



**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2024
7:00 PM - Town Hall - Council Chambers**

<https://youtube.com/live/bdM9Gn-qScU>

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, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire

Absent: None

Also Present were Town Manager, Christopher Bromson; Assistant Town Manager, Steve Bielenda; Interim Town Attorney, Tom Tyler; Director of Library Services, Jason Neely; Director of Economic and Community Development, Aaron Marcavitch; Director of DPW, Donald Nunes; Director of Finance, John Wilcox; and Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey.

4. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Announced.

5. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Special Meeting - July 15, 2024

MOTION #7017 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7017** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, John Santanella No: None Abstain: Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire.

- Regular Meeting - July 15, 2024

MOTION #7018 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Lori Unghire to accept the minutes.

AMENDMENT #1 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Michael Ludwick to amend the minutes on Page 11, Resolution #7005, Amendment #1 to include the words "*Be It Resolved, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby authorize the town to acquire a bucket truck from the Military Surplus 1033 Equipment Program*". Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair

declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, John Santanella No: None Abstain: Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7018** adopted as amended. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, John Santanella No: None Abstain: Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire.

- Special Meeting - August 12, 2024

MOTION #7019 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Bob Hendrickson to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7019** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: Jeff Rousseau.

- Special Meeting - September 3, 2024

MOTION #7020 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7020** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

MOTION #7021 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Marie Pyznar to move the Town Manager's report up on the agenda. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #2021** adopted. Yes: Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire No: Gina Cekala, John Santanella Abstain: None.

6. TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager Bromson announced that he had familiarized himself with the Senior Tax Credit with Finance Director John Wilcox. This incentive is for senior volunteers. Mr. Wilcox provided an update to residents saying that they needed approval to make sure they could issue additional tax incentives. The town is determining what criteria are needed for this calendar year, which would be available to residents for the next fiscal year 2026. The Senior Volunteer Tax Committee is meeting to review the existing guidelines and will discuss the guidelines going forward. Eventually, a finalized plan will be presented to the Council to vote on. Councilor Mangini asked if it would be possible to receive documentation on how the incentives are determined and for whom. It was confirmed that all subcommittee meetings are public meetings, and the Senior Tax Committee is meeting at 1pm at the Senior Center.

Councilor Ludwick provided clarification between the Circuit Breaker program and the Senior Volunteer Tax Credit. Councilor Santanella asked if a comprehensive list of volunteer opportunities could be made available, as many residents have asked about volunteer opportunities for the Board of Education as well as the town.

- Update on Joint Town of Enfield and Board of Education Auditor

Town Manager Bromson clarified that an internal control review and evaluation would be completed for the town and Board of Education. A forensic audit will not be done as it would imply misconduct and that is not what was involved. He asked that they review grants, special education funding, and budgeting. An invitation was extended to the Board of Education to join the Council at their next meeting in speaking with the auditors. He said that they would resume joint meetings in the Town Manager's office to keep dialogue open between the town and the board to discuss any concerns they have.

Mr. Bromson stated that an update was issued last Friday regarding the sewer line issue. They have ordered the materials and are in good shape financially and the funds had been appropriated. DPW Director Donald Nunes said that the lining for the project would begin on September 30th and the prep work would begin the week of October 23rd.

- Project and Activity Report

The PAR was included in the Council packet.

7. SPECIAL GUESTS

- Enfield Police Department Auxiliary Division - Mehmet "Matt" Bilgen

Chief of Police Alaric Fox explained the many functions of the Enfield Police Auxiliary Division. Chief Fox introduced twenty-six-year auxiliary veteran, Matt Bilgen. He has been estimated to have volunteered the equivalent of eleven years of full-time service, equaling 17,000 service hours. Councilor Cressotti presented Mr. Bilgen with a proclamation for his dedication and service to the Town of Enfield.

- Constitution Week - Daughters of the American Revolution

Councilor Mangini informed residents that September 16th is the start of Constitution Week in the state of Connecticut. She said it was a reminder of the sacrifices our ancestors made to preserve freedom. She presented members of the Daughters of the American Revolution with a proclamation for their continued work in helping to preserve freedom and the Constitution. Laurie Edwards accepted on their behalf.

8. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

Prior to Public Communications, Mr. Bromson informed residents that there would be a Job Fair on Thursday, September 26th from 12-5pm at Asnuntuck Community College. There will be over fifty-four employers from all over the state in attendance.

Wendy Osada, 8 Windmill Road

Ms. Osada, of the Enfield Greater Together Community Fund advisor, said the goal of their committee is to identify the needs of Enfield and award grants as part of an inclusive process. Ms. Osada said that in the last two grant cycles, over \$40,000 was awarded to over fourteen 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations in Enfield. She called for applicants for their next grant cycle, stating that applicants must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization or sponsored by one that benefits the town of Enfield. The current grant cycle ends October 4th. The group is also seeking additional advisory committee members. To serve, they must also be Enfield residents who are not elected officials for the town and be at least fourteen years old. Any member under eighteen must secure the permission of a parent or guardian. The committee meets on a monthly basis and occasionally requires independent review and preparation of committee materials. Anyone interested in serving or applying can email **enfieldgtcf@gmail.com** or visit their website.

Bill Hosley, 30 Old Abbe Road

Mr. Hosley has served in the Historical Society since the early 1990s and has also been a donor, contributor, and trustee. Mr. Hosley currently serves on the Board of the Enfield Cemetery Association. He presented his case to save the Martha Parson's House, which was donated over sixty years ago. He said he would continue to make his case until he is able to turn his presentations into a video on YouTube. He provided Martha Parson's history and the importance of preserving the house. He is willing to donate his time and knowledge.

Michelle Wilcox, 5 Cheryl Drive

Ms. Wilcox, a lifelong resident and former teacher, created a group with other like-minded citizens comprised of members of all different political parties. Ms. Wilcox said the group met over the summer to discuss problems and offer solutions within our schools. Although some residents of Enfield are struggling, it does not mean that students' education needed to suffer. She believed it was important for the Council to visit the schools and activities outside of guided tours, to see exactly how the students and teachers are affected. She said that the goal of the group is to fight to get students the education they deserve.

Linda Allegro, 23 Vintner Place

Ms. Allegro explained that the class sizes this year are the largest they've been since she attended school, which is resulting in increases of up to ten additional children per class. Ms. Allegro stated that some kindergarten and first grade classrooms have as many as twenty-nine students. Those particular grades are the most crucial for development and determination of students' abilities and needs.

Kathy Kelley, 2 Van Buren Road

Ms. Kelley asked if there was an ordinance regarding the timeline in which to complete a project, specifically the removal of train tracks on Abbe Road and subsequent re-installation. She feels it is causing significant wear and tear on vehicles having to cross the tracks. Additionally, she had questions about abandoned and blighted property. She indicated that a property at the corner of Abbe Road and Post Office Road appeared to be abandoned. The possibility of a rodent infestation caused her concern. She wanted to know the recourse for abandoned property and whose responsibility it was to maintain it.

Rachel Boisseau, 6 Thomas Street

Ms. Boisseau was in attendance on behalf of the Enfield Adult Co-ed Volleyball program and stated that there had been a change to the residency requirements for the program at the recreation center. Ms. Boisseau has attended recreation center programs for over ten years. Until last year, there was an 80% residency policy on a first come, first served basis. This year, the program has become open to only teams in Enfield. This limits non-Enfield residents to three per roster. Unfortunately, no one is able to meet those requirements in the league. She asked the Council to consider going back to the previous residency requirements and explained that fees have also increased 30% each year since 2018.

Dan Duncan, 9 Celtic Court

Mr. Duncan expressed his frustration with the last Council meeting. Mr. Duncan felt as though there were a lot of partisan votes that he disagreed with. He said it was important that the high school students had a respectable, regulation-sized spot to play ball in. It was also important to him to see the project through to completion. He echoed the same for the Higgins Park parking lot. They have COVID dollars that need to be appropriated.

Eric Drouin, 221 Broad Brook Road

Mr. Drouin stated he was disappointed that Enfield did not receive any LOCIP funds this last round. Mr. Drouin asked whether Enfield had applied and if the town had any projects in the hopper. He said it was a great way for the town to get funding. He asked for the status of the Town Farm path, which was supposed to have been funded three or four years ago. The Capital Improvement link on the DPW site has not been updated since June. He mentioned that there was a lot of opposition to solar fields, but no one mentions the benefits. He believed there needed to be a balanced discussion about them.

Kathleen Durner, 17 Sandpiper Road

Ms. Durner said that as a senior, there is more she cares about besides taxes, including quality of life and image. Ms. Durner stated that Enfield's reputation has declined based on the decisions regarding the schools. She explained the desirability of the town has also

decreased due to the increased student size in primary schools. It sends a strong message about how Enfield will become if quality education is not supported.

Maryann Turner, 7 Meadow Road

Ms. Turner stated that over the years she has seen many members of the Council come together and do many great things for Enfield schools. Ms. Turner believed that the current Council members did a great job and came together for the best interest of the town regarding the school budget. Even though the school board asked for an 8% increase, the 2% they received was still an increase and not a cut.

Peter Jonaitis, 3 Farmstead Circle

Mr. Jonaitis said that when he first started teaching there were 15,000 students. Currently, they have around 5,000. Mr. Jonaitis stated that there are also more staff members now than when he started teaching. He said that regardless of what side you are on, everyone is trying to do the best they can for the students. He explained that many higher-paid positions had been cut. Enfield is not comparable to Ellington or Somers. Enfield is very diverse and has a lot of poverty and middle class, but also some upper-class neighborhoods. He said that people are still moving to Enfield, and that a good portion are special education students, as well as many immigrant students. He felt it was wrong to say the Council does not care about Enfield students.

Kelly Hemmeler, 10 Hartford Avenue

Ms. Hemmeler thanked the Council for funding the armed guards. She mentioned the Board of Education increase and that the Council does a great job.

9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Councilor Cressotti reminded the public that September is Suicide Awareness Month. He indicated that suicide is the third leading cause of death for people aged ten to twenty-four, and the second leading cause for people aged twenty-five to thirty-four. He said it was a topic that he believed deserved attention. He thanked the public for their involvement this evening and he hoped to be able to get a resolution to their concerns. He looked forward to the Job Fair and Economic Development Breakfast on September 26th.

Mr. Cressotti recognized the Enfield Police Department for their participation in this year's Dream Ride. Over the weekend, Ujima had an event at the Enfield Library titled "The African Americans of Enfield," which was attended by Councilors Mangini, Pyznar and himself. The Enfield residents recognized during the event included Maya Matthews and her brother Trey, Nzima Hutchings, the Swift Family, Chad Woodyard and Chad's wife, many of whom are members of the Ujima group. He encouraged the public to visit the exhibit on the second floor of the Old Town Hall Museum, which was created in collaboration with the University

of Connecticut.

Councilor Mangini thought the Ujima event was well put together, and it was an honor to attend. She stated that cars and trucks need to pay attention on the road now that the new school year has started. Many of these vehicles drive over the speed limit in school zones.

Councilor Rousseau stated that he watched the Siting Council meeting the previous week and took a lot of notes. He learned a lot about the proposed solar project on Town Farm Road and Abbe Road area. Mr. Rousseau attended the 9/11 Ceremony with other councilors on September 11th at the Weymouth Road Fire Station. It was a wonderful tribute put on by the staff. He said the firehouse also has a 9/11 remembrance garden with two beams from the North Tower of the World Trade Center and encouraged residents to visit.

Councilor Unghire commended the Weymouth Road Fire Station for their dedication to honoring the victims of 9/11. She stated that they had a wreath laying ceremony in their memorial garden placed by Riley's Dance Studio and the event was well attended. Gary Santino, Pastor of Faith Baptist Church, gave a beautiful speech at the event.

Councilor Ludwick asked for an update on the bonding for the pipes at the Enfield Schools. He wanted to know if it was at all possible to use town funds for creating their own Farmland Preservation as they move closer to discussions on the solar fields. He said that there is a solar project going on behind Raffia Road that has already started construction, as well as one over by the prison. He believed that Enfield had done their part in solar field construction. He is not against solar, but he feels it is not as environmentally friendly as they make it seem.

Mr. Ludwick reminded taxpayers that when he was mayor, the State of Connecticut had cut the towns' cost-sharing grant by \$8 million. The Council appropriated funds to cover the loss. During that time, both parties cut the town budget and were able to keep the board whole while maintaining all programs. By law, they are not able to cut the school's budget. It would be a fair argument to say they were not able to fund them fully. The Council gave the Board of Education a 2% increase and took over security. He stated that four years prior, town money was used to fund police officers to patrol elementary schools at a cost of about a quarter million dollars. He reminded residents that taxpayers covered the \$6 million that the board had overspent, and to their credit, the board had to make some tough cuts. Now they have a small surplus and a contingency fund. Around \$4 million was cut from CIP for projects that need to get done to cover the \$5.9 million.

Councilor Hendrickson motioned for a public hearing on the possible farm tax abatement,

seconded by Mr. Ludwick. He would like to get additional opinions and views from the public about whether the program goes through or not. Mayor Nelson said he would like to discuss the possible tax abatement first among the Council before adding it to a future agenda so they can come to a consensus about how they would like the program to possibly move forward. It was decided to add it as an "Item for Discussion" at a future meeting.

Deputy Mayor Pyznar congratulated Jason Neely and his team for registering 258 children for their programs over the summer. Ms. Pyznar also attended the Weymouth Road Fire House for their 9/11 memorial. She said there are many young children who are not aware of what happened that day and thought it would be important to have a program about 9/11 brought into schools. She was in attendance at the Ujima exhibit, and it talked about the history of Enfield tobacco as well. Allied is having their family day on Saturday the 28th, from 10am to 3pm. She asked for a comprehensive list of schools whose roofs have been completed and those that are on schedule to be completed as part of the referendum. She has received many calls about the status of the School Modernization Plan.

Mayor Nelson discussed how the railroad issue on Abbe Road has been a problem for over forty years. He said that portion was being considered for Rails-to-Trails, and he believed everyone was in agreement about wanting it to move forward. Mr. Hosley has a big heart when it comes to Enfield's historical preservation, but there is tension with the Enfield Historical Society. He would like to invite Mr. Hosley as a special guest so he can make his case for saving Martha Parson's house. He would like to have his presentation given to leadership beforehand so they can make sure it addresses specific points.

Mr. Bromson said that Enfield is full of talent, and he enjoys the discourse that happens during meetings bringing ideas to the table. He explained the procedure for adding items to an agenda. He would be willing to add the farm tax abatement as a discussion, but ultimately it would need to be agreed upon in leadership first.

Mr. Bromson stated that Enfield has diligently applied for grants. They had received \$1.25 million last year in LOCIP funds, which were used for the sidewalks and culverts. The town is actively pursuing the funds for this year as well. Many projects have been five years in the making, and the quote that the "wheels of government turn slowly" has proven to be true. Enfield staff and Council actively and aggressively work with Joe Courtney, the governor's office, and federal offices to push out every possibility for grants.

10. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Interim Town Attorney Tyler recalled back in May a similar request to add items to a future agenda was made by two councilors. Mr. Tyler noted that at that time, he rendered an opinion on the Town Charter regarding a request by two Council members to add an item

to a future agenda. There are no provisions allowing for such action to be taken. However, two Council members may request a special meeting be held by the Council. He explained if they had wanted to add the item to this evening's agenda, a majority of 2/3 votes (8 votes) would be needed. He was unsure of any way it would be authorized to add a public hearing as an item for discussion for a future meeting but would like the opportunity to review the Town Charter for clarity.

Mr. Tyler reported on the meeting with Lodestar Energy. He stated that transcripts were available online. The town was well represented at the prior hearing by Donald Nunes. Karen LaPlante did a great job representing the farmers and citizens of Enfield. The intervenors were great as well. According to Attorney Jeff Merman, the next step is for him to submit a brief by October 3rd to the Siting Council. The intervenors are welcome to do the same. On October 10th, the Siting Council will present its conclusions. The Siting Council will not render an opinion until November 8th. He is cautiously optimistic the Siting Council will give a fair resolution. The timeline to submit any outstanding testimonies from other residents has ended, but they will still take them and submit them.

11. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Councilor Nasuta announced the Joint Facilities Committee met on August 29th and discussed the two ongoing roof projects: Alcorn and Parkman School. The paperwork for Alcorn was submitted to the state in February. They are just finding out that additional paperwork is needed. The design documents for Parkman are completed and will be ready to submit to the state. They are finalizing the paperwork for Hazardville and Eli Whitney.

Councilor Hendrickson attended the Prison Town Liaison meeting on Wednesday and thanked the two wardens who were present. Warden Thibeault from Cybulski mentioned that they have a veteran's wing with about thirty-five inmates and is looking for possible veterans' work within the town. He suggested speaking to Lucien LeFevre about possible opportunities.

Mayor Nelson announced that Councilor Ludwick and himself had attended the Public Safety Committee meeting, and the number one complaint was speeding. They are discussing different ideas for traffic-calming measures, including possibly hiring additional traffic officers or installing speed bumps, rotaries, or swales. The idea is to implement these on certain roads to see the effect as there are seventy-three possible locations.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Request for Transfer of Funds for the Removal of Existing Dugouts and Installation of New Dugouts at Powder Hollow Park Baseball Diamond - \$93,400 (Tabled 9/3/24)

Mayor Nelson said he had received multiple phone calls from residents asking when the project would be completed. He stated that Spazzarini Construction had offered to remove the dugouts free of charge, which would lower the requested transfer amount significantly. He speculated it would cost about \$5,000 to replace the fencing where the current dugouts are. Four Seasons Landscaping has donated the pads for the new dugouts, which will be made of stone dust and not concrete. For safety reasons, they cannot just pull up the dugouts as it would leave the players unprotected. Fencing would still need to go up to complete the project. He believed that \$5,000 would get the project finished and up to standards for Little League and the schools. It would also provide an opportunity for them to do fundraising over the winter or get corporate sponsors for new dugouts. DPW director Donald Nunes was able to present a visual to aid in determining what would be required and attainable with \$5,000. The funds would come from Sparkle Street project, which is ARPA designated funds. Councilor Cekala did not believe that the project would be finished with \$5,000. She supported completing the entire project and not just removing the dugouts.

RESOLUTION #7022 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Gina Cekala.

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

FROM: SPARKLE STREET PUMP STATION

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 24508328 545000	\$ 93,400
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TO: POWDER HOLLOW BASEBALL FIELD

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 24508234 545000	\$ 93,400
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I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of August 30, 2024, by John A. Wilcox, CPA, Director of Finance

Mr. Bromson asked Director of Finance, John Wilcox, if the funds would be ARPA funds. Mr. Wilcox stated that the Sparkle Pump project would then be short of funds. However, the \$5,000 could come from the DPW's operational budget. Councilor Cressotti said that Athletic Director Corey O'Connell is fine with the current design and idea for the space. Councilor Santanella said he would not be voting because he believed if the project could not be completed properly, he would rather leave it alone. Councilor Mangini would also not be voting for the same reasons.

AMENDMENT #1 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Robert Cressotti to reduce the appropriation to \$5,000 for the removal of the existing dugouts and the installation of fencing.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire No: Cynthia Mangini, John Santanella Abstain: None.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7022** adopted as amended. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, Lori Unghire No: John Santanella Abstain: None.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda

None.

B. Appointment(s)–Town Council Appointed - NONE

C. Request for Transfer of Funds for the Central Library Roof Project - \$401,784.64

RESOLUTION #7023 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: COVID - 19 FUND

Sparkle Street Pump Station -24508328 545000	\$396,300.00
Construction Services	
Generator/Transfer Switch -24508229 573100	\$ 3,934.64
Machinery & Equipment	
Business Assistance - Miscellaneous 24508329 589000	\$ 550.00
Expenditures	

TO: COVID - 19 FUND

Central Library Roof - Construction 24508239 545000	\$400,784.64
Services	

I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of September 13, 2024, by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance.

AMENDMENT #1 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Bob Hendrickson to increase the appropriation to \$415,500 (remaining balance) from the Annex Roof Referendum Construction to the Central Library Roof Construction.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7023** adopted as amended. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

D. Resolution Approving the Revised Recreation Residency Policy

RESOLUTION #7024 by: John Santanella, seconded: Robert Cressotti.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter III Section 5 of the Town Charter the Enfield Town Council does hereby adopt the updated Recreation Residency Policy as attached. *(A copy of the proposed policy is appended to these minutes.)*

Jason Neely, Library and Leisure Services Director, came to discuss the revisions to the recreation residency policy. He highlighted the importance of ensuring Enfield residents have priority registration. He is expecting an uptick in school-aged children joining sports programs due to the changes made to the education and sports budget. He explained there has been a change in demand from Enfield residents for what they can provide due to limited full-time staffing. The most significant change is allowing non-residents to join programs if space is available, two weeks after registration ends.

MOTION by: John Santanella, seconded: Gina Cekala to table the item.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION TO TABLE** adopted and **RESOLUTION #7024** was tabled. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

E. Resolution to authorize the Town Manager or His Designee to Sign Grant Documents for the Connecticut Brownfield Municipal Grant Program for 90 Elm Street (Enfield Marketplace)

Mr. Bromson announced the deadline to apply for the grant is September 27th. The town is applying for both the Woodsonia project and for the Levitz projects. The maximum they can

receive is \$4 million, and the state can determine the awards and how the award is split.

RESOLUTION #7025 by: Gina Cekala, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager or his designee to sign appropriate documents for the submission of a Connecticut Brownfield Municipal Grant for the Enfield Marketplace, 90 Elm Street.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7025** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

F. Resolution to authorize the Town Manager or His Designee to Sign Grant Documents for the Connecticut Brownfield Municipal Grant Program for 33 North River Street (Enfield Station)

RESOLUTION #7026 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Robert Cressotti.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager or his designee to sign appropriate documents for the submission of a Connecticut Brownfield Municipal Grant for the Enfield Station, 33 North River Street.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7026** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

G. Resolution to Establish an America250 Coordinating Committee

Mr. Bromson stated he has never appointed that many members to a committee in his time as manager, but he would submit letters to the committees to let them know they would need volunteers. If they do not get the number of volunteers they need, then it cannot go through. He said that Enfield is a very patriotic town, and this committee would be well received. Director of Economic and Community Development, Aaron Marcavitch, said that the semi-quincentennial (250th) anniversary of the founding of the United States will be approaching on July 4, 2026. The State of Connecticut has encouraged municipalities to establish coordinating committees. The committees will work with local groups to develop programs. Since Enfield already hosts a well-known 4th of July celebration, he believed the town is at an advantage.

RESOLUTION #7027 by: John Santanella, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Enfield Town Council authorize the creation of an “America250 Coordinating Committee” and authorize the Town Manager to make appointments consisting of two representatives from Town Council, and one representative from the Economic Development Commission, the Board of Education, the Culture & Arts Commission, the Historic District Commission, the Historical Society, the Hazardville Institute, the July 4th Committee, the North Central Chamber of Commerce, and three at large members. This committee will be automatically disbanded on June 30, 2027. The Office of Economic & Community Development will be tasked with providing staff and administrative support for this committee.

AMENDMENT #1 by: John Santanella, seconded: Gina Cekala to amend the resolution as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Enfield Town Council authorizes the creation of an “America250 Coordinating Committee” and authorizes the Town Council to make appointments consisting of a total of eleven (11) members, two of which shall be members of the Town Council. This committee will be automatically disbanded on June 30, 2027. The Office of Economic & Community Development will be tasked with providing staff and administrative support for this committee.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7027** adopted as amended. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

H. Resolution Determining the Number of Early Voting Locations for the Upcoming November 2024 Presidential Election

Mayor Nelson said he spoke with former Registrar Lewis Fiore and current Registrar Thomas Kienzler about Early Voting locations when it was in its infancy. At that time, it was decided one polling place would be needed.

RESOLUTION #7028 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: John Santanella.

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut is allowing municipalities over the population of 20,000, the option of having a second Early Voting location:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby accept the Enfield Registrar of Voters plan of having one central location for Early Voting, at the Enfield Town Hall (820 Enfield Street) effective Monday October 21, 2024 through Sunday November 3, 2024

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with State Statutes the Secretary of State's Office will be notified of this acceptance.

Upon a ROLL CALL vote, the Chair declared RESOLUTION #7028 adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

I. Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for the Proposed Revisions to the Property Maintenance Ordinance

Councilor Santanella said that Mayor Nelson and himself have worked hard on this committee to make revisions to the ordinance and address blight. Mr. Santanella said there were in depth conversations regarding the definition of blight, whether blight complaints should be anonymous, and if the town is able to identify blight and cite it without a complaint. He said it was important to get public feedback on these questions. Mayor Nelson agreed that there were some aspects of the ordinance they didn't agree on, and for many years it has been neighbor versus neighbor. He believed that if it is on a public roadway, then it is a public nuisance and should be taken care of. Submitted complaints should not be anonymous.

RESOLUTION #7029 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: John Santanella.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council will hold a Public Hearing in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Monday, October 7, 2024 at 6:30 pm to allow interested citizens an opportunity to express their opinion regarding the proposed revisions to the Property Maintenance Ordinance, Chapter 14 Article IV Sections 14-171 through 14-210.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7029** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

J. Resolution to Authorize the Foreclosure of Property Maintenance Fines for 48 Prospect Street

Mayor Nelson informed everyone that the owner of this property is deceased, and the home is being occupied by individuals who have no rights to the home.

RESOLUTION #7030 by: Jim Nasuta, seconded: Robert Cressotti.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council does hereby authorize the foreclosure of 48 Prospect Street for the property maintenance fines associated with the property maintenance lien recorded May 14, 2024 at Volume 2903 Page 1196.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7030** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None. (Marie Pyznar having stepped out.)

K. Resolution to Authorize the Foreclosure of Property Maintenance Fines for 155 Elm Street

Kristy Koistinen, Community Development Specialist, stated that this property was willed to a gentleman in Maryland. He has been sent multiple letters via certified mail and first-class mail, all of which have been returned. He was invited to attend Blight Review meetings to discuss the outstanding liens, and ultimately, it was decided to start the foreclosure process after he did not respond. The house has multiple broken windows, overgrown grass, and dead trees. The neighbors have voiced their concerns.

RESOLUTION #7031 by: John Santanella, seconded: Robert Cressotti.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council does hereby authorize the foreclosure of 155 Elm Street for the property maintenance fines associated with the property maintenance lien recorded October 4, 2023 at Volume 2886 Page 131.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7031** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

L. Resolution to Establish a Charter Revision Commission

RESOLUTION #7032 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Lori Unghire.

WHEREAS, The Town Charter of the Town of Enfield was last revisited in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Charter should be reviewed periodically to ensure that it continues to meet the current needs of the people of Enfield.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby establish a Charter Revision Commission composed of not fewer than five, nor more than fifteen electors, not more than one-third of whom may hold any public office in the municipality, and not more than a bare majority of whom shall be members of any one political party, to review and recommend changes or modifications in the present Charter it deems appropriate, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 7-188 et seq.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7032** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Potential Solar Farms on Town Owned Property

Currently, the Town of Enfield is mowing eight to ten acres of grass in the Spruceland neighborhood. Building and Grounds is being paid to maintain the property, but there could be a better use for the properties. Mayor Nelson has contacted several farms to see if any are interested in haying the property, which would save the town from having to pay staff to mow. He believed that having local farms doing the haying would benefit not only the farms but their livestock, which provide Enfield and surrounding towns with dairy products. Councilor Ludwick stated he would like to see a similar arrangement like the one the town has with Collins Creamery.

Mr. Bromson suggested compiling a list of town-owned property, potential uses, and volunteers to help with maintenance. He also said it may be possible to find income-generating purposes for the properties as well. He asked the Council to determine which committee they would like to present it to and compile a list.

MOTION by: John Santanella, seconded: Gina Cekala to refer the item to the General Government and Finance Subcommittee. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted. Yes: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Bob Hendrickson, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Jim Nasuta, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, Jeff Rousseau, John Santanella, Lori Unghire No: None Abstain: None.

- Use of Marijuana in Public Ordinance

Mayor Nelson attended the country concert at Higgins Park and noticed that there were a number of individuals smoking marijuana in public. The concern was discussed during a Public Safety meeting, and it was confirmed that the State of Connecticut finds it legal to

smoke unless the municipality has an ordinance passed prohibiting it. He asked the Council if they would create an ordinance to ban smoking marijuana on town-owned property. Mr. Bromson asked the Council to seek out other town ordinances similar to what Enfield is looking to create. He also asked that it be referred to the Town Attorney to obtain samples. The sample ordinances will be added to the packet for the next meeting. It was decided it would be referred to the Public Safety Subcommittee for discussion.

Councilor Cressotti asked if alcohol could also be added to the ordinance, and Mr. Bromson said they could revisit it as well. Deputy Mayor Pyznar said she would like to see it expanded to cover all smoking (cigarettes and vaping included). Councilor Unghire asked if Public Safety could provide statistics about alcohol within their parks.

- Joining Surrounding Town Protesting Increased Electrical to our Residence and Town

Deputy Mayor Pyznar has been working with Representative Carol Hall to draft a letter protesting the increased electrical costs to present to each of the councilors. It is their goal to get the letter out by the end of the week and would like any input councilors have. Ms. Cekala read the letter to the audience and said she would provide edits and suggestions.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING

None.

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

None.

17. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

None.

18. ADJOURNMENT

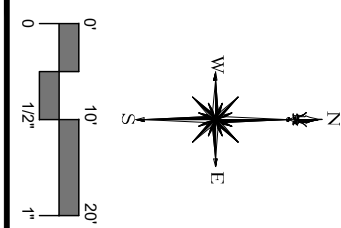
MOTION by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: Lori Unghire to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 10:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Lindsay Petrucci, Assistant Town Clerk
Secretary of the Council



Recreation Division
RESIDENCY POLICY

Enfield Recreation programs are for the enjoyment of Enfield Residents. ~~The Town of Enfield will give preference to Enfield residents participating in Recreation Division activities.~~ An Enfield resident is defined as a citizen whose primary residence is in Enfield. This privilege will be extended to **minor** dependent children of Enfield residents, even if the children live in another town. **Program registration may be extended to non-residents, for certain programs, at a higher fee. If so, the non-resident rate will be listed in the program details.**

Enfield residents will be allowed to register for all programs ~~and Recreation Division sponsored sports leagues~~ at the initial registration date ~~for all seasonal offerings.~~ Proof of residency will be required at the time of registration. Acceptable forms of ID are: valid driver’s license, tax bill, utility bill, and renter’s/homeowner’s agreement.

Registrations for non-residents will be accepted **for select programs**, if space is available, ~~one~~ **two** weeks ~~after the initial program and Recreation Division sponsored sports leagues registration date~~ for Enfield residents. A 25% surcharge will be added to the user fee, for each individual registration. ~~Non-residents are not eligible for enrollment in free programs or for season passes.~~

Recreation Division sponsored adult sports leagues team rosters will be required to follow the membership chart listed below:

<u>Number of Players</u>	<u>Number of Non-Residents</u>
1-4	0
5-9	1
10-14	2
15-19	3
20-24	4
25+	5

Maximum number of 5 non-residents per team roster

Effective: September 1, 2019