

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Ludwick on Monday, March 1, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER – The prayer was given by Councilor Mangini.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL-CALL – Present were Councilors Bosco, Cekala, Cressotti, Hemmeler, Ludwick, Mangini, Muller, Sferrazza, Szewczak and Unghire. Councilor Riley was absent. Also present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Kasia Purciello; Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey; Town Attorney, James Tallberg; Chief Information Officer, Paul Russell; Director of Human Resources, Steve Bielenda; Deputy Director of Economic and Community Development, Nelson Tereso; Chief of Police, Alaric Fox; Director of Social Services, Cindy Guerreri; Director of Finance, John Wilcox; Director of Public Works, Donald Nunes.

Chairman Ludwick stated Councilor Riley is home celebrating her son's 10th birthday.

FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Ludwick made the fire evacuation announcement.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

MOTION #5701 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Special Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5701** adopted 10-0-0.

MOTION #5702 by Councilor Szewczak, seconded by Councilor Muller to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5702** adopted 10-0-0.

SPECIAL GUESTS

There were no special guests on this evening's agenda.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

Peter Jonaitis, 3 Farmstead Circle

Stated originally someone on the Town Council wanted to condemn the attack at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021 by supporters of then President Donald Trump. He noted the Town Council approved a resolution at the February 16th meeting against this attack and others and in support of local law enforcement. He stated he has no qualms with supporting local law enforcement. He noted he does have an issue with the Council signaling out the so-called attack on the Capitol and just inserting the words, “and others” into that resolution.

Mr. Jonaitis stated he does have a problem with the implied implication that President Trump’s speech and rhetoric caused, as one member of the Council used the word, “insurrection”. He acknowledged there was a riot, turmoil, chaos, mayhem, mob action, but saying this was an insurrection is ludicrous. He stated there was no attempt to overthrow the government, there was no armed attack with guns, tanks, molotov cocktails, taking hostages, or trying to dispose certain leaders with another group of leaders. He pointed out that is what an insurrection is. He noted insurrection is a revolt, rebellion, or terrorism.

He stated there were insurrections in this country prior to, during and after the American Revolution. He noted there was the Shay’s Rebellion in Massachusetts and the Whiskey Rebellion in Pennsylvania, and those were insurrections. He stated there were insurrections before, during and after the Civil War.

Mr. Jonaitis stated the claim that President Trump’s rhetoric and speech helped incite what happened is as disingenuous as saying what Al Sharpton, Maxine Waters, Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, Jerrold Nadler, Adam Schiff, Eric Swalwell, Kamala Harris, CNN, MSNBC, the Washington Post, the New York Times have been saying for the past four years had nothing to do with what happened on January 6th.

He noted this Council chose to insert the word, “other”. He stated if they want to condemn other unlawful acts, then they should mention some, i.e., Minneapolis, Seattle, Portland, New York City, Baltimore, St. Louis, Kenosha, Detroit, Rochester, and many more American cities. He stated they should also include Washington, DC prior to January 6th.

As concerns a Council member referring to the Capitol as sacred ground, he believes the only sacred ground being attacked this summer was people trying to go to churches.

Mr. Jonaitis stated because of time limits he will not elaborate on the influence of big tech, i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Google, and the part they played in creating a division amongst the American people.

He stated another member of the Council purports if people are unhappy with election results, the Constitution allows people, through the political process, to remedy the problem. He noted that is

true if the Speaker of the House and the majority leader of the Senate would follow the Constitution, as written, but they show no allegiance to the Constitution.

Mr. Jonaitis stated another member of the Council mentioned the use of a political stunt. He noted that is what is going on in Washington, DC now. He noted it is the culmination of a four-year political stunt by the Democratic leadership in Washington and their flock of sheep in the House and the Senate.

He paraphrased another member of the Council – “nobody should be okay with what happened in our Capitol”. He noted that is true, but then they should condemn what happened this summer in many cities across America, i.e., the throwing of frozen water bottles at the police, the shooting of fireworks at the police, confronting police officers in their faces and spewing them with filthy and racial remarks.

Robert Tkacz, Enfield, Connecticut

Stated the Town has totally neglected the air-handling systems, which are archaic. He noted they must be cleaned twice per year, and they need to be upgraded. He stated Massachusetts is upgrading air-handling systems in all their schools. He stated his belief upgrading these systems is more important than roofs and windows because this is the most important thing for the health and well-being of employees and people who visit all the town buildings. He noted air-handling should be a number one priority.

Mr. Tkacz stated the Town does not have money, and the State will be \$22 billion dollars in debt within a decade. He stated his belief the State cannot afford to pay out any money.

He stated the school enrollment is declining 100 students per year. He noted in 2010 there were 6,300 students, and now there are 4,900 students. He stated in the last five years, Kindergarten through Grade 2 is down 19% for students. He noted Grades 3 through 5 is down 10%. He feels funding is not being spent correctly.

Mr. Tkacz referred to Covid vaccinations and noted for Ages 75 and over, only 8% are fully vaccinated. He noted vaccinations should be age-based.

Mary Ann Turner, 7 Meadow Road

Stated many people in Enfield volunteer because they are willing to do so, and they want to help people. She noted another is the political volunteer, who may want to make a statement about their principles, ideals, or beliefs, and they want to share them. She stated they want to join a respective group that aligns with their values or political philosophy. She noted the next step is willingness – the willingness to try to be part of a solution and a willingness to give their time, energy, and money to step forward to fill a void that may be on the Town Council, Board of Education, or a board or commission. She noted these volunteers do not do this to be paid, but rather volunteers want to try and share their experience, they want to learn, and they are willing to be part of a group with diverse opinions. She stated in Enfield, to be on the Town Council or the Board of Education, the number one qualification is a willingness to step forward and volunteer. She noted the whole Town Council did this, and they did not come to the Town Council knowing what to expect, and they moved their way through the many policies, rules, budgets, and issues,

and they listened, learned, and worked together. She noted all parties come together for one outcome.

Ms. Turner stated Janet Cushman is a new volunteer for the Board of Education, who came willingly to be part of the group. She noted she is open-minded and has a wealth of experience, but her experience is different than others currently on the Board of Education, but it does not make her less qualified. She stated many people, who have sat on the Town Council in the past and those who will come in the future are made up of parents, retired people, college students, businesspeople, and stay-at-home caregivers, and they did not all have a robust resume for the job, but a willingness to say yes and give back to the Town of Enfield. She thanked the whole Town Council for their willingness to make Enfield a great place to live, and she appreciates their willingness to be kind and open-minded and hopeful to all the new people who will continue to volunteer and give their time to the Town of Enfield in their elected positions.

Elizabeth Davis, 201 North Maple Street

Ms. Davis thanked Councilor Sferrazza for speaking up at the last meeting. She referred to the resolution concerning the attack at the Capitol. She noted that is sacred ground, and it is where the country is run and where everything happens. She stated she heard from everyone all summer about their concerns about violence around the country. She noted waving a flag does not make someone a patriot, but defending this country certainly does. She stated no one has a right to kill anyone or burn things. She noted people are comparing riots that took place because people were dying because of the color of their skin to an insurrection at the Capitol to overturn an election that American people voted on. She pointed out it does not matter the political side, but rather it is an attack on the Capitol of the country. She thanked Councilor Cressotti for wanting to put forth this resolution, so the town could take a stance.

Chairman Ludwick invited speakers to speak a second time if they wished.

Elizabeth Davis, 201 North Maple Street

Thanked Councilors Cressotti, Cekala, Mangini for taking a stance concerning the Capitol attack.

Ms. Davis commended Councilor Cekala for bringing up credentials for someone serving on the Board of Education.

She stated this country is everything, and she takes great pride in it, and she feels that they should not compare the attack on the Capitol to anything else.

Gina Sullivan, 11 Spier Avenue

As concerns a previous speaker talking about the willingness to serve, Ms. Sullivan stated there is also a lot of the same willing people that have a big X on their back because they are not in the right place or liked by the right party or majority party. She noted this applies no matter what a person has done in the past, i.e., serving six years on a building committee for a high school, and they are suddenly not qualified or welcomed to be on a middle school building committee. She noted this not only applies to herself, but she has watched other people who may have owed \$50 in taxes, and that was used against them. She stated there are a lot of willing people, and a lot

of willing people of color. Ms. Sullivan stated for those people who have tried to apply for things and were willing, it did not quite work out. She feels the previous person's statement does not really hold a lot of water.

Peter Jonaitis, 3 Farmstead Circle

Stated to use the words of a member of this Council, there is absolutely nobody in this room that should be okay with the burning of buildings and city blocks, the destruction of businesses and livelihoods, the looting, the attacks on people with 2X4's, pipes, baseball bats, people being blind-sided by punches to the head, a group kicking defenseless people on the ground, etc.

He implored the Town Council to stay out of national politics. He noted hopefully what is said at these meetings will be remembered in November.

Mr. Jonaitis stated at the last meeting, a Council member stated, "he also applauds the Enfield Food Shelf for recently denying a donation from the Proud Boys, another right wing extremist group. He noted he is dismayed to think that charitable donations need to be in accordance with someone's political persuasion to give to those in need. He stated in the eyes of some, the Proud Boys are a right-wing extremist group, however, if that is the way someone feels, they should call out Antifa, Black Lives Matter(the organization, not the movement), the Cuban groups, the Marxist groups in this country, the Revolutionary groups, the Black Panthers, the Black Liberation Army, the Puerto Rican Separatist groups, the Southern Poverty Law Center, etc. He noted these are all extreme left groups.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

Councilor Bosco stated he did not serve in the military, but he wished that he did. He noted that does not make him love his country any less than someone who served. He stated it has been said that Washington is a hallowed place, and it is, but he did not hear any resolutions when the Supreme Court was stormed regarding Brett Kavanaugh. He noted he did not see any resolutions when people were jumping the fence at the White House, nor did he see any resolutions when they burned a church right across the street. He stated the Enfield Town Council does not belong in national politics, because they are all serving for the love of Enfield. He noted people must remember history, but the problem is that they are too busy erasing and not remembering history.

He questioned why a court could not investigate the incident of cases of ballots being pulled from under a table after the polling place closed. He pointed out it was not just frivolous things that people felt were wrong, and it should have gone to court where all the evidence on both sides could have been put out on the table. He noted they needed a real court to look at all the evidence, and then a lot of the frustration would have been quelled because perhaps there was no fraud, but this did not happen because it was not adjudicated. He stated he must accept Biden as his President because he does not have a choice in the matter, but these incidents should have been adjudicated, and the Supreme Court should have investigated this, but they did not. He noted if things are not adjudicated, there will be sour grapes on both sides. He noted they must make the best of things and they need to get together and stop arguing and pull together as a country to try and get ahead.

Councilor Bosco stated he is aware of a business in town that had 650 legitimate complaints, but it went on a Commissioner's desk and sat there for two and a half years, and the statute of limitation was two years. He noted this resulted in that person never having committed a crime because it was never adjudicated, and if they had looked at it, there would have been big fines and penalties. He noted in America, people are innocent until proven guilty.

Councilor Bosco stated he has been asked by a couple restaurants in town as to whether they will be extending the outside dining.

Councilor Hemmeler stated she was at the Annex receiving training, so she could volunteer for the vaccine clinic. She noted the Mayor, Town Manager and Town staff did a great job with this clinic.

She stated the State Legislature is considering several bills, which would change Connecticut in a very big way. She noted one is recreational marijuana. She stated medical marijuana is good medicine, and she support it, but this has nothing to do with that. She feels recreational marijuana is a mistake. She knows it is being used as tax revenue, but she feels the cost is too high. She stated at this time, people cannot be in public without a mask because of the virus, so it does not make sense to make recreational marijuana legal when there are so many health implications and problems associated with its use. She stated she did go onto the CDC website and learned that health wise, smoking marijuana is worse than cigarette smoke, edibles have the possibility of accidental poisoning, it effects brain health, short and long-term effects include memory, learning issues, attention, decision making, coordination, reaction time, mental health, and it causes anxiety, paranoia, depression, and in worst cases even psychosis. As concerns the public safety concerns with DUI, she noted there is not currently a test to prove or disprove that someone is under the influence. She stated some arguments would be that it is better than alcohol, but she disagrees. She noted the effect on children is huge because the law would be saying it is okay, and she believes it is a gateway drug. She stated her hope anyone listening will consider urging the State Legislature to reconsider legalizing recreation marijuana because she believes it is a mistake.

Councilor Cressotti thanked everyone who made comments during Public Communications.

He stated the Enfield Safe Harbor Warming Center will be open until March 27th. He commended Monica Wright for receiving a grant to house the homeless at a local motel in Enfield.

Councilor Cressotti stated everyone is concerned about residents' emotional well-being during this pandemic, including isolated residents. He urged people to check in on neighbors on occasion to see how they are doing.

He stated this afternoon he was notified that the Enfield High School Student Council is instituting a mental health initiative. He noted students are struggling with mental health during this pandemic, and there are students that are slipping through the cracks. He stated the Administration has noticed that the Student Council is asking businesses in town for donations for mental health care packages. He noted any business owner who would like to donate to this worthy cause can contact Ms. Dolan, Ms. Grout or Mr. Clark at Enfield High School. He stated they are looking for

things such as gift cards, gift certificates or gym memberships. He noted there is a lot of stress for students and families.

Councilor Szewczak thanked Mr. Bromson for reaching out to DEEP regarding the Scantic River Park. She noted the ten parking spots in that area are designed for passive recreation use.

She noted the vaccine clinic is a huge undertaking by Trinity Health, who has been a good partner to Enfield.

Councilor Szewczak spoke about the VAMS system and noted after people have registered, it can take two to four days to get a response back. She noted vaccine sites are opening all the time.

MOTION #5703 by Councilor Szewczak, seconded by Councilor Mangini to suspend the rules to address under Miscellaneous this evening Items 14 E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L and M.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5703** adopted 10-0-0.

Councilor Mangini thanked Town staff for the clinic that opened today. She noted it was impressive to see how well-organized things are. She thanked Town staff for their help with this clinic.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Bromson stated they had a good grand opening with the Trinity Health clinic at the Annex. He thanked Deb McCarthy, who worked very hard to help this clinic get up and running. He thanked Mark Gahr and Building & Grounds staff for their work for the clinic. He noted this is a permanent, mass vaccination center and 80 staff members will be there every day, and they asked if the Town would step up and commit to ten people per day. He thanked all the volunteers who stepped up to help. He noted this will be going on through June for five days per week. He stated this is being offered to Enfield residents, and up to 640 people per day can be vaccinated. He noted people must go onto VAMS to register for the vaccine.

He stated the Town has done maintenance on air handling systems, and they have been cleaned and upgraded, and this will be part of an on-going process. He noted there will be a schedule going forward to replace that equipment.

Mr. Bromson stated DEEP will be upgrading their enforcement at the Scantic River Park before Memorial Day. He noted DEEP will be coming to a meeting in May.

He stated the Water Pollution Control \$43 million dollar upgrade has been completed. He noted there will be a ribbon cutting on June 18th.

Mr. Bromson stated on March 15th, DOT will do a full presentation on the final design and engineering of the Enfield train platform.

He noted the Governor stated many restrictions on restaurants will be lifted. He noted the Town Attorney will be speaking about this.

Mr. Nunes stated the Eversource credit relating to the Water Pollution Control upgrade will be \$502,896.32, and that is just for their pumps and blowers. He noted they will also be receiving some incentives for their building envelope, pump station, headworks, and the HVAC systems. Mr. Bromson stated they will invest that credit towards other investments at the plant.

Ms. Purciello provided an update on the building consolidation plan. She noted many plans have been finalized. She noted work on the Enfield Express is scheduled to begin March 15th. She then reviewed some accomplishments that have taken place over the past week. She noted as of Thursday, February 25th, the Recreation Department has moved fully into the Annex, and the move was very successful. She stated Public Works and Buildings and Grounds did a remarkable job. She stated in addition, Buildings & Grounds finished the renovation at the Senior Center ahead of schedule for the Transportation Offices, and they moved in on February 26th. She pointed out this allows for locating all their transportation vehicles in one location, and it will streamline services for the Transportation Department. She thanked the Town Council for making this consolidation plan happen. She thanked Public Works and Buildings & Grounds for doing a fantastic job.

Ms. Purciello stated the Senior Center is partnering with the North Central District Health Department, and there will be a vaccination clinic at the Senior Center on Wednesday. She noted this is by appointment only with no walk-ins accepted. She noted they will be vaccinating 180 people and those slots have been filled. She thanked everyone involved for making this happen.

Mr. Bromson thanked Buildings & Grounds for all this work, and he pointed out they are still doing all the other work they are tasked to do.

He stated he loves working here and working with the Town Council. He noted he worked with Liz Davis, Mary Ann Turner, Gina Sullivan, and Bob Tkacz. He stated it is important they work together, and that is what makes this town great, and that is why he wants to stay here. He noted people are willing to come to these meetings and speak their piece, and Enfield is doing great things, and the residents are what makes this town great. He said God Bless Enfield residents. He noted he loves this town and its residents.

Mr. Bielenda stated it is going to be difficult to find a Town Manager that has the vision, energy, and business acumen as in Mr. Bromson. He noted Mr. Bromson is moving mountains, and you do not change a horse in mid-stream, and thankfully the Council recognizes they have a thoroughbred. He stated Mr. Bromson is going to stay here for at least one more year. He noted he spoke to the recruiter, and she said that makes a lot of sense because it is very difficult to hire a Town Manager right before a Town Council election, therefore, this is a good move in a lot of ways.

Chairman Ludwick referred to the vaccine clinic and noted the Town is working with a major healthcare system, Trinity Health of New England, and is part of the delivery of healthcare, which opens access to some people who may not have had it. He thanked the Town Manager and staff that helped make this happen.

Mr. Bromson stated no one could do this alone, and the Town has a great team.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Tallberg stated on Saturday, March 6th there will be a full-day seminar entitled, "Connecticut Land Use Law for Municipal Land Use Agencies, Boards and Commissions". He noted it is specifically designed for the volunteers who serve on Enfield land use boards. He stated there will be 12 members from Enfield participating in this seminar.

Attorney Tallberg referred to Councilor Bosco's comment about statute of limitations and noted for the past year any statute of limitation that was about to expire was suspended, and as of today, it is no longer suspended. He noted there are various groups getting ready for roll-backs, i.e., the Connecticut Association of Municipal Attorneys is looking at things like remote and hybrid meetings, and they are asking the Governor's staff what will happen next because many agencies want to continue using either full remote or hybrid proceedings. He noted the Governor has a 50-page piece of legislation that has been proposed, and that legislation is specific to FOI changes to allow for these types of meetings to occur. He stated he has not yet seen one regarding restaurants, but he heard about things such as restaurants being allowed to sell liquor or drinks to go. He stated his belief there may be another piece of legislation that will address restaurants and try to keep some of the positive improvements that have come out as a silver lining of this pandemic. Councilor Bosco questioned if the Governor pulled that back, is there something Enfield could do on a year-to-year basis through Planning & Zoning to help businesses. Attorney Tallberg stated his office will research this and report back. He noted they made dramatic changes in most municipalities to allow outdoor dining. He stated if it is not something that is covered by Executive Order, perhaps it is something that can be run through the land use agencies.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Councilor Muller stated the JFK blue wing has been turned over to the school, and the teachers and students were moved in the week of February 14th. He noted work began in the white wing the week of February 14th and is ongoing. He stated classrooms and offices in the white wing were moved to other spaces. He noted work is underway in the black wing. He stated work is ongoing in the auditorium, library areas, cafeteria, and kitchen.

Councilor Bosco stated they had a meeting for the roads referendum, and they have some recommendations for some new direction on the roads. He noted they would like to change the way they are addressing some roads, i.e., if there is not an existing curb and it does not need a curb, just fix the road. He noted in this way, they can get more roads done.

OLD BUSINESS

All Old Business items remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

All New Business items remained on the agenda.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

All items have been moved to Miscellaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS

RESOLUTION #5704 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Hemmeler.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO:	Community Development		
	Laurel Park SC1904901 – Other		
	Professional Services	23376004-533900	\$175,000
FROM:	Community Development		
	Laurel Park SC1904901-Revenue	23376004-460005	\$175,000

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 19, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated Nelson Tereso applied for a grant through the State and was successful in getting \$175,000 for upgrades to the Enfield Housing Authority at Laurel Park, and this resolution is permitting him to expend the money. He noted the next resolution says it will be carried over if they do not complete the improvements until the next fiscal year.

Chairman Ludwick questioned when the work is scheduled. Mr. Tereso stated the Enfield Housing Authority is going out to bid this month, and the work will be started this spring and completed before the end of the summer.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5704** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5705 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller.

RESOLVED, that the Finance Director is authorized to carry forward unspent funds from the Laurel Park Grant SC1904901 Fiscal Year 2020/21 Appropriations, Revenue and Expenditure accounts in Org code 23376004 into the next fiscal year until all monies are spent.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5705** adopted 9-0-0. Councilor Bosco absent at the vote.

RESOLUTION #5706 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Szewczak.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

TO: Community Development

CDBG COVID SC2004903-Other		
Professional Services	23376005-533900	\$218,748

FROM: Community Development

CDBG COVID SC2004903-Revenue	23376005-460005	\$218,748
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 19, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated this is a grant that Mr. Tereso was successful in receiving. He noted this is a pass-through to the Food Shelf to help offset the consequences of Covid.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5706** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5707 by Councilor Hemmeler, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

RESOLVED, that the Finance Director is authorized to carry forward unspent funds from the CDBG COVID Grant SC2004903 Fiscal year 2020/21 Appropriations, Revenue and Expenditure accounts in Org code 23376005 into the next fiscal year until all monies are spent.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5707** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5708 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Szewczak.

WHEREAS, the Enfield Police Department has a need to install and remove police equipment from police vehicles when the department acquires new vehicles, or when vehicles need repairs or are being decommissioned; and

WHEREAS, previously, the Enfield Police Department provided 3 new vehicles to MHQ in Middletown, CT and 3 vehicles to Competitive Service Solutions (CSS) in South Windsor, CT

and asked them to install the same equipment. They were each advised that they were competing against each other for quality of installation, reliability, timeliness, and professionalism. That the vehicles given to CSS were completed faster, and with no defects while the vehicles completed by MHQ took far longer and had to be returned to MHQ multiple times to repair basic installation errors, at least one issue with water entering the vehicle and shorting out equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Police Department has used CSS for over a decade and CSS is the only vendor with intimate knowledge of every vehicle in the police department's fleet. CSS has provided service above and beyond that seen with other vendors. CSS will come to the department to repair vehicles on site when necessary, does not have a delay in processing repairs and works well with Enfield's Fleet Maintenance Department. EPD staff can contact CSS after hours when necessary, and CSS is frequently available at a moment's notice. Furthermore, CSS only has one installer who knows our vehicles inside and out and has been recently certified to install the department's new AXON camera equipment. CSS has frequently come to Enfield Fleet Maintenance to remove useful equipment from heavily damaged vehicles that would otherwise need to be towed (at an expense to the town) for equipment removal; and

WHEREAS, travel time to MHQ is roughly 40 minutes (without traffic delays) while the drive to CSS is roughly 20 minutes. When making multiple trips for repairs and picking up new vehicles, that extra 40 minutes (round trip) can impact department staffing levels since we need to pull officers off their normal work to make these trips; and

WHEREAS, MHQ was awarded the State of Connecticut for such work. CSS bills at the same rate as State of Connecticut contracted price for such work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section 8, Paragraph (d) of the Enfield Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby determine that it is against the best interests of the Town to require competitive bidding for the installation and removal of equipment into and out of police vehicles.

Chief Fox stated CSS is an organization and an individual that they have a long-term relationship with that is valued, and CSS charges the state rate, but is not on the state contract. He stated they believe they are getting a superior product from CSS, adding in the proximity, and the fact that CSS makes house calls to the Police Department when needed. He requested the Council's favorable response to the resolution.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5708** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5709 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2020 the Town of Enfield budget adopted a Total School Appropriation of \$71,691,866; and

WHEREAS, the adopted budget as amended included estimates of educational funding from the State of Connecticut for:

- Education Cost Sharing of \$28,768,258 (Account 10040000-413300); and

WHEREAS, the adopted budget of the State of Connecticut increased funding for Education Cost Sharing by \$417,656; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield will receive a net increase of \$417,656 in educational funding from the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield desires to increase the appropriation to the Town of Enfield Board of Education by the amount of \$417,656, which is the net increase in educational funding from the State of Connecticut.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Enfield hereby approves the \$417,656 increase in the Total School Appropriation to \$72,109,522.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Enfield adopted budget for Educational Cost Sharing (account 10040000-413300) will be increased by \$417,656.

Chairman Ludwick stated it was agreed that when they made the budget that if more money came in from the State for the ECS grant, the Town would simply pass that money through, and that is exactly what this is.

Councilor Bosco questioned what would happen if the State changed its mind at the last minute. Mr. Wilcox stated they would know in June, but if they waited that long, the BOE would not have any time to incorporate that into their budget. Chairman Ludwick clarified this relates to this year's budget, not next year's budget.

Councilor Bosco stated if the State were to short the Town \$100,000, would the BOE return that \$100,000. Mr. Wilcox stated once they increase the Board of Education budget, they cannot take that money back.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5709** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5710 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller.

WHEREAS, the North Central Area Agency on Aging (NCAAA) provides several grants to the Town's Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services is in the process of submitting grant applications to the NCAAA for funds that will be available to the Town in Fiscal year 2021-22.

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Christopher W. Bromson, is authorized to sign and submit the grant applications and subsequent contracts, subject to review and approval by the Town

Attorney, in the name and on behalf of the Town of Enfield with the North Central Area Agency on Aging and to affix the Corporate Seal.

Ms. Guerreri stated this is a renewal application to continue the elderly services care coordinated system. She noted this will be year two of this new and improved system. She noted they received a little more funding than in previous years. She stated this has helped with their outreach to seniors, and they have been doing a tremendous amount of work. She noted interested people can make an appointment with Erin Tynan, Case Worker at Social Services at 110 High Street, and she can be reached at 860-253-6397.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5710** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5711 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Cressotti.

WHEREAS, the ONDCP and CDC have provided a grant opportunity to the Department of Social Services, Youth and Family Services Division, as an enhancement to the Drug Free Communities Grant; and

WHEREAS, Youth and Family Services is in the process of preparing an application for the above-referenced CARA Local Drug Crises Grant.

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager is authorized to sign and submit the CARA Local Drug Crisis Grant application and enter into and amend contractual instruments thereof in the name of and on behalf of the Town of Enfield.

Mr. Bromson stated this is a very aggressive grant, and the Town would be most fortunate if they can obtain it. He noted this is for five years, and it is to prevent opioid, methamphetamine, and prescription drug abuse in youths 12 to 18. He stated his belief this is a very worthy cause, and the Town could be awarded up to \$50,000 a year for five years.

Ms. Guerreri stated in their 2019 survey, 3.5% of youth reported misuse of prescription drugs during the last 30 days. She noted this places Enfield above the national threshold for being eligible to apply. She stated the good news is that the issue is not catastrophic, and this is an opportunity to stem the tide. She noted there is a perception that youth believe that use of prescription drugs is not harmful, and this would be able to provide a lot of education through social media, marketing, and campaigns around that issue. She stated the other target population around prevention would be with prescribing physicians to talk with them about the risk and harm of misused prescription medications. She pointed out this ties in well with the work done by the Enfield Together Coalition.

Chairman Ludwick questioned whether this is a new grant, and Ms. Guerreri stated this would be a new grant.

Chairman Ludwick commended Ms. Guerreri and her staff for understanding the mental health of students and what they have been going through by not being in school full-time and not being

able to do the sports or activities that they love to do full time, or not being able to see their friends as much as they use to.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5711** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5712 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

WHEREAS, the Town Council and Board of Education suspended the Facility Use Policy for the use of schools and Town-owned facilities on September 21, 2020 by Resolution No. 5531 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, due to the lower rates of infection associated with the COVID-19 virus and availability of vaccinations, Resolution 5531 is repealed as of May 1, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council hereby restores the Facility Use Policy and use of Town-owned buildings for outside agencies as of May 1, 2021.

Mr. Bromson stated it is believed it would be safe to reopen if outside groups act in accordance with whatever guidelines that are in place. He noted as of today, they have reopened the Central Library and the Pearl Street Library is open by appointment. He stated they opened the Senior Center under a hybrid mode and Town Hall is still by appointment only, but will soon be open to the public. He stated his belief they are on a safe course.

Ms. Purciello stated they have been getting requests for use of facilities in the summer.

Chairman Ludwick stated that's great news.

Councilor Cekala questioned if the Town will require a written Covid policy from different organizations, or will it just be that they adhere to whatever the policy is at that time, which has been handed down from the State. Ms. Purciello stated her belief that is a discussion they will need to have to learn what the guidelines will be in May.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5712** adopted 10-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no comments from the public.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

There were no comments from the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #5713 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5713** adopted 10-0-0, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bailey
Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Jeannette Lamontagne
Secretary to the Council

Appended to the minutes of the
March 1, 2021 Regular Town Council
Meeting.
See Page 10

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter,
the following transfer is hereby made.

TO: Community Development

Laurel Park SC1904901-Other Professional Services 23376004-533900 \$175,000

FROM: Community Development

Laurel Park SC1904901-Revenue 23376004-460005 \$175,000

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of
February 19, 2021.


John Wilcox, Director of Finance

2/22/21
Date:

APPROVED BY: 
Christopher Bromson, Town Manager

2/26/21
Date:

Appended to the minutes of the
March 1, 2021 Regular Town Council
Meeting
See Page 11

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter,
the following transfer is hereby made.

TO: Community Development

CDBG COVID SC2004903-Other Professional Services 23376005-533900 \$218,748

FROM: Community Development

CDBG COVID SC2004903-Revenue 23376005-460005 \$218,748

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of
February 19, 2021.



John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Date: 2/23/21

APPROVED BY: 

Christopher Bromson, Town Manager

Date: 2/26/21