



**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 20, 2024
7:00 PM - Council Chambers
<https://youtube.com/live/2avuAEwooFM>**

1. PRAYER - Cindy Mangini

The prayer was made by Cynthia Mangini.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire

Absent: Robert Cressotti, John Santanella

Also Present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Steve Bielenda; Interim Town Attorney, Tom Tyler; and Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey.

4. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The fire evacuation information was announced.

5. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Regular Meeting - January 22, 2024 (Revised)

MOTION #6868 by: Marie Pyznar seconded: Cynthia Mangini to accept the minutes. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6868** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

- Special Meeting - February 5, 2024

MOTION #6869 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the minutes. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6869** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

- Regular Meeting - February 5 2024

MOTION #6870 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Gina Cekala to accept the minutes. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6870** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

6. SPECIAL GUESTS

-None.

7. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

Nikki Price, 1324 Enfield Street

Ms. Price expressed frustration with the Enfield Town staff being unable to answer questions regarding affordable housing at the January 11, 2024, Planning and Zoning meeting. She also provided handouts to the Council which she noted was information found on the town website, explaining Enfield's statistics in the affordable housing market as well as information from the Connecticut General Statutes. She explained that Enfield is one of twenty-nine municipalities who are exempt from the appeals procedure.

Amanda Pickett, 33 Guild Street

Ms. Pickett stated she was glad to see that discussion around a speed sign on Route 5 near Enfield Street School was going to be addressed later in the evening, as safety for residents and students is a top priority. She said that as a Board of Education member, she knows that this will be a tough budget season. She offered the following suggestions for going forward: greater transparency in addressing the Alliance District issue, maximize partnerships with community groups, invest in wellness, park and recreation, and fund a dedicated social worker for case management and follow-up with EPS or EPD. She would like to see more community involvement in finding solutions.

Lisa Cressotti, 44 Lake Drive

Ms. Cressotti read a synopsis of the *Shurtleff vs. City of Boston* ruling, and said that the flying of the Pride flag was not in violation of the ruling and that it centered around religious flags being flown on city property as it was a violation of the First Amendment. She said that the recommendation from former Town Attorney Tallberg to the Council had two main points: the Council should choose which organizational flags to support, and the Council should document that support by passing a resolution on a case by case basis. She said that nowhere in Mr. Tallberg's opinion did it state organizational flags were not allowed under the ruling, including the Pride Flag, Juneteenth Flag, or any other flag of inclusivity. Ms. Cressotti said that the real issue at hand is whether the new Town Council wants to support inclusivity with the new flag policy and that the *Shurtleff* ruling has been hugely misrepresented as a means to prevent a lawsuit. She said that since the *Shurtleff* ruling, Boston has created an inclusive flag policy to make sure they are in compliance.

George Young, 8 Holly Lane

Mr. Young urged the Council to approve any additional funding needed to give eligible seniors the volunteer tax credit. He also asked that the Volunteer Tax Credit Program be continued for the next fiscal year 2024-2025. He had heard that the Council had approved

the increase in the amount a married couple could earn to be eligible for the Circuit Breaker tax credit. He asked if the Council could look into increasing the amount for a single person to be eligible for the same credit, as there are many widows, widowers and single seniors who could also benefit from the program. Mr. Young said that the State of Connecticut had done their part by making pensions non-taxable and that in 2023, they also eliminated 25% of the IRA income from taxation. The plan is to increase that figure in 2024. He believes that Enfield needs to do their part to make the town affordable to seniors.

Mr. Young stated that the Charter Revision Commission will be one of the most important commissions to appoint. He agrees with Mayor Nelson that the public needs to apply quickly to be a part of this commission and that it needs a young, diverse group of people who have Enfield's best interest at heart as this new revision will be what guides the town for the next decade. He stressed that if there is something that the public does not agree with that the Council does, than they should apply to be on the commission and recommend changes. Mr. Young described the structure of the new committee as set forth by Mayor Nelson at the February 5, 2024 meeting. Mayor Nelson, Councilors Cressotti and Ludwick would appoint themselves members of the fifteen member committee and that the other councilors would be able to nominate members. He said that as the meeting progressed, Mayor Nelson stated that they had not finalized the details after being questioned by Councilor Cekala. He said that the more members of a committee, the harder it is to get people in agreement and that, ultimately, the decisions regarding the Charter Revision would be brought to the Council before going to referendum. He also explained that the entire Council has the appointing authority for a new committee and not just the mayor. Of the five to fifteen members, not more than one third may hold any other public office. He would like to see the Charter Revision Commission be constructed correctly and avoid litigation or unnecessary do-overs.

Christian D'Antonio, 18 Montano Road

Mr. D'Antonio stated that he is a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission but was speaking as a resident. He said that as talks around development in Thompsonville have started, there has been discussion around parking. He has heard the suggestion of a parking garage to rid the area of their parking woes and he has found that to be concerning. He likened the suggestion to scheduling surgery without consulting a doctor and going with the more cost effective, non invasive treatment. The average cost of paving is \$5,000 a spot for a basic lot and somewhere between \$20,000 to \$60,000 per parking space in a parking garage. The average cost of construction for a modest one hundred space parking garage is around \$2 million and that it would be a bad financial decision to fully subsidize a multi-million dollar parking structure. He said it would be necessary to charge for public parking to help recoup some of the investment. He suggested that the town look into charging on

current municipal parking lots and street parking. He said free and unlimited parking is not a right and should not be the expectation of a thriving high volume area, such as Thompsonville. He believes that the town should consider looking into solutions, which may in fact be free, and it's our civic duty to manage our public spaces and perhaps have an educated town employee be in charge of parking management. If Thompsonville is to become a thriving city center, than proper parking management is essential meaning maximizing and assessing what is available before creating things that may not be needed.

8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Councilor Mangini asked if the downed oak tree on Glendale could be remedied as there are orange cones and yellow tape around it awaiting Eversource's return. It's her concern that a car will end up wrapped in the wires and that it's currently a public safety issue.

Councilor Cekala promoted a "Denim and Diamonds" event for Asnuntuck Community College Foundation on April 4, 2024, at Maneely's, starting at 5pm. The event will have a cocktail hour, a silent auction, buffet, carving station and music with the event benefiting student scholarships and programs. More information is on the Asnuntuck website. Ms. Cekala said she would like to see the Powder Hollow project and any field work at the high school remain a priority so that any work started does not get in the way of usage in the spring. Ms. Cekala requested an update for the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Pyznar said that after the last K.I.T.E. meeting she discovered a free financial literacy program for teens, aged 16-19, put on by Enfield Youth and Family Services. The topics covered are money values, setting smart goals, credit and borrowing, healthy banking and student loans, all of which she believes are important areas the youth need information on. Any interested parties can reach out to Ms. Pyznar or Enfield Youth and Family Services. Classes start February 21st and end May 22nd.

Councilor Finger asked if residents of the new Abbe Road construction could have the properties re-seeded, as it's been over a year and no grass has grown.

Mayor Nelson said that with an election year approaching, he would like to meet with Councilor Ludwick, Representative Hall, and Jason from East Windsor to arrange a meeting with Congressman Courtney to discuss the future of "Rails to Trails", since the section is both state and federally controlled. He would like to see the project come to life in Enfield and East Windsor, just like it has in Hartford, where the rail originates. Mr. Nelson met with all the selectmen and first selectmen and mayors of the surrounding towns such as Longmeadow and East Longmeadow to discuss the trail. He was told East Longmeadow does not have a bike path, that they pulled up the tracks and were shocked to hear that they may be putting the tracks back in. Since the new transfer station was built in

Massachusetts, the trash would be coming through Enfield and if the rail is allowed to come back, then the trash would be coming through one of the more pristine areas in town which is not an industrial area.

It was further decided that Enfield and the surrounding towns would come together to fight the state Siting Council so that control comes back to the municipalities, and Planning and Zoning would have more input regarding solar sites. Discussion also took place about bringing back regionalization to the police departments for training, indoor shooting ranges and nighttime shooting which were topics that East Longmeadow and Longmeadow were in support of as neighboring towns. It was decided to invite Granby and East Granby to any future meetings.

Mr. Nelson said the pickleball court on South Road which had been replaced a few years ago and has since fallen into disrepair has been scheduled for repair in the spring. They also discussed adding signage stating "Public Play Every Day from 8am until Noon", so groups can rotate.

Mr. Nelson stated he was under the impression that if someone gets an approved assessment appeal from the BAA, that the decision was to stand for five years. He was uncertain how the Assessor could go back the following year with a new evaluation. He questioned why Enfield would need a BAA if the decisions from the appeals are not being honored for the five years. He mentioned that this is the second or third year in a row that the farmers have gone through this appeals process and one farmer had been removed from the PA-490 because the Assessor did not see any animals on the property. He requested a legal opinion regarding the law governing when the BAA overrules the Assessor's assessment and subsequently gets overturned by the Assessor year after year.

Councilor Ludwick responded that there are two known reasons for someone to be taken out of PA-490 status and that would be a change of use, or the property is conceded to someone else. When property is transferred, the new owner would have to reapply for PA-490 status. He reiterated that after an appeal has been approved, the appeal would stand until the next reevaluation. Mr. Ludwick also agreed that the field card should be updated following the decision.

Mayor Nelson responded to Nikki Price and said that regarding the moratorium on affordable housing, he would like to see the Town Attorney investigate whether it is a viable option for Enfield and if meet the requirements. Mr. Nelson further stated that he looked forward to working with the Board of Education to make the necessary decisions for the school budget.

9. TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager Bromson expressed his concern regarding public safety and the tree on Glendale as well as the fields over at Powder Hollow. He also stated he would defer any legal opinions to the Town Attorney and if he was uncomfortable answering any of them, the opinions would then be referred to Shipman and Goodwin.

Mr. Bromson said that earlier in the evening during the special meeting a preliminary budget presentation was made showing where the different departments stood currently and what the anticipated expenses could be for the next year without adding any additional services or positions. Over the course of the next few weeks, he will meet with department directors to see if there are any areas that could be scaled back before presenting the final findings to the Council. Any discussions to restore services or make additional cuts can be discussed at that time. He will also be meeting with Mr. Drezek, Superintendent of Schools, to discuss the BOE budget, since he will ultimately be the one to submit the budget. On May 2nd, a Public Hearing will be held on the budget and, following town charter guidelines, the adoption of the budget and mill rate will be set for May 20, 2024. The town website will be updated to reflect the timeline. He stated it is the town's fiscal responsibility to "tighten the belt" in areas that can be scaled back without adversely impacting town services.

Councilor Cekala stated she would like to receive the legal opinion regarding the BAA from an outside source, since the Town Attorney was a former BAA member. It was agreed that Shipman and Goodwin could be used for the legal opinion so that it would not cause a conflict of interest. Councilor Ludwick believed it was also a violation of town policy and not just the appeals process. Councilor Hendrickson stated that he did not see the need for a legal opinion after the town had spent thousands of dollars on legal opinions and keep returning to the same topics. Mayor Nelson stated that the reason for the legal opinion is to find out if the decisions of the BAA are final or whether the Assessor has the ability to overturn appeal decisions.

10. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Interim Town Attorney Tyler said he was in agreement with the decision to seek legal counsel from Shipman and Goodwin. He said it becomes difficult because lines between

personnel, the law, and the BAA can get blurred. It was his hope that Assistant Town Attorney Cerrato would help formulate the issues that had been brought forward and provide them to Shipman and Goodwin for a formal opinion.

Mr. Tyler stated that it is too late to put any charter revision questions on the November 2024 ballot and too early for the 2025 ballot. With the assistance of the Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey, a timeline of deadlines could be created so that the appropriate items could be added to the November 2025 ballot. He said that Mr. Young was correct in saying the commission could only have between five and fifteen members and, regardless of the number of members, that there can only be one more member of the majority party than the minority. It was determined that elected members, as well as appointed members, fell under the category of public office. This would mean they would not be able to have more than 1/3 of the commission's members as holders of public office. It was also noted that members of the commission did not need to belong to a specific political party. He suggested that as members are considered, it may be of benefit to check with the Town Attorney's office to make sure that the decision would not create any problems.

Mr. Tyler said that the Connecticut Siting Council must be contacted by March 9th to discuss actions involving Town Farm Road and the solar field. Once the council has been contacted there are different actions the town may take, one being a person or municipality having thirty days after the hearing to submit a written statement to the Siting Council to be taken into consideration. If the town is looking to hold more weight, Intervenor Status can be applied for, which gives the municipality the right to participate when they have the hearing and recommend the location for the meeting, providing public interest or impact. It was recommended that if they decide on the Intervenor route, they should hire an expert in the field to provide more leverage. He asked the Council what route they would like to take to move forward.

Councilor Ludwick said that he would like to see the town be more aggressive in their approach with the Siting Council, so he would prefer to hire an expert to advocate and go the Intervenor Status route. He stated that Enfield has done their part to support solar fields and he doesn't want to see government overreach with the Siting Council destroy the town's beautiful farmland.

Town Manager Bromson agreed that the issue is too late to place on the next agenda for a vote, so if the Council agreed, they could move forward to apply for Intervenor Status. If they were able to obtain a reasonable rate for an expert, they could use them. Mayor Nelson suggested that the Council and leadership come to a consensus about the cost they were willing to spend for an expert, that way they could move forward since this item would not

be able to go on the next agenda. attorney Tyler said that he has a list of members on the Siting Council and he found it depressing that not one member on it was from this area that we could reach out to for guidance. Mr. Nelson also suggested that for the next "Meeting of the Mayors", that an invitation be extended to state representatives and senators so there could be a discussion brought to the state level. He also stated that Representative Hall told him that surrounding towns can also have Intervenor Status on this particular application and perhaps they should all go in together to hire an expert to have more leverage against the Siting Council.

11. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Councilor Ludwick stated that the DPW Subcommittee has moved its meeting to this coming Tuesday, February 27th at 5:30 pm in the Scitico Room due to the storm.

Councilor Unghire said the JFK Building Committee met last week during their closeout phase and that all documents will be submitted for audit. The town has been reimbursed. However, the state has a 5% retainer until it is officially closed.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda

1. Resolution to Accept a \$15,000 Donation from Rockville Bank Community Foundation for the Town of Enfield Fuel Bank

MOTION #6871 by: Douglas Finger, seconded: Cynthia Mangini.

BE IT RESOLVED, that these funds will be deposited into the Town of Enfield Emergency Fuel Bank Fund and be appropriated to be spent on fuel assistance in the following account.

Emergency Fuel Bank Fund – Miscellaneous Expenditures 22140001-589000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any unspent amounts in this fund at the end of a fiscal year may be re-appropriated in the following year until they are spent on their intended purpose.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6871** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

2. Transfer of \$153,360 of OEC Child Care Program Stabilization Funds

MOTION #6872 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Cynthia Mangini.

MOTION by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Douglas Finger to waive the reading. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

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

FROM: COVID-19 FUND -		AMOUNT:
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CDC)		
24544432-413660	Child Day Care Grant Revenue	\$153,360.00
TO: COVID-19 FUND -		AMOUNT:
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CDC)		
24540432-532200	Professional Development	\$15,000.00
24540432-532400	Field Trips	\$25,000.00
24540432-558000	Travel	\$2,000.00
24540432-551000	Student Transportation	\$10,000.00
24540432-560000	Supplies/Materials	\$32,750.00
24540432-561100	Instructional Supplies	\$15,000.00
24540432-563000	Food/Food Related	\$15,000.00
24540432-565000	Uniforms	\$10,000.00
24540432-573000	Equipment New	\$28,610.00

I hereby certify that the above stated funds are available as of February 20, 2024.
by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6872** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: Michael Ludwick, Ken Nelson Jr.

B. Appointment(s)—Town Council Appointed

1. **Board of Assessment Appeals** - A Vacancy Exists Due to the Resignation of Thomas Tyler (D). Recommendation is Andrew Urbanowicz (U) Until 12/31/2024.

NOMINATION #6873 by: Gina Cekala

MOTION by: Gina Cekala, seconded: Cynthia Mangini to close nominations. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **NOMINATION #6873** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick Abstain: None.

C. Request for Transfer of Funds for Custodial Supplies - \$100,000

RESOLUTION # 6874 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

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

FROM: GENERAL FUND - CUSTODIAL MAINTENANCE

Salaries	10300345 - 511000	\$100,000
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TO: GENERAL FUND - CUSTODIAL MAINTENANCE

Custodial Supplies/Materials	10300345 - 561500	\$100,000
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I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of 2/14/2024 by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

MOTION by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Doug Finger to Table. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted and **RESOLUTION #6874** was tabled. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

D. Resolution to Approve Twelve New Job Descriptions in the Police Department

This item was tabled at the direction of the Chair.

E. Resolution to Approve the Proposed Pay Rates for Seasonal and Temporary Employees in the Recreation Division Effective June 1, 2024

RESOLUTION #6875 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Lori Unghire.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council does hereby approve the pay rates. *A copy of*

the pay rates is appended to these minutes.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6875** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain None.

F. Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign an Application for and Enter into an Agreement with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) for a Partnership for Success Grant for FYs 2025-2029, Pending Contract Review by the Town Attorney's Office.

This item was tabled by consensus.

G. Request for Transfer of Funds to the Town Attorney Legal Account - \$85,000

RESOLUTION #6876 by: Gina Cekala, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

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

FROM: General Fund

Appropriated Fund Balance	10040000-499000	\$85,000
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TO: Town Attorney

Legal	10130000-533200	\$85,000
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I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of February 14, 2024, by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6876** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain None.

H. School Security Matters

RESOLUTION #6877 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Michael Ludwick.

WHEREAS, the Enfield Board of Education wishes to provide enhanced safety and security to the students and employees of the Enfield Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Town Council agrees with this goal and wishes to take the steps necessary to provide such enhanced safety and security.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby

authorize the Town Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding by and between the Town of Enfield and the Board of Education regarding armed school safety officers to be provided by and at the expense of the Town of Enfield, subject to the review and approval of the Town Attorney and the Board of Education's counsel Shipman & Goodwin.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6877** adopted. Yes: Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini Abstain None.

I. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Ken Nelson, Jr. to Sign a Letter Supporting the Rails to Trails

RESOLUTION #6878 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor, Ken Nelson, Jr., is authorized to sign the letter on behalf of the Town of Enfield, supporting the Rails to Trails. *A copy of the letter is appended to these minutes.*

Councilor Mangini stated for the record that she did not want her name affixed on this letter.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6878** adopted. Yes: Douglas Finger, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire No: Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini Abstain None.

14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Roofs Update

Mayor Nelson said that it came out of committee to waive the bids for certain projects. He mentioned that the Parkman School bid cannot be waived because it is part of the referendum as well as the Police Department. Mr. Nelson stated he has never been in favor of waiving bids and would like to see the roofs put out for bid in order to obtain a better price, while the contractor is able to get a year's worth of work. He explained that the sub-committee does not have the authority to waive bids and that the decision is left up to the Council. He said that leadership is also not in favor of the bid waiver.

Councilor Cekala explained that the Joint Facilities Committee did not vote to waive any bids and that since Parkman is an educational facility, it would have to go out to bid even though it is under a referendum. It was her understanding that town buildings such as the Police Department and Library would not have to go to bid while still being under the referendum. The consensus at the last Joint Facilities meeting was that if the PD and the

Library didn't have to go to bid, then they could get started immediately. Since Parkman needs to go to bid, there is a lot of underlying paperwork and applications that must be completed and submitted to the state for reimbursement. It was her understanding that everyone at the meeting agreed with getting the PD and Library roofs done without going to bid with companies that the town has a relationship with. Mr. Bromson agreed with Ms. Cekala's recollection of the meeting, and said that it was agreed by the subcommittee to recommend they forgo the bid process and go with companies that had been vetted by the town and explore cost and alternatives. He stated that the Council gets the final decision.

Mayor Nelson asked the Council for consensus on whether to go to bid or not. Mr. Bromson said that leadership helps provide ideas and solutions, but the ultimate decision lies with the Council and that they could look into getting the top three companies to choose from. Mr. Nelson asked what the purpose of a bid waiver would be unless the project was an emergency, and Councilor Nasuta explained that at the meeting they discussed that it would take the town a long time to go out to bid and the projects wouldn't get done this summer.

Councilor Finger said bid waivers could be on a case by case basis and that Parkman School must go out to bid. He believed that for the PD and Library, they should review the top three prices from the top three roofers and get the job done. Mayor Nelson said the projects have been held up for other reasons but he does not want to see the roof bids getting waived because the more bids, the more opportunity to save the town money. To get it on the agenda for the next meeting he said he would like to have a consensus from the Council. Councilor Cekala asked that a resolution to waive the bids for the PD and the Library be on next meeting's agenda, seconded by Councilor Mangini, but only after Donald Nunes provides a brief update.

B. Discussion on the Installation of Solar Traffic Control Speed Signs along Rte. 5 near Enfield Street School

Councilor Cekala asked for the specific location of the solar traffic control speed sign. She said the real issue was the vehicle traffic and turning at the exit of the school. Mayor Nelson said the signs will be at the approaches to Enfield Street School, which could include Enfield High School entrance. Mr. Nelson said he was hoping it would help with the issue at Enfield High School and he knows it won't solve the problem. He said the grant for the sign is very clear and states it is only for elementary schools, so it will be in the corridor between Enfield High School and Enfield Street School. He also thanked the DPW for finding this grant, as the signs would be of no cost to the town.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING

-None.

16. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS/APPLIES ONLY IF PRIOR TO 11:00 p.m.

Zach Zannoni, 6 Howard Street

Mr. Zannoni offered his support for the "Rails to Trails" project, and he believes in growing the grand list, as that it is the best way to offset tax increases. However, he doesn't believe it should come at the cost of impacting the quality of life of taxpayers. He also doesn't believe that over industrializing the town is going to encourage young professionals to move to Enfield. He feels we should support the residents who abut the rail, as they would be negatively impacted. He stated it's important for the town to set the precedent of how they would like to move forward with the project and he looks forward to seeing how the town works with the state and federal government.

George Young, 8 Holly Lane

Mr. Young stated he believes it's the unified duty of the whole Council to appoint anyone on the commission and he asked for clarification from the Town Attorney.

Nikki Price, 1324 Enfield Street

Ms. Price thanked the Mayor for addressing her concern about the moratorium on affordable housing.

Chris Renaud, 2 Jewel Street

Mr. Renaud said back in 2020 he provided the contact information for a rail trail expert in Massachusetts and would be happy to provide the information again. The contact has worked with surrounding towns and other states and knows the federal money that could be used to complete the project. Mr. Renaud explained that businesses along the trails would get a boost in business from people walking or biking the trails and that in many cases active rails have also been used alongside the trails.

17. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Finger inquired about a bench that was donated by Little John's Sign Shop and Vasseur Landscaping over a year ago for the bike path that was supposed to have been installed over by Bosco's and the transfer station.

18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Lindsay Petrucci, Assistant Town Clerk
Secretary of the Council

**Recreation Department
Temporary / Seasonal Salaries**

POSITION					CURRENT RATES	PROPOSED RATES
		EFFECTIVE DATE			6/1/2023	6/1/2024
		CURRENT MINIMUM WAGE			\$15.00/HR	\$15.69/HR
		INTERN/OFFICE HELP			15.25 - 16.25	15.75 - 16.75
		GATEKEEPER			Minimum Wage	Minimum Wage
		LIFEGUARD			15.25 - 16.25	16.00 - 17.00
		WSI/SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR			15.75 - 16.75	16.50 - 17.50
		HEAD LIFEGUARD			16.50 - 17.50	17.25 - 18.25
		SWIM TEAM ASST. COACH			15.75 - 16.75	16.50 - 17.50
		SWIM TEAM COACH			16.50 - 18.50	17.25 - 18.25
		SWIM TEAM HEAD COACH			17.00 - 23.00	18.00 - 25.00
		AQUATICS DIRECTOR			17.00 - 23.00	18.00 - 25.00
		GYM SUPERVISOR			Minimum Wage	Minimum Wage
		OPEN GYM SUPERVISOR			15.50 - 16.50	16.25 - 17.25
		SPORTS LEAGUE COORDINATOR			15.75 - 16.75	16.50 - 17.50
		GYM PROGRAM ASSISTANT COORD.			16.50 - 17.50	17.00 - 18.25
		GYM PROGRAMS COORDINATOR			17.00 - 23.00	18.00 - 25.00
		INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL DIRECTOR			16.50 - 19.50	18.00 - 25.00
		REFEREE 2			18.00 - 23.00	19.00 - 24.00
		REFEREE 1: NON-CERTIFIED			25.00 - 31.00	26.00 - 32.00
		REFEREE 1: CERTIFIED			29.50 - 38.00	29.50 - 38.00
		TRAVEL/ADULT LEAGUE REFEREE			40.00 - 55.00	45.00 - 60.00
		CAMP COUNSELOR			15.25 - 16.25	16.00 - 17.00
		HEAD CAMP COUNSELOR			16.50 - 17.50	17.25 - 18.25
		CAMP DIRECTOR			17.00 - 23.00	18.00 - 25.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 1			Minimum Wage	Minimum Wage
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 2			15.50	16.50
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 3			16.00	17.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 4			17.00	18.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 5			18.00	19.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 6			19.00	20.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 7			19.50	21.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 8			20.00	22.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 9			21.00	23.00 - 25.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 10			22.00 - 29.00	25.00 - 29.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 11			30.00 - 39.00	30.00 - 39.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 12			40.00 - 50.00	40.00 - 50.00
		RECREATION INSTRUCTOR 13			50.00 - 60.00	50.00 - 60.00



February 20, 2024

Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto
Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131-7546

Dear Commissioner Eucalitto,

We, the Enfield Town Council, are writing today in support of the concept developed by Representative Carol Hall, Senator John Kissel, and others regarding the conversion of an existing railroad line crossing into Enfield from its southern border. The rail line is owned by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT).

The rail line is unused, extending north from the southern portion of Abbe Road along the East Windsor – Enfield town line, continuing parallel to Broad Brook Road and Taylor Road, up to Crescent Lake.

The Town of Enfield strongly supports converting the existing rail line north of the East Windsor – Enfield town line to a rails-to-trails venue. Rails-to-Trails programs have a well-documented positive impact and success in the communities in which they are located and would be a welcome addition to our community. The current rail line travels over the scenic Scantic River and through Hazard Avenue, between the nationally registered historic Hazardville and Scitico village, which would increase pedestrian and bike traffic to the local area and local businesses through a passive recreation opportunity. We have restaurants, retail shops, and other commercial venues that would benefit from this project.

On behalf of the Town of Enfield, we, the Town Council, strongly support the proposal advanced by the town's legislative delegation and others.

Sincerely,

Ken Nelson, Jr.
Mayor of Enfield

c: Senator John Kissell
Representative Carol Hall
Representative Tom Arnone

Bromson, Christopher

From: ftroiano <ftroiano@troianooil.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:41 PM
To: Bromson, Christopher; Paul Smith
Subject: Freight Rail Line - Armory Line

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

Chris,

Understand the Council is having discussions regarding the freight rail line in eastern Enfield known as the Armony Line.

Wanted to mention that we had been included in a CT DOT consulting report along with at least 5 other existing businesses, including some of the largest Enfield employeers, that we would like to see the rail line re open for freight service. Freight rail has become a great economic driver and this rail line is an untapped Enfield asset to re developing this industrial area, as emphasized by this interest even prior to the opening.

Our company has already invested in our fueling terminal and now a Federally recognized green energy facility on Moody Rd. We hope to access bio fuel by rail, as bio fuel can not be transferred through pipelines. Bio fuel is a non hazardous, non flammable green energy product already being added to everyone's traditional heating oil for clean energy and significant reduction in green house gas emissions. The State of CT needs bio fuel facilities such as this to meet CT mandates unanimously approved by the CT legislature in the last State Energy bill.

The future of this rail line is a critical component of how this area is to develop and employ residents in years to come.

Not sure if also up for discussion is a possible trail near this rail line. I do not know any business that would not support the dual use of this space for both a freight rail and a trail. This dual activity is common throughout the country. As our expected rail activity is limited in scale and slow speed, I am sure that the businesses, including myself, would support the dual activity of both a rail and trail.

I encourage additional discussion on this topic as there are many parties involved in this rail line's future and the benefits to Enfield that have not yet been considered to date.

Regards
Frank Troiano