84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Chairman Robert J. Oris Jr. ; Vice Chairman Paul A. Bowman; Michael Ecke, Patti Flynn-Harris, Liz Linehan, Sylvia Nichols, Thomas Ruocco, Timothy Slocum, Peter Talbot.

Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Alfred Smith, Town Attorney; James Jaskot, Finance Director;

Dept. of Education - Vincent Masciana, Chief Operating Officer.

PUBLIC HEARING SUBJECT MATTER:

**CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE
2016 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT PROGRAM.**

1. ROLL CALL

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

2. EXPLANATION OF HEARING PROCEDURE AND AGENDA

Chairman Oris explained the procedure for a public hearing of the Town Council.

3. READING OF LEGAL NOTICE

The clerk read the legal notice into the record.

4. PRESENTATION ON HEARING SUBJECT

Town Manager Milone gave a short presentation on the program, which is for non-profit groups or public agencies, and allows for higher tax deductions of 40% to 60% to donors to these organizations. The Town established this program, and everything goes through the Department of Revenue Services (DRS). Based on the Council's decision the information is transferred to the DRS for evaluation on the eligibility of the groups.

Bruce Diamond, Board of Directors Member for Lights of Hope Inc., noted that his organization has submitted an application for the program. The mission statement of Lights of Hope is to help local people, raise money, and give hope. They sell luminary bags; offer two \$2,500 scholarships to CHS students; are the #1 donor to the Cheshire Community Food Pantry which benefits hundreds of people each week in Town; and donate to the Cheshire Social Services programs. Mr. Diamond respectfully requested the Council to approve the program and move it forward to the State level.

5. QUESTIONS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR.

6. PROPONENTS AND OPPONENTS STATEMENTS ALTERNATELY
EXPRESSED.

7. REBUTTAL AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Oris adjourned the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk