

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 7:30
P.M. PUBLIC HEARING, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH
MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Chairman David Orsini; Vice-Chairman David Schrumm; Council Members Justin Adinolfi, Steve Carroll, Michael Ecke, Matthew Hall, Diane Visconti, and Timothy White.

Town Manager Michael A. Milone

Attorney Andrew Knott

Library Director Ramona Hartnett

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ray Squire, 291 Cook Hill Road, complimented Councilor Ecke for his well written and well expressed letter in the *Cheshire Herald* about former Council member Sheldon Dill. Mr. Squire also commended Councilor Justin Adinolfi for his service on the Council, and thanked him for doing a good job. Mr. Squire said it grieves him to think the Town wants to spend \$900,000 on the "lunar walk" and not send this money to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in the south. He understands why this matter is going to referendum for the people to decide if they want it, and noted there is truth in spending for \$900,000 for the walk, along with additional \$100 annually in taxes. Mr. Squire also commented on the \$800,000 to \$900,000 slush fund, and asked the Council to consider whether Cheshire needs to spend this money or send it to the Red Cross.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Carroll.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-1
RESOLUTION #091305-1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the Consent Calendar for September 13, 2005 as follows:

- A. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$17,773.00 Youth Service Bureau grant from the Connecticut State Department of Education to offset Youth and Social Services Department salaries.

- B. Appropriation of \$567.00 from the Crusade Against Cancer Task Force Gift Account for the purchase of sunscreen reminder signage.
- C. Appropriation of \$635.00 from the Open Space Gift Account for trailhead signs.
- D. Appropriation of \$553.00 from the Senior Mini-Bus Fund for the Greater Waterbury Transit District FY 05-06 dues.
- E. Appropriation of \$2,000.00 from the Senior Mini-Bus Fund for the Non-ADA transportation service fees.
- F. Authorization to execute an agreement (currently being amended) With the Police Chief's Association for interview panelists due to Indemnification clause.
- G. Acceptance of a donation of \$374.00 from play performance concession stand sales to the Cheshire Performing and Fine Arts Gift Account for scholarships.
- H. Appropriation of \$15,000 from the Police Gift Account for ATV and motorcycle maintenance and equipment, special events, and damaged equipment replacement/repair.
- I. Appropriation of \$15,000 from the Police Gift Account for computer, SRT, fitness, communications and office equipment.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

5. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Action re: Proposed FY 2005-2006 Annual Capital Expenditure Budget (WPCA projects)

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Dixon.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-2, items #13 through #14.

RESOLUTION #091305-2
Items #13 through #14

13. FY 2005-2006 CED #8 – Update of Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the resolution designated FY 2005-2006 CEB #8, with the heading “Town of Cheshire, \$300,000 Appropriation and Borrowing Authorization for Update of Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan.”

14. FY 2005-2006 CED #0 – Planning and Design of Improvements to the Lilac Drive Pump Station.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the resolution designated FY 2005-2006 CEB #9, with the heading “Town of Cheshire, \$150,000 Appropriation and Borrowing Authorization for Planning and Design of Improvements to the Lilac Drive Pump Station.”

Discussion

Mr. Schrumm advised that this is a housekeeping detail resulting from an error of notification for the last public hearing on the capital budget process.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

B. Discussion and action re: Establishment of a reserve fund for Debt Service and Heart & Hypertension in the General Fund.

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Dixon.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-3

RESOLUTION #091305-3

WHEREAS, the General Fund June 30, 2005 unaudited surplus is estimated to be \$1,191,225, and the undesignated and unreserved portion of its Fund Balance is, therefore, estimated to be \$5,260,462, and represents approximately 6.56% of estimated June 20, 2005 actual budgeted expenditures; and,

WHEREAS, the Budget Committee has discussed and recommended setting aside an amount of \$150,000 of these funds in anticipation of minimizing the impact of any increases in the Town’s future debt service; and

WHEREAS, that in order to facilitate this action, generally accepted accounting principles require that this \$150,000 be appropriated to the General Fund operating budget Debt Service line item;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cheshire Town Council appropriates \$150,000 to the FY 05/06 General Fund Operating Budget increasing the debt service A/C #1-10-50-390-393-709 from \$-0- to \$150,000, and the total General Fund appropriation from \$83,668,273 to \$83,818,273; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cheshire Town Council increases the Fund Equity Revenue A/C #2-10-45-000-901-000 from \$550,000 to \$700,000, and the total General Fund revenues from \$83,668,273 to \$83,818,273.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cheshire Town Council reserves the amount of \$150,000 to the Debt Reserve Fund at 6/30/06 to be added to the current balance of \$113,078, for a total of \$263,078.

Discussion

Mr. Schrumm explained there is an unaudited surplus from last fiscal year ending 6/30/05 of \$1.2 million. \$550,000 of the \$1.2 million has been allocated to this new fiscal year; part of the money will remain in fund balance; and this motion and the next one will take some of the surplus funds and put them into reserve accounts for future expenditures. The wording of the resolution is such, that by Charter and bond counsel, the funds must be first allocated to the general fund and then to the debt service reserve fund.

Mrs. Visconti asked if there were other options for the use of this money.

In response, Mr. Schrumm said that this gives allocation of money to other items but debt service is very expensive and this is setting aside funds for future payments.

Mrs. Visconti asked about consideration of energy needs for the winter and into the future and doing some work to the Town buildings to make them more energy efficient.

Although this has not been directly discussed, Mr. Schrumm explained that future energy projects will come from the capital budget, paid for by debt service, and this is indirectly setting aside money, but not for a specific project.

Mr. Adinolfi asked if there is an option to reduce taxes with this money.

According to Mr. Schrumm, the time to save taxpayers money was last April with the mill rate, and this reserve will save money for taxpayers next fiscal year. He advised that the Council cannot go back retroactively and set the mill rate because the Charter will not permit such an action.

Mr. Carroll stated that Cheshire is fortunate to end up with a large surplus, and instead of cutting checks for everyone, these funds will be used as a revenue

source for next year. It makes sense to set aside money for future bill payments, and this is what is being done.

Stating it does make sense to set aside money for future payments, Mrs. Visconti asked how we ended up with more money than expected.

Town Manager Milone responded by advising that expenditures came in as expected; there was significant better tax collection of 99.4%; there was money from the tax lien sale; there was \$87,000 from a defaulted deferral agreement; \$100,000 to \$150,000 as a result of investment income exceeding expectations; and miscellaneous revenue with cancellation of encumbrances.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Carroll.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-4

RESOLUTION #091305-4

WHEREAS, the General Fund June 30, 2005 unaudited surplus is estimated to be \$1,191,225, and the undesignated and unreserved portion of its Fund Balance is, therefore, estimated to be \$5,260,462, and represents approximately 6.56% of estimated June 20, 2005 actual budgeted expenditures; and,

WHEREAS, the Budget Committee has discussed and recommended setting aside an amount of \$150,000 of these funds in anticipation of minimizing the impact of any increases in the Town's Heart & Hypertension Liability; and

WHEREAS, that in order to facilitate this action, generally accepted accounting principles require that this \$150,000 be appropriated to the General Fund operating budget Workers' Compensation – Other line item;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cheshire Town Council appropriates \$150,000 to the FY 05/06 General Fund Operating Budget increasing the Workers' Compensation-Other A/C #1-10-05-110-112-710 from \$290,000 to \$440,000, and the total General Fund appropriation from \$83,818,273 to \$83,968,273; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cheshire Town Council increases the Fund Equity Revenue A/C #2-10-45-000-901-000 from \$700,000 to \$850,000, and the total General Fund revenues from \$83,818,273 to \$83,968,273.

Discussion

Mr. Schrumm explained that this money will be added to the reserve fund for heart and hypertension from the \$1.2 million surplus to fund future claims under

the heart and hypertension law. The fund has \$290,000 from this fiscal year operating budget.

Mr. Hall questioned taking \$300,000 from the unaudited surplus, and the end balance as far as percentage of FY 04-05 expenditures.

In response, Mr. Schrumm reported that the percentage is slightly over 6% of the fund balance, and that bond counsel wants at least 5% of the operating budget in fund balance. As the budget grows, the amount in the fund balance must increase in order to keep it a +5%. Mr. Schrumm said it is prudent to put money in the debt service and heart/hypertension reserve funds.

Mr. Hall asked about bringing the fund balance down further, citing the debt service as the Town's mortgage, and allocation of more money for debt service, reducing the debt further. He also asked about running the risk of reducing the fund balance further.

Mr. Milone advised there was information and a table included in the Council packets. The additional reduction of \$300,000 in fund balance brings it to 6.18%. As for drawing more money down, he would not want to be just above the 5% level because there is always a possibility of extenuating circumstances impacting the budget at any time. He would want to know there is money there to draw on, and not go below the 5% level. This is why he advocates an amount above 5%, and he noted it has taken many years to get above the 5% level.

With regard to the Town's rating by Moody and Fitch, Mr. Hall said that going forward we have a high rating and want to be higher. The one obstacle has been debt service, and he wonders about the elusive magic number over 5%, and it is something to be watched over the next few years.

Mr. Milone advised that the rating agencies come back to the debt ratios. Our capital expenditure budget has been reduced over the last few years, and debt service as a percentage of the budget will be about 11.5%. This is a significant marker, and he will be looking at future debt service reserves in order to stabilize debt. Another \$50,000 in the debt service reserve will not affect the credit ratings.

Going to 5.5% level for the fund balance was raised by Mr. Adinolfi, who said there could be another \$500,000 appropriated to reduce the debt. The resolution on the floor moves \$300,000 out of the surplus.

It was pointed out by Mr. Milone that at the end of last fiscal year the fund balance was 5.96% of the operating expenditures of the previous year. He cautioned against going less than that percentage level because rating agencies look at percentages. He does not want to see a decline in percentages because it indicates we are going in the wrong direction.

Mr. Schrumm stated that we must get the total debt going down; we are trying to fund projects through CNR; we are putting more money into CNR; and this will make it easier to get the total indebtedness down.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

C. Discussion and action re: Establishment of a reserve fund in the WPCD Enterprise Fund.

Mr. Schrumm explained that this proposal would have a reserve within a reserve, require additional accounting and is not a worth while action.

D. Discussion and action re: the Town's withdrawal from the Library Exchange Aids Patrons (LEAP) effective May 1, 2006.

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Carroll.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-6

RESOLUTION #091305-6

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council withdraws the Town of Cheshire's membership from Library Exchange Aids Patrons (LEAP) effective May 1, 2006.

Discussion

This matter was discussed at the Budget Committee meeting, and Mr. Schrumm stated that the new Library Director, Ramona Hartnett, has been looking at Library operations and areas for saving money while providing better service. There is a \$7,000 savings with this proposal along with enhancement of services by staff and for patrons. He commended Ms. Hartnett and Town Manager Milone for their efforts with improvement of Library services.

Mr. Carroll also recognized Ms. Hartnett for her work as Library Director, and said he was pleased to see savings generated with service enhancement.

Library Director Hartnett explained how the consortium works, and the rationale behind withdrawal from LEAP by the Cheshire Library. Cheshire has been a member of LEAP since 1977, and over this time period other larger consortiums have developed, and there are benefits to being in a larger consortium. The Library staff has advised that there are inconsistencies in the software programs, and LEAP is not doing work in integrated software. Research began in the spring and through the summer on other consortiums; presentations were given to the staff; and it was determined there will be cost savings with termination of membership in LEAP.

According to Ms. Hartnett the net saving will be about \$7,000, and there will be enhancement of patron and staff services. The move would take place effective May 2006.

Mr. Milone pointed out that advance notice must be given to LEAP, and in October Ms. Hartnett will give a presentation to the Council on the new consortium.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

E. Discussion and action re: Authorization to execute a Tax Assessment Agreement with Whole Foods/WFM

This matter was tabled; the agreement must go back to the Town Attorney for further study and review; and it will be on the agenda of the next Council meeting.

F. Correction of minutes of April 13, 2004 Town Council Meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Carroll; seconded by Mr. Dixon.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves Resolution #091305-8

RESOLUTION #091305-8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council corrects the minutes of April 13, 2004, Town Council Meeting, page 22, vote on the main resolution on the floor to read as follows:

***VOTE on the main resolution on the floor:
In Favor – 5 (Schrumm, Orsini, Dill, White, Carroll);
Opposed – 4 (Adinolfi, Visconti, Ecke, Hall)
The main motion passed 5-4.***

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this correction will be attached to the original documentation on file in the Town Clerk's office.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

8. TOWN COUNCIL REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Status Report.

B. Departmental Status Report

C. Other Reports.

- FY '06 Budget Monthly Report and FY '06 State Aid to Municipalities – Mr. Milone reported that the budget looks fine at this time, but there will be impact of high utility costs on the budget. \$86,000 in insurance savings expected; a shortfall of \$60,000 to \$80,000 is expected in the utility account; \$400,000 additional state aid received; Pequot grant increased by \$407,000.
- Capital Expenditure Plan-Updated Debt/Financial Analysis – in Council packets.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant-90% Capacity Plan – at this time the WPCA is dealing with this issue. By law there is a capacity of 3.5 million gallons per day at the plant, and if the average flow, over a 6 month period, exceeds 90% then the Town must have a plan on how to deal with this. Flows over the last few months were 3.22 million gallons in April, 3.3 million in May, 3.11 million in June, 3.82 million in July and 3.22 in August.

The WPCA has formed a subcommittee which will recommend a moratorium on sewer hook-ups, except for health reasons as approved by Chesprocott.

The WPCA meets on September 28th to set the moratorium, which will provide time to strategize operations and have the best information to provide more recommendations. PW Director Michaelangelo, Plant Supervisor Divert, and staff will hold a meeting on the operations and reaction to the plans, and WPCA will be looking at re-rating the facility. The facility was built to capacity of 3.5 million gallons daily, and if it can be demonstrated that our capacity exceeds this flow, then there can be an argument to the State that our capacity is more than this, i.e. 3.7 million gallons daily.

WPCA must measure the level of capacity; look at weaknesses in the chain of pumps, pipes, tanks, and with some possible remedial construction, the capacity could be re-rated.

Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) seems to be a key element on why we are exceeding 90% capacity at the plant. The WPCA will discuss how to monitor excess flows, where they are coming from, have flow meters in the manholes, identify actual location of excess flows with cameras (i.e. sump pumps with illegal hook-ups).

Mr. Milone reported that the Town of Greenwich had an aggressive program for its plant, and we will be looking at our ordinance for possible fine increases. Greenwich hired plumbing inspectors to inspect houses, and after two failed inspection attempts, people were fined money per day if entrance was not allowed. The position of Town administrators is that people should be fined or pay for the additional rate for excess flow. These issue will be discussed with Town Attorney Knott.

Another issue for the WPCA is reserve capacity, how to use it, and allocation and distribution over the next few years. Other communities have been faced with similar situations, and we will get information and policies from them to address our concerns and problems.

- Hurricane Katrina-Support Efforts – Mr. Milone reported that people in the community have shown great sensitivity and concern for the people affected by this hurricane, and donated supplies, materials, and money to the support efforts. At this time the Town is accepting monetary donations, but no more supplies.

With regard to placement of families, Chief Casner has been in contact with the State Office of Emergency Preparedness, and Cheshire will follow the FEMA registration program and established protocols. There is a system of coordinated social services available, and there may be eligibility for FEMA reimbursement with relocation of evacuees. There are health concerns involved as well. Anyone who is willing to host evacuees can get information on the web site about the registration program. Religious congregations interested in placing families will be working through the Human Services Committee.

Cheshire might join in membership with a “sister city” in Louisiana.

With regard to civil preparedness and homeland security issues, Chief Casner and Acting Chief Loudon will give a presentation on what Cheshire is doing for protection of homeowners. The Fire Department web site has a link to the homeland security web site.

- Transmission Line Upgrade – There have been frequent meetings with residents affected by this upgrade; CL&P responded to 27 questions from residents; concerns and information will be sent to CL&P along with options for available for taller towers, moving lines, etc. The Siting Council meets in December to make its final decisions.
- Tree Trimming CL&P program – the fall initiative begins soon; there is a listing of streets in the Council packets where trimming will take place; information will be on the web site; trimming is part of the energy reliability program; and homeowner approval is required for workers to enter private property.
- Leaf Collection Program – This is an in-house program now, with savings last year of \$15,000 to \$25,000; pickup will be done during the week, rather than Saturdays; and there will be three pickups this season.

- Post Office Relocation – A newspaper article indicated the USPS is reviewing all facility projects nationwide. Mr. Milone spoke with Ms. Walker, USPS real estate specialist, who referred him to the Government Relations Office. He spoke with someone at GRO who explained that this situation was unexpected, and it is a national initiative to review all facility projects. Because of the sensitivity of the projects and many far along, the decision will be made quickly.
- Road project status – All identified road projects are on target, with everything to be done by November.
- Sidewalk project status – more sections will be done between Town Hall and Ives Corner, and will be completed by November.
- Motor Vehicle Accidents at South Main Street/Elmwood Drive – Acting Chief Loudon provided a report on the nature of accidents, and the report was in the Council packets.
- Government Finance Officers' Association/Certificate of Achievement – Mr. Milone reported that the Cheshire financial report for FY 2003-04 qualified for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the 11th year that Cheshire has received this award. Mr. Milone commended Finance Director Waldron and Deputy Director Jaskot and their staff on receiving this award.
- Stormwater Management Plan – this plan will be updated at the September 28th meeting.
- Community Pool – closing September 17th at 4 p.m. for installation of the bubble; the pool will reopen on September 27th or 28th, depending on the weather.

Chairman Orsini thanked Town Manager Milone for his report, particularly his clear explanation on the WPCA issues and plans. He asked that this information be documented in order to provide accurate information to the community. Mr. Milone said he would provide the documentation and include average flows over the last few years.

Mr. Orsini reported that he has received phone calls from residents concerned about there being no bulky waste pickup this year, and asked for an explanation on what residents can do this year with their bulky waste.

Mr. Milone advised that the transfer station is open; the schedule is on the PW Department web site; they will accept all items which would be at the curb for bulky waste with a small charge involved. There will be an electronics recycling program this year at a site to be determined.

Based on the information he has received, Mr. Orsini said that the Solid Waste Committee should look into the bulky waste pickup for next year, and the Budget Committee should reconsider the option of the every other year pickup.

Mr. Orsini asked for clarification on the letter from Rep. Fritz regarding the STEAP grant for expansion of the Linear Park.

The STEAP grant of \$500,000 received Council approval for applying for funds for the street scape on West Main Street, and Mr. Milone said that some of the funds could be used for the entrance to the Linear Park project. When these grants are submitted, the recommendation is to petition our legislators (with copy of the grant and a letter) to support the grant application. In his letter, Mr. Milone explained that the grant was primarily for West Main Street improvements, with some of the money for entrance to the Linear Park. Rep. Fritz thought the grant was for the Linear Park, but Mr. Milone said his letter made it clear the grant was for the street scape and the park entrance.

With regard to civil preparedness and homeland security, Mr. Orsini asked for information to residents on what they can do to be prepared in case of an evacuation. He asked when Chief Casner and Acting Chief Loudon can do a presentation for the Council.

Mr. Milone said that the presentation could be done at the September 28th meeting.

The WPCA situation was raised by Mr. Schrumm who said he did not realize the flows could be recalibrated. He noted that our sewer treatment plant has been receiving awards for many years, that Cheshire did the denitrification project at the request of the State, and now we want some slack from the State on the issue of flows at the plant.

According to Mr. Milone the issue is not quality but quantity, and this argument will be made to the State, including the fact that Cheshire went forward with the denitrification project.

Mr. Schrumm said he used the new sidewalks for the first time going to the Fall Festival last weekend, and was pleased to have them in place. Mr. Schrumm asked about bond issues with the yield curve flattened, and if Cheshire will be selling bonds.

At this time Mr. Milone said there is no need to borrow money, and we can stretch it out one more year.

Mr. Schrumm commended the Finance Department staff on their receipt of the GFOA award.

Mr. Hall asked if the Town Attorney will check into enforcement provisions for the I & I, and advise the Town Manager on the language and options available.

Attorney Knott said that these are set by the State, but they will be reviewed and the Council advised.

Mr. Hall addressed the WPCA issue, the meeting of September 28th, and the proposed moratorium on hook-ups to the sewer system, asking if there was a time frame proposed for the moratorium.

Mr. Hall commended the Finance Department staff on their receipt of the GFOA award.

Regarding the CL&P reply, Mr. Dixon asked who will provide the reply, and said that if there is a meeting with the affected residents, the Council should be advised and invited to attend and get input.

Mrs. Visconti asked about the pool closing for the installation of the bubble, and if the pool would open sooner if the bubble is up. She also commented on the rumor circulating in Town that the pool will closed for the winter if it is too expensive to heat.

In response, Mr. Milone said the pool would open as soon as the bubble is up; there are no plans to close the pool due to expenses.

Mrs. Visconti suggested that the Town administrators talk to Rep. Nancy Johnson about the post office relocation issue.

The bulky waste pickup was discussed by Mrs. Visconti, and she said the decision to eliminate pickup this year was due to reduction in revenue. The issue will be looked at again for next year. People who do not have a truck can hire someone to do a dump run for them with proof it is waste from a Cheshire resident.

Mr. Adinolfi talked about the treatment plan flow recalculations, and asked if the plant may have more expected flow than what is there now.

Mr. Milone said that was correct, and he will try to have accurate calculations rather than estimates, and hopes for a good outcome.

Points for consideration were raised by Mr. Adinolfi, who said that sump pumps could be tied into the storm water system; the Town could provide ideas about options and costs; people should be reminded to conserve and use less water; and with the sewer system based on usage, encourage conservation programs.

Mr. Milone said he would follow up on these suggestions, and noted that usage requires metering for all facilities, and this could be an expensive proposal.

9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Knott reported that the Whole Foods certifications from their corporate offices have not been received; once received they will be reviewed.

10. REPORT OF COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL.

A. Chairman's Report.

Mr. Orsini commented on the recent Fall Festival as being the most successful ever held in Town with the fireworks, arts and craft show, and it is a good model going forward.

B. Committee Reports.

Audit – Mr. Ecke had no report.

Solid Waste – Mrs. Visconti reported on the meeting held on 9/13, with update from PW Director Michaelangelo on recycling in Cheshire. We are at 22% recycling; the 2002 booklet on recycling is still available for public information at Town Hall and on the web site. New recycling bins are available at Town Hall. The CRRA tour will be rescheduled.

Planning – Mr. White reported that the item on the Richmond Glen assessment will be followed up; there are two management plans for open space being reviewed by Parks and Rec and Environment Commissions.

Budget – Mr. Schrumm had no report.

Personnel – Mr. Carroll reported on the joint meeting with Ordinance Review held last week with discussion on the Police Department Benefits ordinance; no other matters are pending at this time.

Ordinance Review – some issues under discussion, and Mr. Carroll said they include elderly tax relief which works on age and income, and there is discussion about inclusion of residency tenure. Historic District Commission submitted a recommendation for a demolition delay ordinance which is being studied by the ORC. Penalty for sump pump hook-ups will be studied by the committee.

C. Miscellaneous

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Public Hearings of August 9 and August 22, 2005; Regular Meeting Of August 9, 2005; Special Meetings of August 10, August 17 and August 23, 2005.

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. Dixon.

MOVED that the Town Council accept and approve the minutes of Public Hearings of August 9 and August 22, 2005; Regular Meeting Of August 9, 2005; Special Meetings of August 10, August 17 and August 23, 2005, subject to corrections, deletions and additions.

Discussion

Mr. Dixon asked for clarification of 8/10/05, page 1, para. 2..."and the fact that the chemicals do an incredible job at the facility."

Page 2 – para. 4 – should read..."This would determine the cost of gas per cubic foot."

In response to Mr. Dixon's clarification of his statement, Mr. Milone said that his concern is that because of the effect of the chemicals on mechanical equipment, he was concerned about how reliable this piece of equipment (pool cover) would be. If it is not a reliable mechanical system, he would have to hire lifeguards to close the tarp across the pool.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

12. MISCELLANEOUS AND APPOINTMENTS.

A. Liaison Reports

Energy – Mr. White reported that 16 new households signed up for the 20% by 2010 energy initiative. Also, there was a meeting 6 months ago between the Energy Commission and school administrators with dialogue focused on energy efficiency and improvements and saving money. There was discussion at a recent commission meeting on whether or not the CHS roof is the most long lasting and energy efficient roof available. The commission passed a motion to invite DeCarlo & Doll architects to a meeting to answer questions on current and future needs of the school system, and whether the proposed high school roof is more energy efficient and cost efficient for the long term. The increase in green energy was also discussed at a commission meeting, and this will be looked into further.

B. Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

13. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letters to Council.

B. Miscellaneous

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Pending Claims and Litigation

B. Land Transfers

C. Personnel Matters.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Schrumm; seconded by Mr. White.

MOVED that the Town Council adjourn the meeting of September 13, 2005 at 9:35 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk
Cheshire Town Council