

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE, CT 06410**

Present

Robert Oris, Chairman; Paul Bowman, Vice Chairman; Councilors - Michael Ecke, Sylvia Nichols, Thomas Ruocco, Tim Slocum, Peter Talbot, Patti Flynn-Harris.

Absent: Liz Linehan.

Staff/Others Present: Town Manager Michael A. Milone; Bob Ceccolini, Parks and Recreation Director

**1. ROLL CALL**

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The assembled group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

**3. Items for Executive Session**

MOTION by Peter Talbot; SECONDED by Patti Flynn-Harris to enter Executive Session.

Town Attorney Al Smith and Town Manager Michael Milone were invited for the entire session. Economic Development Coordinator, Jerry Sitko was invited for the Economic Development portion of the session.

- A. Land Acquisition
- B. Economic Development

MOTION by Peter Talbot; SECONDED by Patti Flynn-Harris to exit Executive Session at approximately 7:45p.m.

**4. Appointment of FY 15-16 Auditors**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-1.

RESOLUTION #042816-1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the appointment of RSM US, LLP as the auditor for the FY 15-16.

Discussion

Ms. Nichols stated that RSM US, LLP has been the auditor for the Town of Cheshire for the last eight years. Ms. Nichols stated the name has changed, but there has been no change in the owner or corporate structure. Ms. Nichols stated RSM US, LLP has held last year's price of \$59,000/ year.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Parks and Recreation fee revisions**

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-2.

RESOLUTION #042816-2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the revisions of the Park and Recreation fees as presented and attached.

Discussion

Mr. Talbot stated the revisions were vetted and approved at the Parks and Recreation meeting. Mr. Ceccolini stated there have been no increases in approximately five years and most of the increases are less than ten percent.

Mr. Ruocco stated the jump seemed big for one year and asked if the revisions could be phased in. Mr. Ceccolini stated the increases are appropriate given the increase in minimum wage and the other free programs offered by Parks and Recreation.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-3.

RESOLUTION #042816-3

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council amends the building use policy by revising the rental fees for Parks and Recreation Youth Center Facility and Pavilions as presented and attached.

Discussion

Mr. Talbot stated the revisions were discussed and approved at the Parks and Recreation meeting. Mr. Talbot stated the revisions are appropriate given the rental fees in surrounding areas are much higher. Mr. Ceccolini stated the facilities in Cheshire have become a destination and the pavilions are booked every weekend during the summer months.

Ms. Flynn-Harris asked if the camps will run at Mixville Park and Bartlem Park this year. Mr. Ceccolini stated they were closed last year due to construction at the pool, but both camps will be open this year.

Ms. Nichols asked if the fees are different for residents and non-residents. Mr. Ceccolini stated that although charging different fees has been discussed, there is no difference.

Mr. Bowman asked if there is separate charge for clean-up after a big event. Mr. Ceccolini stated that sometimes a third dumpster is required but there has never been an issue with damage or clean-up.

VOTE The motion passed 7-1.

**6. Community Pool fee revisions**

MOTION by Mr. Talbot; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-4.

RESOLUTION #042816-4

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the revisions to the Community Pool fees as presented and attached.

Discussion

Mr. Talbot stated the revisions were discussed and approved at the Parks and Recreation meeting. Mr. Ceccolini stated not all fees are being increased.

Ms. Flynn-Harris asked about the methodology for announcing the increases and the effective date of the increases. Mr. Ceccolini stated the increases will take effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Mr. Milone stated a public announcement will be made once the revisions are approved by the Town Council.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Reauthorization of unobligated CNR balances for acquisition of Parks ATV**

MOTION to table by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

Discussion

Chairman Oris stated this matter is being sent back to the Budget Committee for further deliberation.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Reallocation of consultant expenses for the radio system from the Police operating budget to the capital Planning Account**

MOTION by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Mr. Ruocco.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-8.

RESOLUTION #042816-8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves allocation of the consultant expenses for the radio system project in the amount of \$36,800 from the Capital Planning Account.

Discussion

Mr. Slocum stated this money was originally paid from the Police Operating Budget with the understanding it would be put back into the Capital Planning Account.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**9. Approval of Fire Department Elim Park donation**

MOTION to table by Mr. Slocum; seconded by Ms. Flynn-Harris.

Discussion

Chairman Oris stated this matter is being sent back to the Budget Committee for further deliberation.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**10. Approval of the Police Department Elim Park donation**

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

Discussion

Chairman Oris stated this matter is being sent back to the Budget Committee for further deliberation.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

**11. Correction to lease amount for the Performance Contract and approval of rebate projects**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #042816-11.

RESOLUTION #042816-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorize payment of \$30,000 to Ameresco under the Energy Performance Contract rebate. (Attached)

Discussion

Mr. Milone stated Ameresco is entitled to payment of the \$30,000 because the final loan amount was reduced by this amount. Mr. Milone stated it was not clearly stated in the minutes, but believes Ameresco is entitled to this money under the payment agreement.

Mr. Slocum asked what the Town Attorney's position is on this matter. Mr. Milone stated the Town Attorney believes the contract covered this payment to Ameresco but was not clearly documented in the minutes.

VOTE The motion passed 7-1.

**12. Adjournment**

MOTION by Ms. Flynn-Harris; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to adjourn the special meeting at 7:34 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

Attest:

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Karen M. Gill , Recording Secretary