

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Cressotti on Monday, January 23, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

PRAYER – The Prayer was given by Councilor Mangini.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL-CALL – Present were Councilors Cekala, Cressotti, Despard, Finger, Hopkins, Ludwick, Mangini, Nelson, Pyznar, Santanella, and Unghire. Also present were the Town Manager, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu; Assistant Town Manager, Steven Bielenda; Assistant Town Attorney, Mark Cerrato; Director of Finance, John Wilcox; Police Chief, Alaric Fox; and Town Clerk, Sheila M. Bailey.

FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT – Chairman Cressotti made the fire evacuation announcement.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

MOTION #6472 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Unghire to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 9, 2023.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6472** adopted 11-0-0.

SPECIAL GUESTS – Overview of Traffic Issues – Chief Fox

Enfield Chief of Police Alaric Fox presented Enfield Police Department data for 2022. He stated that in 2022 the Enfield Police took 38,404 calls for service averaging 105.2 calls per day which is a significant commitment of resources. There were 1705 arrests in that figure. In 2022 there were:

65	Burglaries
16	CREST Activations
240	Domestic Violence Incidents
98	DUI Arrests
214	Frauds
721	Larcenies
1	Murder
804	Accidents (1 Fatal, 154 Injury, 510 Property, 139 Evading
391	Protective Custody
42	Sexual Assaults
43	Narcotics
7	Opioid Overdose Deaths
118	Narcotic Investigations

There were 6,337 (17.36 per day) motor vehicle traffic stops. He shared a list of streets in town where more enforcement has been requested. He stated that there are currently 63 requested areas where extra enforcement has been requested. He discussed the concerns on Abbe Road, stating that there were 47 traffic stops on Abbe Road in 2022.

It is Chief Fox's intention to shift an officer from the Patrol Division into the Traffic Division in March of this year. As soon as they reach full staffing levels, he will have more flexibility with personnel allotment. The Traffic Division has one supervisor and three officers.

Chief Fox talked about wrong-way drivers. He stated that there are three types of wrong-way drivers: elderly, lost, or intoxicated. Officers never get on the highway going the wrong way to try to catch up to the wrong-way driver. Some ideas for solutions are variable message boards, improved signage, flashing lights, rumble strips, wrong-way spikes, and highway sensors to alert in real time.

Councilor Finger thanked Chief Fox and all the Enfield police officers for all that they do and pointed out that they are not just sitting inside the police station waiting for a call. He gave an example where a tree fell at the transfer station on a power line and two officers were pulled to sit there for a total of eight hours until the power line was fixed to ensure public safety.

Councilor Mangini also thanked the police department for what they have done for this town. She was concerned that an officer would come off patrol to go into the traffic division. She suggested including all the department's needs in the upcoming budget so that the department could be fully staffed to handle every situation.

Councilor Hopkins asked about CREST and whether we get reimbursement from the state.

Chief Fox stated that CREST is the Capital Region Emergency Services Team. We do not get reimbursed for this, but it is the ultimate in mutual aid between towns.

Councilor Ludwick asked if traffic enforcement concerns are able to be addressed during regular time or overtime. He also mentioned that in his opinion both the speed readers and officers sitting at stop signs are effective. He also believes a speed bump is needed on Abbe Road because of how dangerous the speeding there is. Chief Fox responded that traffic enforcement is not an overtime assignment. Most of the violations occur during straight time by traffic personnel or patrol personnel. When the traffic sergeant gets a complaint, he/she puts up the speed trailer to capture data to ascertain what the issue could be.

Councilor Nelson asked if the department is at full roster right now. He suggested bringing back two extra positions so there would be officers waiting in the pipeline to fill a spot when needed. He would like to see that considered at budget time.

Councilor Unghire asked if everyone on the Council could get a copy of the traffic calming scenarios that were discussed during the Public Safety Committee.

Councilor Despard commented on how incredible it is that there were forty-two lives saved by Narcan, yet how terrible that this must be done. He mentioned that the Council has some things in the works to talk about and highlight the opioid crisis.

Chairman Cressotti thanked Chief Fox for sharing the traffic statistics in town. He mentioned that we may have to discuss roundabouts as a way of slowing down traffic. He also mentioned that the Department of Transportation has a program that is examining on and off ramps in town.

Councilor Ludwick asked if the State Police are involved in highway enforcement on Route 91. He commented that he never sees state police up this way. Chief Fox responded by saying yes, the highway is state police jurisdiction. He explained that the resources tend to fold in on the most densely populated areas which are near Hartford. This causes a cascading effect. Often, Enfield provides mutual aid and is the first responder to a highway crash until the state police arrive.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Scott Bertrand, Enfield Housing Authority

Mr. Bertrand came to the Council meeting to ask that Item F be tabled. He had several conversations with the Town Manager and feels that some information may have been missing.

Gary Young, Abbe Road

Mr. Young thanked Chief Fox for his time and his presentation. He thanked Mayor Cressotti and Deputy Mayor Cekala for addressing his concerns about the traffic on Abbe Road and other traffic safety issues. The traffic enforcement presence was noticed this past weekend. He understands that this is not an overnight fix but wanted to thank Chief Fox and the department for their efforts. We all need to be vigilant with our own driving habits and realize our younger generation is watching. He witnessed first-hand two cars getting on an exit ramp the wrong way. He mentioned that biking and pedestrian accidents are up 5% in 2021-2022. He is open to traffic calming ideas such as solar speed signs and changing to brighter, more noticeable speed signs. He would like to see the sidewalk installation back on the PAR report.

Ronke Stallings, 22 Middle Road

Ms. Stallings stated that she would no longer stay silent. She said that she and her family have been bullied by Enfield staff since 2016. A bully is a person who intentionally seeks to harm or intimidate those who are vulnerable. The acts of Karen Edelson, Senior Operations Manager for Social Services, Lisa Zoziak, Accounting Clerk, Dawn Homer, former Director of Social Services, and Bryan Chodkowski, former Town Manager, have had a stomach-churning effect on her family. She and her husband have enrolled three children into the ECDC Program in Enfield. They were encouraged by Lisa and Karen to apply for the sliding scale fee because they met the income qualifications for their family size. Since 2012 they have never missed a payment.

She found out that Karen and Lisa were privately investigated in 2015 and put on administrative leave without pay for five days for questionable and inconsistent accounting practices. One day in November

2016 when she picked her youngest child up, there was a notice in the diaper bag citing that at the end of the week, which was in three days, she would have to pay \$13,000 to keep her children in the program. She is tired of her family name being tarnished publicly for something they did not do. She pleaded with the Council to investigate what she is saying and help her find peace. She is tired of being persecuted by two people who get to sit in their positions and abuse town funds.

Chairman Cressotti declared Public Communications closed.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Cekala attended the JFK dedication ceremony and walk-through on January 12th. She said the building is beautiful, high tech, state-of-the-art, and clean. She thanked the Building Committee for all their hard work and volunteer hours. We now have a brand-new high school and middle school, and she can't wait to see what's next.

Councilor Finger shared that last week the town lost another DPW employee, Ronald Smith. He was a 41-year employee of the town. He was the spokesperson on the life-size banner holding the recycling can. He and a few others helped get the town on track with recycling by going to each school and educating students. The calling hours are this Wednesday at Browne's Funeral Home from 4:00-7:00pm.

Councilor Finger asked for help for Ms. Stallings and her family. He was informed that it is a court case, so the Council is unable to do anything at this point. He told her to be strong and stay tough. He hopes everything works out for her.

Councilor Nelson added for clarification that if it is in litigation, the Council can't comment due to the Charter. He would like to make a motion to go into executive session after tonight's meeting, because the family needs help now and he would like to be updated on the case.

MOTION #6473 by Councilor Nelson, seconded by Councilor Finger to go into executive session at the end of the meeting to receive an update on the Stallings case.

Assistant Town Attorney, Mark Cerrato stated that the case is not being handled in his office. It is being handled by Attorney Gary Crane out of Farmington.

Councilor Nelson stated that Ms. Stallings brought up employee issues and people being suspended for five days. He thinks the Council has a right to know the merit of those accusations.

Councilor Mangini stated that she will not support going into executive session because this is the first time that she has heard of this situation, and it could expose the town to litigation. She said it could possibly compromise the defendant's position in court.

Councilor Hopkins wanted a comprehensive update this week, but he too, is unsure if the Council has the ability to do so in the current meeting.

Steven Bielenda, Assistant Town Manager, stated that if the Council is going to talk about an employee in an executive session, that person has the right to be there to defend themselves.

Councilor Santanella asked the Town Manager if they would be ready to discuss this tonight. If they do not have the resources to do this, he sees no reason to try to go into executive session. He does agree that the Council needs to seek clarification.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu responded that they can't do this without notifying the employee. She also stated that it would require an affirmative two-thirds vote to go into executive session.

Chairman Cressotti does not know if it is necessary to vote on the motion due to the lack of information as this dates back to 2012.

Councilor Nelson stated that not one single council member knows anything about this, and they should. The Council used to be updated on all pending litigation.

Councilor Cekala stated that this sounds like a collections issue and the Council does not get updates in executive session on these types of matters.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6473** failed 5-6-0. Councilors Cekala, Cressotti, Despard, Hopkins, Santanella, and Mangini voted against.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Mangini mentioned that several of Councilors attended the Opera House Players' open house. They have some great shows coming up.

Councilor Unghire mentioned that the JFK ceremony was great. She also congratulated the police department's promotions of Sergeant Austin and Sergeant Pulverini.

She hopes to get more information for the Stallings and sends her condolences to the Smith family.

Chairman Cressotti stated that the state has updated many laws regarding the Fair Rent Commission. He also stated that the town has an ordinance that needs to be updated by July 1, 2023.

Chairman Cressotti proposed to the Council that they have another community conversation about opioid and drug use to provide updates to the community.

Chairman Cressotti wanted to submit into the record a letter from resident Pat Crowley of 32 Alden Avenue who could not attend the meeting. The letter was about the devastating fire at Grey's Club. They have sponsored youths and individuals in sports for about 100 years. The club has been a positive influence for many sports organizations. He is encouraging the state, the town, and individuals to help continue the legacy of the club and help rebuild, restructure, or relocate the club. Chairman Cressotti

mentioned that the Gray's Club will be a guest at the February 6, 2023 meeting. A copy of the letter is appended to these minutes.

Chairman Cressotti mentioned the Diversity Committee should be kicking off on January 30, 2023 and he believes all the members have been sworn in.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu made a presentation which is appended to the minutes.

John Wilcox, Director of Finance, stated that the budget should be consistent year to year unless there is an outside explanation. He mentioned that our tax collections are down a little from last year by .47%. Actual number of expenditures relating to budget have increased. He stated that they don't budget increases in salaries when it comes to union contracts. There were three contracts that expired June 2022 and the biggest one expired June 2021, but those remain flat in the budget.

Councilor Hopkins asked what goes into the line item of celebrations. Mr. Wilcox answered that the biggest one is the Fourth of July Celebration.

Councilor Hopkins then asked about the debt service. Mr. Wilcox stated that we are around \$13 million in the 2027-2028 timeframe with the projects we currently funded.

Mr. Bielenda gave a briefing on COVID cases. There has been an uptick in the EMS Department in the last couple of weeks. There were also a few in DPW, a few in Library and a sprinkling in other departments, probably due to gatherings around the holidays. They are seeing a downtick in the number of cases of RSV.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #6474 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Cekala to approve the Consent Agenda.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6474** adopted 6-5-0. Councilors Finger, Unghire, Pyznar, Ludwick, and Nelson voted against. Copies of the resolution are appended to these minutes.

-Transfer funds for Enfield Cultural and Arts Commission \$8,732.

APPOINTMENTS/TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTED – None.

Chairman Cressotti stated that if the referral from the Public Safety Committee to the Town Attorney for the removal of the Aggressive Dog's Ordinance and relocation of animal waste language to another ordinance passes, there will need to be a public hearing held. This will be combined with the massage therapy ordinance and a couple others instead of having several separate public hearings.

RESOLUTION #6475 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Cekala.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes applicable town staff to commence with the necessary steps for the repeal of Town Code sections 10-51 through 10-56, inclusive.

Councilor Ludwick stated that this looks like we are getting rid of our ordinance to follow state law. He stated that at the time of the complaint, residents were told we were following state law, and nothing was being done. Ms. Zoppo-Sassu explained that they are amending the ordinance to follow state law but will be retaining a small piece of the ordinance.

Councilor Despard stated that the town ordinance is not in line with state statute, so it is not legal. The animal control officers were already following state law, so our ordinance was not being used. Councilor Ludwick had the information in front of him and stated that it did not look like they were following state law. Ms. Zoppo-Sassu responded that the Columbia Road issue had a lot of calls to the police but not a lot of final reports, so the threshold was never reached according to state law. The Columbia Road situation has worked itself out. She stated that the steps they are taking right now are what is needed for future enforcement.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6475** adopted 10-1-0. Councilor Ludwick voted against.

RESOLUTION #6476 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Cekala.

WHEREAS, the Enfield Police Department is purchasing two (2) motorcycles; and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Police Department will need a qualified vendor that is located close to Enfield and has the ability to provide repairs and maintenance in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, Max BMW Motorcycles has been identified as the only organization in the region that sells, services, and maintains these motorcycles.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section 8, Paragraph (d) of the Enfield Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby determine that it is against the best interests of the town to require competitive bidding for the purchase of the motorcycles.

Chief Fox stated that a bid waiver is all that is in front of the Council at this time. Councilor Pyznar mentioned that usually when they do a bid waiver, they can see what the motorcycles will cost and what effect it will have on the budget. Chief Fox stated there is no impact on the budget because they are

being purchased out of the Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds. He was not aware that he needed to include a dollar amount for a bid waiver and if that was an error, he apologized.

Councilor Finger stated that he researched the BMW bike and he said they are around \$25,000 depending on what bells and whistles you get. You can get a five-year warranty when you purchase the bike to include maintenance and repairs. He wanted to know if that was something that would be part of the purchase. Chief Fox stated that he only acquired purchase prices for BMWs, Hondas, and Harleys without service plans. He stated that the prices are best with the BMW package.

Councilor Finger asked about the Harleys that we still have sitting in the garage.

Chief Fox stated that they are still used. They are 2006 bikes, 17 years old, that are in serviceable but less than ideal condition. The new bikes would supplement the other two bikes. He mentioned that he has four certified motorcycle operators. When the town has parades and the Fourth of July Celebration, the best way to provide traffic control services is with a two-wheeled vehicle. There was a time in the past when they had to rely on out-of-town motorcycles for our own Fourth of July Celebration.

Councilor Finger stated that he will have to abstain from the vote because he believes it is too scary out there in this day and age for people to be on bikes, including officers.

Councilor Nelson asked what the price difference was between the BMWs and the Harleys. Chief Fox stated that the BMWs are \$20,145, the Harleys are \$23,795, and the Hondas are \$25,131. The price difference between BMWs and Harleys multiplied by two is \$7,300. He added that the BMWs get better fuel mileage and they can go off-road. The BMWs are also physically lighter and do not run as hot. The BMWs also come with a light package included and the Harleys do not. The BMWs would only need the Enfield radio installed. The Harleys would need lighting and radio installed, which would cost an additional \$10,179.

Councilor Nelson stated that he was around when they first discussed bringing motorcycles to Enfield and the Harleys came out on top as far as performance throughout the country. He stated that with the light package and everything included, he will have to agree with Chief Fox on this decision.

Councilor Santanella asked for clarification that if the department is using federal money to purchase the bikes did it really matter which bike was purchased. He asked whether they have a spending limit and if there was any potential of it impacting the town budget. Chief Fox stated that there would never be an impact on the budget. The money that is in the Federal Asset Forfeiture Fund is used for legitimate department expenses and there is enough money in there to purchase both bikes.

Councilor Hopkins thanked Chief Fox for coming and justifying the bid waiver and he agrees with the bid waiver in this case.

Chairman Cressotti is in favor of the bid waiver. He pointed out that the motorcycles on state contract were more expensive and these bikes are from a local shop that would be easy access for repairs and maintenance. He asked about training for spills and would these bikes be used for that.

Chief Fox stated that these new bikes would not be used for training with dumping a bike. Typically, officers are sent to Hartford to do their training and they bring our bikes. He said the Harleys have been dropped in training and that is the split that he would make with the two. They will not be dumping the BMWs. Councilor Ludwick asked for clarification because you have to dump the bike to get certified. Chief Fox said they would be dumping the Harleys or a training motorcycle if one is made available by the Hartford Police Department.

Councilor Ludwick appreciated Chief Fox being there but he does not think the department needs the motorcycles so he will be voting no.

Councilor Nelson asked what the balance was in the Asset Forfeiture Fund. Chief Fox stated that the balance was around \$100,000, so after the purchase it will be around \$60,000. He submitted a report to the Town Manager that can be made available to the Council.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6476** adopted 9-1-1. Councilor Finger abstained, and Councilor Ludwick voted against.

RESOLUTION #6477 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Nelson.

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

FROM: Police

Salaries-Part Time	10200500-512000	\$89,596
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TO: Police

Professional Development	10200500-532200	\$40,900
Uniforms	10200500-565000	\$38,700
Health Services	10200500-533300	\$9,996

Certification: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of January 18, 2023.

/s/ John Wilcox, Director of Finance

Councilor Mangini asked if bullet-proof vests were included in the uniforms. She also asked about the use of bullet-proofs for the canines. Chief Fox stated yes, they are issued with the uniform, and they are replaced every five years. Chief Fox said the use of bullet-proof vests for the canines is a case-by-case situation because when the bullet-proof vest is on, the dog loses speed and agility.

Councilor Ludwick asked for more detail about the part-time salary funds. Chief Fox clarified that the part-time salary account funds two community service aids and crossing guards. He is under-utilizing

community service aids, so he has money in the account. One community service aid left employment so there was a gap in that area and the other community service aid, Captain Matt Belgian from the Auxiliary Core, comes in his auxiliary uniform and typically does not bill the town.

Councilor Hopkins asked if this was from that pool of money exclusively. Chief Fox stated that it is all Police Department budget where it is one resource to another resource.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6477** adopted 11-0-0.

MOTION #6478 by Councilor Cekala, seconded by Councilor Mangini to table Item F, the recommendation from Public Works Sub-Committee to implement transitioning the Enfield Housing Authority from tipper barrel pick-up to dumpsters for the EHA facilities.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6478** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6479 by Councilor Nelson, seconded by Councilor Cekala.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Tow Council does hereby receive the draft Plan of Conservation and Development from the Planning and Zoning Commission and will schedule a Public Hearing to receive comments from the public for Monday, February 13, 2023, at 6:00pm at the JFK Middle School, 155 Raffia Road in Enfield.

Councilor Pyznar asked for clarification that the 65-day clock started on the 12th and will not start at the public hearing. She would like to make sure that this is publicized because she said it is important for residents to come out as this is the document for the next ten years. She encouraged residents to get a copy, either at the Town Hall or off their computers.

Councilor Hopkins agreed that this should get out to the public in an easily accessible way because it is a big deal. This only gets updated every ten years.

Councilor Ludwick asked for a copy of the resolution, he did not have it.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu said that the JFK location was just confirmed today which is why leadership got the motion and it wasn't included in their packets.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6479** adopted 11-0-0.

RESOLUTION #6480 by Councilor Cekala, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council and the Board of Education pursue the Waiver of Funds remaining on the amortization repayment schedule in order to pursue a re-use of Nathan Hale School at 5 Taylor Road and refer an 8-24 referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilor Ludwick asked what is actually being referred. There is no plan in front of them with numbers or potential deals.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that what is being referred is whether or not the P&Z is in favor of us leasing or selling Nathan Hale School.

Councilor Ludwick thinks that this is being done backwards and they should wait until there is a deal in place so he will be voting no.

Councilor Pyznar does not want to take on a building that will have an impact on the budget.

Chairman Cressotti stated that this is a 8-24 referral and it will eventually come back to the Council.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu mentioned that there are different drafts of the resolution in the packets. Councilor Cekala stated that she is not sure that this is in fact a referral to P&Z.

Ms. Zoppo-Sassu stated that it can be tabled in order to allow them to clarify the resolution. The BOE has already started the pursuit of the waiver process so we will not lose any time.

MOTION #6481 by Councilor Unghire, seconded by Councilor Nelson to table Item H, RESOLUTION #6480.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6481** adopted 10-1-0 and Item H, RESOLUTION #6480 was tabled. Councilor Cekala voted against.

RESOLUTION #6482 by Councilor Mangini, seconded by Councilor Cekala.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the number of justices of the peace for the town is hereby fixed at seventy-five (75) to be chosen in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut.

The ordinance shall become effective with the term beginning in 2025.

Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey, stated that Enfield is one of thirty-three towns in the state that has not passed an ordinance limiting the number of justices of the peace. Currently, by state statute, we are allowed to have 5405 justices. Between the two parties and the town clerk appointed justices we have 93 justices serving. Of those 93, 32 are performing weddings and of those 32, 19 of them have only performed one wedding since their term started in January of 2021. She is proposing 75 justices in Enfield. Comparable towns in size, like East Hartford, has 45, Manchester has 15, and Greenwich has 45. The number being proposed is for administrative purposes. When they are sworn in, all the paperwork needs to be done including their certificates, signature cards and providing them with justice of the peace manuals. Out of 142 endorsements received in 2021, all the paperwork was prepared, and 66 candidates never came in and to receive their oath and complete their signature card. She is recommending the number be limited to 75 justices, 25 Republicans, 25 Democrats and 25 Town Clerk appointed.

Councilor Despard is 100% in support of this and thinks the number should actually be lower. Councilor Hopkins agrees and thinks it should be based off usage. The limit reduces the amount of work the Town Clerk has to do and reduces taxpayer money.

Councilor Nelson does not support the number 75. He said he went to the Republican Town Committee and discussed it with them, and they agreed to 100 each party. He said if 79 people came from the two Town Committees, which is already four more than what is being proposed, what happens when he wants to marry his daughter in a year? He can't become a JP because someone who has never married anyone has already beaten him to the punch. He also asked how they track notarizing documents. He uses a JP as his notary. Ms. Bailey stated that she does not track that.

Councilor Nelson asked how we then know just because a JP is not doing weddings that they are doing notary work. They can do notary work in the State of Connecticut and that would put them out of business.

AMENDMENT #1 by Councilor Nelson, seconded by Councilor Pyznar to amend RESOLUTION #6482 to 300. 100 for each party and 100 Town Clerk appointed.

Councilor Hopkins said that he thinks if someone wants to be a notary they should go through the proper procedure, having it doled out by a political party seems odd to him. Having a large number of people that is hard to track does not make sense to him. He doesn't want all this extra work for the clerk. He will vote against the motion to amend.

Councilor Santanella asked for clarification that you can become a licensed notary without being a JP, it just happens to be that a JP can notarize things.

Ms. Bailey said that was correct, you can be a notary and not a JP.

Councilor Mangini stated that she is a notary and JP and she has a stamp and seal. Many documents require the notary stamp unless you are an attorney where you can just sign your name. She mentioned that as a JP you are allowed to take a deposition. She does agree that the number 75 is on the lower side but 300 is also not the right number. She would like to see 50 for each party and 50 Town Clerk appointed. She does not want to see a big strain put on the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilor Unghire was under the impression that the Town Clerk recommended it to be 75 but then after discussion she thought it was resolved to 300. She is in support of that as opposed to the thousands that we currently have. She suggested maybe there was a better way or process to do it instead of printing up all the material ahead to be assured they show up.

Councilor Santanella stated that we had a public hearing based on the number 75. He asked if we need to have another public hearing if we change the number. Ms. Bailey stated that if the amendment was adopted it would go into the newspaper with the amended amount.

Councilor Santanella asked how many JP's we have active right now. Ms. Bailey stated that we are currently at 93.

The amendment on the floor was withdrawn by Councilors Nelson and Pyznar.

AMENDMENT #2 by Councilor Nelson, seconded by Councilor Pyznar to amend RESOLUTION #6282 to 150.

Chairman Cressotti is happy with the compromise.

Councilor Despard stated that he is opposed because he feels that we are playing with taxpayer dollars.

Chairman Cressotti thinks bringing it from over 5000 to 150 will be a manageable number.

As an attorney, Councilor Hopkins does not think it makes sense as a political party to dole these things out. He thinks limiting it to 75 keeps it nice and tight to people who do this legitimately and professionally.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #2** adopted 8-3-0. Councilors Cekala, Despard, and Hopkins voted against.

Upon a **ROLL-CALL** vote being taken, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6482** adopted an amended 8-3-0. Councilors Cekala, Despard, and Hopkins voted against.

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

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Ann Turner, 7 Meadow Road

Ms. Turner came before the Council to say that Bob Tkacz passed away last week. He was very ill. She saw him the day that he died, and he wanted everyone to know that he loved Enfield. He will be missed because he was quite the character. The funeral services will be January 28, 2023 at Leete Stevens.

Chairman Cressotti declared Public Communications closed.

Chairman Cressotti wanted to end the meeting with a tribute to Bob and he thanked Mary Ann for coming up and speaking. He said that Bob told him that over the past five years, he was the only Democrat he liked talking to. He visited Bob in the nursing home, and he said the last words Bob had for him were to keep doing what you are doing, because you and the Council are doing what is right for Enfield. He was a special and genuine man, and he will be sorely missed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #6483 by Councilor Nelson, seconded by Councilor Mangini.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6483** adopted and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sheila M. Bailey
Clerk of the Council
Town Clerk

Tina Demers
Secretary to the Council

(No subject)

Barbara Crowley <pat.crowley@icloud.com>

Sat 1/21/2023 12:58 PM

To: Cressotti, Bob <bcressotti@enfield.org>

External Email: Use Caution when opening attachments or clicking links.

Good evening,
my name is

Pat Crowley, 32 Alden Avenue, Enfield Connecticut,

unfortunately I am unable to attend this meeting and speak with you in person.

I am addressing you tonight in support of the Enfield Grays Club Athletic Association, which is commonly known as, The Grays Club, which as you all know was destroyed by a devastating fire. The Grays Club has been an active, positive, youth sponsoring member in our community for over Ninety Nine Years. Since way before I was a child, they sponsored many many,many youth sports teams, and individuals, in athletic competitions.

I first would first like to address you tonight as a former President and Coach of the Enfield Ramblers Youth Football Organization, and a former Coach of the Thompsonville Little League. On many, many, occasions The Grays Club has sponsored teams, or individuals that were in need a financial assistance, and in doing so without wanting any recognition or acknowledgement. During my tenure as President of the Enfield Ramblers Youth Football Organization , The Grays Club has sponsored or Scholarshipped anywhere from 15 to 25 individuals for their yearly fees and fundraising requirements, individuals that could not afford or have the necessary support to do so. The Grays Club offered partial assistance or a complete scholarships for individuals in need. This was done without any publicity, or even the individual knowing that the Grays Club had stepped up on their behalf, that was not their intent, they were never looking for the notoriety, they simply just wanted the youth of ENFIELD to enjoy athletic competition, just think how many lives this organization has had a

Positive Influence on over the Ninety plus years this organization has been part of this community.

As a former Player, Coach, and Board Member of The Thompsonville Little League, the Grays Club sponsored many, many Youth Baseball Teams before, and over the many years I've been involved.

I can recall a specific time when we had a little issue with our concession stand, our grill didn't work, and finances were tight, the very next night a member from the Grays Club, John Borowski showed up with a brand new grill for us and said, that they had held an emergency meeting last night and "Everyone", voted in favor of donating a new grill and it was taken care of immediately. They didn't want us to say anything, didn't want any recognition, "It was for the kids", that was their answer!!!!

Though bars or establishments that serve alcohol, are not allowed to sponsor most youth sports leagues anymore, The Grays Club used to sponsor multiple sports teams in multiple sports. The Grays Club, over the years, has been involved in Youth Baseball, Youth Basketball, Youth Football, Adult Softball, Baseball, and Summer and Winter Basketball Leagues. This organization has been a solid part of our community even before my Dad was a child, when He played ball for The Grays Club.

It's a funny thing when you talk to people in this town and you say The Grays Club, some individuals have no idea what you are talking about, most people didn't even know it existed. When you think of a bar, or a social club that has existed over the last 60, 80, or close to One Hundred Years, in this town, and people don't even know that it exist, mostly because there is no negative influences associated with this Organization. It is part of the our community and has been serving a purpose for a place for people to gather as a social environment. They Don't have a lot of problems down there. You don't hear about the

police being here all the time for disruptions, it's a very well run, a very well organized organization.

At one point, I know the building was in despair but the members got together and new people stepped up, the place had been renovated, and the organization is solid. It's a great gathering spot for Hunters, Fisherman, and Sportsmen.

I encourage The State, The Town, or any private individuals to help continue the legacy of this Club, and to

help facilitate the rebuilding, restructuring, or the relocation of this organization.

The Grays Club has been Great Stewards of our Community and a silent support system for the youth of Enfield!!!!

Thank you for your consideration and please assist them in anyway possible.

Thank You,

Patrick J. Crowley

32 Alden Ave

Enfield Ct.

Sent from my iPhone



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



2023

Rebuilding Enfield from the Ground Up

ROAD MAP TO SUCCESS



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

Top municipal projects in 2023 to
build, strengthen & grow our community



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



1245

**ENFIELD
EMS**

**\$15.2 million for new
Public Safety Complex**

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS WITH PARTNERS

State of CT: \$12.8 Million



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT

BOE PARTNERSHIP

Enfield High School
Tennis Courts, Track &
Turf Replacement

Football Field, including turf and
track | **\$1.789 million**

\$1.1 million in funding provided
by Enfield Board of Education

Tennis Court Replacement |
\$935,000



**TOTAL INVESTMENT FOR
ENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
\$2.724 million**

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

As part of the federal government's efforts to mitigate the massive economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Enfield received **\$12,920,906** in American Rescue Plan Act funds.



\$791K
12 police
cruisers

\$2.3 M
Enfield
Schools

\$3 M
Sewer Pump
stations

\$2.4 M
Public Works
equipment



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



INVESTMENT IN THOMPSONVILLE

A Focus of the last 30 years



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



SOUTH RIVER STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Federal Aid Project | **\$2.7 million**

80% funded by federal government with 20% local match

The project will

- Replace the South River Street Bridge – June 2023
- widen the current roadway
- add a six-foot-wide sidewalk
- Improve drainage in the area



TOWN OF
ENFIELD,
CONNECTICUT



IMPACT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The first phase of redevelopment of the former Strand and Lamagna parcels will result in **55 units** of new housing overlooking Freshwater Pond.

Proposed private investment | **\$28 million**

The town received a **\$2 million grant** from the State of Connecticut for site remediation



HIGGINS PARK

ARPA Investment |
\$820,000

- Project includes:
- New band shell
 - Fitness stations
 - Expanded parking
 - Bike path expansion



KELLY-FRADET RECLAMATION 98 Prospect Street

The **Town** obtained a **\$550,000 environmental grant** to clean 98 Prospect Street, which will then be sold to Kelly -Fradet for business expansion purposes.



ENFIELD TRAIN PLATFORM

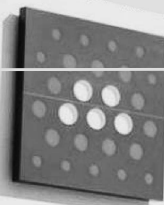
Total investment | **\$31 million**

FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP





FUTURE INVESTMENTS IN ENFIELD



RE-USE PROPOSAL MASSMUTUAL

Proposal to create a multi-use sports and entertainment complex at the vacant 65-acre office park.

Proposed investment | **\$50 -90 million**

Currently in "due diligence" stage for use of Brainerd Park.



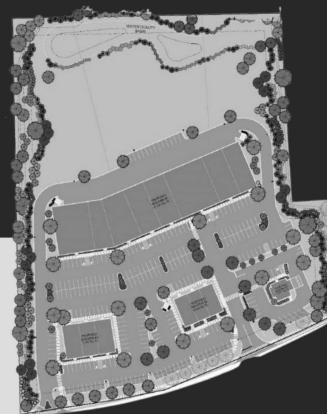
ENFIELD SQUARE MALL

The mall continues to be a focus for the town, in order to maximize the potential of the site in cooperation with either the current or future owners.



143 ELM STREET PROJECT

Proposed \$10 million investment





REDEVELOPMENT OF PORTER & CHESTER

This remains a property of interest. The Town is again engaging with prospective buyers to rehabilitate this eye-sore.



SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

The Town of Enfield is pursuing an aggressive campaign to both retain and recruit small businesses, which make up the fabric of the community.

SPECIAL THANKS

Steph MacGillivray | Public Information Officer (PT)
Cheryl Eckenroth | Executive Assistant, Town Manager
Nelson Tereso | Director, Economic & Community Development
Todd Helms | Supervisor, Assessment & Revenue Collection
Steven Bielenda | Assistant Town Manager
John Wilcox | Director, Finance



Next | A Financial Review of the last 6 months



JOHN WILCOX
Director of Finance





TOWN OF ENFIELD

Date: January 18, 2023

Subject: Request for Transfer of funds for Cultural and Arts Commission - \$8,732

Summary Overview:

In reviewing the various conference and membership accounts it was noted that the Town was paying dues to the Capital Region Growth Council, which has been taken over by the Metro Hartford Chamber of Commerce. The benefits to Enfield are negligible, with the regional needs being met through CROG and other entities.

It is the recommendation of the Town Manager's Office to terminate the dues payment to Capital Region Growth Council moving forward, saving the Town \$8,732 moving forward. For this year, as the amount was already budgeted, it is our recommendation that the amount be transferred to the Culture and Arts Commission to aid their efforts in re-building their programmatic focus and initiatives, based on the success they have seen over the last few months.

Budget Impact:

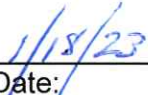
There will be no impact on the town budget.

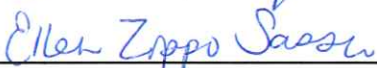
Recommendation:

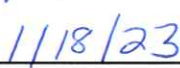
That the Town of Enfield Town Council approve the attached resolution of authorization.

Certification: I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of January 18, 2023.


John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance


Date: 1/18/23


Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager


Date: 1/18/23

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

FROM: Capital Region Growth Council

Miscellaneous Expenditure	10700712-589000	\$8,732
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TO: Cultural & Arts Committee

Miscellaneous Expenditure	10190990-589000	\$8,732
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Date Prepared: January 18, 2023
Prepared By: Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Town Manager