

**WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 10, 2016
LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER**

ITEM #1 - MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 8:19 P.M.

Vice-President Cantor: Council meeting to order and start with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #2 - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you. Roll call.

ITEM #3 - ROLL CALL: MAYOR SLIFKA WAS ABSENT. MR. FRANKEL AS ALTERNATE FOR ZONING APPLICATION.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you. I'd like to make a motion to suspend the rules to present a Proclamation.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Okay. Oh, can you come on up here to the, to the microphone? Very anxious to speak. Okay, so I'm going to present, this was an idea that Leah brought to me, Leah Kelly, brought to me about the benefits, the health benefits and it's a little ironic, Meatless Monday. But we will learn a little bit so, so maybe you go Tuesday through Saturday to Chick-fil-A and not on Monday or you get a veggie sandwich or something. I bet there's another. Anyway, so the Proclamation is and then Leah will, will talk about that and she has some other people to discuss. "Whereas the American Dietetic Association recognizes that a vegetarian diet decreases our risk of various ailments, including heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and various cancers; and Whereas a growing number of people are decreasing their meat consumption to help lower their carbon footprints by reducing the amount of animal-based foods that they eat; and Whereas various nonprofit organizations encourage residents to choose vegetarian foods as a way to protect their health, the planet, and animals; and Whereas Meatless Monday was started by the U.S., United States government as a resource-savings measure during World War I and II, Meatless Monday was revived in 2003 and is a nonprofit initiative associated with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for a livable future that follows nutrition guidelines developed by the USDA and encourages people to try food alternatives other than meat at least one day per week. Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that on behalf of the Town Council, I, Mayor Scott Slifka, encourage residents to support the Meatless Monday initiative and its mission to improve the health of individuals, our environment, and our planet." And this is for you and can you educate us?

Ms. Kelly: Hi, I'm Leah. I'm a student at Conard High School in West Hartford. So I have with me two, two other people who will actually be explaining more about this movement, Katie Scott, of the Humane Society of the United States and Mrs. Trish Molloy, who is the Food Service Director in West Hartford Public Schools. But as for me, I am, I think I'm most interested in this movement just because it's, it's, it, well, like I wrote, it benefits everyone. And I think to sum it up, this is, it's self-explanatory, once a week on Mondays, people will refrain from eating meat but this isn't just a diet or a lifestyle. And I think a lot of people at first when they hear it, they're automatically just turned off and they're just, you know, they think, oh, why should I do that? What, what's the purpose of that? You know, why are people telling me what to eat, which is some of the feedback I've gotten. But that's not really what it is. Meatless Mondays, in essence, it's the union of many people in the community for the purpose of improving the world we live in. This doesn't just include helping animals. It's going meat-free once a week. If everyone in the world did that, we'd be able to, I believe...I think Katie will give you all the details but reduce greenhouse gas emissions by somewhere between 20 and...less than 20 or more than 20 percent. But...there's environmental benefits, there are health, extreme health benefits, and this is all, this all comes from data that was collected by the World Health Organization, the United Nations, and the United Nations Panel on Environmental Sustainability as well. So as I was getting to, I would like to thank the town, the West Hartford Town Council, Mayor Slifka, and Deputy Mayor Cantor for their great support in this movement for Meatless Mondays in West Hartford. And...I would just like to express my gratitude and pride in West Hartford for taking a revolutionary step forward as a leader of change in our nation. Our town joins many large cities, such as Baltimore, Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Boston, and New York just to name a few in promoting Meatless Mondays for the amelioration of the lives of animals, our health, and the environment. So I think that's a really great thing that these major cities all across the country, they've all released Proclamations just like the one you just heard and West Hartford is, it's not a major city but it's, the fact that it's up there in those ranks and becoming a member of that forefront for change is really, it, that makes me really proud of this town. So thank you all for respecting and participating in the movement toward an even better future. And now it's my pleasure to introduce Ms. Katie Scott of the Humane Society and, who will be followed, Trish is going first, okay. Okay. Ms. Trish Molloy, Director of Food Services in West Hartford Public Schools. None of this would've been possible without her.

Ms. Molloy: Thank you, Leah, and thanks everyone for taking the time to listen to us today. And I will just kind of go forward from when, where Leah left off on how we kind of incorporated Meatless Mondays into the school cafeterias. And we actually started this back in the beginning of the school year. I often meet with different parent groups to kind of, you know, see what they'd like to see on our menus for, for their students and there was a lot of interest and requests for vegetarian options. And I was speaking with elementary parents and so we worked out our menus to offer a vegetarian option every day on our elementary menu. And as the school year went on, we're kind of looking at our secondary schools and felt that we had a good kind of sprinkling of vegetarian options on a regular basis but I went to a conference and met Katie Scott and Leah reached out to me and expressed interest in kind of expanding on what we were doing and publicizing it and actually putting Meatless Monday in place. So I said, well, with this, you know, kind of support network going, I think we could make a run with it. So we started with having some information tables with a student survey at Conard, Hall, and King Philip to reach

out to students and kind of see what they thought about it. And we got in the range of about 100 responses. We set up a table during lunch, so any students that wanted to could come up to our table. We had some samples of some different lunch items that we wanted to introduce on the menu and we used some of Katie's recipes and some that, that we had developed ourselves. And so from the responses that we got on the survey, I'd say about 80 percent of the students responded positively about having Meatless Mondays on their, their monthly menu, so that every Monday we would feature meatless entrees. And it, so we asked the students if they were interested in having Meatless Mondays and also what they thought about Meatless Mondays and it was an interesting response from those that were positive, it was for various reasons. Some because they were vegetarians and some because they just thought it was a good idea. It was a healthy idea. It was good for the environment. And they probably also realized that cheese pizza is meatless. So, so they probably figured that, okay, there's still going to be some foods that are familiar that I enjoy while they're also serving the beans and rice dishes. So and, and that was my thought, too, that we would kind of roll this out with the familiar foods and then incorporate some of the new menu ideas, which the Fiesta Bean and Rice Bowl that, that came from the Humane Society, that Katie gave us a recipe was one of the things we sampled and it, very positive response on that. And when we brought it to Hall, we made it into a quesadilla with that filling, so just different ways you can kind of make it a familiar food that they might be getting when they go to a restaurant, you know, like Chipotle. So it's, foods are definitely familiar to the students and you know, kind of presented in a kid-friendly way and we round it out with fruits, vegetables, and low-fat milk and we're meeting all of our regulations and giving them some nice, healthy options. So that's the way we've approached it with kind of keeping the familiar foods and then kind of working in some of the, the different choices that're more of the plant-based, you know, with beans and, and more vegetables incorporated into the, the menus. King Philip, we had over 200 responses and again, probably, you know, 75-80 percent positive. So you know, the kids there were also kind of tuned in, understood, you know, what we were looking to do. And I think just that, the notoriety of Meatless Monday, you know, everybody's heard that, so just, you know, I think people understand it when they see it on the menu. They, they understand what's going on and, and realize that this is more than just, just their school or just their town, that it's kind of a national movement. So I think it's been a great education for the kids as well to see it, taste some new foods, and, and, and get a better understanding of, of what's behind it and, and how it can benefit all of us. So I'll, next I'll have Katie Scott come up from the Humane Society.

Ms. Scott: So I'm Katie Scott. I am the New England Food Policy Coordinator for the Humane Society of the United States and what that essentially means is that I work throughout New England, going to school districts and hospitals and universities and working with them to incorporate and serve more plant-based options. And as Trish and Leah have acknowledged, this is something that has become so mainstream that I almost can't keep up with demand. So first to kind of acknowledge, first, thank you for having me here and I'm so fortunate to have met Trish and Leah in the first place but also to address maybe a few of Leah's stats. One thing that the, kind of has become fact is that animal agriculture contributes to 15 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions and that is actually more than all sorts of transportation combined, so it is the leading cause. And I will now kind of walk you through what Meatless Monday is but something to consider is Meatless Monday is well-known, as Trish acknowledged, but it's really any time that you want to. It could be one meal, it could be one full day. I know that some

people think that it's limiting to talk about Monday but it's really about being more aware of what you're eating and just making healthier choices for yourself. So Meatless Monday is an international campaign. It encourages individuals and institutions alike to improve your health while also opening doors to a whole wide variety of flavors and it encourages environmental sustainability, as well as reduces our reliance on factory farming. Now, the great thing, again, that Trish has already acknowledged is that Meatless Monday has never been easier. Eating meatless is very simple. That could include switching any sort of your favorite meat-free versions for things like pasta primavera or just removing the meat from a bean and rice burrito. Likewise, the, Chipotle is a great example because Chipotle, Subway and even Burger King all have their own version of a meat-free dish, so going out there into the regular world, you don't have to cook. You can absolutely go into any of your favorite restaurants and choose sort of that meat-free version. And really, it's all about shifting vegetables to the center of the plate. It gives us a great opportunity to build a more well-balanced diet while also encouraging every stage of life to just be a little bit healthier. So simply put, Meatless Monday is a great way to start your week, and of course, I want to commend Trish for bringing more options to the West Hartford schools and to Leah for her dedication to the program and to her community and then, obviously, to the Town Council for passing this Proclamation. The step forward that you've shown truly makes an entire commitment to our health and to our planet. And as this great tablecloth acknowledges, you have now officially joined the millions. Thank you very much.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you very much. And again, it's a suggestion. It's not a mandate but do what you, do what you will and it's just a, I want to thank, thank you all very much for coming and educating us. And I remember when, I think when we first spoke there, I had just heard on NPR how the amount of water that it took to make an almond, I think you had, you know, we had talked about that and we said that it pales in comparison to the cattle farming, I think, that was out in California that serves such a small portion of the United States but the almonds go everywhere and that was kind of an interesting fact. Anyway, thank you very much. Okay. Number four, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #4 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES: RECEIVED

Councilor Davidoff: I move the receipt and the approval of the Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 4/12/2016, 4/25/2016; the Town Council meeting as a Committee of the Whole, 4/27/2016; the Public Hearing on 511 New Park Avenue, 4/12/2016; the Public Hearing on 2432 Albany Avenue on 4/12/2016; the Public Hearing on Ordinance Permitting Increased Density in the Central Business (BC) Zone, 4/25/2016.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Motion passes. Number five, Mr. O'Brien, Public Forum.

ITEM #5 - PUBLIC FORUM

Vice-President Cantor: The Public Forum section, I will read that as you are getting it. The Public Forum section of the Town Council meeting provides you, our citizens, with the opportunity to address items on the Town Council Agenda, those items we will act upon on tonight's meeting. To ensure that everyone has had an opportunity to be heard and that the Council can efficiently administer its business, certain rules have been traditionally followed by the Council over the years. They are fairly simple. If you are to speak at the Public Forum, state your name and address for the record. In the event you are not from West Hartford, if you are not a taxpayer or resident, just tell us and we will entertain a motion to suspend the rules to allow you to speak. You have up to three minutes to speak and you are allowed to speak to any item on the Agenda that is not the subject of a public hearing. And we have a sign-up sheet of, the first is Daniel Johnson.

Mr. Johnson: All right. My name is Daniel Johnson for the record.

Vice-President Cantor: You don't have to hold the button. Just so you know. Okay, thank you.

Mr. Johnson: Okay. Daniel Johnson, for the record, 521 Quaker Lane South, West Hartford. First, this is probably the worst meeting to come to hungry so if I collapse, just give me a minute. So I'm a new, new resident and official homeowner and actually with the Bicycle Advisory Committee as a new Board member. And I, just kind of want to bring up the Complete Streets, so thank you, Ron Van Winkle and Duane, for, you know, all the effort and work and everything that's kind of gone into that and so I'd really kind of just like to point to myself as a, as a new resident being, you know, kind of interested in this community to keep growing as it becomes more dense, as it becomes more of a destination not just for school systems but as well as kind of the lifestyle. So you know, my wife and I, we walk to town quite frequently or we bicycle, so I'm more of a social bicyclist as opposed to 50 miles a day, you know. But I think, you know, as we kind of look at Complete Streets, it should be kind of considered in the same aspect of when we redesign, as, like, we redesign schools, such as Charter Oak, we kind of plan for the future and what will be required of those schools, you know, 10 years down the line. And the same thing when you buy a computer. You know, you don't buy a new computer and put the old software into it. You kind of get the whole package, an update. So I like many aspects of Complete Streets and I would kind of like to see that effort continue forward where, if we're redesigning something, you know, now is the opportunity that we have, we can consider things, you know, what's 10 years from now, what's 15 years from now, what is going to kind of keep this community together as a whole. So thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Johnson. Next person, Mr. Franklin, Scott Franklin.

Mr. Franklin: Hello, Mrs. Cantor, members of the West Hartford Town Council, I'm Scott Franklin. I am the Chair of the West Hartford Bicycle Advisory Committee and I am here to speak in favor of the new Bicycle Facilities Plan, which is on your Agenda as item number 11. We've come a long way in West Hartford over the last few years when it comes to pedestrian and bicycle safety, and when I took over the Bicycle Advisory Committee, there were, I don't think were any bicycle lanes in town and now we're starting to develop them all over town. We

applied for, with the assistance of the town, and got the, Ron's designation as a Bicycle-Friendly Community from the League of American Cyclists, which is, which is a great honor. The town supported, through Mr. Van Winkle, the Complete Streets Policy, which was enacted about nine months ago and then the Complete Streets Policy called for a Bicycle Facilities Plan and the town has been working very hard to get that Plan completed. Many thanks to Mark McGovern, to Todd Dumais, and to Duane Martin for countless hours of time that they put, not only to draft this Plan but also to examine other plans that are out there and being used throughout the country in an effort to make this one the best plan that they possible could. So there's been a lot of other great things happening in town. There's been a bike rack program, which was spearheaded by Mr. McGovern as well. We have a program called, an event called Center Streets coming up on August 28, which, whereby we're going to be closing down a grid in the Center and opening up the streets just for pedestrians and cyclists and people on skateboards and things like that from 9-12 on a Sunday morning at the end of the summer. We also have a program called Wheels on Wednesdays, which is, kind of sounds similar to Meatless Mondays and for the same benefits, too, right? We're reducing the carbon footprint, we're, we're fighting obesity in people so we have to, we may have to talk about this. And then also you've probably seen the Cycling Without Age program that Lene Bruun started, our, our transplant from Denmark who's going to be leaving us, unfortunately, next month to move back. But that's the program where we take elderly people in nursing homes for rides on this rickshaw bicycle and we let them, as we say, get wind in their hair and it's a wonderful program. And you're going to start to see, we're going to probably get another one in the next few months and you'll start seeing them all over town. So with the Bicycle Facilities Plan, again, we thank you very much. We're hopeful that this is really a springboard to even better, our bicycle policies in town and one of the things that we do want the town to keep an eye out for is that our main streets, our Farmington Avenue and our Park Roads, we would really like to see someday bicycle facilities on them. And we know that's a bone of contention and those are difficult streets but not impossible to coexist with the traffic and the, and the parked cars and the merchants. It's happening all over, all over the country. It happens all over the world. We're a great town. We can, we can make it happen but, but mostly I just wanted to say thank you to our Staff. Thank you to our Town Council for standing behind us, for spearheading this, and for making this happen. We really appreciate it. Thanks.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Franklin. All right, Mrs. Mary Ellen Thibodeau.

Ms. Thibodeau: I'm Mary Ellen Thibodeau. I'm from 15 Wyndwood Road and I'm also a member of the Bicycle Advisory Committee and I'd like to speak to the, item 11, the Bicycle Facilities Plan. I want to thank the Council for drafting and adopting a Complete Streets Policy that was named recently by Transportation for America the second best out of more than 80 adopted in 2015. This certainly sets a good foundation for what we, we hope to do in, in the coming years. The Bicycle Facilities Plan required under the policy is a good first step in, in making West Hartford a community where its residents can easily travel by bicycle. We thank the Town Staff for their work on the Plan and look forward to continuing to work with them to add specific implementation goals and performance metrics, details that will make the Plan a reality. And we really hope to be able to continue the partnership with Town Staff, where we offer them our assistance and look forward to working with them over the next couple of years. Thanks.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you very much, Ms. Thibodeau. Let's see, that's all that I had signed on the signup sheet. Is there anybody else in the audience that would like to speak to something that was, is on our Agenda but not subject to a public hearing? I don't see any. Okay. Mr., the Reports from the Town Manager, Mr. Van Winkle.

ITEM #6 - REPORTS OF TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Van Winkle: Thank you, Deputy Mayor. First, I want to speak to an issue we heard earlier in the evening. We heard from two neighborhoods, long distance apart, both with the same complaint that we're driving too fast. And it's a complaint we get all over West Hartford. I've worked for this town for a long time and this is probably the complaint we get more than anything else in the community. And you know, we have a police department that's out there enforcing our Ordinances. Our engineers are trying to design ways to see if we can get cars to pay more attention to the road and slow down but there's one thing that we can do that you can do to make a much bigger difference than what we're doing is to slow down. It is us who are driving our streets and we're driving too fast. It's you watching TV out there that's causing the problem. You're only going to get there a minute or two ahead of where you would've been had you driven the speed limit. Pay attention to the sign. What's the speed limit on your street? Most people don't even know if you ask them. I lived on the street my whole life. I never noticed there's a speed limit sign. Drive the speed limit. Protect our neighborhoods. These are people who live in your neighborhood, you do with kids who want to feel safe. And it's, you're going to make a mistake. When you drive at a higher speed, you're more likely to have something bad happen. If there's a bicyclist on, on the street, you're more likely to have an accident with that bicyclist, whether the bicyclist made the mistake or you made the mistake or a pedestrian. So we're going to meet with those neighborhoods to try to help them but there really is one thing that everyone can do to help us and protect our neighborhoods and that is slow down in West Hartford. We had quite a big story in the newspaper above the fold, a headline, about UConn. We were able to negotiate a purchase, a purchase of the UConn property, which we brought to the Finance and Budget Committee on Monday. It was well-received by all those sitting at the Finance and Budget Committee. And at our meeting on the 16th, there will be a Resolution that will direct the Town Manager to go to a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the University of Connecticut for no more than \$5 million. That Resolution will not get approved by you that night. It has to go to the TPZ, so you're just going to refer it. It's usually not something you debate on that night, so it shouldn't be a long discussion but you'll refer that to TPZ. They will offer their advice back to you and will come back to the Council for your approval to send us to a Purchase and Sale Agreement, which we hope to complete before the end of June. That document then, we have 90 days to do our due diligence, and we've already done 80 percent of that due diligence. We've already, you know, hired engineers and others, architects, to go out and look at our, at the site, give us some feel for what's going on at that site. At the end of the 90 days, we will sign that Purchase and Sale and move forward. Our, there's another \$750,000 due, 250 at the earliest and then 750, and in two years, the \$4 million balance. And if you attended our meeting on last Monday night, there was a lot of neighborhood interest in this property. There should be. It's 58 acres in the center of our community. My message to the community was that the price that we were looking at, that someone was willing to pay didn't make a lot of sense to me for the kinds of uses that we might see on that property, and in

particular, if we choose to make it more of a public facility and less of an intense development. So we were able to negotiate a price, which makes a lot of sense for this community, which I would, I would, in my memo to you, recommend that you give careful consideration to. So this process is moving forward and we'll have a lot of work. Today, I had five people come in with an idea of what to do. Now, none of them had money and they all wanted to spend money. You know, everything from a bench like Simsbury does, you know, beautiful, open space to a symphony hall. I mean, we had all sorts of, one person I did not understand what they were talking about but we are going to have a lot of work ahead of us. We're going to hear a lot of wonderful ideas and stuff and this is just an amazing opportunity for the community. So that'll be on our Agenda probably for the next 18 months without question. So each of you have perhaps a, one of these things, these smartphones and if you go on your smartphone and you go to your apps, you can do West Hartford Recycles. You know, you ever in your kitchen and you've got that thing and you ask your husband or your wife, can we recycle this? You put it in the app and it will tell you what you can do with it, you know? It'll tell you you need to put it, yeah, I know. It'll tell you whether you should be putting it in the refuse or whatnot, so it's West Hartford Recycles app and if you're sitting with a Styrofoam cup and go, can I recycle or can't I recycle this, this will tell you that. Last quick thing. Our public golf course, Rockledge, was picked as one of the best golf courses, the best golf course in, by *Hartford Magazine*. Our senior center was recently notified, it's the second runner-up in the Senior Services category by *Hartford Magazine*. I know you know that both Conard and Hall was recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* for the Best Schools in America. So we have an incredible community. We have people who come and talk to us about Meatless Mondays and today we planted a, a time capsule and a tree at Fernridge Park with the Old Guard, another incredible group of residents. This is a wonderful community. This is a wonderful community, honored to be associated with it. So that's all my report and if there are any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. You can't help but just feel his enthusiasm. Anybody have anything for Mr. Van Winkle? Mrs. Hall.

Councilor Hall: Thank you. So Mr. Van Winkle, earlier you spoke about the traffic problems, which I agree, we get a zillion emails a day and, and the people who spoke earlier kept saying, you know, there's, you know, we can't do anything. We can't do anything. And yet, we have heard how every year our law enforcement goes to the Capitol to see if they can get traffic cameras approved and, and that gets turned down. So do you know, did that go to the legislature again this year? And if not, I guess I would just say that that is something that people can do is contact their legislators and say if they, you know, wanted the ability to have traffic cameras, then that is one way to slow down the speeding.

Mr. Van Winkle: There's no question that if you're going to get a ticket and you speed, you won't speed. If there's a police officer sitting with radar, you're not about to step on the gas and go faster, right? And so we only have a certain number of police officers that work traffic duty and we have 215 miles of streets all the way from here to Philadelphia and we can't be on all those streets. And so one of the concepts that came up and has been tried in other communities was to have a camera that if you're over, over a certain level of speeding, that camera will take a picture of your car. It'll get a picture of your license plate and it'll send a ticket to your home. It, it is, without question, a way to get people to be aware because they are going to start getting

tickets. You know, it was not on the legislature this year. And communities that have adopted that have pulled them back because they wrote so many tickets. We're all speeding. Everybody's doing this. It's not just one or two cars on the streets. We're seeing it everywhere and so when they put up these traffic cameras, the community came with torches to Town Hall and said you've got to stop doing this. And so there's a reluctance at the legislature level to allow something like that happen and that to happen in the State of Connecticut, so I don't see that happening. But again, we can make the difference. You know, when I was President of my neighborhood association, I had everybody sign a compact that they'd drive the speed limit in our neighborhood. Big deal, right? At least we slowed them down in our neighborhood. But those kinds of things, efforts by individuals, can make a difference, just like Meatless Monday. So give it a try.

Vice-President Cantor: Anyone else? Thank you very much. Number seven, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #7 - CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR: ITEMS 17-20 TO RECEIVE

Councilor Davidoff: I move we place items 17 through 20 on the Consent Calendar.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's made and seconded. All those in favor? Sorry.

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Okay, motion carries. Number eight, Mr. Davidoff.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ITEM #8 - APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF CHICK-FIL-A, INC., PROPOSED LESSEE AND INTENDED DEVELOPER, AND ALDI, INC., OWNER OF 511 NEW PARK AVENUE, TO AMEND SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT #94 TO CONSTRUCT A NEW, FREESTANDING, SINGLE STORY CHICK-FIL-A RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE-THRU AND OUTDOOR DINING TO THE NORTHEAST OF THE ALDI STORE. ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE SITE LAYOUT, INCLUDING PARKING, LANDSCAPING, LIGHTING, AND SIGNAGE ARE PROPOSED.

APPROVED, 8-1

Councilor Davidoff: An application on behalf of Chick-fil-A, Inc., proposed lessee and intended developer, and Aldi, Inc., owner 511 New Park Avenue, to amend Special District #94 to construct a new, freestanding, single story Chick-fil-A restaurant with drive-thru and outdoor dining to the northeast of the Aldi store. Additional modifications to the site layout, including parking, landscaping, lighting, and signage are proposed. I move we adopt.

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded and I'm sure there will be a little discussion. Does anyone want to start? Mrs. Hall.

Councilor Hall: So a few months back I was invited to a 5-year-old birthday party and there were going to be 50 five-year-olds there and yes, yeah, 50 of these 5-year-olds and the first thing that the parents said was they got takeout from Chick-fil-A. And they had occasion to call back a couple of times to try to get their order correct and they were floored by the, how wonderful everybody was on the phone, how polite they were, how pleasant, how helpful, and it was the hit of the party. You know, but it just, when you came forward and talked about how this is the culture of the company, it clearly is working and it clearly resonated with the family that was ordering this takeout. And like I said, it was successful and I probably just put the idea in a lot of parents' head, in their heads what to do for their next party. But I, I do just want to commend you for that attitude because it's something that's sorely missing in a lot of places and I think that will be a welcome addition to the community. I, I do hope that the people who are concerned with the drive-thru, that those fears are allayed. Working at a bank, I get drive-thru, so I'm, I'm fine with that. But I also, you know, being a grandmother and I know what it's like when our daughter's got the three kids in the car and they're trying to get some food, it's not easy to try to pack everybody up to get them inside. So it's, it's not just a convenience for some people. It, it really is a necessity, especially if you're elderly or handicapped, so I hope we've got all those details worked out so that it doesn't create an issue. But I think this is a great spot for it. I think it would be a great addition. I would strongly encourage you to make sure you have the public safety in place for the beginning. But with that, I will wholeheartedly endorse this, so thank you. And thank you for choosing West Hartford.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mrs. Hall. Mrs. Casperson.

Councilor Casperson: Thank you, Deputy Mayor Cantor. First of all, I would like to say that I wasn't originally from here, so I'm so excited that Chick-fil-A is coming. And for those of you who have not experienced a waffle fry and some fresh lemonade, you're in for a treat. So I'm really excited that you chose West Hartford and I appreciate the work that's gone into the building. I mean, it's a beautiful building. It's going to make a lift to that corner, which looks so industrial. And thank you so much for paying attention to, you know, replacing the drive-thru. For many people who don't think about those small business owners who were coming into town and making that investment, you know, I have to tell you, sometimes I drive past one store to get to another that's got a drive-thru because I don't have time to be getting in and out or it's too cold or those things. So I, I think that it's a great thing, it's, it's another way that we can serve the community. And, and as Mrs. Hall said, those who, you know, parents who are so busy or people who are challenged to get out of their cars and, and go in and enjoy a wonderful meal. So and I also appreciate the quality. They, the staff and just the approach. And for me, it's, I also love a day of rest. I love the fact that you give your employees the day off. I think that that adds to them being so refreshed and, and connected, so they can, you know, shop at, go and have food at Chick-fil-A on Saturday and then go to Crown on Sunday. It'll be all great and it'll all balance out quite nicely, I think. There's nothing like a good pastrami from Crown, I'm telling you. So I just want to thank you, and with that being said, I will wholeheartedly be supporting this this evening. Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Then on Monday vegetables, right?

Councilor Casperson: Yes because my, you're so funny. Yes because my daughter who's, who is a dietician has gotten me to Meatless Mondays, actually a lot of Meatless Mondays. You've met her, I think. Brianna. She's my daughter. Brianna's written some things that have been, been put out in, about Meatless Mondays and I actually did start a 21 day, I started 21 days of, of, with a vegan cleanse first earlier this year and have completely embraced a more plant-based diet. Not completely, I still need my Chick-fil-A but I, I have embraced it and truly appreciate that we have done that for the community and for the students.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mrs. Casperson. Mr. Barnes.

Councilor Barnes: Thank you for sharing that, Mrs. Casperson. That was that was excellent. That was good information. First of all, I'd like to say I'd like to thank Mr. Goodson for sharing Truett Cathy's story. It's a, it's a great story and you know, inspirational, certainly, for someone with that type of entrepreneurial spirit. And also the business model that you described, how it was created, how you go about picking, you know, owners of these properties, how much it takes to get invested and kind of the, just the whole model, I think, it's, it's very impressive. I've already commented on the record about the drive-thru design. I'm not concerned about it. I think it actually improves the, the streetscape, so I'm fine with that. And Mr. Goodson, I also just want to comment on your assurances that Chick-fil-A is not anti-anyone, which was your quote, because as you know and I'm sure you would agree, any type of discrimination, you know, is not only unlawful but would not be tolerated in our community. So we expect it to be, you know, anti-no one and look forward to having you in town. Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Barnes. Mrs. Kerrigan.

Councilor Kerrigan: I am wearing a purple sweater, I have purple socks on, and I'm wearing a pin. And I, the pin was given to me by CCSU. Last week when I gave the commencement speech to the Lavender Graduation, which is for the LGBT community, so I'm an individual that not only is part of the LGBT community but also very involved in the LGBT community. It's somewhat ironic, quite frankly, that you're here asking for something, considering that you spent over \$5 million trying to defeat same-sex marriage, something that in the State of Connecticut holds my name, Kerrigan, and fortunately we won. That being said, your company has changed a lot, we've all changed a lot, and I appreciate everything that you said today in terms of reassuring my community that we are welcome. That's, that's so important. I really love the fact that instead of a franchise model, which makes a few people very wealthy, that your approach is to make a lot of people have enough money. So my hat's off to you. I think, I think that's fabulous. And, and one last thing, there was a couple that I was talking to that, that left and she, and she said you're going to vote for this, aren't you, because we drive to Enfield to get our seasonal milkshakes, which are peppermint and chocolate. So for no other reason but to keep our money in West Hartford, I will gladly...and, and thank you again for choosing West Hartford. It's, it's great to have a good employer in town. Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mrs. Kerrigan. Mr. Davidoff.

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you, Deputy Mayor Cantor. This evening I will be voting in favor of this application and I'd like to thank Chick-fil-A for choosing West Hartford. I'm just having a hard time. At last meeting, I called it Chick-fil-Ah because ah, a, whatever. So whatever that may be and I've been practicing all day and I've gotten it wrong on, every, every time. But what I think is important is the organization understood what our community was looking for in terms of being located in a transit-oriented district, in terms of where our vision is in the future with respect to the parcels that are possibly going to be developed along the New Park corridor. I think you're just basically the start of something bigger and I think what we've got there is a hidden gem in our community and I think you should be excited that you are going to be maybe the cornerstone of future development. And for that, I'm quite grateful. No one needs to tell anybody the State of Connecticut's economy, the state that it is in currently and to be able to attract businesses of your stature is, is something fantastic. Not only will we be employing people in the construction of the site, which is good for our trade's people, but you mentioned that you'd be employing 100 people to perform functions in the hospitality industry. And there's nothing better than something that provides people with access to, to a job, to a step-up or possibly a career in, in the restaurant business. So I think those are, are steps in the right direction. I'm glad that we had the discussion about drive-thrus and how they sort of fit in so we really didn't need to go through the fact that there are other automotive-intensive industries located right on that parcel, especially the BJ gas station. I mean, I don't think any use is more automobile-intensive than a gas station, so I, I'm sort of seeing some connection there, which is, which is quite good. And there was a reference made that maybe our young people would use the, the word thank you and my pleasure. This evening it's my pleasure to welcome you to West Hartford and thank you for your investment.

Vice-President Cantor: Well, how clever. Very, very well done. I could see the smoke coming out of his ears. Mr. Williams.

Councilor Williams: Great. Thanks, Leon. I thought your presentation was wonderful and I'm really excited to have you in the community, and to dovetail right off what Mr. Davidoff just said, I think that this investment of this beautiful building in the New Park area is going to be the start of something great there because you're going to be an anchor. I just, I can just see the wild enthusiasm that's going to be in the community. So really look forward to having you in town. Thank you, Deputy Mayor.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you. Anybody? Yes, Mr. Wenograd.

Councilor Wenograd: So I'm not as excited. And I'm really torn on this, on this application. Because it's been mentioned, I want to sort of state clearly that two things that aren't impacting my deliberation are the politics of the President. It's irrelevant and I don't believe it's appropriate for us to judge the, someone's politics. Obviously, the actions of the company are relevant and I'm satisfied in terms of locally, but certainly, his individual politics, both in terms of offending gays and efforts to make up for that, yeah, I don't think are within our purview. I also don't think it's relevant how good the food is. A yes or no vote, I don't think, is judging the food. I'm looking at this purely as the use not so much the, the particular company. I do think you made a good presentation. I do think the building has done a lot of certain improvements

thanks to your efforts involving our staff to really make it as, as good as possible. But I, I do share the concern expressed by the TPZ about the drive-thru. Given, you know, and when we talked about, you know, Leon talked about the, the volume of the other businesses. We didn't talk about it but the, the gas station. We know the Cumberland Farms at the corner, potentially other uses that might come into that street. This isn't the vision that I have for that street. And, and again, I think that every effort has been made to mitigate that. I'm hopeful, obviously I can count and I'm, you know, I'm hopeful that I'm wrong. I'd like to see people walk into a restaurant. I'd like to see people biking to it. I noticed there were bike stands. But in one conversation I had, somebody, mentioned people walking from the local businesses and I'm convinced that people are going to drive from Home Depot over to the store and back because they probably have 10 minutes' break. And I mean, so I see the traffic being a problem. I don't see it as encouraging the, the kind of pedestrian and, and bike usage that I'd like to see. Again, I, I think it's a very narrow case because I do think that you've done some great work with it. And as others have mentioned, I do like the model. I do think, I mean, that is positive. I think that is relevant that you've got a, an ownership setup for the, for the franchise that is better than we've seen from other restaurants. Certainly, in many places the managers are exploited. They're not really managers or they, they're just, you call them that so you can pay them below minimum wage for the hours. I, I take it that this is a different kind of model. I do appreciate that. I will be voting no but again, I think it is a close call and I'm, you know, I'm respecting the wisdom of my colleagues, so I'm probably, probably wrong about it because they're, I'll take the wisdom of crowds. But in the end, I, I do recognize you'll be coming, so I, I share the welcome and certainly not on a Monday but I will, will try to come at some point and, and try it out. Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Wenograd. Anybody else? No. Okay. I'll just say a few things. I, I want to, again, thank Attorney Hayes, the applicant, Mr. Goodson. And the, the presentation, I thought it was thorough. We know you've been working on this for a long time. We've heard a lot about it. It started 15 months ago with many improvements, so I also want to give a, a big thank you to our Town Staff and DRAC for working with you to make it a, a much better product than came in the door. And that is something that we are very, very proud of in West Hartford, that our, our Staff understands what we expect and, and demands and, and we, we work together to, to get to the, to the point. Now, the drive-thru, I know, I have a, a love/hate relationship with drive-thrus. But my, I have four sons. My youngest son was born with a congenital heart disease and needed three open-heart surgeries before he was 2-years-old. I had three other sons and the only options that we had were really unhealthy fast food. And it's a really important option for a parent. And now, recently, my 27-year-old had ACL surgery and moved home for a month and I needed to drive him and I couldn't believe it but same issue. It was, like, so kind of funny. It was, like, you know, 20 years apart or 19 years apart. So there is an important function that they serve and at certain times in your life, not all the time. And, but they need to be in the right place and they need to be in the, used in the right way. And the whole, what Mr. Dumais said about the connected to the sidewalk element, the street pedestrian not separated from the facility to be all part and having it be behind the, the building itself so it's not even visible really to the road is really important. That particular quadrant is very auto centric. I hope that is the end of the auto centric sort of idea and Cumberland Farms is also sort of the old model and now we're moving towards a more welcoming streetscape with multiple, various uses for the new residents that're going to be joining the street soon. So I really hope

that, again, we have, it's a, it's a good plan. It's a wonderful company that, it's a wonderful business model. The company, I had some concerns, too, and I'm so glad to hear that you are accepting and I, I know you will have to be in this community to succeed, so that's true because she'll be after you. No. But you know, we have jobs and the tax revenue is something that we also are grateful for and the investment in our, in our town, so I will be supporting the project. All right. So on that note, I think we can take a roll call.

Councilors Barnes, Cantor, Casperson, Davidoff, Hall, Kerrigan, Williams and Alternate Frankel voted YES. Councilor Wenograd voted NO.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you very much. So it has passed. Congratulations and welcome to West Hartford. All right, number nine, Mr. Davidoff.

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM #9 - RESOLUTION SETTING TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR JULY 26, 2016 AND AUGUST 23, 2016

ADOPTED

WHEREAS the Town Council rules call for a single council meeting in July and August;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the July meeting is set for July 26, 2016 and the August meeting is set for August 23, 2016. Both meetings will take place in the Legislative Chamber, Room 314 at 6:30pm.

Councilor Davidoff: Number nine, a Resolution Setting the Town Council Meeting Dates for July 26, 2016 and August 23, 2016. I move we adopt.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Motion passes. Thank you, Mr. Frankel.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Yes. All righty. Good for him. Number 10, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #10 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION

SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 24, 2016, AT 7:25 P.M.

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut, Department of Revenue Services, provides tax credits to businesses making donations to programs sponsored by non-profit agencies through the Neighborhood Assistance Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to nominate certain programs for eligibility and consideration but, in order for a community program to qualify for the Neighborhood Assistance Act, it must first be approved by the Town Council; and the Act requires the Town Council to submit a list of approved programs eligible for business investments to the State of Connecticut, Department of Revenue Services by July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, before the Town submits such a list, it is first required to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of hearing eligible proposals for the Neighborhood Assistance Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL that the Town Manager is hereby authorized to submit the Neighborhood Assistance Act Grant Application; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town Manager is directed to publicize the availability of this program and solicit proposals from community groups prior to this hearing.

Councilor Davidoff: A Resolution Authorizing Submission of the Neighborhood Assistance Grant Application. I move that we set for public hearing on May 24, 2016 at 7:25 p.m. in the Legislative Chamber.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Motion passes. Number 11, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #11 - RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BICYCLE FACILITIES PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

ADOPTED

WHEREAS the Town of West Hartford ("Town") adopted a Complete Streets Policy ("Policy") on July 21, 2015 to ensure that its transportation network is designed, constructed and maintained for users of all ages, abilities and modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS said Policy directed Town staff, in consultation with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, to develop a Bicycle Facilities Plan ("Plan") to address the need for defined bicycle routes within and through Town; and

WHEREAS the attached, comprehensive Plan includes a vision, design considerations, an implementation approach and a network map that identifies intended bicycle facilities that will achieve the stated goals of the Complete Streets Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT the attached Bicycle Facilities Plan is adopted and shall be applicable in accordance with the provisions of the Town's Complete Streets.

(Attachments referenced are contained in Town Clerk's File No. 900.)

Councilor Davidoff: Item number 11, A Resolution Adopting a Bicycle Facilities Plan for the Town of West Hartford. I move we adopt.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's made and seconded. Mr. Van Winkle, do you want to just give us a quick update? Very good. Yes, I appreciate that.

Mr. Van Winkle: I got some people who worked very hard on this.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you. Yes, they did.

Mr. Van Winkle: And many, many hours, so I'm going to let them come up and explain.

Mr. McGovern: Good evening, Mark McGovern, Community Services Director. I think Mr. Franklin looked at my notes on his way up here perhaps. I had planned to say many of the same things. So as you know, the Bicycle Facility Plan is before you as an outgrowth of the Complete Streets Policy adopted last July. Directed Staff to work on a comprehensive plan and a network map and we've done that over the course of the last nine months, working in consultation with the Bicycle Advisory Committee. Met with them many times, had a great, productive dialogue. We appreciate and value that. We didn't agree on everything. We didn't really expect we would but we had a really good and productive outcome, I believe, and I know we have a good, we're in a good position and we look forward to working with them in the future. This is a plan that'll have to come back to you for an update every three years. Todd has passed out the map. We realized today in your Council packages the map didn't reproduce properly, so it may not have made sense in your yellow binder and so this will make more sense. It identifies the current bike lanes and shared roadways in existence now and it identifies intended bicycle facilities going forward, both shared roadways and bike lanes as well. So this is what we aspire to as we work on our streets every year. Todd, our Town Planner, who you know well, is, took the lead in, in doing this plan. We'd be happy to answer any questions you have.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you very much. I, yes, Mr. Van Winkle.

Mr. Van Winkle: I just want to say, you know, this is obviously a goal of the community, that we create a bike-friendly, pedestrian-friendly Complete Street-friendly system. It'd be great if we could do it in two years. We can't do it in two years and then so as we rebuild roads and as

we have these opportunities, we're going to take advantage of them. It may take us awhile to change the full community so there's these, these biking and, and strong pedestrian opportunities everywhere, but quite clearly, it is the goal of the community to get there. We may not get there next year but we will get there as we move forward.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Van Winkle. Mrs. Hall?

Councilor Hall: So I know I brought this up in, in the Committee but I just think it's a good idea to talk about this here, too. If you look at the map and going east on Asylum Ave., where it intersects with North Main Street, I have the concern about how that lane splits and maybe you could just talk about what do people do when they, when they're in the wrong lane and I just think it's dangerous.

Mr. McGovern: We have had a number of complaints related to that, that section. One of the challenges we face when we do street improvements is we're very rarely doing an entire street and so we're, we're doing segments. And so that was a segment that we did from Trout Brook Drive to North Main Street. It does have some markings that were new in the sense that our other bike lanes don't have some of the same intersections and the same number of lanes, which require a turning movement onto North Main Street, so that condition was being seen for the first time. But at the same time, it's what we, what we have to do in terms of pavement markings that have to be done in accordance with the, an engineering standard. So we recognize that we need to work with the Bicycle Advisory Committee in doing education for both riders and drivers when we put new facilities in place and, and there is going to be a learning curve as it relates to certain facilities and, and that's the most recent one.

Councilor Hall: So is that solid line, if you're in the car and you find yourself on the wrong side of that solid line, are you not supposed to cross it or is it okay to cross it if you know there's nobody coming or what're you supposed to do there?

Mr. McGovern: I'm going to try and answer that but then also defer to our Town Engineer, Duane Martin. But my, my understanding is you're, you're not supposed to cross the white line. The State law has changed and you can, you can cross the yellow line to keep a safe, the three-foot distance between a bicycle rider but perhaps Duane could answer specific questions related to that street line.

Mr. Martin: Good evening everybody. Duane Martin, Town Engineer. With regards to Asylum Ave., just to give a little background on that. That section between North Main Street and Trout Brook Drive, we had on-street parking next to the UConn campus frontage, and when we first paved the road, we had some temporary markings and then the pavement markings kind of went in in stages, unfortunately, and there was still an ongoing parking issue along the campus. So signage and the completion of the, the pavement markings kind of have been staggered, so there's some confusion and motorists were required to go around the parked cars and crossing a double yellow line and so it was kind of messy for a week or so when it was first done. After that, as Mark mentioned, there was a learning curve, so on one side of the street you have a bike lane up against the curve for the most part along that stretch. On the other side of the street, you have what we call a buffered bike lane, so we eliminated the on-street parking and, and you have a bike lane and then a, about a two- or a three-foot space between the bike lane and the adjacent

travel lane. The intent is to keep the cars separated from bicyclists or from the on-street parking that, that may be there. At times, you have to cross it to get into a driveway or to get to a side street but the idea is to try and keep them separated as much as possible.

Councilor Hall: So it's then, actually, if someone crosses over that line there because they find themselves in the wrong lane, is that a violation of any of our traffic ordinances?

Mr. Martin: Yes, but more than likely there won't be an issue unless there's some sort of an incident that comes from that. You know, you're supposed to stay in your line, basically, just like you are in any road, so if you encounter bicyclists and you're not in the right spot, you can be found at fault and ticketed.

Councilor Hall: Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mrs. Hall. Mr. Barnes?

Councilor Barnes: Thank you. I remember walking into a, a subcommittee meeting, I don't know, two years ago and I think it was Mrs. Cantor who handed out a Complete Streets pile of paper. And I have to admit, I had no idea what it was or why we even had to read it or move it forward, like, that week. But I do want to recognize Mark and, and Todd and, and Duane and Staff. We've, you guys have accomplished a heckuva lot of work in a very short period of time to go from not only a plan but you know, if you look at this map and, and the level of detail for all these bike routes, it's, it's very impressive. So kudos to you guys. Also, I'd like to acknowledge Mr. Franklin in the back and, and the advisory, bike advisory group, for all of your work and your input and I know, you know, at many of our meetings, folks from your group were there, providing input and speaking and you know, overseeing this process as we went through it and it was very helpful. So, thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Barnes. Mr. Wenograd.

Councilor Wenograd: Thank you. And I just wanted to actually completely agree with Mr. Barnes. You're on a roll tonight so... Actually, I want to point out that, you know, when we get a presentation like this that I suspect we'll all vote for it and it'll go pretty quickly. The amount of work involved in this, the negotiation that was involved, I think the, you know, Staff did an incredible job coming to expect that kind of work. And, and the, the task force. The amount of time, people don't realize how much time. It's a big Committee and I've been through some, a couple very long meetings of really vibrant discussions and really the best of West Hartford. I mean, the volunteers who are just spending, you know, hour after hour, debating these issues, trying to work, compromise, trying to come up with something that both suits the limitations on the town and the very real desires to do something just incredibly positive for our town and for our planet. So I just want to, you know, acknowledge so much my, my gratitude towards the Committee for really all their work and their dedication and their time and they're willingness to compromise because I, you know, understand this is not the perfect plan for anybody. We'd all love to be able to go ten times faster but this is an incredibly big step in the right direction and it couldn't have been, couldn't have happened without good, reasonable work both from the Committee and, and our Staff. So, thank you both.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Wenograd. Mr. Davidoff.

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you, Deputy Mayor. This evening this particular item highlights a synergy between government and its citizens and volunteers, namely the Bicycle Advisory Task Force and our engineering and planning department, working within the constraints of a town that is basically fully developed and where people have certain habits and norms of how they get, get around town. And as the demographics of our community change and as our priorities shift, this plan becomes fluid and not just rigid and, and written in stone. It's a guideline to outline a path to the future, a roadway to be able to work in conjunction with the needs of our community so that the most, the thing that's the foremost is that people are able to use our streets, whether it be by automobile or by foot or by bike, in a safe manner and in conjunction with each other and the uses that all take place on that street. So I think as my colleagues who served here previously and those who currently serve here and those who will serve here in the future, I think it's important to, to realize that some of our best decisions come about when we step back and we value the opinions of others, put them into perspective and try to reach a certain goal to be accomplished. And I think this evening is that first step along that path of accomplishing that. And when we start getting recognized by organizations outside of our community with respect to the accolades placed on our Complete Streets Policy, accolades placed upon our biking community as to how we are and others are taking notice of the leading edge that our community is, that doesn't just happen by accident. It happens because our professionals are engaged with its citizens and this governing body is, has the priorities in the right direction and to, for that, I'm grateful to serve on this and to, to work with those who have those interests in mind.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mr. Davidoff. Mrs. Kerrigan.

Councilor Kerrigan: Yeah, I just want to say thank you, Scott, and, and Mary Ellen. I know you guys worked really, really hard along with the, the Town Staff. Thank you so much. And the young gentleman, what's your name?

Mr. Johnson: Daniel Johnson.

Councilor Kerrigan: Daniel. I look at you as, as the future. You're new in town, you came here, you bought a house, you have a young wife and you want to use your bicycle as a mode of transportation. So for the, oh, I'm sorry.

Vice-President Cantor: No, I just, you have no idea how old his wife is.

Councilor Kerrigan: I stand corrected. Your wife without description okay, because you are, you're the future and, and I appreciate you getting involved, in the mission here because there are those that say there's hardly any bikers. If you build it, they will come. People love to bike. Ever since we were little kids, it's, it's not our bicycle. It's like our freedom, it's independence, so thank you all. I appreciate it.

Vice-President Cantor: I, I'm sorry. I just said, heard like a show on this guy that married someone 50-years-old. I'm just... I also want to thank you. And I'm sad, Mr. Coursey left because, actually, I've been on this Council a long time but he, he, he sponsored a Resolution

that actually established the Bicycle Task Force that actually morphed into the, the Bicycle Advisory Commission and, and we needed to revive it. I mean, it was sort of there and then it, it, it sort of was lacking legs and, and we had great leadership. Ms. Thibodeau, Ms. Thibodeau took it over and then Mr. Franklin and we've had incredibly impassioned volunteers that are, push us in a place sometimes where, you know, we feel we want to go but we're not sure and we, you know, they, they keep, they keep at it. But I will say, the, the key, I think, to success is the passion and patience and understanding that we, there's so much we can do but we sometimes can't do it all at once but we're going to keep trying. And I really want to thank our Town Staff for, I mean, you all, Mr. McGovern, Mr. Dumais, and Mr. Martin, you are, have given up a lot of your time and energy to this and I think it going to improve our community. And exactly what Mrs. Kerrigan said, Mr. Johnson, however old your wife is, no, I'm teasing, you are you are a, you know, you are our future and you look at a community when you're coming in and it's going to attract you if, if it is a community that is accessible for, you know, any kind of use that you want to do, whether it be biking or running or walking, so I appreciate that. And it, it has been a long time in coming, the Complete Streets, but not only did we adopt a Complete Streets Policy, we adopted an award-winning Complete Streets Policy and that's remarkable. So again, thank you to all those involved and, and we're just going to keep moving forward. Appreciate it. So I, all those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: Opposed? Motion passes. Thank you very much. And now we are on Announcements.

ITEM #12 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-President Cantor: I have several. Memorial Day Parade, time to sign up. Memorial Day Parade is right around the corner and the Commission on Veterans Affairs is asking interested groups to sign up now. Email the name of your group and your coordinator to West Hartford, it's whmemorialdayparade, one word, @yahoo.com. The parade is held annually on, on the national holiday, Monday, May 30 at 10 a.m. In honor of the 50th anniversary of America's increased involvement in the Vietnam War, the Memorial Day Parade will pay special tribute to Vietnam-era veterans. The Farmers Market opens Saturday, April 30, in West Hartford Center on LaSalle and Arapahoe, 9-1 on Thursdays and Tuesdays and Saturdays, whatever. Saturdays, 11-3 and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-1. Sorry about that. Bishops Corner also is opening June 18 and the hours are 9 to noon on Saturdays, I think. It doesn't say but I think it's on Saturdays. Chamber of Commerce seeks applicants for annual student scholarship. Each year, the West Hartford Chamber recognizes one outstanding high school senior with the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce Student Scholarship. The scholarship is unique in that it is specifically for West Hartford students who choose to pursue a degree in business or decide to attend a technical school or two-year college. The Chamber is currently accepting applications for a \$2,000 scholarship, which is co-sponsored by West Farms Mall. The deadline for entries is May 23. Go to www.whchamber.com for more information. Local students invited to compete for \$1,000 history prize. The Noah Webster House and West Hartford Historical Society invites West Hartford students to participate in the annual Freeman and Meyer Prize for Excellence in History contest. The Meyer Prize is awarded to the student who submits the best researched-

paper on local history. The first-place student will receive a prize of up to \$1,000. Other prizes may be awarded at the judges' discretion. Go to noahwebsterhouse.org for more information.

West Hartford Community of Concern, Freedom vs. Protection on May 11, 7 p.m. Tim Hollister, nationally-acclaimed safe driving and parenting advocate will speak on every parents' challenge, freedom versus protection, at West Hartford Community of Concern Forum on Wednesday, May 11. The event will be held at 7 at Hall High School and it is very moving.

Whet Your Palette, Thursday, May 12, 6-9. The West Hartford Art League is holding their annual sample, it's a, it's a sampling, tasting, and wine and beer. I was trying to edit but it didn't get through. Bright and it's a great event. Bright Idea events May 12, 7-8:30, West Hartford, you can receive a free LED lightbulb and learn how to save money and make your home more comfortable and be green. The first special event will focus on residential solar presentation and it will be held on Thursday, May 12, 7-8:30 at the Town Hall.

Mayor's Charity Ball this Saturday, May 14. The 17th Annual Mayor's Charity Ball will be held in West Hartford's Town Hall on Saturday, May 14, 6 to midnight. Event organizers promise it will be unforgettable evening. Gala events benefit two local charities, Playhouse on Park and the Town that Cares Fund. After dinner, guests will be entertained by performers from Playhouse on Park, a live auction, dancing to music by the Metropolitan Players. For more information to obtain a ticket, contact the Mayor's Charity Ball, (877) 439-2929 or info@mayorscharityball.org and you better hurry. This year's Home and Garden and Lifestyle Show will be held on Saturday, May 14, 10-4. Free workshops and demonstrations led by industry experts. The show is hosted by the Home Design District Shops at 485 New Park and 20 Jefferson Avenue. Oh my gosh. West Farms, Westmoor Park's Farm Day, May 14, 11-3. Before you get your hair done for the Mayor's Charity Ball, Westmoor Park will hold its family-friendly Farm Day. Come and watch the sheep shearing, animal demonstrations and see baby pigs and chicks and make your own butter. Join the fun of farm games and hay jumping. T-shirts will be available for sale. I thought that was like a...forget it. Sorry. Members of Migration project, Saturday, May 14, 2:30. The West Hartford Library's Memories of Migration team is collecting photographs that represent our patron's migration and immigration stories. If you have photos that you would like to share, please bring one photo of yourself in the city or country where you lived previously and one picture of yourself in West Hartford. Scanned photos will be displayed on our West Hartford Places and Faces page, as well as West, as history pins Memories of Migration collection. The event will take place on Saturday, May 14 at 2:30.

Growing a Great Community Gathering, Sunday, May 15, 2-5, Great by 8 and Growing Great Schools will host a community gathering on Sunday, May 15 from 2-5 at the 4H Education Center at Auer Farm in Bloomfield. The afternoon will include opportunities to visit animals, go on a hayride, take part in a variety of activities. Learn more about West Hartford's early education, childhood education, health resources, discover new ways to build skills, promote wellness at home, meet representatives from local preschools and childcare centers. I also have the Claws for a Cause lobster event, Rotary, that's, I'm just putting that up. It's June 25 but it's worth spreading around and getting a table. At the Elmwood Community, you were there, Beth, Elmwood Business Center, there's a, Charles Hilborn is organizing a planter collection for, to line the street. They've already collected, I think, 40 planters and are doing more. We will also leave some forms for that somewhere, I'm not sure where but with the Town Manager. But again, the Old Guard time capsule was a really interesting event and that's all I had. Does anybody else have? Oh, I, I do have one more but go ahead, yes. Okay. Honor a veteran by dedicating a flag to, for the Senior Center, Elmwood Senior Center. They are, they're big flags. They're pretty nice. They're \$5.

Sorry, didn't mean to poke you in the eye. And they are being planted May 23 through May 26 to, for a sea of flags at Elmwood Community Center and they're closing ceremony will be May 26 at 11 a.m. So you can come and hear some patriotic music and flag folding demonstrations and patriotic parfaits. So, interesting. Yes, Mrs. Hall.

Councilor Hall: Kind of following up on that, this is that time of the year where I remind everybody that we're looking for volunteers to come to Fairview Cemetery on Saturday, May 28 at 8:30 a.m. and we will be placing flags on the graves of all veterans at both Fairview and, and the North Cemetery on North Main Street. But we're looking for help. We normally get lots of our Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and Brownies and it's, it's a great way to start the weekend to reflect on why we celebrate Memorial Day weekend, so please come and join us. You don't need to bring anything or do anything. You don't need to RSVP. All you have to do is show up.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you, Mrs. Hall. Anybody else? Mr. Davidoff.

Councilor Davidoff: Thank you. I wouldn't be able to go home this evening unless I made this announcement. If you're not attending the Mayor's Charity Ball this Saturday evening, there's another event in town that my daughter and some of her friends have been working quite diligently on and it's a trivia night at Hall High School, where teams of six will compete for \$20 a member and the proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society in conjunction with their Relay for Life event, which takes place in June. And I think the other thing that I think is important is this body will meet, Mrs. Cantor, on Monday, the 16th at 5:30 here. We will say some nice remarks for our outgoing Mayor, Mr. Scott Slifka, and welcome in our new Mayor, Mrs. Cantor. And I encourage the public to, to join us here that evening and be present for what promises to be an exciting and moving evening. Thank you.

Vice-President Cantor: And a new Councilor. We will be swearing in Dallas Dodge as a new Town Councilor. Yes, Mr. Barnes.

Councilor Barnes: I have one announcement. The Connecticut Family Theater presents Mary Poppins, May 20, 21, and 22 at the Hoffman Auditorium at the University of Saint Joseph's and I'll just read the description. A practically perfect musical based on the books by P. L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film. The jack of all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Mary Poppins takes the children on a magical and memorable adventure but Jane and Michael, the children, aren't the only ones who have a profound effect upon. Even grownups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny, who advises that anything can happen if you let it. Full disclosure, my daughter is Mrs. Banks in the production, so I will be at all four productions. So if anyone's there, you will see me enjoying Mary Poppins that weekend.

Vice-President Cantor: Chim-Chimney. Okay. Okay. So number 13, Mr. O'Brien.

ITEM #13 - REPORTS OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

Mr. O'Brien: Good news. We do not need an Executive Session tonight and I'll be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Vice-President Cantor: Thank you. Anybody have any questions for Mr. O'Brien? Okay. No. Appointments, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #14 - APPOINTMENTS

Councilor Davidoff: I move that we appoint John O'Donnell from alternate to regular member to the Town Planning and Zoning for a term expiring 12/31/2020.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Motion carries. Number 21, Mr. Davidoff.

ITEM #21 - CONSENT CALENDAR

ADOPTED

ITEM #17 – MINUTES FROM COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – 4-6-2016, 4-19-2016

ITEM #18 – MINUTES FROM FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE – 4-11-2016, 4-18-2016

ITEM #19 – MINUTES FROM PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – 4-7-2016

ITEM #20 – MINUTES FROM WEST HARTFORD SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT – 3-22-2016, 4-12-2016

Councilor Davidoff: I, I move the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

Councilor Kerrigan: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: The motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: Those opposed? Motion passes. No Communications, right? No Petitions, no Executive Session. I move that we adjourn.

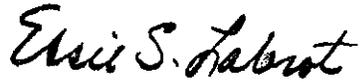
ITEM #25 - ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Davidoff: Second.

Vice-President Cantor: Motion's been made and seconded. All those in favor?
All: Aye.

Vice-President Cantor: All those opposed? Okay, we're adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.



Essie S. Labrot
Town Clerk/Council Clerk

ESL/dd

APPROVED AT MAY 24, 2016, TOWN COUNCIL MEETING