

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022**

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Deputy Mayor Cekala on Monday, June 6, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

PRAYER- The prayer was given by Councilor Finger.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL-CALL- Present were Councilors Cekala, Despard, Finger, Hopkins, Ludwick, Mangini, Pyznar, Santanella and Unghire. Mayor Cressotti was absent. Also present were Town Manager, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu; Assistant Town Manager, Steven Bielenda; Town Attorney, James Tallberg; Director of Social Services, Cindy Guerrerri; Director of Public Works, Donald Nunes; Director of Finance, John Wilcox; Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey

FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT- Deputy Mayor Cekala made the fire evacuation announcement.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

MOTION #6263 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Pyznar to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2022, Special Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the chair declared **MOTION #6263** adopted 9-0-0.

MOTION #6264 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Santanella to accept the minutes of the May 16, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the chair declared **MOTION #6264** adopted 9-0-0.

SPECIAL GUESTS – Jackie Bosco, Joe Muller, Carl Sferrazza, Donna Szewczak

Deputy Mayor Cekala presented the four special guests with a framed print as a thank you for their past service. She also presented Jackie Bosco with a certificate of appreciation for Joey's 14 years of service and dedication to the town.

Councilor Ludwick said that the town is a better position and out front because of Joey. It is not the same without him.

Donna Szewczak thanked everyone for allowing her to serve in the Town of Enfield, 12 years as an elected official and 20 years in the school system.

Joe Muller thanked everyone for this honor.

Carl Sferrazza thanked Deputy Mayor Cekala and all the members of the Council. He also expressed gratitude to the people of Enfield.

Jackie Bosco thanked everyone, Joey would have been humbled by everything. He loved this town and everything he did, he did with integrity and respect.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Juliette Leith, 3 Katherine Rd.

Ms. Leith sent condolences to Councilor Finger. She came before the Council with a request that the Historical and Revolutionary War Pine Tree Flag be displayed on the Town Hall Building, especially for the month of July. Enfield is connected to the Revolutionary War. The Pine Tree Flag is a commemoration of the patriotism before and during the War. The flag led the troops into battle as they fought the war for America's freedom.

Kelly Hemmeler, 10 Hartford Ave.

Ms. Hemmeler thanked Ms. Leith for the history lesson and thanked Ms. Bosco for coming. She said that with the tax assessor issue, non-profits, farms, and residents have been greatly affected. The purpose of the Board of Assessment Appeals is to offer some relief to taxpayers. The Board is governed by state statute which states that the town tax office is not supposed to interfere. This year was more complicated because of the re-evaluation and because non-profits and farms were notified that they were losing their status. She said if she gives money to a non-profit, she doesn't expect that it will be paid to the town for taxes. Farms expect that their food grown be taxed at a lower rate. They grow much needed food and don't make a lot of money. The minutes of the proceedings that were on the website have disappeared, where did they go?

Ms. Hemmeler stated that the Republicans lost a giant two months ago. Joey Bosco is a loss to his family, friends, and the town. She said it is difficult thinking about someone taking his spot, but he would expect us to fill the vacancy. The Enfield Republicans did just that according to the bylaws about six weeks ago. The endorsed candidate is a good man and someone Joey knew very well. He will do his very best for Enfield. She asked the Council to vote yes for Jim Nasuta so District 1 can have their representation back.

Jason Walsh, 12 Weymouth Dr.

Mr. Walsh let the Council know he appreciates them all and thanked them for giving their time to serve. As a resident of District 1, he is concerned that Councilor Bosco's seat is still open. The Council was provided information about the endorsed candidate over a month ago. You said he wasn't a good fit and the questions he was asked were how he felt about Joe Biden stickers and teachers' conspiracies. That sounds political which is irrelevant. The endorsed candidate is much like Councilor Bosco, and everyone agrees Councilor Bosco earned that seat so why wouldn't you want someone to fill his seat that would be most like him? The fact that candidates were interviewed outside of District 1 is also concerning. It seems like you are disregarding the residents of District 1. It has been heard that members of this Council were reaching out on their own for people to fill Mr. Bosco's seat. If this Council is not unanimous in placing Mr. Nasuta in Mr. Bosco's seat, it stinks of politics. If politics is more important than the residents of the town, you should all be ashamed of yourselves. He hoped that the right decision is made.

Jonathan Grande, Spruceland Rd.

Mr. Grande stated that he also heard that Mr. Nasuta was interviewed and told he was not a good fit. Some of the questions he was asked were quite concerning, specifically about where he attends church. This borders on discrimination of someone's religious beliefs. Asking him what he believes teachers do and what their jobs are is not Town Council, it is BOE. Filling the shoes of Mr. Bosco is a big task, Jim will do a good job.

Mr. Grande also would like to know why some of the meetings were taken down from the appeals committee. It is his understanding that it is part of the rules/charter of the town. He requests that they be posted.

Peter Jonaitis, 3 Farmstead Circle

Mr. Jonaitis stated that the January 6th Committee down in D.C. is about to continue their "circus" in a couple days. There were no Republicans allowed to sit on that committee other than the ones Nancy Pelosi picked. This Town Council is basically doing the same thing by not picking the Republican Town Committee choice. He is upset as a District 1 resident over this. He said that some council members wanted to have a special election knowing darn well that that is not in the Town Charter.

Mr. Jonaitis hopes that the credit for the new train station platform is shared because it has been a long time coming.

Mr. Jonaitis stated that he truly admired Joey Bosco and Scott Kaupin. They both epitomize what a Town Councilor should be. All should aspire to be like them.

Jessica Bosco, 74 Town Farm Rd.

Ms. Bosco thanked everyone supportive of her father, Joe Bosco. She felt it is necessary to mention things her and her family don't like to see in forums or discussions. The first is the discussion of why my father did not step down. He did not step down because we had full faith that he would be coming back. He loved Enfield and loved being a Councilor. She also stated that they see everyone make comments about what he would do. Stop. No one knew her father; he had his integrity, respect, and passion for what he believed in. That is what he made decisions based on and only he knew what those would be. She said she would like to say sorry for the predicament you have landed in, but respectfully she will not. The loss of her father was devastating and whatever inconvenience you feel is incomparable. She thanked everyone who sees compassion and not inconvenience. Her family supports Jim Nasuta and states that he was well respected by her father.

Karen LaPlante, 166 North Maple Street

Ms. LaPlante is here as a private citizen and Chair of the Agricultural Commission. As a member she was acutely aware of the issues our farming community was facing considering the recent re-evaluation. The commission nor the farmers did not come before the Town Council when the evaluations were issued. The Commission brought in Joe Nichols from the CT Farm Bureau to discuss the Public Act 490 Program for farmers. All Council were aware of the meeting, some came. The Commission offered all Council members books on the laws of implementation of Public Act 490. It is known that the non-profits came before the Council individually and were re-evaluated and did not need to go through the process of the appeal. Farmers were assured that they should contact the Assessor for another look at their evaluations. This was only successful with a few and very detrimental to others. Some said after their meetings their numbers were increased, not decreased. There were Board of Appeals reports from April and decisions made in

May, these for some reason have been removed from the Town's website. She is appalled how citizens of this town were treated by the Tax Assessor.

Art Mullen, 80 Mullen Rd.

Mr. Mullen mentioned that in dealing with Colleen Reedy, Donald Nunes and Chief Fox, if they don't answer they always get right back to him. They are true professionals and are always respectful. He stated he was there to report on "see something, say something". He received his 2021-2022 Tax Assessment statement and there were changes that did not make sense so he called the Assessor Todd Helems and he did not return his call. His sister received one for the family farmland that did not make sense either. He attended the Agricultural meeting and learned that Helems had a reputation for going after farmers, converting their Public Act 490 land into higher tax uses. He has done this in 3 other towns and has been told that this is bad practice and in many cases against the law. He decided to appeal his tax assessment. The board informed him that he could record his session. The board said they would not be recording the session to create a relaxed session. They said the assessor would not be in attendance because they did not want him to feel intimidated. Then they went on and said by the way, the assessor is sitting behind you recording the session. The assessor never introduced himself or said anything, but instead gave him a stare down. The next morning, he called Chief Fox and reported it. He said he built his house in 2007 and nothing has changed, not even the curtains. He was surprised that his living space was increased by + 60%, from 1,512 sq. ft. to 2,478 sq. ft. Regarding the family farmland, Helems took it out of PA 490 and reclassified it with an increase of value of over \$150,000. The title and usage of this property has not changed. A week ago, he received a notice saying that the changes have been struck down and we are okay. He has heard some other bad situations and suggested that the Council look into the Goodwill Industries. He ended by saying keep the professionals and get rid of the bad apples.

Walter Kruzel, 21 Charnley Rd.

Mr. Kruzel put in a claim with the Board of Assessment Appeals. They did warn him that it was being recorded and it was professional. He seconded everything Ms. LaPlante mentioned. He noticed how things were removed from the website.

Mr. Kruzel mentioned that Mr. Nasuta is a very professional person. He had the pleasure of working with him on the Enfield High Building Committee. He should be appointed for Mr. Bosco's seat tonight.

Peter Jonaitis, 3 Farmstead Circle

Mr. Jonaitis wanted to thank the young lady that suggested that we hang the Pine Tree flag. There are a lot of cool things that happened in this town, and he suggested the Council and BOE look those things up.

Deputy Mayor Cekala declared Public Communications closed.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Pyznar thanked everyone who attended the Day of Reflection with her and Councilor Mangini. There were five spiritual leaders that attended as well as residents. A special thank you to Jean Acree who led with singing "America". Thank you to Liz Szewczak for reading a beautiful poem that she wrote.

Councilor Pyznar thanked Lucien Lefevre, Tony Torres, and the entire Memorial Day parade committee. It was well attended, and Enfield showed their respect for the veterans.

Councilor Pyznar expressed to Ms. Leith that her flag idea is wonderful. She stated that we need a policy for this. She has been getting calls about different flags. We need to form a committee and set parameters.

Councilor Pyznar said she emailed the Town Manager when she went on to re-read the assessment appeals report and it was gone. She hopes we get an answer as to why. She apologized as a Councilor to anyone who was put through anything uncomfortable or sketchy. That is not what Enfield is.

Councilor Mangini mentioned that as a member of the DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution, she is interested in the Pine Tree flag. She suggested getting together with Ms. Leith. She shared that a relative marched from New Haven, through Enfield and up to Boston in 1775 and he was a recipient of a pension.

Councilor Mangini mentioned that we were honored to have the presence of our CT delegation come to town last Thursday and announce that we will get around \$13 million for the train station platform. Murphy, Blumenthal, Lamont, and Courtney were all there.

Councilor Hopkins wanted to recognize all the work that was put in to get the train station funding here in Enfield.

Councilor Hopkins thanked everyone who worked on organizing the Memorial Day Parade and everyone who participated in it. The first recipient of the Purple Heart Medal was from Enfield. Elijah Churchill in 1782 received the medal designed by George Washington called the Badge of Merit which became the Purple Heart Medal.

Councilor Hopkins would like some more information about the Board of Appeals situation. If the minutes were taken down, if so, why?

Councilor Ludwick asked if and when Wilstar Road comes due in the referendum, if we could work with the Water Co. to see if they will pay us the money instead of doing the work, ripping up the road and then the work not being done for a few years. It makes a bad situation even worse. We did this with Campania Road about five years ago.

Councilor Ludwick stated that we need to get a handle on what has happened with the Board of Assessment Appeals. If farmers sell their land, it becomes industrial land. This is an issue that must be addressed. No one person should have the power to bankrupt someone over taxes. He has been getting calls since February. There is something here and we need to look into it.

Councilor Ludwick requested that we look at getting out of the "Emergency" status. We are the Constitution State. The purpose of the Constitution is to limit the government's power, not to tell you what your rights are.

Councilor Despard mentioned that in 1948 during Harriet Truman's Whistle Stop Tour it stopped here in Enfield at the old train station.

Councilor Despard too has some concerns with the Assessor's Office. We need to investigate this because it is not how we want to be treating our tax paying citizens.

Councilor Santanella shared that it is very exciting to see the train station coming into his district. He thanked everyone for their hard work with this project.

Councilor Finger wanted to thank Danny of Danny's Pizza. He recognized the Department of Public Works last week by handing out certificates for food.

Councilor Finger seconded everything Councilor Ludwick said about Wilstar Road.

Councilor Finger asked again for an update on the sidewalk crossings.

TOWN MANAGER AND COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu reported that a lot of residents received a notice Friday or over the weekend from Comstar, the billing agent for Enfield EMS, reporting that there may have been a security breach with people's personal data. They went back 10 years and at this time there is no indication that Enfield's data was breached. It is best practice to notify everyone. Anyone who wants can sign up for free for credit rating monitoring and identity theft monitoring.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu wanted to assure everyone that after the shooting in Texas, there have been diligent behind-the-scenes conversations between the Superintendent, Town Manager's Office, and Police Department about everything that happens here in Enfield. A lot of discrete, robust work has been done in the schools. This week there will be a joint meeting with the BOE on security issues.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that regarding the pandemic, at the 2-year mark of the resolution that was done by her predecessor, she has called it back. We are now officially out of emergency orders. She is going to check tomorrow to make sure we are officially filed with the Department of Emergency Management. She mentioned that boosters and vaccines are still being offered at the Senior Center.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that there are a lot of moving pieces with the Board of Assessment Appeals. We do have a new Assessor as of last June which was weeks before the re-evaluation process launched. It is also the year of quadrennial reports. The re-evaluation process is every 20 years. Every 20 years the re-evaluation and quadrennial coincide. The Tax Assessor's Office is understaffed compared to other towns. We are on extension for the Grand List, extension for re-evaluation, and we were just fined \$200 last week to the State of Connecticut. 77 properties have been removed from PA 490. 13 were returned to PA 490 status, 10 were noted as open space, 14 had no applications in the Assessor's Office, 4 the owner agreed that they did not belong, 11 did not have an updated application or a Forester's Report after a transfer of property, 25 were changed because a change of use. Out of that there were 64 accounts that were left out of the original 243 appeals. Of those, 28 were open space, no application, or the owner agreed with the change. She shared some the comments following the reviews. This affects people's livelihoods, and we take it with the utmost seriousness. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to bring these files back into compliance. We had competing documents that were posted, some of it handwritten or penciled in and hard to discern. She made the decision to pull both from the website so that we could gain clarity as to which document supersedes each, which one has the most reference, and which one is correct. The minutes are available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office according to FOI law. As soon as it is worked out it will be put back on the website. It is a two-way street and she stated that she will not tolerate anyone

casting aspersions on any town employee for any reason in a public forum without having that employee there or their advocates to speak for themselves. There are multiple sides to a story, and she does not think it was accurately represented tonight.

Councilor Ludwick stated that a conversation needs to happen, it can't wait. We have to let people tell their story, both sides. There needs to be a special meeting. The more it festers, there will be more conspiracy theories. It needs to be professionally addressed. The anger between the public and the Assessor needs to be figured out.

Councilor Ludwick stated that if Ms. Zoppo-Sassu pulled out of the Emergency status, it needs to be posted. It is a great decision that needs to be made public. He said if he has been sent an email already, he apologizes for missing it.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Councilor Mangini reported that the Fourth of July Committee has been meeting on a regular basis and the hard work and dedication of that group should be recognized. The parade and celebration are going to be great.

Deputy Mayor Cekala reported that the JFK Building Committee met last week. They are currently working on the former Admin./Library wing. They are hoping to have everything turned over by the start of the new school year. If the Council is interested, we can have the committee come in and do a final run through and presentation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Deputy Mayor Cekala said we will do Items 1-7 altogether.

Councilor Ludwick stated that he will not be supporting 4-7 because he did not support them at budget time.

Councilor Ludwick asked for clarification on the way it was written Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023. It says Fiscal Year 2022. Does that mean the money is available today or after July 1?

Director of Finance, John Wilcox stated that we now have a budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The adjustments made will be effective 7/1/22 for Fiscal Year 2023. Because of the referendum, some of the projects needed to be split over 2 years.

MOTION #6265 by Councilor Santanella, seconded by Councilor Pyznar to accept Consent Agenda 1-7.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **MOTION #6265** adopted 8-1-0.

TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTED

MOTION #6266 upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared Tanya Hughes (R) appointed to the Enfield Beautification Committee for a term that expires 12/31/2024, 8-0-0. Councilor Depard stepped out.

MOTION #6267 upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared Joanne Lynch (R) appointed to the Enfield Beautification Committee for a term that expires 12/31/2024, 8-0-0.

Item 3 remains tabled.

MOTION #6268 upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared Dean Gousse (R) appointed to the North Central District Health Department Board of Directors, Enfield Representative for a term that expires 6/30/2024, 9-0-0.

MOTION #6269 upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared Jason Walsh (R) re-appointed to the North Central District Health Department Board of Directors, Enfield Representative for a term that expires 6/30/2025, 9-0-0.

NOMINATION #6270 by Councilor Ludwick, seconded by Councilor Unghire to nominate Jim Nasuta for District 1 Councilor until 11/13/2023.

MOTION #6271 to close nominations by Councilor Ludwick, seconded by Councilor Unghire.

Councilor Mangini voiced her opinion that it is in poor taste and inconsiderate of the Council to put forward a candidate to replace Joey Bosco in the absence of the Mayor.

Council Ludwick stated that they had no idea that Mayor Cressotti was not going to be present. Also, when the late Red Edgar passed away, we replaced the seat with Bob Cressotti in less than a month.

Councilor Unghire stated that Jim Nasuta has been a member of the community for 33 years. He was in the CT Army National Guard for 10 years, the Wilson Volunteer Department for 10 years, Hazardville Volunteer Department for 10 years, Enfield Youth Hockey Director and coach for 8 years, Independent Electrical Contractors of New England Board of Directors and President for 11 years, Northeast Regional Director for 8 years, Board of Directors of CT Subcontractors Association, Enfield High Building Committee, authorized OSHA trainer and has been teaching 20 years in construction industry. He has values, integrity, and honesty and would be a perfect candidate for the seat.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **MOTION #6267** to close nominations adopted 9-0-0.

Councilor Hopkins stated that there were three applicants for this position. One was recommended by the Republican Town Committee and two applied on their own. We, as a Democratic Caucus, interviewed all three. No one was asked about their religion. One of the questions was, "Do you think Enfield teachers are grooming students"? There has been a recent conspiracy theory that there are a group of Enfield teachers who are pedophiles that are grooming children. There is no evidence of that. The reason they were asked that question was to make sure they would not engage in this kind of conspiracy. Mr. Nasuta did not deny

this issue, which is why he can't support him here. The other question was if they believe the last Presidential Election was legitimate. All three applicants said yes. He liked candidate three, candidate two does not live in district and he can't support Mr. Nasuta because of his concern.

Councilor Despard seconded what Councilor Hopkins said and added that he does not believe that these seats belong to political parties. He stated that the person we are considering right now was the least qualified of the three applicants. He will not support Mr. Nasuta. These situations need to be handled by a special election.

Councilor Finger disagreed with Councilor Mangini. We don't hold things back because members are not present. He is changing his vote tonight to Jim Nasuta.

Councilor Pyznar stated that the time it has taken to fill this vacancy for District 1 has taken way too long, mostly because the councilor we are replacing is irreplaceable. The reason she sits before everyone tonight is because of Joey; he encouraged her to run. He served Enfield without bias; he left politics at the door. He worked across party lines for 14 years. She has spoken with majority and minority caucuses, and she said let's just leave the seat empty. If we are going to play politics, leave it empty. In her time in politics in this town, five years, she has seen six vacancies and they were all filled within the time and filled with respect. She is appalled and asked why we can't just do what is right for the people in Enfield. She will vote for Jim Nasuta.

Councilor Mangini stated that they had a candidate for replacement years ago, Tom Arnone. He was blocked by the Republican side because he was a Democratic candidate to fill a seat. Tom had to go out and win his seat, which he did. She was not aware that this issue was coming forward tonight. There is no application in the packet, so she felt blind-sided. Lastly, she sticks to her point that the Mayor is not present.

Councilor Unghire mentioned that was in 2011 and he wasn't appointed because he had just lost the previous election a few months earlier. There were five other people that have stepped down and we have agreed and placed all those people in those seats. There is a process that we go through. The Republican Town Committee accepts applications, an executive committee goes through all the applications, and we come up with a candidate. When he was asked about the teachers, he said he would look into it. If you don't know the answer, you're going to say I'll look into it. There is no reason to hold that against a candidate with all these credentials.

Vice-Chair Cekala stated that she is in the middle as to where she stands on this. She has seen a lot of vacancies filled and this is not how they are filled. When we have had vacancies the majority party goes to the minority party and asks for three names. They will be interviewed, and we will let you know who we like. She seen names accepted and rejected by the majority party. She said they asked for months for more than one candidate and were told no. There were two other applicants but not endorsed by the Republican Committee. She does believe, however, that a Republican seat is a Republican seat.

Councilor Ludwick stated that they had a candidate back in April and that was our candidate. We have never interviewed three people for the two open positions that we appointed Bob to. One candidate, we interview and put him on the council. On record we did not ask for three candidates.

Councilor Unghire stated that she has full confidence in Deputy Mayor Cekala and conducting the vote.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **NOMINATION #6270** failed 4-5-0.

TOWN MANAGER APPOINTED/COUNCIL APPROVED – None.

P&Z COMMISSION APPOINTED/COUNCIL APPROVED – None.

RESOLUTION #6272 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

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

TO: Water Pollution Control

Other Equipment	21003350-573900	\$41,996
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FROM: Water Pollution Control

Shift	21003350-515100	\$4,300
Social Security (FICA)	21003350-522000	\$16,800
Medicare	21003350-522100	\$3,600
Tuition Reimbursements	21003350-525000	\$3,000
Construct. Related Services	21003350-535000	\$14,296

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 25, 2022.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6272** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6273 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Santanella.

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

TO: Town Attorney

Legal	10130000-533200	\$100,000
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FROM: General Fund

Employee Benefits	10800091-523000	\$100,000
Municipal Pension		

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 24, 2022.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Councilor Pyznar asked for status on the following properties.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu replied by saying:

- 11 Thompson Court is resolved and has been demolished
- 15 Debbie Lane motion was granted foreclosure by sale on May 19, sale date August 6
- 1 Knox is going to trial, no date set
- 43 Wheeler & 56 College are waiting final judgement from the court

Attorney Tallberg stated that of the \$100,000, \$17,500 is for outside council. \$75,000 is for Shipman & Goodwin for a federal subpoena.

Councilor Ludwick asked about Debbie Lane.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu said that is probably the next demolition.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6273** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6274 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Santanella.

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

TO: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Technology Services	24012100-533400	\$70,000
Technology Equipment	24012100-573400	\$79,000
Telephone Services	24012100-553100	\$20,000

FROM: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

Miscellaneous State Revenue 24040000-413699	\$169,000
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 20, 2022.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Paul Russell, IT stated that the money is being moved from a grant fund that we get reimbursed for.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6274** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6275 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VII Section II of the Town Charter the Enfield Town Council does hereby adopt the wage adjustment of the following position:

POSITION	SALARY PROPOSED
Senior Center Program Coordinator (effective June 6, 2022)	\$50,000

Steven Bielenda, Assistant Town Manager stated that this will not affect the mill rate or fiscal budget. There was a \$75,000 surplus in the library budget. We need to retain this employee. The Senior Center is going through accreditation and she is the only employee that has institutional knowledge going back to the accreditation process. It is a difficult market in retaining employees.

Councilor Hopkins wanted to know where the \$75,000 was going.

Mr. Bielenda said it was only around \$10,000 being taken to increase the salary to \$50,000.

Councilor Ludwick asked what we are getting accredited for.

Mr. Bielenda stated that there is an agency state or national that accredits Senior Centers. It gives a seal of approval that we meet certain standards.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6275** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6276 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

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

TO: Senior Center

Salaries	22505520-51000	\$9,685
Stipends	22505520-516000	\$291
Social Security	22505520-522000	\$601
Medicare	22505520-522100	\$141

FROM: Senior Center

Appropriated Fund Balance	22505520-499000	\$10,718
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 27, 2022.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6276** adopted 8-0-0, Councilor Ludwick having left the room.

RESOLUTION #6277 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

WHEREAS, Chapter III, Section II of the Town Charter states that the council shall annually designate an independent public accountant or firm to audit the books and accounts of the Town and

WHEREAS, the Director of Finance solicited and reviewed bids for such services and therefore recommends the appointment of the firm CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to audit the town's accounts for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby designate the audit firm CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to audit the town's accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, in accordance with the above recommendation.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6277** adopted 8-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6278 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hopkins.

MOTION #6279 to waive the reading by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hopkins.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **MOTION #6279** adopted 9-0-0.

Councilor Hopkins stated this came out of a recent Blight Review meeting. They are looking to reduce the fines to one-third the amount.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6278** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6280 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on June 6, 2022 to allow interested citizens an opportunity to express their opinion regarding which programs shall be included on The Town of Enfield's application under the provisions of the "Neighborhood Assistance Act"; and

WHEREAS, three proposals were submitted by the Hazardville Institute Conservancy Society, Inc (1) and the Opera House Players, Inc. (2); and

WHEREAS, the following are acceptable to the Enfield Town Council within the guidelines for proposed programs under the "Neighborhood Assistance Act".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town of Enfield's 2022 proposed program applications be submitted to the State of CT Department of Revenue under the provisions of the "Neighborhood Assistance Act" and shall consist of the proposals identified in the preceding paragraph.
2. The Enfield Town Manager is hereby authorized to submit these applications to the State Department of Revenue, and to approve any donations received as a result of the application.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6280** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6281 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Hopkins.

WHEREAS, in March 1982, the Enfield Town Council authorized the town to execute a promissory note in the amount of \$16,000 to North Central CT Mental Health Systems, Inc. and place a lien on property located at 1077 Enfield Street; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield placed a lien on the property located at 1077 Enfield Street in 1982; and

WHEREAS, after extensive physical and accounting research, we found no documentation that a loan was advanced nor that a receivable ever existed to support the lien; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield wishes to release the lien.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby approve release of the lien on property located at 1077 Enfield Street.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu commented that the successor of Mental Health Systems is CHR.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6281** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6282 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Unghire.

RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby cancel the Regular Meetings of the Council scheduled for July 18, 2022 and August 15, 2022.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6282** adopted 9-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6283 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Unghire.

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield wishes to create a Senior Tax Relief Committee comprised of five (5) residents of the Town, for a one-year term; and

WHEREAS, the Town currently participates in a State Senior and Disabled Tax Relief program under Connecticut General Statute section 12-170aa. This two-year program that had 486 applicants during the 2019 and 2020 Grand List years. Although this program should be reimbursed by the state, during the period for the 2019 and 2020 Grand List, the Town did not receive State reimbursement and paid approximately \$300,000 through its budget to cover this program obligation. The Town has adopted a parallel program that closely matches the State program, so the Town obligation has been a total of approximately \$600,000 for the time period stated; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statute section 12-129n allows the Town, at its discretion, to adopt and additional Senior and Disabled Tax Relief program to be funded completely through the Town Budget. As required by the Statute, a five member committee shall be formed to study and investigate a Town sponsored program and to report the fiscal effect of such a program on the Town's tax revenue, and recommend the form and extent of the tax relief program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council hereby does create a Senior Tax Relief Committee pursuant to Connecticut General Statute section 12-129n, to study and investigate for a Town sponsored senior and disabled tax relief program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Committee will consult with Town Staff to discuss the fiscal impact of the program.

Councilor Ludwick wants to know how these five members will know what tax relief is appropriate and what is not.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that you are allowed to form this committee by state law, whereas some of the creative conversations we had over the course of the budget were not enabled by state legislation.

Councilor Ludwick asked if we could take a look at Senior housing in town.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu did not know the answer to that, but she will take a look and find out.

Deputy Mayor Cekala shared that she thinks this is a great idea, it was discussed in leadership.

Councilor Mangini asked how we were soliciting residents to apply for this position.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that there were names brought forward by both political affiliations. They can apply in the online application and there will most likely be a press release.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Vice-Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6283** adopted 9-0-0.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING - None.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Donna Szewczak, 35 South Rd.

Ms. Szewczak clarified that Republicans have always sent forward one candidate. They have always interviewed their candidates. She has been involved in six of them and one BOE. When Red passed, we put Bob in within two weeks. Bob was the chosen candidate, he went in. She said Councilor Mangini has an axe to grind over Tom from years ago. When Councilor Sarno resigned, there was an endorsed candidate and an applied candidate. We chose the endorsed. When Bill Kiner stepped down, we put Bob back in again. This three-candidate business has never happened. You wonder why people don't volunteer; this is why. Tonight, she is ashamed of what happened.

Walter Kruzel, 11 Charnley Rd.

Mr. Kruzel paid respect to Councilor Finger for his loss.

Mr. Kruzel stated that it has always been one candidate, not three, and he named a bunch of circumstances. He said shame on all of you. He stated that after the Pledge of Allegiance, he used to say God Bless America and now he says God Bless Enfield and today it is God Help Enfield.

Vice-Chair Cekala declared Public Communications closed.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Finger mentioned the Boy Scout in the back and said if he is here to earn a badge, he gets two.

Councilor Mangini wanted to recognize an event that most of them attended, the Proclamation for Pride Month. It was a forum of unity for the people of Enfield.

Councilor Pyznar wanted to remind everyone what Joey Bosco's daughter said tonight in saying that Jim Nasuta was someone her father wanted in that seat. She asked for everyone to reflect on that.

Councilor Unghire thanked Donna and Walter for their kind words and wisdom.

MOTION #6284 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Despard.

Upon a SHOW-OF-HANDS vote being taken, the Vice-chair declared MOTION #6284 adopted and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey
Clerk of the Council
Town Clerk

Tina Demers
Secretary to the Council

ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Resolution Accepting Donation from UCONN People Empowering People

WHEREAS, the University of Connecticut People Empowering People program wishes to donate fifteen (15) dogwood trees to be planted in Thompsonville; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statute §7-148(c)(3)(A) permits the Town to accept gifts of personal property for municipal purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council does accept these donations from the University of Connecticut.

Date Prepared: May 23, 2022
Prepared by: Town Manager's Office



TOWN OF ENFIELD

May 25, 2022

Honorable Members
Enfield Town Council
Enfield, Connecticut

Subject: Request for Transfer of Funds for Other Equipment - \$5,709

Councilors:

Highlights:

- The Water Pollution Control Division's shift account is anticipated to end the current fiscal year with a surplus of at least \$5,709. Since the pandemic acquiring chemicals in bulk is no longer an option as most of our chemicals now arrive in totes. We are currently using a manual pallet jack that requires four operators to move the totes around inside the buildings. Depending on the type of chemical these totes can weigh as much as 3,000 pounds. Purchasing a new electric pallet jack will reduce the number of operators required to complete this task and eliminate the risks of potential injury to the staff from manually moving the extremely heavy chemical totes. The Water Pollution Control Division needs additional funding for Other Equipment. The Department of Public Works respectfully requests that the Council transfer the surplus funds in the Water Pollution Control Shift account to the Other Equipment account.

Budget Impact:

There will be no impact on the town budget.

Recommendation:

That the Town of Enfield Town Council approve the attached resolution of authorization.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Nunes
Director, Department of Public Works

Attachments:

1. Resolution.

**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: Public Works Water Pollution Control

Other Equipment	21003350-573900	\$5,709
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FROM: Public Works Water Pollution Control

Shift	21003350-515100	\$5,709
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 25, 2022.



John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

5/26/22

Date:

APPROVED BY: 

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager

5/31/22

Date:



TOWN OF ENFIELD

May 27, 2022

Honorable Members
Enfield Town Council
Enfield, Connecticut

**Subject: Requests for Transfer of Funds for American Rescue Plan Projects from
Budget Deliberations – FY22 and FY23**

Resolution to Carry Forward American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations

Councilors:

Highlights:

- During budget deliberations, we identified several projects and assets from the capital improvement plan to be funded from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA).
- Due to the town charter requirements and estimated cost, some of these projects need to be appropriated in multiple fiscal years. Accordingly, we have attached 1 transfer for fiscal year 2022 and another for fiscal year 2023.
- In addition to the charter requirements, some of the projects that have been and will be approved for ARPA funding will take longer than a year to complete. We have also attached a resolution to allow us to carry unspent funds to next fiscal year until the funds are spent or the project is complete.

Budget Impact:

There will be no impact on the town budget.

Recommendation:

That the Town of Enfield Town Council approve the attached resolution of authorization.

Respectfully Submitted,

John A. Wilcox, CPA
Director of Finance

Attachments:

1. Resolutions (3).

**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.

Fiscal Year 2022

TO: COVID – 19 Fund

DPW Fuel Tank Replacement

24508219-533900 \$539,000

FROM: COVID – 19 Fund

Revenue – Grants-COVID-Federal

24540000-460004 \$539,000

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 27, 2022.



John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

5/27/22

Date:

APPROVED BY: 

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager

5/31/22

Date:

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.

Fiscal Year 2023

TO: COVID – 19 Fund

Barnard School Parking Lot – Construction Srv	24508218-545000	\$608,000
DPW Fuel Tank Replacement – Construction Srv	24508219-545000	\$511,000
Town Hall Bathroom Renov – Construction Srv	24508220-545000	\$350,000
Dump Truck – Highway - Vehicles	24508221-573200	\$260,694
Side Load Refuse Truck (2) - Vehicles	24508222-573200	\$696,592
Front Load Refuse Truck (1) - Vehicles	24508223-573200	\$362,075
Enfield Street Sprinkler System – Construction Srv	24508224-545000	\$ 80,000
Brainerd Park Field Lighting – Construction Srv	24508225-545000	\$132,000
Alcorn Boilers – Steam Piping – Construction Srv	24508226-545000	\$200,000
DPW Fleet Garage Skylight/Roof – Construction Srv	24508227-545000	\$150,000
Salt Shed Roof Replacement – Construction Srv	24508228-545000	\$150,000
DPW Generator/Transfer Switch – Machinery/Equip	24508229-573100	\$185,000
Town Hall Exterior Paint/Millwork – Construction Srv	24508230-545000	\$125,000
Town Hall Gutter Relining – Construction Srv	24508231-545000	\$ 30,000
Bulky Waste Compactor – Machinery/Equip	24508232-573100	\$250,000
Police Vehicles - Vehicles	24508233-573200	\$791,000
Powder Hollow Baseball Fields	24508234-545000	\$270,000
Midi Excavator – Machinery/Equip	24508235-573100	\$140,000
Ground Master 16' Mower – Machinery/Equip	24508236-573100	\$125,000

FROM: COVID – 19 Fund

Revenue – Grants-COVID-Federal	24540000-460004	\$5,416,361
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CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of
May 27, 2022.



John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

5/27/22
Date: _____

APPROVED BY: 

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager

5/31/22
Date: _____

ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION TO CARRY FORWARD AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT
APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Enfield has received funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Town Council has appropriated and will appropriate these funds for projects that may take longer than a fiscal year to complete, and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to maintain the availability of these funds until these projects are completed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Enfield Finance Department is authorized to carry unspent ARPA appropriations forward into subsequent fiscal years until the projects are completed.

Date Prepared: May 27, 2022
Prepared by: Finance Department



TOWN OF ENFIELD

May 27, 2022

Honorable Members
Enfield Town Council
Enfield, Connecticut

Subject: Requests for Transfers of Funds for Enfield Street School Parking Lot and B&G Storage Building as Discussed in Budget Deliberations – FY22 and FY23

Councilors:

Highlights:

- During budget deliberations, we identified the Enfield Street School parking lot as a project that can be funded by reallocating the budget from the Alden Avenue Gym which is no longer going to be acquired.
- Due to the town charter requirements and estimated cost, this project needs to be appropriated in multiple fiscal years. Accordingly, we have attached 1 transfer for fiscal year 2022 and another for fiscal year 2023.
- During budget deliberations, we also identified the additional funds needed for the B&G Storage Building as a project that can be funded by reallocating funds previously appropriated for the Train Station Platform. The train platform is being built by the State of Connecticut.

Budget Impact:

There will be no impact on the town budget.

Recommendation:

That the Town of Enfield Town Council approve the attached resolution of authorization.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John A. Wilcox".

John A. Wilcox, CPA
Director of Finance

Attachments:

1. Resolutions (2).

**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.

Fiscal Year 2022

TO: Capital and Nonrecurring Fund

School Paving – Construction Services	31008501-545000	\$689,000
B&G Storage Building	31008206-545000	\$670,000

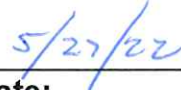
FROM: Capital and Nonrecurring Fund

Alden Ave Gym – Construction Services	31008203-545000	\$689,000
Train Station Platform	31008192-545000	\$670,000

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 27, 2022.



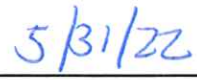
John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance



Date:

APPROVED BY: 

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager



Date:

