

**WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 25, 2016  
LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER**

**ITEM #1 - MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 9:22 P.M.**

President Slifka: Okay. Let's call the meeting to order and begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM #2 - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Slifka: Okay. Can we have a roll call, please, Ms. Labrot?

**ITEM #3 - ROLL CALL: ALL COUNCILORS WERE PRESENT.**

President Slifka: Thank you, Ms. Labrot. First, congratulations are in order. One person is here and one is not. First to Pat Alair who became a grandfather I think it was yesterday, correct?

Mr. Alair: Last Thursday.

President Slifka: Last Thursday. All right. First time since we've been here so congratulations. And to the one who is not here but is usually always here, our intrepid reporter, Abigail Albair, who I think it was Denise, you said 1:45 a.m. this morning or was it yesterday?

Councilor Hall: Yesterday.

President Slifka: It was yesterday. I was texting her yesterday so, who gave birth to a son named Leo Scott.

Councilor Cantor: After you.

President Slifka: I take full credit for the, for the middle name. So, but we're, but she, no surprise to those that know Abigail, she was writing minutes, I think, after actually having given birth so congrats to both of you guys. That's great news. So begin by entertaining, if I could entertain a motion to suspend the rules for purpose of receiving a letter.

Councilor Cantor: So moved.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: The motion's made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries.

**SUSPENSE ITEM - RISK MANAGEMENT PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2016-2017:  
RECEIVED**

President Slifka: I'd like to entertain a motion to receive a risk, a letter dated April 21, 2016 from John Davison, Chair of the Risk Management Advisory Board, regarding the Risk Management Proposed Budget for 2016-2017.

Councilor Cantor: So moved.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Okay. Any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries. Number four, Mrs. Cantor.

**ITEM #4 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES – RECEIVED**

Councilor Cantor: Number four, Approval of Minutes. I move that we approve Public Hearing, Minutes from the Public Hearing on Ordinance Permitting Increased Density in the Central Business Zone, BC Zone, 4/12/2016.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Okay. Motion's made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**ITEM #5 – ORDINANCE PERMITTING INCREASED DENSITY IN THE CENTRAL  
BUSINESS (BC) ZONE**

**WITHDRAWN**

President Slifka: Number five under Unfinished Business is, based on the Public Hearing statement from Mr. Van Winkle, that is being withdrawn so we move to New Business, number six, Mrs. Cantor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM #6 - APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF LOOMIS-WOOLEY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION (LWHOA), PROPERTY OWNER OF 645 PROSPECT AVENUE, TO AMEND SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT #125. LWHOA IS REQUESTING THE ELIMINATION OF CONDITION OF APPROVAL 2.C: "SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER/MANAGER." IF APPROVED, WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD.**

(See Attachment A – Please see File #853 in Town Clerk’s Office for additional supporting documents.)

**SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE 14, 2016, AT 7:15 P.M.; REFERRED TO TPZ, DRAC AND CRCOG**

Councilor Cantor: Number six, Application on behalf of Loomis-Wooley Homeowners Association, property owner of 645 Prospect Avenue, to amend Special Development District 125. LWHOA is requesting the elimination of condition of approval 2.C: "Solid waste collection shall be the responsibility of the property owner/manager." If approved, waste and recycling services will be provided by the Town of West Hartford. I move that we set for Public Hearing, 6/14/16 at 7:15, refer to TPZ, DRAC, and CRCOG.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Motion’s been made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries. Okay, I’d like to entertain a motion to suspend the rules to consider Items 7 through 11 as one item only for discussion purposes.  
Councilor Cantor: So moved.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Okay, motion’s made and seconded. For those who are new or may be watching at home, the, Items 7 through 11 on the Agenda are the five individual items, which comprise the "budget," and by tradition, just to make things easier for everybody, we tend to consider them all at once for discussion purposes so, so Council members speak, discuss, debate, etc., get information from the administration, and then once that is concluded, we would take them up as individual roll call votes. So that’s the, that’s the intent just to simplify the process a bit. Is there any further discussion on that? Okay. If none, all those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries. Mr. O'Brien, I have done this many, many times but I always tend to forget exactly what is here which is now, what's the proper motion to begin the discussion since it's on five items at once? I...

Mr. O'Brien: The proper motion would be move to adopt and a second for all five items.

President Slifka: Okay.

Councilor Cantor: Should we read through them first?

Mr. O'Brien: You, yes, you probably should just for the record.

President Slifka: Okay. Go ahead, Mrs., Mrs. Cantor.

### **ITEMS #7-11 – 2016-2017 BUDGET ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Councilor Cantor: Ordinance Appropriating \$8,273,000 for Projects in the Capital Improvement Plan for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017, Appropriating \$20,391,000 for Projects in the Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds of the town in an amount not to exceed \$28,664,000 to Finance and Appropriations and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose; Ordinance Concerning Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2016; Ordinance Concerning Appropriations to and in the Capital Improvement Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016; Resolution Concerning Tax Levy on the list of October 1, 2015; Resolution Authorizing year-end Budgetary Transfers. I move that we adopt.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Okay. So we're not voting now, just for the record. That'll be, there'll be five individual roll call votes at the end of the process. So to begin, I believe Mr. Van Winkle, you have poor Mr. Privitera, who has been here far longer than he had anticipated to give updated information on the budget.

Mr. Van Winkle: Yup. Mr. Privitera, Chief Financial Officer, is here to explain the changes that have been made through Committee meetings to our budget and final reductions in our budget.

Mr. Privitera: Good evening. Just want to go over a few areas where we've made some amendments and then answer any questions you might. With respect to the mill rate, you'll be setting two mill rates this evening; one for motor vehicles with 32 mills and the other for personal and real property. When the Town Manager submitted his budget, he was proposing a mill rate of 39.63 mills, sorry, Essie. We've made some changes and I want to go, three, three changes that we've made in calculating the mill rate. Number one, if, we incorporated the changes that were approved by the Board of Assessment Appeals. The exemptions that they approved were less than what we anticipated so that's a positive variance. We also eliminated the personal property tax exemption of \$10,000 or less that was proposed in the Governor's Budget. We feel that that's not going to happen. We're pretty comfortable with that assumption.

And we've also increased the tax collection rate from 99.0 to 99.1 percent. We've been fortunate. We've been collecting at 99.2 percent for the last few years. This year, we're on track to collect for 99.2 percent, so we feel it's a reasonable assumption. What that does is it reduces the Town Manager's proposed mill rate from 39.63 mills to 39.51 mills. And the effect of that is reducing the average tax increase. Now, when I say average tax increase, I mean for an average single-family home with two vehicles from 1.96 percent to 1.67 percent. In a dollar value, it's about an increase of \$155 per year. Now, we've also, when you pass your Ordinance, there has been some uncertainty about the State Budget and what will be or won't be approved, what may be rescinded. We've asked the Corporation Counsel's Office to include a universal mill rate in the far chance that the mill rate cap is rescinded. Then we wouldn't have any exposure and we could revert to a universal mill rate in the same manner we've done all along. So we're just basically covering all our bases and that would be a 39.37 mill rate. But all in all, the mill rate has been adjusted to reflect a lower tax rate, and again, a 1.67 percent tax increase. Now, when we talk about next year's budget, we really need to talk about this year's budget as well. Currently, we're projecting a \$3.1 million surplus for the current year. And what that comprises of is \$1.4 million in additional State aid. If you recall, we did receive additional State aid, predominantly ECS after we adopted our budget last year of \$500,000 in additional tax revenue, and again, that's from our projection of collecting at a 99.2 percent rate when we adopted a 99.0 percent rate; \$650,000 from the Board of Education and that's a conservative estimate at this point in the fiscal year. They're reporting salary savings and savings related to out-of-district tuition; \$100,000 of increased prior interest. Now, that's the interest that accumulates on, on, on a tax levy that hasn't been paid, delinquent tax levy. And \$360,000 in operational savings on the town side. Most of that is related to payroll savings. We've had a mild winter and we haven't spent as much money in Public Works and basically other, you know, minor savings in other departments. All in all, a \$3.1 million projected surplus. Now, the recommended use of that surplus. Number one, we recommend setting \$500,000 aside to reserve to our fund balance to maintain our 8.1 percent fund balance ratio. It's very important that we maintain that ratio because we plan on issuing debt for the next, you know, five, seven years and one of the criteria that the rating agencies look at is your, is your reserve level. And any indication that you're going down would be a red flag for them. They'd want to know why are you reducing your reserve level, so it's important that we allocate that \$500,000 to that reserve. We want to prefund some liabilities that we budgeted in next year's budget with part of this surplus so we can reduce next year's budget. One of them is a contribution of \$320,000 to the Utility Services Fund. We've had some rate increases. We've had a rate increase recently. We're paying a little more on electricity. We budgeted higher in next year's budget because of that. We also had some energy conservation projects that, while they're moving along, they haven't been moving along as quickly as we had imagined and we haven't been generating that savings. So we're requesting that \$320,000 be set aside in the Utility Services Fund to basically prefund some 2017 liabilities. We're requesting \$175,000 to be transferred to the Risk Management Fund to prefund a shortfall in Workmen's Comp. Out of the six programs that we have in the Risk Management Fund, the Workmen's Comp claims have, have indicated that we have a slight funding issue. We're going to have a deficit. We're asking to use current year surplus to fund that deficit for next year so we can reduce that from next year's budget. And then we have \$100,000 for the purchase of miscellaneous public safety equipment. When the Police and Fire Chief presented their budgets to the Town Manager, they were looking for additional equipment in next year's budget. The Town Manager basically said to them if we have some surplus in this current year,

we'll go to that to purchase the equipment now rather than spend that money and impact the tax rate for next year. So when we add all that up, it leaves us a balance of \$1.9 million, and that \$1.9 million, we ask that you do not commit that until we know exactly what's going to happen at the State because there's been a lot of uncertainty between the first budget submitted by the Governor, what came out of Appropriations, and the now the Governor has submitted his second budget submission. So basically what we're facing next year with the Governor's submission was a \$3.2 million reduction in State aid, \$1.5 million cut to the ECS funding and \$1.7 million cut to the Municipal Revenue Sharing Account, a total of \$3.2 million. Now, we don't know what's going to happen. There's been a lot of discussion but no one seems to know what direction the State legislature is going to go. We had to make a decision and we're proposing that we reduce the current year budget by \$1.5 million or the amount equivalent to not being funded for that ECS amount. Now, in order to do that and not impact taxes, we're recommending a series of adjustments both on revenue and expenditures that would basically balance that loss of State aid out. So we're proposing to increase nontax revenue by \$140,000 in a number of accounts, Interest Income, Conveyance Tax, Tax Overpayments, some of the revenues that we're projecting for pools. You know, we feel comfortable with these adjustments. They're conservative adjustments and we feel that they can be achieved. On the town side, we're proposing to cut a little more than \$1 million out of the Operating Budget. The first cut of \$300,000 is related to electricity costs that we shifted over from the Leisure Services Fund to the Operating Fund and we did that because we were trying to address the, the reoccurring operating deficit in the Leisure Services Fund by relieving some of that burden by moving the, the utility expenses over to the General Fund. I think there needs to be further discussion on that, on that fund. The structural costs keep rising and, and I think, I think now is not an appropriate time to make that move. It's, it's a further discussion that we need to have, so we're proposing to eliminate that \$300,000 in the General Fund now and carry that liability in the Leisure Services Fund. We're proposing to reduce debt service by \$100,000 by the application of an additional \$100,000 of bond premium. That will still leave us with about \$1.2 million, \$1.1 million left in bond premium, which we can apply as we have, \$350,000 a year over the next three years. And since we are going to be issuing debt on an annual basis, I'm comfortable that we'll be receiving more bond premium as we go along. We want to reduce \$235,000 in electricity costs in Facility Services. That will be going into the Utility Services Fund. Again, that's because we're prefunding that liability with prior year surplus and we want to eliminate \$175,000 for the risk management contribution, again, because we're prefunding that liability from prior year surplus. And we're making another series of, of minor adjustments. We're, we're adjusting gasoline expenses, some professional services, vehicle maintenance, some termination pay expectations that we had. We're making a, a number of minor adjustments just so we can balance it out. These are the major ones. The last major adjustment is to reduce the Board of Education budget by \$350,000 as it relates to a contribution to the, the health reserve. When we looked at the Board of Education's projections for next fiscal year on both active and retiree health, we noticed that it indicated a potential surplus at the end of the year of \$350,000. We discussed this with the Superintendent and we also discussed this with the Finance Director at the Board and they were in agreement that, that that cut would not impact them. They're well-reserved with respect to active and retiree health. So all in all, in order to negate a potential loss of \$1.5 million of ECS funding, we're increasing nontax revenue by \$140,000 and eliminating roughly \$1,387,000 out of the Town's Operating Budget and the Board of Education. So basically what, what does that mean in terms of additional action by the State

of Connecticut? Again, if the Governor's budget were to pass and we were to lose an additional \$1.7 million, we would fall back on that \$1.9 million that we're not planning on using in the current year surplus. We would take the amount that we needed and we would carry it forward as operating revenue into the next year. We would have a balanced budget. However, on a cautionary note, I'm sure that there would be discussions moving forward because it would be a one-time revenue and not sustainable in the following fiscal year, so I'm sure the Town Manager in conjunction with you folks would want to talk about how we can make some adjustments to the current year budget and be well-positioned for the fiscal year '18 budget so we don't have a \$1.7 million gap in our revenues. So all in all, 39.51 mills, 1.67 percent tax increase, average increase of \$155. Those are all the changes that we're proposing on, on the budget tonight. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Privitera. You know, most of the Council had the opportunity to discuss this stuff with you in Committee but obviously, if anybody has any questions for Mr. Privitera or Mr. Van Winkle, we can cover those now as well. Anybody have anything? No? Okay. Don't go yet...

Mr. Privitera: Okay.

President Slifka: ...in case there is something. Okay. So turning to the Council, we'll begin with the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee, Mrs. Cantor.

Councilor Cantor: Thank you. Does he really have to stand for all...

President Slifka: No, you don't have to stand. I'm sorry, I...

Councilor Cantor: Just don't leave.

President Slifka: I thought, I turned away. I thought you had gone to sit down but, yes. I meant don't leave, you know, the building. Sorry about that.

Councilor Cantor: The house. Okay. I, I want to start with thank yous and I, we get a little repetitive as the night goes on so, but Mr. Van Winkle, I want to start with you. Your leadership and your responsiveness, how patient you are, and we are really, really lucky to have you in charge of our, our town. Mr. Privitera, you really are, have shown an incredible knowledge of our budget in a short couple of years. I know you come with a wealth of experience and have brought many of the best practices that you had with you and we have benefited in many different ways, whether it's prefunding, pension money in the beginning of the year so we make interest and renegotiating things, you just, every single time we add something up, you see it in a different way and you have a creative way to look at it and I, we really are, are, again, I appreciate all the, all the work and all the help. Liz Hewitt, who is not here. She knows the budget by hand. We just will say, Peter sometimes will look at her and go, hey, Liz, what's the number and she knows it without looking down at a paper. She, we, we have an incredibly professional staff and we're very, very lucky to have her hard work and expertise and Barbara Rua also usually comes and is not here tonight, probably a good call.

Mr. Privitera: They're both sick.

Councilor Cantor: Both sick? Wow. All right. Wash your hands. And we are, we are very lucky to have her as well. She is a consummate professional and good-natured and incredible person to have on staff. Our department heads put in an inordinate amount of work into this process. They all year long are thinking about ways to manage and operate their departments and offer services more effectively, efficiently, and creatively and the tone definitely is set by the Town Manager but they all work really, really hard to, to respect every dollar that is spent by taxpayers to make their, their, the service as, as productive as possible. And my colleagues put in also an inordinate amount of time into this effort. I will say especially Mrs. Hall because we all year long are sitting there at pension meetings and that part of it but my colleagues chair, chair their committees and they work line by line on every item in the budget to go through, ask the questions and understand their departments. It all then flows through Finance and they are so we, we have this ongoing communication but every item is looked at and I will say that's not the practice in many communities throughout the State of Connecticut. I also need to at this point start my goodbyes. I'm going to start crying but Mayor Scott Slifka. I, this is, our town has been so blessed. I can't, there just, there isn't an elected leader that runs a municipality like Scott. He is smart and he is honest. He is savvy, professional, ethical, and committed to his community. This budget is a reflection of the long, hard work that has gone into the process year in and year out. Since 2001 when Scott became Chair of Finance and Budget, Mayor Slifka has remained focused on doing the hard work to meet the challenges, respond to the downturns in the economy, fulfill all our obligations and invest in our quality of life and in the future of this community so we sit here in a very, very good place. Connecticut property taxes fund a municipality's education, public safety, social services, parks, roads, and so much more. It is a difficult and impossible system, really, to fund these essential services. The State revenues that we have received in the past are about 8.5 percent of our total budget. Our legislators, Mayor Slifka, and I have advocated for State support for our community. Senator Bye, Mayor Slifka, and I sat with the Governor when he first came into office and we explained our ECS challenge and we said we're not the community you think we are and we have, you know, we have an increasingly diverse community and increasing shortfall in ECS and we need help. And...and Senator Bye worked very, very hard to try to make that happen. Unfortunately, the legislation, legislators don't, don't see us for who we are. We see, they see a successful community and they see that we are, we are very well-managed. We are, our per-person spending is between 100 and 125 depending on which number you looked at last of 169 towns. We have combined every possible job we could and we, we continue to be a nationally-ranked school system and top ranked in Connecticut. But that being said, we face a hard, important, and essential job of governing with what we get, making the difficult decisions that balance serving the needs of our community, responding to challenges whether they are natural disasters, fiscal downturns, state volatility, and investing in our future to make our community a place where people want to live, to work, to invest, and to enjoy and the passionate people that came out just for the Public Hearing are so invested in our community. We have a responsibility to them. Our budgets do not stand in isolation. Like I said, they build on one another. Our residents understand the need to stay disciplined, build reserves for a rainy day, meet long-term obligations and pensions and healthcare, invest in our buildings and roads, fund our diverse student population, meeting competitive academic goals, and addressing new challenges that we face every day in security and counseling services. As you heard from Mr. Privitera, our Manager's budget of 1.96 tax

increase has been reduced so we are now at 1.67. The State votes on their budget after we adopt ours, so we need to set our mill rate and we need to make some assumptions. So we have, as Mr. Privitera had outlined, we are using or we have reduced our budget by the ECS funding and are planning contingencies that we will modify as, as the year goes on so they are thought through and, and make a lot of, a lot of sense so we're not digging a hole for the future year. We have never done that and we will not do that. Good ideas are, this is a quote, "Good ideas are not adapted, adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience. Once implemented, they can easily be overturned or subverted through apathy or lack of followup so a continuous effort is required." That's Admiral Hyman G. Rickford. If anybody knows him, he's incredible leader, was an incredible leader and has a lot of good quotes. Anyway...I heard actually, I was looking through some of the notes from last year and one of the Councilors talked about a roll-forward budget, did we pay more for roll-forward budgets. I can say this is, this is absolutely not true. These budgets make West Hartford better. We have updated police cruisers, training in diversity recruitment, adding paramedic services to our Fire Department for better service at a reduced cost. We invested in equipment, invested in a new radio system, a new financial system, building out energy efficiency projects all throughout town, connected fiber to all of our public buildings for high-speed town internet, eliminating lease payments, responding to new requirements for MS clean water, MS-4, replacing our oldest elementary school with a new state-of-the-art school, increasing preschool availability and enrollment, and authorizing a capital project for an exciting and vitally needed investment in science labs at Hall. There have been no gimmicks and no short-term fixes. This budget represents more than a decade of fiscal prudence and commitment to the future. We have worked with our unions, negotiating changes to pension and healthcare that reduce our liabilities by millions of dollars. And I, we, I could go on in much more detail but I'm trying to give an overview of what, what we have done. This has immediate impact on healthcare costs by moving the majority of our employees to high-deductible savings accounts and on long-term liabilities, our predictable actuary determined contributions has been stabilized 10 years out and will continue to be stable beyond that but this 10 years is sort of a critical time. This stability and discipline and strategy has worked. Developers are interested in being here. We are receiving record numbers of inquiries. Currently, we have many projects coming online, reinvestment of existing projects, as well as adaptive reuse development. Our town has just received the top national award for Complete Streets Policy that outlines a wholistic look at roads for all users for the future and we will start to see the benefit of some of those long, long-view procedures, projects. Again, all of these are investments in our future. We are a AAA bond-rated community by both Moody's and Standard and Poor. A very few number of municipalities are, are in that category. And we have remained a AAA community during some very difficult financial times. The ability for us to respond to the instability at the State level demonstrate our financial health. From Standard and Poor, "Strong management with good financial policies and practices under our financial management assessment methodology, strong budgetary performance with balanced operating budgets in the General Fund, very strong budgetary flexibility, very strong liquidity, adequate debt and contingent liability position, very strong institutional framework score." And from Moody's, "Historically stable financial position, large growing diverse tax base, strong income and wealth indicators, demonstrated willingness to address pension and OPEB liabilities, strong town management that employs prudent, conservative budgeting and fiscal management practices, including formal financial policies and long-term capital plans." One more quote. "Even if you are on the right track, you

will get run over if you just sit there,” Will Rogers. We do our best to move forward to make West Hartford the best it can be by balancing responsibility, accountability, and affordability. Again, I want to thank our professional staff, our administration, and the town and our, my, and the Mayor and my colleagues for all the hours they’ve contributed to the process. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you very much, Mrs. Cantor. Mrs. Hall?

Councilor Hall: Oh, where’s, where’s Burke when you need him to thank Mr. Privitera? Remember all those torturous...

President Slifka: I think he got out of tonight early. Burke might run us past midnight.

Councilor Hall: So thank you, Deputy Mayor. You really did a very nice job doing all the thank yous and stuff and so I, I, I don’t want to go through them all over again but really thank you all of you and I have the feeling the ones at home sick are there sick because they’re exhausted, so I feel badly for them but thank you. We, we really are very lucky with the people that we have working for us here in West Hartford and we appreciate all your efforts. Also want to thank all of my colleagues on the, on the Council. This is a lot of work. Everybody works hard. Everybody is committed to this town so I, I just want to take the time and say thank you to everybody and I think this year, in particular between Finance and Community Planning and Physical Services, those are two of the very intense Committees that demand a lot of hours. And, and this year we had some extraordinary items that, that we’ve been grappling with, the UConn property and the State budget process that really has reached new levels of absurdity, dysfunctionality, uncertainty, and, and just plain confusion. So I think we deserve better than that from the, from our State legislature and it’s difficult enough to form this budget and then the State plays this shell game, moving money from one grant to another grant and giving it and then taking it back and, you know, it doesn’t make this job any easier than it should be. We have made a lot of progress with the pension and so I do want to take the time to thank our Pension Board volunteers for their hard work, their leadership but it was a, a tough year in that, while we made that progress, we took a big step back this year with the discovery of the actuarial errors that led to our understating the liabilities for a number of years, which in turn meant that our annual contributions were less than they should’ve been. So with the 2015 pension valuation, we corrected those errors, we lowered the discount rate on the return assumptions to 7½ percent and extended the amortization period to 30 years. With the errors and the changes, we expect next year’s unfunded liability will increase from where it was. As of 7/1/15, our unfunded pension liability is 230,605,000, actually 606,000 if you want to round up and, and our funded ratio is down to 42.9 percent. Our actuarial determined contribution grows from 17.9 million to 20.6 million and will likely continue to grow the following year. This is a huge number and it’s doubled in just over five years, so you think about what else the Town could’ve done with an extra \$10 million. In addition, we have the unfunded other post-employment benefit liabilities, so, which is primarily the health care for retirees. This is now approximately \$140 million unfunded. So for me, that’s just a, you know, the two of them I know we’re taking steps but it is just a huge number. It’s a scary number and it, it really does point the unsustainable aspect of overly-rich employee benefits. But it also, you know, points out the fact that these contributions are going to continue into the, the future and will continue to grow and have to be funded by taxes. I guess a bright spot is that we maintain our AAA rating but that also means the rating

agencies are confident in our taxpayers' willingness to pay ever increasingly higher taxes. So invariably on budget night, what one of the Councilors questioned, you know, well, what budget cuts did I want to propose and how can I vote against a budget if I did not propose any cuts to it? So my answer is twofold. First of all, all year long, I, I worked towards finding ways to do things more efficiently to promote a good business environment and encourage our unions to adopt changes like the HSA accounts coupled with the high deductible plans. But from a practical standpoint, discretionary spending is a policy decision that takes time to implement. It's not something that you throw out on budget night and let's do this. It's really the cumulative effect of all those decisions that get made or not made throughout the year that gets us to a point tonight. So if you look back, in 2004, General Fund expenditures were \$166 million. This budget proposes General Fund expenditures of \$269 million and I went back to 2004 just because that was an easy \$100 million difference between then and now. So over 12 years, we've increased spending by over that \$100 million. So then I looked at inflation and the total inflation from July 2004 to March 2016 was 25.73 percent. So \$166 million after inflation is \$209 million today in today's dollars. So even if we take, were to take inflation into account, we are still spending \$60 million more than we did in 2004 and it's hard to point out to residents what additional services that they're getting for that extra \$60 million. So then if we just looked at our proposed expenditures from March 2015 of 258 million and the inflation rate from March to March of 0.85 percent, then you would expect our General Fund expenses would not exceed 260 million. Instead, we're looking at \$268 million in this budget. So our, our increases just keep building year after year after year, meaning that many of our residents are going to have trouble keeping up with these taxes. And you know, I looked, there is a, there was a story just out from the Center of Competitiveness and looking at, at Connecticut and they're saying we've lost more high-paying jobs and we're losing young residents. So when, when the State isn't competitive then that means we have more and more lower-paying jobs in the State and it's going to be people who can't continue to pay those increasing taxes. And I know 1.67 percent doesn't sound like a lot but it's, it never goes the other way. It just keeps building and building and building and I don't think people's salaries are keeping pace with this. Secondly, I have on more than one occasion offered to work with leadership to embrace any cost cuts that they would like to propose. With only three votes on our side of the aisle, anything that we propose is very likely to get voted down and then can be used against us in election. If we propose a cut to education, it's we're against education. So you know, I, I'm just not willing to over and over come in and say let's cut this, let's cut this and then it doesn't go anywhere. So I will say I'm willing to work with anyone to come up with something and have it be passed unanimously by this entire Council and I'm happy, you know, to do that. But if the majority doesn't want to make any cuts then I guess I'm just going to leave it to our future voters to decide if they want a Council with members that are okay with this ever-increasing size of our budget. So as I did last year, I also want to use tonight's comments to highlight some of the changes that we need to happen at the State level to give us greater control over our own financial future. Most importantly, we need to stop collective bargaining of public employee benefits. Unions have the power to make decisions in private negotiations that should be made in public deliberations, decisions about our town priorities and our budget. Collective bargaining is why we can't mandate that employees pay a larger portion of their healthcare and if we, just because of the nature of collective bargaining. If we can't come to an agreement with the union, it goes to collective bargaining and this can take a long time and we never get everything that we want to obtain in, in our contracts. So last year I mentioned that we were going to arbitration over the

2006 police union contract. So guess what? We're still haven't settled the 2006 police union contract and thus, we can't even get started on the 2014 contract. So at this pace, it just takes decades to make the changes that we need to make. So in order to do that, we need the State to change the law that holds us hostage to this process. I know Shari and Scott, you have spoken about the education cost sharing grant. You've lobbied to try to make change and despite the bill that said we would not get less than 50 percent of the calculated amount, it looks like we will get 46 percent of the calculated amount. So it's, it's not fair. It's not fair that the State legislature makes opinions about whether we're a wealthy town or not. It should be overhauled. They talk about overhauling it. They look at it and then they throw their hands up and say it's impossible. I don't think it's impossible. We just need legislators who are, are willing to do the hard work to make the change. I also think the State prevailing wage law that continues to increase costs of town projects. Prevailing wage law requires workers in public works construction projects to receive the same wage as is customarily paid for the same work in the project's town. Thus, if a construction worker in a private sector job in West Hartford customarily receives \$60 an hour in wages and benefits, a construction worker on a public works construction project in town is required to pay that same, be paid that same rate. So the law aims to keep government's use of low-bid contracting from significantly reducing the market price of labor. But it also means that we don't benefit from working with a contractor, who may be hungry for business and willing to shave margins to get the work. Over time, this continues to add costs to our projects. Last year, we were looking at the flooring project. It added 15 percent. We had the two bids so that, that it, you know, just automatically raises our costs so I would love for the State to do something about that. You know, I, I love the idea of a new science lab at Hall but honestly, I'm floored that, that we can't build eight classrooms for under \$12.8 million. And I don't know how much of this is the prevailing wage laws, the other types of things that go into it, but I think, I think we can still have great science labs but not spend \$12.8 million and I would love to see some, some more creative thinking with, you know, is there a partnership we could have with Jackson Labs somehow. I mean, those, those jobs were, were, you know, brought here with a lot of funding from the State. You would think this company would be a very willing partner to put our heads together and, and maybe come up with something that, whether it's equipment or, or what that could help to reduce the cost of that. So another issue that's affecting our, our budget is the State laws governing MDC and the way its budget is allocated out to its member towns. There's been a lot of talk about the Niagara Water Bottling Plant proposed for the Town of Bloomfield. There's going to be another meeting on that. But for now, suffice it to say, that West Hartford is subsidizing the other member towns because of the way MDC's budget is allocated based upon the town's respective Grand List, not on consumption or usage. So West Hartford is unfairly burdened with a larger increase of MDC's budget than other member towns and we have little or no say in that budget. This year, they didn't even tell us what the number was going to be before they passed it. So we are obliged to send them \$9 million this year, 6.2 percent more than last year. The State legislature has to change the way MDC is funded but they no doubt will be loath to do so because the other State representatives, you know, are unlikely to vote for it because it would mean that their Town's taxes go up. You know, it just doesn't make sense to me. So ultimately, my, my no vote tonight may be symbolic but hopefully it stimulates some discussion among our listeners. Until residents demand change from their legislators or elect representatives who are willing to make those changes, no matter how much this Council may agree on issues, we won't have the power to direct the town's finances. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mrs. Hall. Next is Mr. Wenograd.

Councilor Wenograd: Thank you very much, Mayor Slifka. Before I get to my prepared remarks, I, since I'm first at bat after Minority Leader Hall, I'll just comment very briefly that, while I understand the political philosophy that would have us emulate, you know, the Scott Walker in Wisconsin experiment, I simply disagree. And I do think, obviously, that this isn't necessarily the place where we'll have that debate. I do want to and...well, I'll get to the part about Hall. So thank you, again, Mayor Slifka, and Deputy Mayor Cantor for your excellent work on this budget. Also, thank you again, actually, Denise, for acknowledging as Chair of Community Planning and Physical Services this year, thank you for acknowledging the hard work our Committee has done. It's certainly been interesting and we certainly had a, a full plate. I do want to thank Shari again and our Councilor Chris Barnes for their membership and very active participation in the many meetings we held on our aspect of the budget. It, it's been a new experience and like I said, we definitely had a lot of heavy lifting this year. I also want to give special thanks to John Phillips, the Director of Public Works, and Mark McGovern, the Director of Community Services, and of course to Ron Van Winkle, who's in my humble opinion, our State's best Town Manager. We could not do it without you. So in short, this is a good budget and it ought to pass. I do want to point out a few, I don't want to repeat what Deputy Mayor Cantor talked about. I do want to point out a few items on, in this year's budget that are new and explain why I believe these additional expenses are justified. In the Department of Community Services, we add a new position of Economic Development Specialist, whose primary task will be to expand support for our current businesses. Given the importance to our community of local businesses and the many challenges they face in a changing and challenging economic environment, this position will, I think, pay for itself. As we heard tonight, communication with our businesses is vitally important. The work has expanded in that office and this will be a position that I do think we need to fund. Interestingly, the cost of the position is offset by reduction in a temporary payroll, as well as significant utility savings due to our energy savings program. So it's nice. It's an, an addition we have without much real impact on the budget. In Public Works, we've been able to shift some temporary payroll clerical work to regular employees for an overall savings. More significantly, we are adding two new equipment operators needed because of the mandated municipal separate storm sewer system known as MS-4 for obvious reasons a lot easier, a mouthful, but I have to look down to read that because we talk the, the lingo. This, it is a mandate that is not our choice but it's also an environmentally necessary requirement, which will involve additional catch basin cleaning and street sweeping. Our staff and this is, was impressive. Our Staff did price out the option of using contractors to perform this work but it turned out that using regular town employees was both cheaper and more efficient for a savings estimated at over \$100,000. So keeping the work in, again, they looked at it but the determination was by having our own people do it, not only would it be cheaper for the work itself but also, when the work wasn't being done, they'd be available for other projects. They also produced in the Streets Division a very interesting chart showing the staffing of the department over the years. Back in 1995, it was 43 employees. It dropped to 26 employees in the 90s and down to 13 in the 2000s. It now, for this year, it goes up to 14.5 so we're still, in terms of a lean department. It's still very lean but with this, again, new requirement, it's an appropriate move. I also since I am new to this process, I'm learning stuff and one of the things I learned about and I, I did think I was a relatively informed member of the public but looking through this budget line by line, you, you discover things and one thing I

wanted to share was our Fleet Maintenance Division, which I did not know existed. We have five mechanics, six mechanics and a manager who operate, who keep track of 140 vehicles in the town, as well as police and fire work. I cannot estimate how much they save the town but it's clear the work they perform, it's a, not a huge budget item but it's the kind of thing that we're doing right and I was just very impressed to hear about that and to learn how much we can do in-house. So overall, this is a town budget, which funds our current programs and past liabilities. It does it without tricks. We are paying our debts in a responsible and prudent manner and controlling costs while maintaining the quality of services we have all come to expect. I now know, having gone through this process, why we consistently receive the best credit ratings. We are that good. So I, as a result of our study, I will be proud to vote yes on this budget.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Wenograd. Mrs. Kerrigan.

Councilor Kerrigan: Voting on our budget is not a role I take lightly. By nature, I am frugal. Growing up, my siblings, while they were spending their money on records, I was squirreling around every, away every penny just to buy a car. So that being said, spending your money is a decision I take seriously because, after all, it is my money. As many of you know, this is my first year on Town Council and what a learning curve it is. I don't have the expertise as Ron Van Winkle, our Town Manager, decreed in, degreed in Economics, Finance, a forecaster of the year, consultant, lecturer, citations as a econometrician, someone who uses math and statistics for economic analysis, but what I do have is the perspective of a taxpaying resident, a mom with 14-year-old twin boys. My peers are in near retirement while I am still planning the big budget line item, which is college. I understand the art of the tough decision. This is the budget bible right here, which I've come to know a little bit. Every week, early mornings, early evenings, all of the Town Councilors are invited to sit with the Managers of each Department and go through the budget line item by line item. Those are the General Government, Technology, Financial Services, Human Resources, Fire Services, Police Services, Community Services, Public Works, Facility Services, Social and Leisure, Library Services, Education and Non-Departmental. Item by item. The last one of these, which is the Non-Departmental, Paramedic Services, budget change down 100 percent because of the innovations of the town and the Fire Department changing some laws, requiring the legislature, so that now we can have our Fire Department perform many of the paramedic services. Unfortunately, we're at the mercy of the MDC who has a 6.2 percent increase because of sewer services. Some of the departments, I was really impressed with went down. They are the Town Manager, the Public Works, the Fire, the Police, which is the biggest decrease, while others such as the Library and the Town Council increased by only 0.4 percent. We had discussions concerning items that adversely affected their budget such as how declining number of the golf rounds played factored into it, how folks use the library stamp to avoid paying parking tickets. We talked about a free antenna on the top of the Hartford Insurance Company. We discussed the locations and hours of our library. We talked about bike lanes, Complete Streets, and thank you to Claire Kindall who helped make this a reality. This is all new to me but I have got to tell you, we went through this book and when I say line item, I'm talking about every single line that talks about payroll, overtime, office expenses, travel, training, advertising, printing ad nauseam every morning. I loved it, though. Peter Privitera, our CFO, responsible for every financial interaction affecting the financial health of our town, answered every question in a thoughtful manner. It's no wonder we maintain a AAA rating. He is thorough with his explanations and he knows what makes this town work.

These meetings were intensive, they were interactive. It was the time that we all spent together and it probably was a, a bonding, opportunity for bonding exercise for both the Town Council and, and the, and the Staff. It's an opportunity for all the Councilors, Democrats, Republicans alike to ask questions to their hearts content, a time to perhaps give a suggestion and to really engage in the budget. There were multiple meetings where some Departments because in one case we hadn't gotten to the cost of the upkeep of our cemetery plots. Liz Hewitt, who works alongside Peter in Financing, is a walking spreadsheet. She spouts numbers like We-Ha's own Andy Katz does his basketball stats for ESPN. There's not one question concerning a number that she couldn't answer off the top of her head, whether it was early in the morning before coffee or after working and a tired day. Liz, I can't imagine being in your head. Rick Ledwith, I know that he does the negotiating of the contracts, responsible for wages, benefits, pensions. He's not able to undo contracts that we need to honor because people are living longer. Numbers come out that we didn't have then. He does a heck of a job. John Phillips, Department of Public Works, taught us about State mandates that drive his budget, such as MS-4, the municipal separate storm water sewer system requiring of us new equipment and cleaning standards. There is a sense of pride to make his Department the shining star in our town and yes, DPW is more than what we do with our garbage. Tom Moore came to speak with us about the new Hall science lab and why it is so necessary. There were a lot of questions about the need, as well as the cost. I, for one, had sticker shock but he talked about it not only for the future of our town in terms of education but also the State-imposed requirements that drive those costs. Our schools continue to receive national recognition and our children are better prepared when they go to, go off to college than others. Deputy Shari Cantor, soon to be Mayor, has been chairing the Finance and Budget Committee for 11 years. She had the foresight to call for a last minute meeting to address the \$3.2 million shortfall we were to receive from the State. Obviously, the State isn't running nearly as well as West Hartford. She along with Ron, Peter, and Liz were able to make the necessary adjustments while still maintaining a desirable, safe town. I encourage everyone who is interested in how your tax dollars are being spent to reach out to Ron, to Peter, and to Liz. Go online, look at the budget, get the notebook here, ask them questions. You will be impressed. Without a doubt, this was one of the most comforting exercises I have experienced with respect to transparency in government. We are fortunate to have such bright, responsible, conscientious individuals working for West Hartford. Last, when George Kennedy, head of the Taxpayers Association in West Hartford, the virtual watchdog of your tax dollars, came before all of us and congratulated all of us, Democrats, Republicans alike for keeping the budget increase to less than 2 percent, we know we're doing something right. It is with great pleasure that I support this budget. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mrs. Kerrigan. Mr. Barnes.

Councilor Barnes: Thank you. Beth, I enjoyed bonding with you as well in Committee meetings. Thank you to our Town Manager and our Finance Director and their staff for their hard work in preparing this budget. I sit in Burke's chair but I will not flub any names, hopefully, tonight. In past years, I've focused on specific spending and tax and, and revenue issues and unfunded liabilities, etc. and I think Mrs. Hall has, has covered the, the ground in that respect. And so this year I'm going to take a, a slightly different approach and look holistically at the budget and, and where we are. And so this budget is historically significant. The projected total expenditures for the town and school is approximately 270 million. Our total tax

revenue raised in town is approximately 230 million, the highest in town history. The projected bonded debt service is almost 16.5 million, also the highest in decades and maybe ever. The proposed spending increase of 11.34 million is also the second-highest in the last two decades, leaving aside 2012 with Storm Alfred, and this represents a 4½, 4.4 percent spending increase, approximately 5 million or 5.3 percent on the town side and 5.2 million or 3.5 percent on the school side. And as we've mentioned here this evening about the, the issues concerning the State, in addition to our budget being historic, it is also unique in a scary and uncertain way. As the State government struggles to plug budget deficits in excess of \$1 billion in the short term with higher deficits to follow, the State has proposed to send the Town approximately \$6 million in revenue, a combination of money for the car mill rate cap, sales tax sharing, and education cost sharing money. Ironically, the stated purpose of the additional revenue is to reduce the pressure on towns to raise property taxes. The problem is we do not know if the State is going to send West Hartford the money and we will likely not know for months as the legislature and Governor try to agree on very significant budget cuts. Yet, we have included this potential State revenue in our budget and so with this 6 million or, or some number less is cut in whole or in part as we reasonably can expect, the town has to make up the difference. Such a budget adjustment will be very difficult and financially very painful. With or without the money, the State money, the town spending and borrowing trajectory are unsustainable. Can we afford a \$300 million budget in 2020 or possibly a \$400 million budget in 2030? Where does it end? How much do we ask our town residents to pay in property tax? And this brings me to town leadership and particularly my Democrat colleagues. Ms. Cantor addressed the, the roll forward budgets and the maintenance budgets, comments that I've made in years past, and we need to stop roll forward and maintenance budgets, noting some of the benefits that you mentioned, which I think are part of running a town such as ours. We need to start budgeting from the point of what we have to spend. We should start with a goal of a 0 percent budget increase and go up or down from there. Last week following the release of the Governor's proposed budget and the uncertainty surrounding the municipal cuts, we reviewed a contingency plan, which we have discussed this evening, including some budget cuts if the State cuts a portion of our promised revenue, so clearly, we know how to make budget cuts when we are forced to. Our Council leadership needs to send the message that 11 million plus budget increases are not acceptable and will not be approved. The leadership has the power to do that. They just need to use it. Thank you.

President Slifka: Mrs. Casperson.

Councilor Casperson: Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and thank you to Mr. Privitera and your team, Ron Van Winkle and your team, and I, this year, I'm new at Administration and Technology, so Jared Morin has been very helpful in helping me to come on board and understand more of that and I appreciate that. Thank you to Deputy Mayor Cantor and the Finance team. I have watched you for many years, coming and making the decisions that have to keep the town moving forward no matter how difficult it is. And understanding when we come to you and say how much can we cut, we try to look for ways to, to do that and push back in areas where we can and understanding where the State is coming in. Yes, we have to make those decisions to move our town forward regardless of what the State is doing and we've had to do that every budget year. And I think that that is part of the reason why we do have such a strong AAA bond rating is because we have to continue to make these decisions to keep our town running in a smart way

moving towards the future, so that they, too, know that we are thinking of smart development and other things that will supplement and move our budget forward. So getting back to Administration and Technology, focusing a little bit on that, as Beth Kerrigan was saying, it was, it's a great year for learning curves. I could say I really enjoyed the...chairing the last Departments that I've chaired, Human Services, knowing that inside and out, and then having a new one is, is, is different and interesting. So this is going to be a busy year for the Department and the A&T budget. And as many of you might know, there's something on the docket tomorrow with the Presidential Primary, so the Registrar's Office is holding that primary tomorrow with the potential primary in August, and of course, the national election in November. So their budget is up 8.3 percent reflecting that activity. The Assessor's Office is in the middle of a required revaluation that will ready for the fiscal year 2018 budget. And while the budget is up a modest 1.3 percent, the Town Council set aside 500,000 of last year's surplus to conduct the revaluation, which is required by State law to be done every five years. The budget also covers the Town Council, Town Manager, Town Clerk, and Corporation Counsel but nothing unusual happening in those budgets. The Information Technology budget is up 16.7 percent. I needed a lot more clarification on that but this primarily reflects a shift in the maintenance and support of our geographic information systems for the CNRE refund to this Department's budget. This Department has been replacing leased fiber lines with town-owned fiber. This complete, this project completed during the April school vacation this year should save \$200,000 in leasing fees. This goes on to really talk about we're always looking for ways to be more efficient and ways to maybe make an investment now so that we can save a lot more in the future. The Facility Services Department saw a sizeable increase in their budget due to, due primarily to an increase in electrical rates. The town had negotiated through our bid process but then a very low 7.18 cents per kilowatt hour through December 2015. But effective January 1, 2016, that rate jumped to 8.25 cents per kilowatt hour. The good news is that the town has negotiated a new rate that will take effect in the fiscal year 2018 budget at 5.8 cents per kilowatt hour. Again, thanking all the team and the Department heads for working hard to make those concessions and to save us money where possible. We're looking forward to an increase in the Pilot Program for both the high school libraries to help address the digital divide and knowing that students will be able to sign out both laptops and tablets with integrated 4G data service for take-home purposes. So again, trying to meet the needs across socioeconomic divide, which everybody, you know, we, we understand that there are challenges with finances but this evens, evens it out and keeps us that strong place that people want to educate their children because we really try to make it so that everyone gets the same great quality education. I'm not going to go on much longer. I want to end on a couple of great notes, talking about West Hartford has been selected as a finalist and potential prizewinner for the 2015 Amazon City on a Cloud competition, Best Practices Award category. And they launched a new website for the town with emphasis on mobility, responsive design, and a citizen's portal as a result of the Town of West Hartford being a 2015 Best of the Web Award Winner from the Center for Digital Government. Other notable finalists include the City of Los Angeles, CA; the City of Louisville, KY; and the city of Raleigh, NC. Out of the hundreds of applicants, West Hartford is the only town to win. All other winners are larger ones. Keeping it smart, keeping it focused, keeping us moving forward is one of the reasons why I will support the budget this evening. Thank you.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mrs. Casperson. Mr. Williams.

Councilor Williams: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Caught me off guard.

President Slifka: Sorry about that.

Councilor Williams: No, it's fine. I would like to start by reiterating the sentiments, thanking our Town Manager, Ron Van Winkle, Finance Director, Pete Privitera, Liz Hewitt, Barbara Rua and all of the Management team for their work on the budget. And to work off a popular expression, this was literally my first rodeo and so I thank Town Staff for answering all my questions. Likewise with my colleagues, thank you for all your dedication and for also answering my questions throughout this process. Many of my thoughts have been shared by Minority Leader Hall, as well as Councilman Barnes, so I'm siphoned down my statement. And I come to my decision from a slightly different perspective than my colleagues on the Council. Like many of you, I have had the good fortune of growing up in this great town. However, unlike anyone else on this body, my children are not yet school-age. My daughter is three and my son is 10-months-old and my wife and I are choosing to raise our children here in West Hartford because of its public schools and the enriching environment that it creates for our children. One of the reasons that I ran for office is to try and preserve that environment, which I believe is put into ever increasing jeopardy through the Town's annual budget increases, which Mrs. Hall just catalogued. The downward pressure that such spending trends put on our working families and our middle class families is real. Each year, the cost of living has gone up and the additional municipal tax increase, which may seem small to some, is a talking point in many households in our community. I remember during the campaign that many of us on this Council spoke about affordability and the need to keep West Hartford affordable. I believe it's fair to say that there is a bipartisan consensus and recognition of the fact that West Hartford is increasingly becoming too expensive for many in the middle class and on the lower end of the economic spectrum to call it their home. And if West Hartford's spending trajectory continues, many of our residents will simply no longer be able to afford to live here. A huge part of West Hartford's character would leave with them and that would be unfortunate. I would alter, it would alter the West Hartford we all love, the West Hartford that is diverse in its citizenry and is a microcosm of America. On the end of the economic spectrum, many of our higher valued homes are sitting on the market for longer periods of time. Yes, some of this slow market can be attributed to the State's disastrous economic policies but I would posit that the cost of living in West Hartford itself contributes as well. We can only preserve West Hartford's rich legacy by restraining spending and recognizing that residents cannot afford to have their taxes raised exponentially each year. I cannot support this budget because it doesn't, it doesn't, it fails to support a mission of affordability. The bottom line is that this budget increases taxes by over 10 million in a time when the State is in financial chaos and the Governor is talking about new economic realities. It's an increase that falls in lock step with the spending trends that has put West Hartford's middle class into question. I have reviewed the transcripts of prior year votes and it appears that a consistent issue raised by my Democratic colleagues is that they feel as though Republicans vote against a budget but offer no proposed cuts during the budget process. Having gone through the budget process now once, I can say that I don't believe that's a fair criticism. The budget is constructed in conjunction with the majority's direction and policy preferences. It is not a document inherently designed for negotiation. Throughout the budget process, I have, I've tried to voice concerns regarding spending and tried to raise them. One example is, in fact, this science lab, which has been discussed several times tonight. And with respect to that science

lab, I reviewed the NAISAC Report, which purports to support the need for new science labs. And in defense of Superintendent Moore, he also said that there were oral discussions which, which support it as well. It's not exclusively this document. But the salient quote from this document is, "Some science labs are getting old and would benefit from an upgrade." Now, I'm not saying that there is not a need for new science labs at Hall but what I'm saying is that this body should require a less expensive alternative. We are now eight years into the new economic reality created by the 2008 global economic crisis and I hope that moving forward, this body will plan for the future by acting with restraint and by making prudent financial choices that support all residents at all ends of the spectrum. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Williams. Mr. Davidoff.

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm going to begin with my thank yous and first to our Town Manager, Mr. Van Winkle, always a kind voice on the other end of a phone call, willing to answer a question or to explain something that I just don't get. Sometimes the language that's used in some of these meetings is mile-high and I like to talk in layman's terms. A shout out to Mr. Privitera, Liz Hewitt, and Barbara Rua in the Finance Department for preparing all these documents that are so necessary for us to evaluate the budget. Deputy Mayor Cantor has served as the Council Chair of Finance and Budget Committee since I've been a member of this Council. And when I was first elected, I was the minority representative to that Committee and I remember going to New York City to attend a bond rating conference with Moody's and Standard and, I think it was with Moody's and our bond rating was reaffirmed and in that discussion, I understood a lot in terms of the financial interlocking things that make a decision to earn our community the AAA bond rating, which lowers our operating costs in terms of when we want to, to bond for various things in the budget. Our Council colleagues take this quite seriously. It's one of the items in our Charter that the responsibilities of a Town Councilor is to adopt a budget. And this evening tough decisions require strong leadership and strong leaders come to decisions and vote on matters that are required of them. They just can't take a pass and, and go the other way. So everybody will be voting on it and not everybody will be in, in agreement from my consensus of what I've heard this evening, which is disappointing because I really don't know at what point we get to that 9-0 reflection because we're talking about 1.67 this year. And I, I think that, that is a good number. It's one that was not done by accident. It was done with careful financial planning and this is a realistic budget, which in my opinion, meets the needs of our community. And I think it would be fair to say that people and businesses want to be in West Hartford. We're an attractive place to live and to work and where people enjoy coming to socialize. I've spent many hours of work, looking through every line item presented in this budget. Like a good zoning application, this zoning book is one that I read every page of the book, whether it be on the town one or the board side. I've read the narrative for each program and service. At the Committee level, I've either listened or asked questions to get a better understanding. I don't hesitate to follow up with Directors or the Town Manager about any outstanding issues that I have. I listened carefully to the public testimony during each of the Public Hearings, as all of you have done as well, despite the fact that during this most important vote, it was a very small resident turnout to speak either in favor or against this budget. So I don't know if the message is low turnout means people are happy or low turnout means that people can't do anything about it or low turnout means something totally different. But the way I view it is low turnout means that people are trusting that we'll do what's right for them. I

always read the emails from our residents about the budget. The only email I got was one that was resent to me by Mr. Wenograd from Mr. Kennedy about the budget because I didn't get the first one and that's the only email I got about the budget this year. And this is many years of doing this and that's all I've heard. So I don't really understand why that's the case. I know it's not because of, of the media informing people as to what we're doing or what's happening here because I think they do an excellent job. I chair Public Safety and it's an honor to work with both our Police Chief and our Fire Chief, as well as their assistants, who put together what they perceive and what they know as public safety officials to be the necessary components for a public safety budget because that Department works 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year with no down time because when you pick up the telephone and you dial 9-1-1, somebody's going to show up here in West Hartford and someone's going to provide you with the assistance you need to help you with whatever your situation may be. But this comes also at a cost. They need the proper resources to accomplish their duties. They need a vehicle that's roadworthy. They need equipment that keeps them safe. They need adequate training so that they know how to perform their job to the highest standards. Last term, Paramedic Service was introduced as a concept to save our residents significant sums of money and despite the time it's taken at the State level to get the program launched, it will launch within the next few months here and there's been considerable training and initial supplies bought to make this service cost-efficient to our residents and probably be a revenue source. So the Police budget this year, in this fiscal year is reduced by 1.3 percent, which is \$201,514. On the other hand, the Fire Department increases its budget by 0.2 percent, which is \$23,900. Public Safety budget is decreasing over last year by \$175,000. That's pretty incredible that a Department of the size and magnitude and scope and importance was able to find savings and reduce its costs without jeopardizing the services we provide to the residents of West Hartford by \$175,000. As you all know, I'm a big fan of the Community Planning and Public Works Department, as well as our Community Services, having served as Chair for many years. And I think it was an adequate, an accurate representation by Minority Leader Hall and Councilman Wenograd that there are a lot of things that need to be done that are federally or state mandated, especially with respect to the way to keep our waterways clean and that's with respect to the MS-4 Program. The recognition that sometimes the economic development may need a little assistance and may need to have the contacts out there to grow our Grand List and the last part that was discussed there was the change in the kiosk in our parking garages. And at first I was not a big fan of that for a variety of reasons but it was a very well-presented presentation by Mr. Phillips as to why this is in the best interest of our community, the new system that will be put in place there. And I'm confident that Mr. Phillips has steered us in the right direction in the past and will continue to do that. The other component of our budget, which I really want to talk about, is our Capital Budget Plan because a budget reflects our community's priorities and where we see ourselves not just this year but in the years out. What do we want to provide for future generations of people who call West Hartford home? It's clear to me that West Hartford is envy of the region. Our education system, in my opinion, is the best in the State of Connecticut. I have two daughters who have been able to go through our West Hartford Public School system, one in college and one a junior, and I don't think that we could find better teachers, administrators, staff assistants, paraprofessionals anywhere in the State of Connecticut that could provide the children of West Hartford with the educational resources and the education necessary to compete in the global economy. And it, it just blows me away because I think when you just talk to people from other communities and you say you're from West Hartford, they, it has a strong connotation of things

that're done well. And I'll share with you on a recent trip to some schools that we just visited on a college tour all I had, all my daughter had to mention was that she was a junior at Hall High School and they heard of Hall High School and it was positive things they heard about Hall High School. And that doesn't just come by accident. That comes by hard work and a community's commitment to education. And while I'm talking about a community's commitment to education, let me talk about the Hall High School science labs. Been on the Council now since 2007 and this is the first time I've ever had a Superintendent attend a Committee meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee insist that a capital improvement is necessary to maintain the academic curriculum for our students so that they can be successful students in the area of science. Science and technology and engineering are crucial fields in today's educational world. Our science labs at Hall High School are almost 50-years-old. They don't even compare to those that're at Conard High School, which were recently renovated. The accreditation report pointed out that something needed to be done. Our community does not do things halfway. We do it right the first time. There was a lengthy discussion that morning about why this was needed. Simply, we need a safer environment to store chemicals for chemistry classes, we need to make certain that there are eyewashes and showers in case if something goes wrong. We need to allow the students to work in smaller groups to participate in scientific experiments. There's nothing worse than being part of a chemistry team and there's four students working on something and you're part is so minimal that you get absolutely nothing out of the entire educational experience. It was pointed out to us that often the classes that may use the same materials don't meet back to back, so often the teacher sets up the experiment, has to take it down in that same 50 minute period. This is not a really good way to conduct a, have a positive learning environment and I think our responsibility is to make certain that our students are given all the tools necessary to succeed in their pursuit of academic excellence. And now, every budget, we, we seem to keep coming back to the same topic of what could be, what should be, what would be. I operate in the world as it currently exists. I currently don't sit as a member of the State legislature. I don't serve as a Commissioner in the Governor's Cabinet. I don't serve as the Governor of Connecticut nor am I a member of Congress. So I have to operate in the realm of what is possible and what I have the ability to impact. It's true that this year there's an uncertainty in the State budget as to what we will be getting from the State of Connecticut in terms of dollars sent back to our community. I commend Councilwoman Cantor for meeting with Mr. Privitera and the Finance Staff as well as Mr. Van Winkle, to identify those items in the budget that we could make adjustments with. I would say that this was the first time in many years that a list was produced of this nature to form a basic contingency plan as to what course of action would our community take. This was something that wasn't just basically pulled out of a hat. It was something that was thought out, well-reasoned, and one that would do the least amount of damage to our community and to the residents we serve. This budget has some unique things that if I was in the legislature I probably wouldn't have supported, such as a motor vehicle capped mill rate where I think it's going to shift some of the liability to some of our elderly residents, sharing of the sales tax revenue if it's not demonstrated and especially in, in these times. But it gets back to my basic point. I don't operate in the world of what could be; I have to operate in the world of what is, so I can't change those kind of rules. There was some discussion we heard this evening about our capital spending. And in about two weeks we'll have a community forum, where the residents of West Hartford will be asked the question do they wish to increase the amount of capital spending of \$12.6 million or 12.8 I don't remember, it's one of those two numbers, \$12.6 million to purchase the University of Connecticut. Well, I can

tell you right now, there's not \$12.6 million in this year's current budget for us to pay cash out of this year's operating expenses. It would be something that we would definitely have to, to bond for. And if we were to keep the property and not make it a, and make it a park for example, it would be the cost of possibly demolishing those business, those buildings, which would cost about maybe \$6 million. And then the upkeep of the parcel would be a tune of about \$600,000 to \$750,000 a year. So I ask you, while we're adopting this budget and we look forward to two weeks from now, it's a \$20 million investment. And I heard this evening that we're having a hard time with the investments we have going forward so far, I don't know how we can come to some different conclusion in two weeks. But with that said, I'm going to keep an open mind but I think it's important to, to put that into that, this perspective. It's just that the timing of that discussion falls two weeks after this vote. And I ask my members of, on the other side of the aisle, would you have voted for this budget if it had a tax decrease? And how much of a tax decrease would it take to get a 9-0 vote? Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

President Slifka: Thank you, Mr. Davidoff. So I guess that leaves me and in the grand tradition of going last, I will, I'll summarize everything everybody already said and, and then I have my own things and keep us here longer than we really need to be. But I'll, I'll try not to. I'll do, I'll do my best. So this is, this is my final budget, so I'm feeling a little wistful. Much as I want to, I want to get it over with, I'm, I'm now feeling a little, a little funny about it. And I guess I'm thinking about quite a few things. One is, you know, I, you have the benefit of long-term perspective and now at this point you sit there and think, you know, am I leaving it better than I found it. I'm also thinking a lot about things that haven't changed and things that have changed in that time. It's, it's amazing if you, if you can go back and all read the transcripts if you really want to but many of the same topics discussed tonight were exactly the focus of the first budget I participated in and I'm, and I remember the early, the early budgets that I worked on. It's before we really had a website that contained any actual information and that Jonathan Harris and I would be in the back, pulling the, the binders out from prior years and going through the Clerk's area trying to find them, trying, trying to get some perspective and you really had to go book by book and that, thinking for somebody today joined the Council, there was, you know, Mrs. Kerrigan or Mr. Wenograd or Mr. Williams, they were looking for the first time for the first, for a budget that was first one that I had worked on. If it had been me in 2001, I'd be going back to 1986 and that's a little scary to think about in terms of perspective because those books were yellow and falling apart by the time Jonathan Harris and I were looking at them. But anyway. I want to start with some, some thank yous like everybody else. Ben said it before, in his humble opinion and, and mine as well, I've had the privilege for that entire time not always in the same role but, but certainly for the last nearly 10 years, the best Town Manager that you're ever going to find. I can't, I can't put it any better than that but and all, all nine of us have said some version of that and I think that speaks volumes, so thank you, Mr. Van Winkle, for this year but every year. And to, to Peter and to, to Liz Hewitt and, and Mark McGovern who's here and all the other Department Directors, they're as good as everybody said. I'm not going to repeat everything about that but we are, we are really blessed. So thank you to, to Shari and Leon and Denise for their, their work on Finance and Budget. I do think we've had a couple Committees this year that have rivaled them in terms of the, the volume of work they had to deal with, which is kind of unusual, but that, that really says something. You know, year in and year out, it's Finance and Budget, which bears the brunt of this and I want to pat myself on the back, because back in 2005, I had the foresight to, to one of the few actual powers that the Mayor has on his or

her own is the naming of Committee Chairs and Committee members on the Council and I had the foresight to, to name Mrs. Cantor as my replacement as the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee and I knew at that time since I had done the role, how, you know, obviously how valuable it was. But I thought I was doing a bang-up job and said, gee, how might, how could I possibly find somebody as good as me to fill that role? I need a, I need a me for me and luckily I found somebody who even exceeded my, my capabilities and she's been there, she's been there ever since and we're all in her debt for that. I also want to thank the Board of Education and Superintendent Tom Moore and his administration for continuing the best town/gown relationship that you're going to find, I think, in, in any municipality and for continuing to have the most fiscally responsible Board of Ed that you're also going to find. Something that hasn't changed. We are, notwithstanding the occasional disagreements, we are immensely blessed with an incredibly intelligent Town Council. Whatever you think of somebody's political beliefs, we have people who care. We have people who are incredibly smart. They're, they're dedicated and they, they do this for, for no pay, remember, so that these are people who are very qualified in their private sector jobs or public sector jobs. They could accomplish a lot of things and they choose to spend time volunteering here for the community. And I don't know that we get caught up on budget nights about disagreements in the course of community and I'd, you know, I'd like to take a step back to say, as a community, we're really lucky to have the, the nine people we have here and the people that I've, I've served with in the past. The first budget I ever, I ever participated in, I, I remember saying, taking kind of a philosophical approach, saying I'm going to balance the, the service needs of the community with the ability of our residents to manage and meet the cost of supporting those services. That's basically what we, we do with every budget. It's no doubt that this is an expensive time to live in. That, can't hide that. Our residents also get a lot in return for, for what they pay. Something that hasn't changed. Back then, we were, we were living in challenging times, governing in challenging times, very challenging economy. The first budget I did was immediately after 9/11 and that was a very traumatic time. And I remember Barry Feldman saying, well, you know, this one'll be tough but down the line it'll get easier. And you know what? It never got easier. It never got easier. It might be the only wrong thing Barry ever said to me. So, so that the challenges we talk about here, it's, maybe they change a little bit from year to year but it just seems to be the era we're in and it's now an extended era. There's also the truisms that I, I remember hearing that I continue to hear today, that we are driving people out of town, particularly the elderly, the young are not going to be able to, to come here, that the schools are going to be too expensive. Those are all very fair points and they're exactly the ones that we were looking at back when I first did this and we continue to look at'm today and to, to borrow a, a phrase that I think Mr. Van Winkle used when he introduced the budget last year or two years ago is it's about balance. It's, it's not an either/or. You are, as Mr. Davidoff said, governing in the times that you have and the reality you have and we would love to have a, a better functioning State government. We'd love to have some different constraints on us. That ain't here. And, and we've got to pass a budget by today and so you do the best that you can in that, in that time. Something else that hasn't changed is that every single year, this never gets easier, I have never found a, a budget vote to be anything other than excruciating and that's even the best of them and tonight is one of those. Because every year, I was burdened by the thought of the residents who can't pay more and I'm frustrated by the fact that our system does not allow much if anything to assist individuals who are in need, so we are here having to make a judgment about what's the best for the whole. Meanwhile, when you have emails, letters, meetings with residents, people who speak at a

Hearing, and you meet those individuals who really have an unfixable situation and you, and I sit here almost, you know, as a Solomon and it's not fun. It's not fun but that's the burden that we have. So we're in quirky Connecticut and we got 169 roughly municipal governments and the budgets are a key way that each identifies its identity. And West Hartford's identity for more than 50 years has been focused on top-notch schools and safe, beautiful neighborhoods and our community supports the budgets necessary to keep them this way. We've always sort of stayed in our lane. That's what we do. And if you go to Farmington or Avon just to pick two neighbors, they have, they have very different attitudes about it. I ran into somebody tonight who was, lives in Farmington and talked about their budget and said, gosh, I wish I lived in West Hartford where it seems like your residents trust the government to make a budget, and in, in Farmington, we elect people and I'm not knocking Farmington, I'm just quoting this person, we elect the people, they make a budget and then people just come in and vote it down and they go back two, three, four times over. But you know what, that's their community personality, all right? That may not be how I want to do things but that's what they've chosen to do and, and that's okay. But that's our identity and I think the mission from when I started has not changed to this day is to, to maintain that, that balance of top-notch schools and safe neighborhoods and, and having, paying what we have to to keep it that way. Something less noticed by the public but not by our rating agencies is that we've always been, we've always been able to address our long-term liabilities upfront, aggressively, and responsibly and not to kick the can down the road with the exception of a few years some time ago that continued to be a drain on us. And I won't spend time on that tonight except to say I have lived with the fact that from the very first budget I did, I had predecessors to Mr. Van Winkle and to Mr. Privitera sort of say to me, hey, you know, the town was on a steady, steady plan at this point and these couple of years they deviated from the plan for, for largely political reasons not, and, and it's okay. That's what, that's what you're elected to do. But it got us off the plan, and from my very first budget forward, we have been paying for some of those mistakes and to this day and it is to my immense frustration that the pension situation isn't better than it is but the reality is that we're dealing with an incredibly long-term legacy and we'd all have to probably serve here another, another 20 years to get it completely correct and that assumes that we stay with the plan. But our commitment to, to not kick the can down the road, and as Mrs. Hall mentioned before rightfully so, our, the commitment of our residents to stick with the plan has been evidenced by our more than 30 year run of AAA bond ratings from two rating agencies. So getting back to this budget, until a few weeks ago, in my humble opinion, I thought this had been one of the smoothest budget processes in, in my experience. We had a, a great proposed budget from the Manager. There was little public rancor, a good alignment with the Board, not a lot of controversy, and said, it looked like we were headed for a smooth landing if, if not a unanimous one. But then the State encountered its most tax receipt challenges and deep cuts have been proposed for education aid in particular but even deeper cuts on the horizon for West Hartford. I, something that hasn't changed, I will tell you I find it, I'm incredulous when I say that it feels like the ECS challenge has not changed at all in 15 years. When I did my first budget, the number one driver was how underfunded West Hartford is by ECS, and despite the commitment of all of our legislators there and in recent years the Governor to try to fix this, 15 years later, it's just as big a challenge and we've actually taken a slight step backward in light of the State, the State's situation year over year. It's pretty frustrating. So this budget presented two firsts for the Council. One, the dual mill rate for cars and real estate. I think it bears mentioning that again. And second, I, my recollection, this is the first time this has ever happened, the imposition of a State budget with less State aid to West

Hartford than in the Governor's proposed budget. So the, the millstone we always have gone by, which was it's never going to get worse than what the Governor proposed, it got worse. And we, we've never seen that before. I am extremely pleased to see that the response to that situation has been nothing less than exceptional from our administration and from the Finance and Budget Committee and then how they took such quick action to it. So when you, I'm not going to get into any specifics but when you, when you end this, when you, when you conclude this, as a general matter, the budget tonight, before us tonight is a modest increase that preserves the services most vital to maintaining the strength of our community and which lives within our means, as well as the changing circumstances, the new reality that we're living in. And as a response to the State situation, it's an appropriate and proportional response that recognizes the cuts that are most likely to be realized while putting a viable plan into place for us to respond quickly in the event that more cuts are to come. I'm also particularly, one specific thing I'll, I'll mention is that I am pleased that on, as I leave this one just like with my first one, that we are fully funding our pension obligation notwithstanding the associated challenges with it. During my first budget adoption, I committed to taking a long-term view and never use gimmicks. And tonight I'm happy to say that as I do pass my final budget, that we're, again, not using any gimmicks and we're maintaining that long-term view. There was a question asked somewhere during this, this and maybe it was a rhetorical question but someone asked tonight during our, our discussion that said, well, you know, what're our residents really getting out these budgets? And I reflected on a conversation I actually had just, just last night with some neighbors of mine and it was an, one, like as all of you have, an impromptu neighborhood gathering and couples were there with their kids and they were discussing the cost of living and a few said, yeah, I know, it's expensive but I'd really like to live here where I am paying more but I am buying a community that I would not get if I lived in one of our, our neighboring communities. And it's, and it's great that others may want to have more distance from their neighbors and pay less. It's wonderful we live in a State notwithstanding its challenges where you can provide those choices for people but I prefer to be in West Hartford. And the answer to me is what are our residents getting for, for this budget? They're getting the best town in Connecticut. Tonight, we had more than 20 people speak and over 100 or so put their names on a petition to object to something that we had proposed doing. That doesn't happen in a town if people don't care. That doesn't happen in a town if they don't feel like it's worth what they're paying for. That doesn't mean they're not going to, they're not going to have concerns. It doesn't mean that they're not going to criticize what we do from time to time, but fundamentally, it means they really love this place and they don't want us to mess it up essentially. It couldn't be more elaborate than that. And what we're doing with this budget tonight and as we, we have with others, is to say we know what the core values of our community are. We know our residents intend, are demanding that we maintain those and they are most likely willing to, to pay what it is to maintain that as long as what that is is reasonable. And tonight's it's reasonable. So for the final time, I will say that I enthusiastically support this budget and I'm particularly proud of the legacy that it leaves behind. And if there's nothing further, then we will go to the five consecutive roll call votes. Ms. Labrot.

**ITEM #7 - ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$8,273,000 FOR PROJECTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017, APPROPRIATING \$20,391,000 FOR PROJECTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF THE TOWN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$28,664,000 TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATIONS AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE.**

**ADOPTEED, 6-3**

Section 1. The sum of \$8,273,000 is hereby appropriated to meet the estimated costs of various town and school improvement projects contained in the Town's Capital Improvement Program for the fiscal year 2016-2017, as follows, said appropriations to be inclusive of administrative, legal, financing and costs of issuance related thereto, and any and all State grants-in-aid for the school projects:

<u>Town Projects</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
Park Road Interchange	\$ 488,000
Pedestrian & Bicycle Management	331,000
Public Safety Facility	100,000
Public Works Rolling Stock	205,000
Street Resurfacing	<u>749,000</u>
Town Total	\$1,873,000
<u>School Projects</u>	
Hall High Science Labs	<u>\$6,400,000</u>
School Total	\$6,400,000
Total	<u>\$8,273,000</u>

Section 2. The sum of \$20,391,000 is hereby appropriated to meet the estimated costs of various town and school improvement projects contained in the Town's Capital Improvement Program for the fiscal year 2017-2018, as follows, said appropriations to be inclusive of administrative, legal, financing and costs of issuance related thereto, and any and all State grants-in-aid for the school projects:

<u>Town Projects</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
Arterial Street Reconstruction	\$ 1,442,000
Communications Infrastructure	500,000
Energy Conservation	100,000
Financial Management System	250,000
Fire Apparatus	1,170,000
Neighborhood Street Reconstruction	1,578,000
North Main Street Bridge	200,000
Park & Playfield Improvements	125,000

Pedestrian & Bicycle Management	470,000
Public Works Rolling Stock	620,000
Radio System Replacement	400,000
Sitework at Recreational Facilities	50,000
Storm Water Management	454,000
Street Resurfacing	943,000
Town Building Improvements	1,514,000
Traffic System Management	<u>200,000</u>
Town Total	\$10,016,000

School Projects

Asbestos Removal	\$ 225,000
Exterior School Building Improvements	1,450,000
Hall High Science Labs	6,400,000
Heating & Ventilation Systems	800,000
Interior School Building Improvements	1,050,000
Site & Athletic Field Improvements	250,000
Stage & Auditorium Renovations	<u>200,000</u>
School Total	\$10,375,000

Total \$20,391,000

Grand Total \$28,664,000

Section 3. To meet said appropriations and in lieu of a tax therefor, bonds, notes or temporary notes of the Town shall be issued pursuant to Chapter VII of the Town's Charter and Chapter 109 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, or any other provision of law thereto enabling, in an amount not to exceed \$28,664,000, or so much thereof as shall be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds available for such purpose.

Section 4. The bonds shall be issued, maturing not later than the maximum maturity permitted by the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended. Said bonds may be issued in one or more series and the amount of bonds of each series to be issued shall be fixed by the Town Manager and the Director of Financial Services in the amount necessary to meet the Town's share of the cost of the projects determined after considering the estimated amounts of the State grants-in-aid for the school projects, or the actual amounts thereof if this be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof, provided that the total amount of bonds to be issued shall not be less than an amount which will provide funds sufficient with other funds available for such purpose to pay the principal of and the interest on all temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds outstanding at the time of the issuance thereof, and to pay for the costs of issuance for such bonds. The bonds shall be in the denomination of \$5,000 or a whole multiple thereof, be issued in bearer form or in fully registered form, be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the facsimile or manual signature of the Town Manager and the manual signature of the Director of Financial Services, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by and be

made payable at a bank or trust company, which bank or trust company may also be designated the registrar and transfer agent, and be approved as to their legality by nationally recognized bond counsel. The bonds shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the bonds shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such bond is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of the bonds of each series to be issued, the annual installments of principal, redemption provisions, if any, the certifying, registrar and transfer agent and paying agent, the date, time of issue and sale and other terms, details and particulars of such bonds, including the approval of the rate or rates of interests, shall be determined by the Town Manager and the Director of Financial Services.

Section 5. The bonds shall be sold by the Town Manager and Director of Financial Services in a competitive offering or by negotiation, in their discretion. If sold in a competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town.

Section 6. The Town Manager and Director of Financial Services are authorized to make temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds. Notes evidencing such borrowings shall be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the facsimile or manual signature of the Town Manager and the manual signature of the Director of Financial Services, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by and be payable at a bank or trust company, which bank or trust company may also be designated the registrar and transfer agent, and be approved as to their legality by nationally recognized bond counsel. The notes shall be issued with maturity dates which comply with the provisions of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, governing the issuance of such notes. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the notes shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The net interest cost on such notes, including renewals thereof, and the expense of preparing, issuing and marketing them, to the extent paid from the proceeds of such renewals or said bonds, shall be included as a cost of the projects included in Sections 1 and 2. Upon the sale of the bonds, the proceeds thereof, to the extent required, shall be applied forthwith to the payment of the principal of and the interest on any such notes then outstanding or shall be deposited with a bank or trust company in trust for such purpose.

Section 7. Any of the estimated amounts set forth for projects not required to meet the actual cost of any such project may be transferred by the Town Manager and the Director of Financial Services to meet the actual cost of any other project set forth in Sections 1 or 2 above. The proceeds of any bonds not transferred in accordance herewith may be deposited in the Capital Reserve Account of the Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditure Fund.

Section 8. While it is anticipated that the bonds will qualify as tax-exempt bonds, the Town Manager and the Director of Financial Services are authorized, upon the advice of bond

counsel, to issue all or any portion of the bonds as bonds the interest on which is includable in the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes, and it is hereby found and determined that the issuance of any such bonds is in the public interest.

Section 9. The Town hereby expresses its official intent under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized for the project; that the Town Manager and Director of Financial Services are authorized to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and agreements as they deem necessary or advisable in order to ensure and maintain the continued exemption from Federal income taxation of interest on the bonds, notes or temporary notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

Section 10. The Town Manager and the Director of Financial Services are hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town, to enter into agreements or otherwise covenant for the benefit of bondholders or noteholders to provide information on an annual or other periodic basis to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board or any other nationally recognized municipal securities information repositories (the "Repositories") and to provide notices to the Repositories of material events enumerated in Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12, as amended, as may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to effect the sale of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance. Any agreements or representations to provide information to Repositories made prior hereto are hereby confirmed, ratified and approved.

Ms. Labrot: Starting with number seven.

Councilors Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Kerrigan, Slifka and Wenograd voted YES. Councilors Barnes, Hall and Williams voted NO.

Ms. Labrot: That's 6-3. And on number eight.

**ITEM #8 - ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016.**

**(See Attachment B)**

**ADOPTED, 6-3**

Councilors Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Kerrigan, Slifka and Wenograd voted YES. Councilors Barnes, Hall and Williams voted NO.

Ms. Labrot: It passes 6-3. Number nine.

**ITEM #9 - ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS TO AND IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016.**

**ADOPTED, 6-3**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD: THAT, the following amounts are hereby appropriated from the Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditure Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund for appropriation to the following projects:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Transportation</u>	
Storm Water Management	\$255,000
Traffic System Management	<u>82,000</u>
Total	337,000
<u>Board of Education</u>	
Computer Infrastructure	300,000
Furniture & Equipment Replacement	<u>175,000</u>
Total	475,000
<u>Parks &amp; Recreation</u>	
Outdoor Pool Improvements	75,000
Park & Playscape Management	<u>78,000</u>
Total	153,000
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
Communications Infrastructure	<u>208,000</u>
Total	208,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,173,000</b>

Councilors Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Kerrigan, Slifka and Wenograd voted YES. Councilors Barnes, Hall and Williams voted NO.

Ms. Labrot: It passes 6-3. Number 10.

**ITEM #10 - RESOLUTION CONCERNING TAX LEVY ON THE LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2015.**

**ADOPTED, 6-3**

**WHEREAS** The Town of West Hartford has traditionally adopted a single mill rate with respect to all taxable property within the Town; and

**WHEREAS** section 206 of Public Act 15-244 provides that for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2015, the mill rate for motor vehicles shall not exceed 32 mills and further permits municipalities to establish separate mill rates for motor vehicles and other taxable property; and

**WHEREAS** Connecticut General Assembly may, in its current session, consider whether the provisions of section 206 of Public Act 15-244 should be repealed, postponed or otherwise deferred or whether said provisions should become discretionary on the part of each municipality and any such action will take place after the adoption of the Town's budget but before the issuance of property tax bills; and

**WHEREAS** the implementation of a single uniform mill rate for all taxable property within the Town is the preferred alternative of this body in the event that such legislation is passed

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** on the Town Assessment List of October 1, 2015, there be and is hereby granted to be levied upon the ratable estate of the Town of West Hartford, of the inhabitants of said Town and of all others liable to pay taxes therein, including all estate situated or taxable within territory added to the limits of the Town by any acts or resolutions of the General Assembly heretofore passed, a tax of:

1. thirty-nine and fifty-one hundredths (39.51) mills on the dollar with respect to all taxable property other than motor vehicles; and
2. thirty-two and no hundredths (32.00) mills on the dollar with respect to all taxable motor vehicles in accord with the provisions of section 206 of Public Act 15-244.

Said taxes shall become due on July first, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016) and payable on said date in whole or in equal semi-annual installments from that date, namely: July first, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016), and January first, two thousand seventeen (January 1, 2017) except that any tax of less than fifty (\$50) dollars and, any tax on motor vehicles shall be due and payable in full on the first business day of July, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016). If any installment of such tax shall not be paid on or before the first day of the month next succeeding that in which it shall be due and payable, the whole or such part of such installment as is unpaid shall thereupon be delinquent and shall be subject to the addition of interest at the rate and in the manner provided for in the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. Any person may pay the total amount of any such tax for which he is liable at the time when the first installment thereof shall be payable; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** if the provisions of section 206 of Public Act 15-244 are repealed, postponed, deferred or otherwise rendered ineffective or if those provisions are made discretionary then there be and is hereby granted to be levied upon the ratable estate of the Town of West Hartford, of the inhabitants of said Town and of all others liable to pay taxes therein, including all estate situated or taxable within territory added to the limits of the Town by any acts or resolutions of the General Assembly heretofore passed, a tax of thirty-nine and thirty-seven hundredths (39.37) mills on the dollar with respect to all taxable property. Said taxes shall become due on July first, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016) and payable on said date in whole

or in equal semi-annual installments from that date, namely: July first, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016), and January first, two thousand seventeen (January 1, 2017) except that any tax of less than fifty (\$50) dollars and, any tax on motor vehicles shall be due and payable in full on the first business day of July, two thousand sixteen (July 1, 2016). If any installment of such tax shall not be paid on or before the first day of the month next succeeding that in which it shall be due and payable, the whole or such part of such installment as is unpaid shall thereupon be delinquent and shall be subject to the addition of interest at the rate and in the manner provided for in the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. Any person may pay the total amount of any such tax for which he is liable at the time when the first installment thereof shall be payable.

Councilors Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Kerrigan, Slifka and Wenograd voted YES. Councilors Barnes, Hall and Williams voted NO.

Ms. Labrot: It passes 6-3. Number 11.

**ITEM #11 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING YEAR-END BUDGETARY TRANSFERS.**

(See Attachment C)

**ADOPTED, 6-3**

Councilors Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Kerrigan, Slifka and Wenograd voted YES. Councilors Barnes, Hall and Williams voted NO.

Ms. Labrot: It passes 6-3.

President Slifka: And that concludes the budget. So now we'll go to number 12, Mrs. Cantor.

**REPORTS OF STANDING OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**ITEM #12 - FROM TOWN PLANNING AND ZONING RECENT PLANNING ACTION RE: 51 ISHAM ROAD: RECEIVED**

Councilor Cantor: From Town Planning and Zoning RECENT PLANNING ACTION RE: 51 Isham Road. I move that we receive.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: Motion's made and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries. No need for Executive Session, Mr. O'Brien, right? Okay. Smart man. Then I'd like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

**ITEM #14 - ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Cantor: So moved.

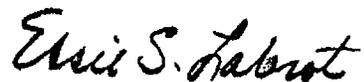
Councilor Davidoff: Second.

President Slifka: All those in favor?

All: Aye.

President Slifka: Those opposed? Motion carries. We're adjourned. Good night.

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 p.m.



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Essie S. Labrot  
Town Clerk/Council Clerk

ESL/dd

**APPROVED AT MAY 10, 2016, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

April 6, 2016

ATTACHMENT A

**RECEIVED**

APR 15 2016

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE  
West Hartford CT

Mayor Scott Slifka  
Honorable Members of the West Hartford Town Council  
50 South Main Street  
West Hartford, CT 06107

Dear Mayor Slifka and Town Council Members,

By this letter, property owners of the Loomis-Wooley Homeowners Association (hereinafter LWHO A) submit this application to amend a Special Development District (hereinafter SDD) for property located at 645 Prospect Avenue, West Hartford, CT, also known as Loomis-Wooley Condominiums (hereinafter The Property). The proposed amendment deletes Article 2.C of the SDD Approval #125, whereby the homeowners of the LWHO A are financially responsible for waste and recycling pick-up services. Once the amendment is approved, waste and recycling services will be provided by the Town of West Hartford. This letter and accompanying exhibits serve as the basis for our request, explain the amendment proposal in more detail, and collectively constitute the application. (See **Exhibit A attached/Affidavit of LWHO A**)

**Development of 645 Prospect Avenue, West Hartford, CT**

The Property was built in 2008 by Brian Liistro, doing business as Prospect Holdings Company, a division of The LICO Group Corporation. The West Hartford Town Council approved the development of The Property as Special Development District #125 on March 28, 2006 (See **Exhibit B attached/Letter to Attorney Lewis Wise from West Hartford Town Clerk**).

As part of the SDD approval, the following condition was included, Article 2.C of SDD Approval #125, which states: "Solid waste collection shall be the responsibility of the property owner/manager." (See **Exhibit C attached/Conditions for Approval**).

In May of 2015, the LWHOA took over all operations of The Property, including a pre-existing private contract with All Waste, Inc. for waste and recycling removal. The annual cost for these services is \$3,718.65 (See **Exhibit D attached/Contract Between LWHOA and All Waste, Inc.**).

### **Proposed Amendment for Waste and Recycling Services**

On behalf of LWHOA, members of the LWHOA, specifically Karen Harper, Nena Donovan and Lauren Seder, met with Town Planner Todd Dumais on October 6, 2015 for guidance associated with this application. At Todd's suggestion, we have also met with John Phillips, Director of Public works, researched the history of the SDD approval process, made inquiry regarding the size and capacity of all equipment involved, and determined the time and cost of private versus public waste and recycling collection services. This application therefore reflects our best efforts to understand the process by which Condition 2(C) was initially included in SDD#125, with the result that LWHOA is not entitled to town services for waste and recycling collection.

Our proposed amendment, as stated herein, requests that Condition 2(C) be deleted and that the Town of West Hartford provide waste and recycling collection for The Property commencing on the approval of this amendment.

## **History of Condition 2(C) to SDD#125**

After discussions with Town Planner Todd Dumais, Director of Public Works John Phillips, and careful review of the minutes of the meetings dated March 28, 2006, it is clear that the language of Condition 2(C) of the Conditions of Approval for SDD#125 was not discussed, negotiated or specially designated, but instead represents boilerplate language typically included in any SDD approval. Specifically, the discussion at the March 28th hearing indicated that The Property would be treated in the same manner as other condominium developments in West Hartford. **(See Exhibit E attached/Relevant Sections of Minutes of March 28, 2006 Meeting)**

In addition, it is clear that the issue of financial responsibility for waste and recycling services was not raised by the developer, members of the West Hartford Town Council, or neighbors who at that time had an opportunity to address any questions or concerns relevant to the inclusion or exclusion of Condition 2(C) in the SDD#125 approval.

## **Property Tax Liability Should Include Town Refuse and Recycling Services**

Property tax liabilities for the unit owners at The Property are commensurate with other property owners in West Hartford. **(See Exhibit F attached/Annual Tax Liabilities of Unit Owners).** The Town of West Hartford collected \$96,147.04 from our eleven-unit community in 2014, and has collected at least this amount from owners since The Property was completed. In accordance with Chapter 94 of the West Hartford Town Code: Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse, Section 94-5, relating to Residential, Condominium, Private School, Church and Synagogue Collection, property taxes are typically intended to cover the cost of waste and

recycling collection. **(See Exhibit G attached/Chapter 94 West Hartford Town Code).**

Our respective tax liabilities include town services just as any real property taxpayer in West Hartford receives. The fact that the boilerplate language of the SDD#125 approval was allowed to stand is in direct contravention to the stated purposes of our property tax obligations. It is unreasonable and unfair for the LWHOA to spend an additional \$3,474 annually for waste and recycling services.

In addition, Karen Harper and Lauren Seder, on behalf of LWHOA, met with Director of Public Works John Phillips on February 4, 2016 to review the cost and logistics for the Town of West Hartford to take over waste and recycling services for The Property. John determined, after gathering information from Paines, Inc., that the additional cost to the Town of West Hartford would be minimal, because no dumpster and infrastructure is necessary to provide services. Instead, the costs include the one time capital expenditure of new totes, per tip charges, and disposal fees. **(See Exhibit H attached/Costs as Reported by Paines, Inc. to John Phillips)**

Finally, we can find no condominium association of comparable size required to pay for their own waste and recycling collection. **(See Exhibit I attached/Relevant Sections of Minutes of March 18, 2006 Town Council Meeting).** The requirement requiring private collection is more important to commercial or apartment buildings and those employing dumpsters, which requirement would not apply to The Property.

**Physical Plant of 645 Prospect Avenue, West Hartford, CT is Accessible For Waste and Recycling Trucks**

In preparation for presentation of this amendment and the

subsequent hearing before the West Hartford Town Council, the Director of Public Works for the Town of West Hartford John Phillips, and the members of the LWHO A made physical inspection of The Property to determine the feasibility of town equipment providing refuse and recycling services to The Property.

Director of Public Works John Phillips was initially contacted in August 2015 by Unit 9 owner Lauren Seder on behalf of the LWHO A regarding town services for waste and recycling. John Phillips immediately inspected The Property, paying a visit and driving through the parking area in front of and adjacent to The Property, where the waste and recycling receptacles are placed for Monday morning collection.

Unit owners gathered information regarding the size and capacity of the trucks used by the Town of West Hartford (supplied by Paines, Inc.) and also gathered the same information regarding the trucks used by the private company presently under contract with LWHO A (supplied by All Waste, Inc.) The results show that both companies' trucks are of equal size and capacity. **(see Exhibit J attached/Dimensions and Capacities of Trucks used by Paines, Inc. and All Waste, Inc. and Photos of Parking Area)**

Unit owners also determined the time it takes, from start to finish, for refuse and recycling collection on The Property each Monday morning. Like Town of West Hartford collection practices, All Waste, Inc. collects trash weekly and recycling every other week. The time required for refuse and recycling collection on The Property is consistently 5 to 10 minutes from start to finish.

### **The Amendment is Appropriate for the Property**

As presented herein, the LWHO A respectfully submits that our requested amendment to delete the condition noted in Condition 2(C) of SDD#125 is fair and reasonable, and additionally that it is

equitable that the Town of West Hartford will thereafter be responsible for waste and recycling collection on The Property. The amendment is appropriate for The Property for the following supporting reasons:

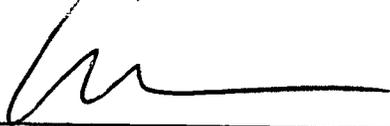
\*Based on the significant property tax liability of the unit owners, totaling in excess of \$96,000 annually (at a minimum), the LWHOA should not be burdened with the additional cost of contracting private refuse and recycling services;

\*The cost to the Town of West Hartford to provide waste and recycling services to The Property is not significant, because addition of town services does not require a dumpster or the construction of an infrastructure;

\*The size and capacity of the trucks in each instance referenced herein are nearly identical; there is ample room for town trucks to enter The Property and collect refuse and recycling as the private trucks presently accomplish;

\*The time spent on a weekly basis by All Waste, Inc. to collect refuse and recycling from all eleven units is a mere 5-10 minutes per truck, per week. The impact on town public services would therefore be minimal.

Respectfully submitted, Loomis-Wooley Homeowners  
Association,



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By Gregory Harper, President

April 6, 2016

Mayor Scott Slifka  
Honorable Members of the West Hartford Town Council  
50 South Main Street  
West Hartford, CT 06107

Dear Mayor Slifka and Town Council Members,

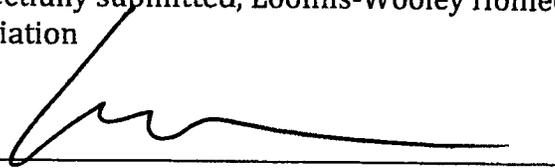
The Loomis-Wooly Homeowners Association (hereinafter LWHOA) hereby requests a waiver of fees required under Zoning Regulation 177-50 L, in connection with the attached Application for Amendment to Special Development District #125, Condition 2 (C) that holds the LWHOA responsible for private refuse and recycling services.

Pursuant to Zoning Regulation 177-50 M, the Town Council has the authority to waive such fees if deemed appropriate. Our position, as reflected in the attached application, is that the inclusion of Condition 2 (C) in Special Development District #125's initial approval is boilerplate language that should not have been a part of the Special Development District provisions from the start.

As stated more specifically in the attached Application for Amendment, the LWHOA should not be responsible for private services for refuse and recycling based on the significant property tax liabilities of the homeowners that should include said services, the relatively insignificant cost to the Town of West Hartford to add refuse and recycling services to the homeowners, and the practical and logistical information that includes truck size and capacity, and the minor impact on town public services time wise.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for a waiver of fees in connection with the attached Application for Amendment to Special Development District #125.

Respectfully submitted, Loomis-Wooley Homeowners  
Association



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By Gregory Harper, President

**ATTACHMENT B**

ORDINANCE CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD:

THAT, from the revenues derived from the property tax levy on the list of October 1, 2015 and other miscellaneous revenues estimated to be received in the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 as shown in the revenue section of the budget document, the following are hereby appropriated to the General Fund:

	<u>Personal Services</u>	<u>Non-Personal Expense</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Sundry Expense</u>	<u>Total</u>
Town Clerk	\$168,272	\$ 96,450	\$	\$ 10,762	\$275,484
Town Council	113,274	247,770		8,473	369,517
Town Manager	267,201	4,150		15,550	286,901
Corporation Counsel	340,240	71,360		23,953	435,553
Registrar of Voters	234,970	47,243		12,689	294,902
Information Technology	463,666	385,500		33,094	882,260
Financial Services	1,710,672	430,188		124,846	2,265,706
Assessor	597,872	58,320		44,348	700,540
Human Resources	349,589	76,355		26,745	452,689
Fire	9,891,336	968,058		153,243	11,012,637
Police	13,757,526	917,553		303,977	14,979,056
Community Services	2,187,175	397,216		161,896	2,746,287
Public Works	4,141,680	7,037,047		375,501	11,554,228
Facilities Services	1,170,060	885,573		88,309	2,143,942
Social Services & Leisure Services	1,953,361	962,102		109,329	3,024,792
Library	2,582,283	647,187		180,816	3,410,286
Education				153,283,022	153,283,022
Debt Service/Capital Financing				16,078,411	16,078,411
Payments to Probate		40,000			40,000
Contingency				1,035,000	1,035,000
Radio Maintenance	104,889	309,008		8,024	421,921
Private School Health Services				663,760	663,760
Revaluation Litigation		25,000			25,000
Health District		503,532			503,532
Private School Transportation				867,262	867,262
Risk Management Contributions				31,220,742	31,220,742
Metropolitan District Commission		8,956,500			8,956,500
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$40,034,066</b>	<b>\$23,066,112</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$204,829,752</b>	<b>\$267,929,930</b>

And further, that allocated debt and sundry overhead expenses appropriated to municipal departments and the school department are not available for discretionary expenditure, but are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Town Treasurer for the sole purpose of meeting the indicated debt and sundry costs, either as direct budgetary expenditures or as transfers to such funds established in accordance with Chapter 18 Section 37 of the Code of Ordinances.

And further, that from revenues to be derived from other funds as shown in the budget document the following is hereby appropriated:

Separately Appropriated <u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Personal</u> <u>Services</u>	<u>Non-Personal</u> <u>Expense</u>	<u>Capital</u> <u>Outlay</u>	<u>Sundry</u> <u>Expense</u>	<u>Total</u>
Blue Back Square Fund	\$	\$	\$	\$3,897,275	\$3,897,275
Community Development Block Grant Fund	245,747	130,815		322,441	699,003
CDBG – Housing Rehabilitation Fund		175,000			175,000
Westmoor Park Fund	348,347	123,749		195,492	667,588
Leisure Services Fund	1,156,037	1,245,385		653,070	3,054,492
Private School Services Fund	751,093	902,940		588,186	2,242,219
West Hartford Library Fund		15,000	8,980		23,980
Parking Lot Fund	917,042	1,150,226	449,500	805,738	3,322,506
Capital & Non-Recurring Expenditure Fund				1,173,000	1,173,000
Police Private Duty Fund	1,400,000	17,500		647,746	2,065,246
Technology Investment Fund		21,700			21,700
Cemetery Operating Fund	128,885	173,158		97,015	399,058

And further, that increases or decreases to said appropriations may be made only upon certification by the Town Treasurer that anticipated expenditures do not exceed anticipated revenues.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Essie S. Labrot, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron VanWinkle, Town Manager

Approved as to form and legality:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph O'Brien, Corporation Counsel

**ATTACHMENT C**

ITEM NO. 11  
FILE NO. 1362

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING YEAR-END BUDGETARY TRANSFERS**

**WHEREAS**, The Code of the Town of West Hartford Chapter VII Section 7 provides that upon request of the Town Manager, but only within the last three months of the fiscal year, the Town Council may by resolution transfer any unencumbered appropriation, balance or portion thereof from one department, commission, board or office to another, and

**WHEREAS**, to allow the orderly balancing and closing of budgetary accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, the Town Manager hereby makes this request to the Town Council,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD**, that the Director of Financial Services is hereby authorized to certify such transfers as may be necessary but not to exceed the total adopted and amended fiscal year 2015-2016 appropriations, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to approve such transfers, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that no transfer shall be made from any appropriation for debt service or other statutory charges for such balancing and closing purposes.

Van Winkle  
4/25/2016