



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
TEL 870-3100 FAX 870-3102
www.ellington-ct.gov

JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

MELINDA M. FERRY
A. LEO MILLER, JR.
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, March 28, 2016
Town Hall – Meeting Hall

MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori L. Spielman, Melinda M. Ferry, A. Leo Miller, David E. Stavens,
Ronald F. Stomberg, John W. Turner

SELECTMEN ABSENT: James M. Prichard

OTHERS PRESENT: Doris Crayton, Human Services Director; Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr.,
Finance Officer/Treasurer; Robert Durgan; Erin Graziani, Senior
Center Director; Allan Lawrence, Fire Marshal; Joseph Palombizio,
Emergency Management Director; Tom Palshaw; Sgt. Brian Santa,
Resident State Troopers' Supervisor; Sgt. Patrick Sweeney,
Connecticut State Police; Timothy Webb, Public Works
Director/WPCA Administrator

I. CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Spielman called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order at
7:17 p.m.

II. CITIZENS' FORUM

No citizens came forward.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 14, 2016 Public Hearing

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE
MARCH 14, 2016 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT: PAGE
TWO, ADD AS THE THIRD PARAGRAPH: MR. SANBORN SAID THAT HE IS RECOMMENDING
THAT THE TOWN APPLY FOR FUNDS TO CONTINUE THE REGIONAL HOUSING
REHABILITATION PROGRAM. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE IS ASKING THE BOARD OF
SELECTMEN TO ADOPT THE PROGRAM INCOME (REUSE) PLAN WHEN THEY TAKE
ACTION ON THE GRANT APPLICATION.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2016-2017 Budget

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The BOS considered Account 131, Tax Assessor. Ms. Spielman suggested lowering the Tax Assessor's advertising budget from the requested \$1,800 down to \$660 as the office used only \$330 of their advertising budget in FY 2015-2016. Mr. Miller asked for an explanation of the reduction. Ms. Spielman replied that the difference between what the office used and what they were asking for was a little wild.

Ms. Spielman suggested reducing the Tax Assessor's dues and subscriptions budget from the requested \$2,550 down to \$1,500. She cited their use of \$1,350 in FY 2015-2016 as the reason for the reduction.

Ms. Spielman suggested reducing the Tax Assessor's travel budget from the requested \$1,900 down to \$500. She cited their use of \$0 in FY 2015-2016 as the reason for the reduction.

Ms. Spielman suggested reducing the Tax Assessor's office supplies budget from the requested \$2,000 down to \$1,300. She cited their use of \$1,300 in FY 2015-2016 as the reason for the reduction.

Mr. Miller asked if Ms. Spielman was comfortable with an amount of \$1,600 for Tax Assessor professional development. Ms. Spielman replied that the office needs that amount.

The total recommended reduction for the Tax Assessor's office budget was \$4,290. The total recommended reduction of the General Government budget was \$4,290.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Spielman reported that Account 350, Emergency Management, had increased slightly due to a change in salary. Mr. Turner stated that part of the increase was for emergency shelter supplies.

Ms. Spielman reported that Account 391, Fire Marshal, increased by 5.2 percent with extra funds for outfitting a new Suburban. Ms. Spielman suggested, in the future, purchasing a vehicle for the Fire Marshal rather than reimbursing the Fire Marshal for use of his personal vehicle.

Mr. Lawrence considered that action as perhaps short sighted and suggested having that discussion with his replacement following his retirement. He cited the inconvenience of having to use his personal vehicle to reach the Town's vehicle in order to perform his duties. He stated that he has the same arrangement as the Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Stomberg noted that the Fire Marshal is on-call 24 hours a day. He said he couldn't imagine purchasing a car for the same price as reimbursing mileage. He recommended that the Fire Marshal continue to have his personal vehicle at his disposal for Fire Marshal business at all times.

Mr. Miller asked who pays for gas. Mr. Lawrence replied that he pays for everything, tires, gas, battery, etcetera, and collects the flat-fee reimbursement.

Ms. Spielman noted that at \$5,700 per year in reimbursement it would pay to purchase a vehicle.

There were no recommended changes to the Public Safety budget.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Webb reported that the Department of Public Works was seeking to add a new Maintainer I position to work for the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) reimbursed through the WPCA. He noted that the WPCA no longer had two assistant foremen and he cited succession as the reason for creating a new position; he wants to have someone trained and ready to work with Maintainer II. The position would be funded by the WPCA.

Mr. Turner asked about Account 415, New Equipment. Mr. Webb replied that the Department of Public Works would purchase a new groomer machine and send the old machine to the beach.

In reference to Account 480, Engineer & Inspections, Ms. Spielman noted that the Department of Public Works is carrying \$125,000 from the previous budget so the department is covered should the Town choose to hire an engineer.

In reference to Account 470, Street Lighting, Mr. Webb said he would like to see that budget start to come down in subsequent years. He suggested that the BOS examine the Center School parking lot where one light has been replaced by an LED light.

Mr. Stomberg asked who will pay for the maintenance of the new LED street lights. Mr. Webb replied that Eversource Electric would pay for maintenance.

Mr. Turner noted that some street lights are ornamental and asked if they were still the responsibility of Eversource. Mr. Webb replied that they were.

There were no recommended changes to the Public Works budget.

CULTURAL ARTS & RECREATION

There were no recommended changes to the Cultural Arts & Recreation budget.

HUMAN SERVICES

There were no recommended changes to the Human Services budget.

TOWN PROPERTIES

Mr. Turner asked Mr. DiCorleto if Account 835, Hall Memorial Library Building, was listed at \$0 in the budget document (attached) because the library submits its budget separately to the Board of Finance. Mr. DiCorleto said that was correct but that he wanted to change the budget process so that was no longer the case. He suggested changing the budget process so that all budgets go through the First Selectman's office to expedite putting together the budget book. Mr. Turner asked if the budget was separate only because of past practice. Mr. DiCorleto said that it was a tradition but that it needed to change.

Ms. Spielman asked why the budget for Account 860, Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse, was so high. Mr. Webb replied that the minimal use of the building causes fluctuations in heating that are detrimental to the building and wear and tear from the environment also adds to the cost of maintaining the building.

In reference to Account 810, Town Hall, Mr. DiCorleto suggested reducing the budget by \$53,000 as this amount was added to the FY 2015-2016 budget for a study of the renovation of Town Hall. This was a one-time cost and Mr. DiCorleto and Mr. Webb suggested that those funds would not be necessary in FY 2016-2017.

The total recommended reduction of the Town Hall budget was \$53,000. The total recommended reduction of the Town Properties budget was \$53,000.

DEBT SERVICE

There were no recommended changes to the Debt Service budget.

FIXED CHARGES

Mr. Miller asked about Account 950, Insurance. Mr. DiCorleto responded that when the Insurance budget is put together the Finance Office has to account for single people who may marry and people who may start a family. He said that the budget for the first six months of FY 2016-2017 is an actual total while the second six months of the fiscal year are a projection.

Mr. DiCorleto said that the Insurance budget was based on a projection of a 20 percent increase. He stated that if the projection were reduced to a 15 percent increase the Insurance budget could decrease by \$26,000.

Mr. Miller was unsatisfied with this answer and had hoped for the 12 month budget but affirmed his faith in Mr. DiCorleto. Mr. DiCorleto stated that he also was unsatisfied with the budget process and he called for change.

Mr. Turner stated that he would be willing to accept a 15 percent projection. Mr. Miller agreed.

The total recommended reduction of the Insurance budget was \$26,000. The total recommended reduction of the Fixed Charges budget was \$26,000.

MISCELLANEOUS

In reference to Account 1020, Ad Hoc Council on the Development of Positive Youth Culture, Ms. Spielman and Mr. Turner asked why the budget had increased by a large amount. Ms. Crayton replied that a grant partially funding the program had ended. She noted that this account had not increased in several years.

There were no recommended changes to the Miscellaneous budget.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017: ACCOUNT NO. 131, ASSESSORS OFFICE, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$4,290; ACCOUNT NO. 810, TOWN HALL, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$53,000; ACCOUNT NO. 950, INSURANCE, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$26,000

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017, AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, A GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$16,097,686.

In reference to Account 810, Town Hall, Mr. DiCorleto suggested reducing the budget by \$53,000 as this amount was added to the FY 2015-2016 budget for a study of the renovation of Town Hall. This was a one-time cost and Mr. DiCorleto and Mr. Webb suggested that those funds would not be necessary in FY 2016-2017.

The total recommended reduction of the Town Hall budget was \$53,000. The total recommended reduction of the Town Properties budget was \$53,000.

DEBT SERVICE

There were no recommended changes to the Debt Service budget.

FIXED CHARGES

Mr. Miller asked about Account 950, Insurance. Mr. DiCorleto responded that when the Insurance budget is put together the Finance Office has to account for single people who may marry and people who may start a family. He said that the budget for the first six months of FY 2016-2017 is an actual total while the second six months of the fiscal year are a projection.

Mr. DiCorleto said that the Insurance budget was based on a projection of a 20 percent increase. He stated that if the projection were reduced to a 15 percent increase the Insurance budget could decrease by \$26,000.

Mr. Miller was unsatisfied with this answer and had hoped for the 12 month budget but affirmed his faith in Mr. DiCorleto. Mr. DiCorleto stated that he also was unsatisfied with the budget process and he called for change.

Mr. Turner stated that he would be willing to accept a 15 percent projection. Mr. Miller agreed.

The total recommended reduction of the Insurance budget was \$26,000. The total recommended reduction of the Fixed Charges budget was \$26,000.

MISCELLANEOUS

In reference to Account 1020, Ad Hoc Council on the Development of Positive Youth Culture, Ms. Spielman and Mr. Turner asked why the budget had increased by a large amount. Ms. Crayton replied that a grant partially funding the program had ended. She noted that this account had not increased in several years.

There were no recommended changes to the Miscellaneous budget.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017: ACCOUNT NO. 131, ASSESSORS OFFICE, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$4,290; ACCOUNT NO. 810, TOWN HALL, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$53,000; ACCOUNT NO. 950, INSURANCE, FOR A NET CHANGE OF -\$26,000

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017, AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, A GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$16,097,686. [ATTACHED]

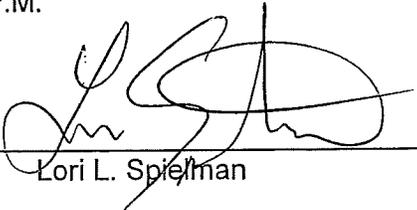
Ms. Spielman announced that the Tax Assessor had resigned and the First Selectman's office was working to organize the Tax Assessor's office.

Ms. Spielman introduced the BOS to Sgt. Brian Santa, the new Connecticut State Police (CSP) Sergeant for the Town of Ellington. Sgt. Santa introduced himself as a 10 year veteran of the CSP with Troop C for a year and a half.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (MILLER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 8:13 P.M.

Submitted by  _____
Joseph Tarzi

Approved by  _____
Lori L. Spielman

BUDSEL15-16	DESCRIPTION	2014-15 ACTUALS		2015-16 BUDGET		2015-16 TRANS/ADDTL APPROP		2015-16 ADJUSTED APPROVED BUDGET		2015-16 FIRST SIX ESTIMATED MONTHS TOTAL		2015-16 UNDER (OVER)		2016-17 DEPART- MENT REQUEST		2016-17 BOARD OF SELECTM (REDUCTIONS) INCREASES		2016-17 BOARD OF SELECTM RECOMMEND		(B)-(A) Dollar Amount	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT																					
110	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	219,057	228,200	4,869	233,069	0	0	233,069	239,973	0	0	239,973	0	239,973	0	239,973	0	239,973	6,904	2,960%	
130	FINANCE OFFICER	279,972	294,420	3,103	297,523	0	0	297,523	334,171	0	0	334,171	0	334,171	0	334,171	0	334,171	36,648	12.320%	
131	TAX ASSESSOR	190,546	219,356	0	219,356	0	0	219,356	232,972	0	0	232,972	0	232,972	0	232,972	0	232,972	9,326	4.250%	
132	TAX COLLECTOR	158,361	162,560	0	162,560	0	0	162,560	161,519	0	0	161,519	0	161,519	0	161,519	0	161,519	(1,041)	-0.640%	
140	TOWN CLERK	156,922	181,572	0	181,572	0	0	181,572	180,022	0	0	180,022	0	180,022	0	180,022	0	180,022	(1,550)	-0.850%	
150	TOWN COUNSEL	128,071	110,000	0	110,000	0	0	110,000	110,000	0	0	110,000	0	110,000	0	110,000	0	110,000	0	0.000%	
155	PROBATE COURT	7,350	10,353	0	10,353	0	0	10,353	10,353	0	0	10,353	0	10,353	0	10,353	0	10,353	0	0.000%	
170	TOWN PLANNER	213,012	233,349	3,887	237,236	0	0	237,236	216,840	0	0	216,840	0	216,840	0	216,840	0	216,840	(20,396)	-8.600%	
	TOTAL	1,353,291	1,439,810	11,859	1,451,669	0	0	1,451,669	1,485,850	0	0	1,485,850	0	1,485,850	0	1,485,850	0	1,485,850	29,891	2.060%	
PUBLIC SAFETY																					
321	PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION	314,133	326,604	0	326,604	0	0	326,604	326,604	0	0	326,604	0	326,604	0	326,604	0	326,604	0	0.000%	
322	EMERGENCY 911	48,156	50,546	0	50,546	0	0	50,546	48,026	0	0	48,026	0	48,026	0	48,026	0	48,026	(2,520)	-4.990%	
330	POLICE	935,484	1,325,411	0	1,325,411	0	0	1,325,411	1,227,418	0	0	1,227,418	0	1,227,418	0	1,227,418	0	1,227,418	(97,993)	-7.390%	
331	POLICE SPECIAL DUTY	34,124	20,000	0	20,000	0	0	20,000	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	0.000%	
333	POLICE DRUG AWARE(DARE)	746	1,500	0	1,500	0	0	1,500	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	1,500	0	1,500	0	1,500	0	0.000%	
340	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	85,115	98,197	0	98,197	0	0	98,197	100,345	0	0	100,345	0	100,345	0	100,345	0	100,345	2,148	2.190%	
350	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	30,127	34,145	412	34,557	0	0	34,557	53,874	0	0	53,874	0	53,874	0	53,874	0	53,874	19,317	55.900%	
360	BUILDING DEPT	131,790	140,401	3,750	144,151	0	0	144,151	144,151	0	0	144,151	0	144,151	0	144,151	0	144,151	0	0.000%	
375	EMERGENCY SERV INCENT PRGM(ESIP)	126,930	149,700	0	149,700	0	0	149,700	149,700	0	0	149,700	0	149,700	0	149,700	0	149,700	0	0.000%	
376	ADHOC EMERGENCY SERVICES CON	90	535	0	535	0	0	535	535	0	0	535	0	535	0	535	0	535	0	0.000%	
391	FIRE MARSHAL	134,662	186,785	3,195	189,980	0	0	189,980	175,535	0	0	175,535	0	175,535	0	175,535	0	175,535	(14,445)	-7.600%	
	TOTAL	1,841,367	2,333,524	7,957	2,341,181	0	0	2,341,181	2,247,688	0	0	2,247,688	0	2,247,688	0	2,247,688	0	2,247,688	(93,493)	-3.990%	
PUBLIC WORKS																					
410	GENERAL TOWN ROADS	1,640,056	1,745,607	4,562	1,750,169	0	0	1,750,169	1,821,116	0	0	1,821,116	0	1,821,116	0	1,821,116	0	1,821,116	70,947	4.050%	
415	NEW EQUIPMENT	9,740	10,000	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	30,000	0	0	30,000	0	30,000	0	30,000	0	30,000	20,000	200.000%	
420	EQUIP. MAINT.	262,450	273,600	0	273,600	0	0	273,600	244,000	0	0	244,000	0	244,000	0	244,000	0	244,000	(29,600)	-10.820%	
425	TOWN GARAGE MAINTENANCE	79,042	71,400	0	71,400	0	0	71,400	73,500	0	0	73,500	0	73,500	0	73,500	0	73,500	2,100	2.940%	
430	STREET SIGNS	15,021	15,000	0	15,000	0	0	15,000	17,500	0	0	17,500	0	17,500	0	17,500	0	17,500	2,500	16.670%	
435	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE-BOE/PR	89,718	103,000	0	103,000	0	0	103,000	105,000	0	0	105,000	0	105,000	0	105,000	0	105,000	2,000	1.840%	
439	TOWN ROAD AID-WINTER	396,378	270,000	0	270,000	0	0	270,000	270,000	0	0	270,000	0	270,000	0	270,000	0	270,000	0	0.000%	
440	TOWN ROAD AID-MAINT	301,564	290,000	0	290,000	0	0	290,000	290,000	0	0	290,000	0	290,000	0	290,000	0	290,000	0	0.000%	
	SUB-TOTAL	2,793,969	2,778,607	4,562	2,783,169	0	0	2,783,169	2,851,116	0	0	2,851,116	0	2,851,116	0	2,851,116	0	2,851,116	67,947	2.440%	
450	SANITARY LANDFILL	276,136	375,550	0	375,550	0	0	375,550	381,000	0	0	381,000	0	381,000	0	381,000	0	381,000	5,460	1.450%	
451	MUN-SOLID/BULKY WASTE/CURB	599,312	609,000	0	609,000	0	0	609,000	615,000	0	0	615,000	0	615,000	0	615,000	0	615,000	6,000	0.990%	
455	SANITARY RECYCLING	326,150	373,368	0	373,368	0	0	373,368	377,200	0	0	377,200	0	377,200	0	377,200	0	377,200	3,832	1.030%	

