

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Ludwick on Monday, October 18, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER – The prayer was given by ~~Chairman~~ Councilor Riley.

Amended 11/15/2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL-CALL – Present were Councilor Cekala, Cressotti, Hemmeler, Ludwick, Mangini, Muller, Riley, Sferrazza, Szewczak and Unghire. Councilor Bosco was absent. Also present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Kasia Purciello; Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey; Town Attorney, James Tallberg; Director of Finance, John Wilcox

FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Ludwick made the fire evacuation announcement.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

MOTION #5955 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Unghire to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2021 Special Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5955** adopted 9-0-1, with Councilor Szewczak abstaining.

MOTION #5956 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5956** adopted 10-0-0.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Eagle Scouts Troop 818 – Aaron Ryan and Ryan Miller spoke about their Eagle Scout projects.

Mr. Miller stated he dedicated his project to Henry Barnard Elementary School, and this project is a 16 X 20-foot pavilion, which will be placed behind the school, and it will serve as an outdoor space for the kids.

Mr. Ryan stated his project was to design and build six Friendship Bridges for all six elementary schools in Enfield. He explained this project was in partnership with ERFC and the Enfield Rotary Club.

Council members commended Mr. Ryan and Mr. Miller for their projects.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Amanda Marquez, 8 Hoover Lane

Stated founding founders wanted to form a government that guarded against the kind of outreach that was witnessed by the English monarchy. She noted the United States constitution divides the government into three branches-Legislative, Judicial and Executive. She stated this important foresight gave specific powers to each branch and set up a system of checks and balances, which protects people from tyranny and abuse of power, while maintaining the fundamental rights of every citizen. She stated Connecticut, the Constitution State, seems to have forgotten why these three equal bodies of government are needed. She noted representatives at the Capitol have voted against the people's voice to grant Governor Lamont Executive Powers once again. She stated with this, he can pass along mandates when he sees fit without any other branches confirming the legality and appropriateness of that action.

Ms. Marquez stated the mask mandate has once again been extended until February, 2022 with the Governor now saying that vaccinating children between the ages of 5 and 11 will go a long way toward removing the current mask mandate. She feels the next mandate will be the vaccine, which means if they vaccinate their children, then they can take the mask off, which she believes is trading one problem for a much larger, more dangerous one. She stated children are not the spreaders of this virus, and they are not severely effected by any Covid strain, and they have a .001% mortality rate if infected.

She stated the FDA has voted to approve vaccine use in children before Thanksgiving. She noted if approved, inoculations could begin within a month.

Ms. Marquez stated a safety report published last month by the Federal Institute for Vaccines and Biomedicines found that the Covid vaccine poses a greater risk of health complications than contracting Covid naturally.

She questioned why is the population that is seemingly unaffected by Covid controlled the most. She questioned if it is because children can't advocate for themselves.

Ms. Marquez stated the Council took an oath to uphold the law. She questioned what happens when it's unconstitutional, dangerous and sets a tyrannical precedent, and does the Council still have an obligation to uphold it. She stated lately the only response given by the Enfield Board of Education on a myriad of issues brought forth by parents is that they are mandated by the government, their hands are tied, they don't have a choice. She noted at the last Board of Education meeting one board member stated they did not see it as a loss of liberty when medical professionals are guiding people. She went on to note the Nuremberg trial defendants claimed that they were

just following orders from a higher authority, so does that not make their crimes against humanity wrong.

Ms. Marquez stated it is appalling to make a statement publicly that being mandated to do something against your free will is not a loss of liberty. She noted the definition of liberty is the power of choice. She questioned when Town leaders will stand with the parents and echo their voice in protecting the children. She stated people need a stronger Board and Town Council, who are willing to step up and fight with parents, like so many other boards of education and councils around the country. She noted instead Enfield has teachers emailing parents that they should reprimand their children because their masks were under their nose and students being written up on buses for pulling their masks down because they cannot breathe. She stated the very adults enforcing these mandates aren't even wearing their masks correctly. She noted when a child says they cannot breathe, they need to take that extremely seriously and allow them a mask break and not discipline them to the full extent of the law.

She stated there is a simple solution regarding masks—those who choose to wear a mask can do so, and those who don't aren't mandated against their free will.

Matthew Schmitt, 55 Main Street. 1304 Bigelow Commons

Stated he previously gave his address as 55 North Main Street in error, when it is actually 55 Main Street – the Bigelow Commons. He noted after the last meeting, a person tried to follow him home after the last Board of Education meeting. He stated after he realized he was being followed, he crossed the river and led them to Suffield Meadows, a place he has no connection to whatsoever. He noted he does not appreciate being creeped on, and he has no idea of this person's motivations or their intent, especially since this occurred immediately after a Board of Education meeting at which he was heckled as he spoke the three minutes afforded each resident. He stated his hope this Council will publicly denounce such actions.

Mr. Schmitt stated for anyone who has heard him speak, he feels it is evident that his focus has been on finding the best and simplest course to resolve the situation of masking children in schools. He noted most of his arguments against the school mask mandates is that these decisions should be made at the local level. He invited the Council to join him in fighting to make the school mask decisions local. He stated they should find solutions that work for everyone and puts the interests of the residents of this town above all else.

Mr. Schmitt asked that his comments to the Council be included in the record in its entirety and is appended to these minutes.

Constance Boyajian, 165 Sherman Road

Stated she was disappointed when the Green Manor pool was closed and filled in. She feels it would not have taken too much money to refurbish that pool. She referred to the proposed splash pads and noted you can't swim on a splash pad. She stated her belief a swimming pool is a great adventure for kids and adults.

Elizabeth Davis, 201 North Maple Street

Agreed with Ms. Boyajian about the swimming pool. She stated it's sad to see how Enfield keeps on losing things.

Ms. Davis stated her belief the Council had enough time to put the topic of a marijuana dispensary on the ballot, so the citizens could vote on it. She questioned why it was not put on the ballot.

Lynn Kostek, 13 Teach Street

Referred to the roads referendum and stated her belief whoever is doing this road work is not doing a proper job. She suggested getting advice from cities such as Buffalo, New York to see how they get their roads to last 20 years because it appears Enfield roads don't even last two years. She stated the work done on everyone's driveway aprons on her street was despicable.

Ms. Kostek stated people seem concerned about marijuana getting into the hands of the youth, but it's her belief youth will find a way to get marijuana, but it won't be through a dispensary. She referred to package stores within walking distance to schools. She noted alcohol is a drug. She feels if the Town is going to ban a dispensary, they should close down all the package stores too.

Ms. Kostek voiced concern about maskless children, who may also be unvaccinated, posing a Covid threat to other children who may have an asthma condition. She raised the possibility of people attending this Council meeting, who may have a serious health condition, and some Council members are not wearing masks.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Sferrazza thanked residents for electing him to the Town Council and prior to those residents supported him as Police Chief.

He noted he has never seen a situation where everyone agrees. He stated he respects everyone's opinions, he listens to those opinions and weighs them, and then he makes a decision, which he feels is best. He noted he may be wrong, but his intention was always to do right, and he did the best he could for everyone.

Councilor Sferrazza stated to be a good Councilor, they need their family to back them up. He pointed out the Council not only meets twice a month, but they also have caucuses, special meetings, and at budget time, they're meeting Saturdays and several times a week. He noted there are also committee meetings and helping with constituents. He thanked his family for supporting him for two and a half years.

He thanked Town staff for their support and willingness to help.

Councilor Sferrazza stated his belief this Town staff is exceptional because the tone is set at the top. He noted he had the opportunity to work with six Town Managers going back to 1980, and he credits Town Manager, Chris Bromson, for ideas such as the Enfield Express, the Higgins Park, and all this progress. He stated he had the privilege to work with Mr. Bromson for 12 years in the Police Department, and as a Town Manager, he feels he has done an extraordinary job.

He thanked the Town Council-past and present-Republican and Democrat. He noted although they didn't always agree on votes, when they did disagree, they did so in a civil, respectful way. He feels this Council sets a good example.

Councilor Sferrazza stated if he were to give advice to the next Council, it would be to expect that when they get here, everyone is not going to agree because there will be disagreements on how they should do things. He noted they should not focus on what makes them different, but rather focus on what they have in common. He feels everyone here sincerely wants Enfield to be the best it can be. He noted they should focus on the end game, which is they should make Enfield a welcoming community for all people.

Councilor Mangini agreed with Councilor Sferrazza. She stated it has been a pleasure to serve with every member of this Council.

She stated the Mt. Carmel Auxiliary is having an outdoor craft fair this Saturday, and there will be over 100 vendors. She noted the craft fair will run from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Councilor Szewczak stated this will be her last meeting after 12 years. She thanked her fellow Council members and Town staff.

She stated there are four upcoming referendums, and they're really important. She noted young parents enjoy bringing their children to splash pads. She pointed out Enfield does have a pool where the Recreation Department runs swimming lessons. She noted swimming is a vital skill that everyone should learn.

Councilor Szewczak stated she does not know whether roads in Buffalo, New York last longer than Enfield's roads, but she does know that roads don't last as long because they must put in more recycled materials, which weakens the roads.

She referred to the Solid Waste ordinance and noted surrounding communities are buying the software they need for "pay-as-you-throw". She stated when the Town tells people to recycle, people need to be conscientious about their recycling because people will eventually be charged for everything that is thrown away.

MOTION #5957 by Councilor Szewczak, seconded by Councilor Muller to suspend the rules to address under Miscellaneous this evening Items 14 A1, E, F, G, H, I, J, and K.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5957** adopted 10-0-0.

Councilor Cekala stated the Opera House Players are putting on the show, Mama Mia, on November 5 through November 7 and November 12 through November 14 and November 19 through November 21st. She noted shows will be on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. She noted people can go to operahouseplayer.org to get tickets.

She stated a resident on Somers Street contacted her and said there's been a lot of speeding on that street near Somers Street and Park Street.

Councilor Cekala requested an update on the day care letter that went out. She noted a letter went out saying home daycares are being taxed. She questioned whether this is something that the Town of Enfield can exempt, and if so, what's the process, and has that been done by a Town Council in Enfield.

Councilor Cekala requested an update on the progress of the Brainard Park softball field and when it will be ready.

She stated she has enjoyed most of her time on the Town Council. She noted it has been a pleasure working Councilors Sferrazza and Szewczak. She stated she appreciates Councilor Szewczak's hard work on the Joint Facilities Committee.

Councilor Cressotti stated it has been a pleasure working with Councilors Sferrazza and Szewczak. He thanked them for their service.

He noted a lot of good things are happening in Enfield, i.e., the ribbon cutting ceremony at the basketball courts at LaFayette Park and Alcorn School.

Councilor Cressotti thanked the Public Works Department for cleaning up the illegal dumping that was taking place on North and South River Streets.

He stated a resident at 95 Middle Road complained about water problems resulting from construction being done on Route 190. He noted water is getting into basements in that area. He requested the Engineering Department look into this.

Councilor Cressotti stated yesterday he attended the Connecticut Sportswriter Alliance Gold Key Dinner at Aqua Turf. He noted two of Enfield's finest coaches were recognized – Cookie Bromage received the prestigious gold key award. He stated his belief she should be honored by the Town Council. He pointed out she was recognized for 52 years of coaching Enfield Field Hockey and winning five state championships and all the work that she has done in Enfield for the kids and students of Enfield. He noted naming the field in Enfield after her was the right thing to do. He stated the second coach to be recognized was Ben Alex, and he won the John Wentworth Good Sport Award. He stated he is a long-time Fermi High School wrestling coach, who is going to be inducted in the Connecticut Wrestling Hall of Fame for the work he did at Fermi High School. He stated he was also recognized for his volunteer work for youth wrestling. He noted the wrestling room at the Annex was named for him in his honor.

He concluded stating it has been a pleasure working with everyone on the Town Council.

Councilor Riley stated if people have any questions about the referendum, they should contact any Council member. She noted people can also find information on the Town of Enfield webpage.

She stated she finds it alarming that someone would follow somebody home that came to a meeting to use their First Amendment right to speak. She noted this person could contact the proper authority regarding that situation.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Bromson stated there will be one more Farmers Market on the Town Green, and then they will be transitioning to the Enfield Square. He noted the first indoor Farmers Market will be on Halloween.

He stated people can get any answers they may have about the upcoming referendums by going onto the Town's website.

Mr. Bromson stated it was very exciting to attend the ribbon cuttings for the new basketball courts at Alcorn and LaFayette Park. He noted the basketball court at the Higgins Park is close to completion. He stated families are also enjoying the new playscape, and the walking trails will be completed soon. He noted the Council approved the purchase of the Enfield Express, and two acres come with this property, which will provide more parking for people to enjoy the amenities of the Higgins Park.

He stated this Town Council has done a remarkable job in the four years he has been Town Manager. He noted they had a lot of thoughts and ideas, and the Council brought those ideas home, despite Covid, because this Council is bipartisan, and they work together.

Mr. Bromson stated they did include in the referendum a 25-meter, zero entry state-of-the-art pool to replace the Lamagna Pool at Higgins Park.

He stated the Town is poised for great success in the coming year. He noted the Town has been working on acquiring the Eversource property near the proposed train station, and that is over 65% designed, and DOT told the Town they are on track to begin it in the spring. He stated Enfield has a good relationship with the State government and the Governor. He noted the Governor has been in Enfield twice in the past two and a half weeks, and he's scheduled to come a third time to look at some of the innovative programs that the Board of Education has done at the schools. He stated the Governor came to talk to the town about another project that Enfield has proposed, and which will hopefully be funded by the state if voters approve it.

Mr. Bromson stated when the Governor attended the ribbon cutting for the opening of the Enfield Express, he stated, "Enfield is a leader in Connecticut."

He referred to the Eversource property and noted the Town will be filing for \$2 million dollars in state brownfield funding to clean up that property. He noted Eversource is working with the Town on this. He stated previously they wanted to have parking for the casket building, but that building no longer exists, and now they would like to propose mixed-use for housing—45 apartments, a restaurant, and stores. He stated they would like to use the same footprint done by UCONN and their urban planners. He noted this is a higher and better use.

Mr. Bromson stated the Governor announced \$200 million dollars in DECD monies with \$100 million for cities and \$100 million for other municipalities. He noted Enfield is eligible for mass transportation and development around the core and other investments. He noted this is eligible for 50% reimbursement up to \$10 million dollars.

Mr. Bromson wished all Council members the best of luck. He noted it has been an absolute pleasure and honor to work with everyone. He stated he will miss Councilors Szewczak and Sferrazza. He commended Councilors Szewczak, Cekala and others for their work on the Joint Facilities Committee. He went on to commend Councilor Sferrazza for his years of service in the Police Department and on the Town Council.

He referred to Councilor Cekala's question about the taxation issue and noted the Director of Finance can address that matter. He stated his belief the Town can do an exemption, and the Director of Finance can address that at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Bromson referred to Councilor Cekala's question concerning Brainard Park and noted he met with the Director of Public Works today, and they are on track to have the bid go out, so they can have it completed in the spring. He stated he will be providing updates.

Chairman Ludwick stated his understanding the federal money that was specifically available for restaurants is no longer available. He noted when the Director of Finance is looking at tax breaks, can he also look at all small businesses. Mr. Bromson stated he will have the Director of Finance look into this. He referred to the American Recovery proposal and noted they proposed \$400,000 for small business in town to come in and get a non-repayable grant between \$5,000 and \$10,000. He stated with that amount, they probably can help 40 to 80 small businesses to help them cope with what they went through during Covid.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT & COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Tallberg stated politics is a tough business, and he has been representing municipalities in Connecticut for 25 years. He stated it has been an absolute pleasure to be the Town Attorney for Enfield. He noted these meetings have been civil, and the level of courtesy has been remarkable. He wished the best to Councilors Sferrazza and Szewczak. He wished the entire Council good luck.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

There were no reports this evening.

OLD BUSINESS

All items remained tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no New Business items.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

All items have been moved to Miscellaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS

MOTION #5958 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini to accept the Consent Agenda.

Chairman Ludwick read the resolution into the record.

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

GENERAL FUND

FROM:

10800092-584000 \$6,000
Unallocated Contingency

TO:

10300340-561800 \$5,000
Building & Grounds-
Athletic Supplies/Materials

10800092-593025 \$1,000
General Fund-Unallocated-
Transfer to Library Fund

LIBRARY FUND

FROM:

22505530-480001 \$1,000
Lib/Leisure-Rec Programs-
Gen Fund Transfer In

TO:

22505530-561800 \$1,000
Lib/Leisure-Rec Programs-
Athletic Supplies/Materials

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of October 12, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated this will allow for the rental of snowshoes, snowman kits and snow fort building supplies at Central Library as well as a temporary ice rink at Powder Hollow Park.

Councilor Szewczak stated her belief the Leisure Committee is important because it is vital that people have things to do in their leisure time. She noted a Higgins Park was a vision by past Town Manager, Matt Coppler.

Mr. Bromson stated he spoke to Matt Coppler, and he said the Higgins Park was Councilor Szewczak's idea.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5958** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5959 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

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

TO:	Department of Public Works-Buildings and Grounds		
	Construction Services	10300340-545000	\$38,107
FROM:	General Fund		
	Contingency	10800092-584000	\$38,107

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of October 7, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated this building could potentially be a source of blight, vandalism, or arson. He noted the Town received a very good price to demolish this building. He noted there were no other useful plans for this building.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5959** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5960 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller.

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

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the funds stated in Attachment A are available as of October 13, 2021.

Created: John Wilcox, Director of Finance
Date: October 13, 2021

Mr. Bromson stated this is the year-end housekeeping. He commended and thanked the Director of Finance, John Wilcox, and his staff for again being the recipient of the Achievement for

Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. He pointed out this is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

Mr. Wilcox stated the Town has been participating in the GFOA program for several years, and it's a way to get an extra look at financial statements.

Councilor Hemmeler commended Mr. Wilcox and his staff.

Chairman Ludwick congratulated Mr. Wilcox and his entire staff for this recognition.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5960** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5961 AMENDMENT #1 by Chairman Ludwick, seconded by Council Szewczak to correct the heading of **RESOLUTION #5960** to read: "**Resolution Approving Transfers of Funds to Close Fiscal Year 2021**"

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted 10-0-0.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5960** adopted 10-0-0, as amended.

RESOLUTION #5962 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 89f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

GENERAL FUND

FROM:

1040000-499000 \$100,000
General Fund Revenue-
Appropriated Fund Balance

TO:

10800092-593010 \$100,000
General Fund-Unallocated -
Transfers to Capital

CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING FUND

FROM:

31042022-480001 \$100,000
CIP Fund Revenue FY21-22-
Gen Fund Transfers In

TO:

31008335-545000 \$100,000
Freshwater Dam Training
Wall-Construction Srvcs

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of

October 13, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson stated a couple years ago the Council appropriated about \$500,000 in funding to dredge the dam. He noted thereafter this has been on a list for capital improvement and a long-term project which was going to be done in four or five years. He explained the State inspects and investigates different dams and their safety. He noted they identified this dam as having some areas of concern. He stated it was not in risk of imminent failure, but this Town Council moved up this project and funded it last year. He noted due to price increases, the price is now \$100,000 more than was appropriated. He stated the Town is under orders by DEEP to accomplish this work.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5962** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5963 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Muller.

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

TO: **Enfield Child Development Center**

Stipends	24540432-516000	\$ 88,000
Equipment	24540432-573000	\$101,600
Safety Supplies	24540432-561600	\$ 15,000
Supplies/Materials	24540432-560000	\$100,000
Professional Development	24540432-532200	\$ 20,000
Instructional Supplies	24540432-561100	\$ 9,200
Health Services	24540432-533300	\$ 50,000
Technology	24540432-573400	\$ 5,000

FROM: **Child Day Care State Grant**

Child Day Care State Grant	24544432-413660	\$388,800
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of October 6, 2021.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5963** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5964 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

WHEREAS, Enfield Child Development Center received additional funds from the OEC in the amount of \$388,800 for the state fiscal year 2021-22; and

WHEREAS, OEC allows these funds to be spent through state fiscal year 2022-23

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that any unspent funds at the end of FY22 be carried forward.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5964** adopted 9-0-0, with Councilor Unghire absent at the vote.

RESOLUTION #5965 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Cressotti.

WHEREAS, the License Agreement between the Town of Enfield and the Opera House Players, Inc. (OHP) for Rooms D222 and D220 in the Enfield Annex (124 North Maple Street) will expire on December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, OHP has requested that the term of the License Agreement be extended for an additional period expiring December 31, 2022

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to sign the attached Second Amendment to the License Agreement.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5965** adopted 10-0-0.

RESOLUTION #5966 by Councilor Muller, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

WHEREAS, the Town and the Opera House Players, Inc. entered into a two-year Lease with Option to Purchase for 100 High Street; and

WHEREAS, the term of the Lease expired on December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the Opera House Players, Inc. amended the above-noted lease and extended the expiration date to December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to extend the term of the lease for an additional one-year period commencing January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Manager, Christopher W. Bromson, is authorized to enter into and sign the Second Amendment to Lease with Option to Purchase with the Opera House Players, Inc. in the name and on behalf of the Town of Enfield, subject to review and approval by the Town Attorney.

Mr. Bromson stated the agreement remains the same, but the Opera House Players will now have an opt-out agreement. He noted the Town and Town Council supports the Opera House Players,

and they will work hard to make them a success. He commended Assistant Town Manager, Kasia Purciello for her work with this.

Ms. Purciello thanked this Town Council and wished them her best.

Councilor Cekala stated her hope the Opera House Players stay in Enfield, and she hopes the Town can work something out to keep them here.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #5966** adopted 10-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Jennifer Bruyette, 83 Park Avenue

Stated Somer Street does have a speeding problem. She noted at the corner of Somer Street and Park Street, there is a problem with no one stopping at that four-way intersection. She stated it may require more police presence in that area.

Ms. Bruyette then spoke about masks. She noted she began her research trying to find studies proving that mask wearing was harmful to children. She stated she was able to find one letter published in the Journal of American Medical Association Pediatrics that claimed that mask wearing was dangerous. She noted they claimed that mask wearing increased carbon dioxide to possibly dangerous levels in children. She stated the problem is the study had critical flaws in its methodology. She noted a retraction was published 16 days later. She stated the same authors of this paper recently published another claiming vaccines killed two people for every three deaths prevented. She stated obviously this is not the case and does little to boost their credibility.

She stated it is known that masks work to slow or prevent the spread of Covid-19. She noted a person just needs to look at the rates of transmission in areas of the country with no mask mandates. She stated a report from Arizona shows that schools without a mask mandate were three and a half times more likely to have a Covid-19 outbreak than those that required universal masking from day one. She noted the average of pediatric cases were lower in counties with a mask requirement - 16.32 per 100,000 a day versus no mask requirement at 34.85 per 100,000 a day.

Ms. Bruyette stated a poll conducted found that 64% of respondents support government mask mandates in all public places and 69% support mandates for mask wearing in school. She noted they cannot allow the vocal minority to strip the protections provided by wearing a simple mask.

She noted Connecticut has been found to be the safest state during Covid-19 in part to Governor Lamont's mask mandate. She stated an analyst said the safer the state is, the sooner it can get its economy back on track.

Ms. Bruyette stated she has heard people quote the survival statistics. She noted the recovery rate is between 97 and 99.75%, but what are the long-term effects. She stated survival isn't the only measure of this disease. She noted long-haulers account for approximately 10% of those who

contract Covid-19. She stated symptoms of long-haulers include coughing, ongoing debilitating fatigue, body aches, joint pain, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, difficulty sleeping, headaches and brain fog. She noted it's not known if these symptoms will be permanent or if permanent damage is done.

She stated a person's right to live maskless in public stops when you are endangering other's lives by facilitating the spread of a communicable disease.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Unghire thanked Councilors Sferrazza and Szewczak for all their years of service to Enfield. She noted it is a privilege to know them. She thanked Mr. Bromson and Mr. Drezek, the Superintendent of Schools, for all they've done during this pandemic.

Councilor Cressotti stated his hope Councilor Bosco has a very speedy recovery.

Councilor Cressotti also wished a speedy recovery to Tim Slade, who is head of the Senior Home Repair Program.

Chairman Ludwick stated the Town never really slowed down during the pandemic. He noted both parties should be proud of themselves because they never stopped working, and they actually had more meetings. He stated the staff has been fantastic.

He commended Councilors Sferrazza and Szewczak for their work on the Council and wished them well.

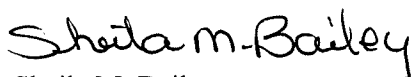
Chairman Ludwick concluded stating it has been an honor to serve the Town as Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #5967 by Councilor Sferrazza, seconded by Councilor Szewczak to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #5967** adopted, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sheila M. Bailey
Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Jeannette Lamontagne
Secretary to the Council

Good evening Town Council members.

It seems my residential status has become a topic of great interest lately, even garnering the attention of some social media warriors. Well, I need to take some responsibility for the confusion. When I have come up to speak at Enfield meetings, I have been stating my address as 55 NORTH Main Street. I have been inadvertently adding the word NORTH each time. I believe this mistake is due to the fact that I recently moved from a neighboring town where I lived on a NORTH Main Street. After 18 years of providing that address to people, I guess it just became habit. 55 Main Street, Bigelow Commons, is where I now live. And I never thought it necessary to provide a unit number, but since my residency has caused a few people such anxiety, I will provide that as well. 1304 Bigelow Commons. That's 1304 Bigelow Commons, in case anyone missed it.

Now, this confirmation of my Enfield residency may come as a disappointment to some, especially the person who decided to try to follow me home after the last Board of Education meeting. When I realized they were tailing me, I crossed the river and led them to Suffield Meadows, a place I have no connection to whatsoever. I do not appreciate being creeped on and I have no idea of this person's motivations or of their intent, especially since this occurred immediately after a Board of Education meeting at which I was heckled as I spoke the three minutes afforded each resident. Having had some time to think about the events of that night, I believe there are some things that need to be said.

There is always more than one way to resolve a situation. For anyone who has heard me speak, I think it is evident that my focus has been on finding the best and simplest course to resolve the situation of masking children in schools. The best and simplest course to resolve a question about my address would have been to ask me. Just ask. It's a sad commentary on our present society that a person feels it more appropriate to follow someone they don't know rather than merely ask them a question. That would have avoided the sustained angst these people must have been feeling, and it would have avoided the blatant disrespect of trying to speak over me during a public meeting.

The reason I am bringing this up here, is that I want to get the events of that evening out in the open as quickly as possible. People are less likely to commit questionable acts when everyone is explicitly made aware of them. And, I hope this council, each and every member, will publicly denounce such actions.

Because, why would a member of the public even look up another person's address. Is there opposition research being done on local residents? On parents? On everyday people who are simply concerned about how certain policies affect their children? I think most people would agree that there is definitely a large bit of creepiness about someone checking up on people participating in the local political process.

If the people who engage in this activity are hoping to use it to discredit a person, and thereby discredit what that person has said and what they have yet to say – in other words, a tactic – then it just reveals that these people cannot successfully argue against the message, so they set their sights on the messenger. If, however, the people sifting through personal details of residents are genuinely concerned about non-residents exerting political influence in this town, all I have to say is “where have you been?” The crux of most of my arguments against the school mask mandates is that these decisions should be made on a local level. Ned Lamont is not an Enfield resident. The heads of the Connecticut State Department of Education and the Connecticut Department of Public Health are not Enfield residents. How ironic to prioritize the importance of residency, and then turn around and argue vehemently that we need to listen to the state at all costs. If it is that important to make certain that only residents have a voice in the political process, then be consistent, join me in fighting to make the school mask decisions local. If not, then maybe your time would be better served researching your arguments rather than researching me.

I don't know. Maybe it all just comes down to the fact that I am not very well known around here. I mean, who is this long-haired guy who just happened to show up speaking against school mask mandates? If you really want to know, just ask. We can go grab a cup of coffee. We can discuss our differences. And perhaps more importantly, our similarities. Yes, I'm new here, but I want to believe that all who attend and watch these meetings are open to resolutions. So, I'll state publicly, whether you agree with me or not, elected official or not, I am open to discussion. Let's find solutions that work for everyone and puts the interests of the residents of this town above all else. And I am willing to put myself out there to make clear that I don't feel intimidated by last week's actions and neither should anyone who opposes the mandates. Because people should never feel afraid or ashamed to speak publicly. I know I never will.

Matthew Schmitt
55 main Street

Department	Account	Description	To Amount	From Amount	Account	Description
General Fund						
Town Manager						
	10120000	511000 Salaries	49,653	5,206	10120000	550000 Other Purchased Services
	10120000	516000 Stipend	5,206	1,118	10120000	589000 Miscellaneous Expenditures
	10120000	522000 Social Security	1,118			
Town Attorney						
	10130000	511000 Salaries	4,377	1,960	10130000	532200 Professional Development
	10130000	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	16	2,492	10130000	533200 Legal
	10130000	522000 Social Security	49			
	10130000	522100 Medicare	10			
Registrar of Voters						
	10150000	522000 Social Security	48	48	1015000	532200 Professional Development
Town Clerk						
	10160100	521000 Health/Medical Insurance	16,150	2,115	10160100	554000 Advertising
	10160100	522000 Social Security	513	513	10160100	533900 Other Professional Services
Records Management						
	10161600	511000 Salaries	2,115	267	10161600	561200 Office Supplies
	10161600	516000 Stipend	63			
	10161600	521000 Health/Medical Insurance	1			
	10161600	522000 Social Security	165			
	10161600	522100 Medicare	38			
Human Resources						
	10170000	511000 Salaries	6,574	6,574	10170000	533900 Other Professional Services
Finance						
	10180100	511000 Salaries	5,384	6,354	10180100	533100 Financial/Audit
	10180100	516000 Stipend	8			
	10180100	521000 Health/Medical Insurance	962			
Treasury						
	10181000	511000 Salaries	4,103	4,103	10181000	521000 Health/Medical Insurance
Assessor						
	10183000	511000 Salaries	11,491	5,287	10183000	533900 Other Professional Services
	10183000	521000 Health/Medical Insurance	5,287	2,436	10183000	555000 Printing and Reproduction
General Services						
	10184000	511000 Salaries	2,436	111	10184000	522000 Social Security
	10184000	512000 Salaries - Part Time	111			
Historic District Commission						
	10190960	512000 Salaries - Part Time	172			
	10190960	522000 Social Security	10			
	10190960	522100 Medicare	3			
	10190960	553500 Postage	20			
Planning and Zoning Commission						
	10190961	553500 Postage	2	207	10190961	512000 Salaries - Part Time

Department	Account	Description	To Amount	From Amount	Account	Description
Public Safety Communications						
	10200250	521000 Health/Medical	41,767	14,948	10200250	511000 Salaries
				2,211	10200250	532200 Professional Development
				24,608	10200250	543200 Equipment Repair and Maintenance
School Security						
				99,168	10200270	514000 Overtime
Police Services						
	10200500	511000 Salaries	247,353	2,731	10200500	558000 Travel
	10200500	514000 Overtime	212,137	14,500	10200500	562600 Gasoline
	10200500	519000 Employee Separation Pay	21,468			
	10200500	521000 Health/Medical	37,570			
	10200500	521200 Heart & Hypertension	41,877			
	10200500	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	22			
	10200500	522000 Social Security	4,210			
	10200500	522100 Medicare	8,521			
Emergency Management						
	10250000	512000 Salaries - Part Time	2,534			
	10250000	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	4			
	10250000	522000 Social Security	157			
	10250000	522100 Medicare	36			
Public Works Administration						
	10300100	511000 Salaries	19,293			
	10300100	513000 Salaries-Temp/Seasonal	90			
	10300100	516000 Stipend	17			
	10300100	521000 Health/Medical	4,105			
Custodial Maintenance						
				23,505	10300345	514000 Overtime
Highway Maintenance						
	10300370	521000 Health/Medical	360	360	10300370	515100 Shift
Refuse Collection and Disposal						
	10300390	521000 Health/Medical	1,880	1,880	10300390	511000 Salaries
Development Services Administration						
	10600100	511000 Salaries	6,876			
	10600100	516000 Stipend	8			
	10600100	521000 Health/Medical	1,499			
	10600100	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	16			
	10600100	522000 Social Security	69			
	10600100	522100 Medicare	17			
Planning						
				28,188	10606100	521000 Health/Medical
T'ville Revitalization						
	10606155	514000 Overtime	5,891			
	10606155	521000 Health/Medical	18,123			

Department	Account	Description	To Amount	From Amount	Account	Description
	10606155	522100 Medicare	1,045			
Economic and Comm Develop						
	10606600	511000 Salaries	2,114			
	10606600	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	16			
	10606600	522000 Social Security	810			
	10606600	522100 Medicare	189			
Building Inspection						
	10606800	511000 Salaries	16,920			
	10606800	512000 Salaries - Part Time	8,436			
	10606800	514000 Overtime	1,390			
	10606800	516000 Stipend	50			
Employee Benefits						
	10800091	519000 Employee Separation Pay	211,424	65,803	10800091	523000 Pension-Municipal Employee
				211,424	10800091	523100 Pension-Police
Unallocated Charges						
				506,262	10800092	593070 Transfer to Collective Bargaining
Debt Service						
	10800096	583000 Interest Expense	3,573	3,573	10800096	533100 Financial/Audit
Total General Fund			<u>1,037,952</u>	<u>1,037,952</u>		

Social Services

Social Services Admin						
	22040001	521000 Health/Medical	12,611			
Congregate Living						
	22040413	521000 Health/Medical	3,462	4,981	22040413	511000 Salaries
	22040413	522000 Social Security	1,230			
	22040413	522100 Medicare	289			
Child Development						
				12,611	22040432	521000 Health/Medical
Neighborhood Services						
	22040460	511000 Salaries	1,686	1,686	22040460	521000 Health/Medical
Family Resource Center						
	22040470	512000 Salaries - Part Time	1,905	6,399	22040470	511000 Salaries
	22040470	516000 Stipend	650			
	22040470	521000 Health/Medical	3,329			
	22040470	521500 Life Insurance/Disability	48			
	22040470	522000 Social Security	379			
	22040470	522100 Medicare	88			
Total Social Services Fund			<u>25,677</u>	<u>25,677</u>		

Department	Account	Description	To Amount	From Amount	Account	Description
Library Fund						
Library & Leisure - Admin						
	22505500	511000 Salaries	9,032			
	22505500	516000 Stipend	137			
Library						
				9,169	22505510	521000 Health/Medical Insurance
Total Library Fund			9,169	9,169		

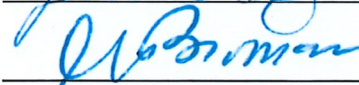
Information Technology Fund						
Information Technology						
	24012100	511000 Salaries	7,110	7,250	24012100	553100 Telephone
	24012100	516000 Stipend	140			
Public Communications						
	24012107	512000 Salaries - Part Time	118	241	24012107	543000 Repairs/Maintenance
	24012107	522000 Social Security	58			
	24012107	522100 Medicare	65			
Total Information Technology Fund			7,491	7,491		

I hereby certify that the amounts are available for transfer per the guidelines established by the Town Council.

Finance Director



Town Manager



SECOND AMENDMENT TO LICENSE AGREEMENT

The Opera House Players, Inc. (OHP) and the Town of Enfield (Town) entered into a License Agreement for Rooms D222 and D220 in the Enfield Annex at 124 North Maple Street (Agreement).

WHEREAS, the initial term of the Agreement was scheduled to expire on June 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the OHP and Town amended the Agreement and extended the expiration date to December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town and OHP would like to extend the term of the Agreement for an additional period that will expire on December 31, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE, the Town and OHP agree to amend Paragraph 2. **DURATION**, subparagraph a. of the Agreement as follows:

This Agreement shall be for the period commencing retroactively as of January 1, 2019 and expiring on December 31, 2022.

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

The Opera House Players, Inc.

Town of Enfield

By: _____

By: _____

President

Christopher W. Bromson
Town Manager

Date: _____

Date: _____

SECOND AMENDMENT TO LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE

On January 10, 2019, The Opera House Players, Inc. (Tenant) and the Town of Enfield (Landlord) executed a Lease with Option to Purchase (Lease) for the premises known as 100 High Street (Leased Premises) and more specifically described in Schedule A of the Lease.

Whereas, on November 4, 2020, an Amendment to the Lease was fully executed by Landlord and Tenant adding a third year to the Lease for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 (First Amendment).

Whereas, the Tenant and Landlord desire to extend the Term of the Lease by adding a fourth year to the Lease.

Whereas, the Tenant and Landlord have executed this Second Amendment to Lease with Option to Purchase in order to memorialize the desired amendments.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the parties agree that the provisions of the Lease and the First Amendment are amended as follows:

Section 2. **TERM OF LEASE** is changed to: This lease shall be for a period of four (4) years. The initial term of this Lease commenced on January 1, 2019 and terminated on December 31, 2019. The second year of the Lease commenced on January 1, 2020 and will terminate on December 31, 2020 (second year). The third year of the Lease commenced on January 1, 2021 and will terminate on December 31, 2021 (third year). The fourth year of the Lease will commence on January 1, 2022 and will terminate on December 31, 2022 (fourth year). The term of this Lease shall expire upon the exercise of the Tenant's Option to Purchase as set forth in Section 18 of this Lease or upon the Tenant's exercise of the early termination provisions of the new Section 16.a., set forth herein.

Section 3. **RENT** is changed to: For the initial term of this Lease, Tenant shall pay rent to the Landlord in the amount of nine thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$9,000.00) per annum or seven hundred fifty and 00/100 Dollars (\$750.00) per month. For the second year, the third year, and the fourth year of this Lease, Tenant shall pay rent to the Landlord in the amount of twelve thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$12,000.00) per annum, or one thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per month. Monthly rent payments are due on the first of each month, in advance, payable to Landlord, to the attention of the Finance Department at the address set forth in above-referenced Lease or such other place that the Landlord may from time to time designate by written notice to the Tenant.

Section 16. **TERMINATION**. The first sentence is changed to: In the event the Tenant exercises the early termination provisions of Section 16.a., herein, or in the event the Tenant does not exercise the Option to Purchase as set forth in Section 18 of this Lease, the Tenant shall on the expiration or sooner termination of the Lease, surrender to the Landlord the Leased Premises, including all replacements, changes, additions, and improvements constructed or placed by the Tenant thereon, with all equipment in or appurtenant thereto, except all movable trade fixtures, including shelving and equipment, installed by the Tenant, broom clean, free of sub-tenancies, and in good condition and repair, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

Section 16.a. **EARLY TERMINATION OF LEASE**. At any time during the third year or fourth year of the Lease, Tenant may terminate the Lease, and any Amendments thereto, without penalty. Tenant shall provide Landlord with written notice of its intent to exercise the early termination provisions herein no less than 30 (thirty) days prior to the termination date.

Section 18. **OPTION TO PURCHASE**. The first sentence is changed to: As long as (i) this Lease is still in existence; and (ii) Tenant is not in default of any condition of the Lease or this Amendment; the Tenant shall have the option to purchase the Leased Premises (Option), including the buildings and improvements thereon, for a purchase price of One and 00/100 (\$1.00) Dollar (Option Price) upon written notice to Landlord no later than November 1, 2021 if during the third year or no later than November 1, 2022 if during the fourth year of this Lease.

All other terms, conditions and provisions of the Lease shall remain in full force and effect.

Town of Enfield

By: _____
Christopher W. Bromson
Town Manager

(date)

The Opera House Players, Inc.

By: _____
Joshua Prouser
Its President

(date)