

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015, AT 7:15 P.M. IN ROOM 207, TOWN
HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

David Schrumm, Chairman; Thomas Ruocco and Peter Talbot.

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

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.

3. Acceptance and appropriation of aggregate donations of \$350 from Kathy Restorff and Cathleen Devlin in honor of Joan Devlin to the Library Gift Account for an entrance sign to the Children's Room.
4. Acceptance and appropriation of a donation of \$120 from the Town Employees December Dress Down Fund to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.
5. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$72 donation from Robert Hammerman to the Parks & Recreation Gift Fund for a memorial bench for Linder Hammerman.
6. Acceptance and appropriation of an aggregate \$20 donation through holiday cards with monetary gifts to the Jitney Bus Fund.
7. Acceptance and appropriation of a Connecticut Department of Transportation 2015 Fiscal Year Connecticut Highway Safety Plan reimbursement grant for \$63,975.56 for the Police Department's "Electronic Citation/Electronic Warning" project and authorization to execute all necessary documents.
Postponed to later in the agenda.
8. Acceptance and appropriation of \$10,000 from the Bright Idea Grant through the Clean Energy Communities Program's Energy Efficiency Track and authorization to execute grant contract.
Postponed to later in the agenda.
9. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$500 donation from the First Congregational Church to the Cheshire Fuel Bank.
10. Acceptance and appropriation of an anonymous \$50 to the Human Services Gift Account for general purposes.
11. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$5,000 donation from Alexion

Pharmaceuticals Inc. to the Police Gift Account for general purposes.

12. Authorization to execute Memorandum of Understanding for participation in the Greater Waterbury Transit District joint application for the Municipal Grant Program for Senior and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation from the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda items #3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11,12 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Agenda item #12 is the renewal agreement in order to qualify for grants. Mr. Milone advised two grants were received for the min-buses. A formal Council resolution is required from member municipalities.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

7. Acceptance and appropriation of a Connecticut Department of Transportation 2015 Fiscal Year Connecticut Highway Safety Plan reimbursement grant for \$63,975.56 for the Police Department's "Electronic Citation/Electronic Warning" project and authorization to execute all necessary documents.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #7 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone explained that with the electronic ticketing program, police officers can access the motor vehicle history of the person ticketed, and tickets can be paid on-line. The motor vehicle information goes into a data bank of all participating municipalities. The grant pays for hardware, software, installation and training. The State of Connecticut has the intention of having this program state wide.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

8. Acceptance and appropriation of \$10,000 from the Bright Idea Grant through the Clean Energy Communities Program's Energy Efficiency Track and authorization to execute grant contract.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #8 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This is a \$10,000 grant and Mr. Milone stated he is uncertain on identification of what the funds will be used for. A plan is in place to meet with the Energy Commission. A letter will be sent to the State informing them that the program for use of the funds is to be decided. Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer, has been involved with this matter.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

13. Approval of successor lease for a portion of the former Casertano property.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #13 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This is a lease renewal with Mr. Arisco, tenant, who rents 22 acres of the entire 127.5 acre parcel. Mr. Milone informed the committee that Mr. Arisco was willing to pay the increase in rent to \$2640 annually.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

14. Approval of traffic easement granted to the State of Connecticut for a pedestrian signal control at Route 10 and Maple Avenue.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #14 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This easement is enhanced signaling for a cross walk and is paid by the State, which needs permission to go onto Town property. Mr. Milone advised the State will also re-stripe the road.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

15. Authorization for bond refunding sale.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #15 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Jaskot explained there will be refunding of 2009 issue bonds at a lower rate, and the AAA credit rating will help with this refunding. This sale will take place a few weeks after the February 12th sale. It is an advanced refunding; the money is put into an

escrow account until the call date of January 2017; and savings will be about \$360,000 over the life of the bonds.

Mr. Milone pointed out that Cheshire has had 6 refundings since 1999 for a total savings of \$4.2 million.

In April 2014 there was a bond sale with \$755,000 of savings. \$220,000 was put into the FY 2015 budget; another \$230,000 went into surplus until the Council moves it into the debt service reserve fund; another \$300,000 is in the out years from this sale.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

16. Award of construction contract for Cheshire High School Locker Room Project.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #16 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

17. Authorization to go to bid for masonry repairs at several schools.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #17 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

18. Award of design work for Senior Center Basement Improvements project.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #18 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This project is the reconstruction of the basement; the second floor programs will be moved to the basement; and the exercise programs will be moved to the second floor.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

19. Approval of agreements between the Town of Cheshire, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and Ball and Socket Arts.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #19 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

20. Endorsement of the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments Regional Performance Incentive proposals.

MOTION By Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot

MOVED to accept agenda item #20 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

This is a proposal for grants to be received and requires approval of all COG members. Some of the money will be used for the regional GIS system enhancement.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

21. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk