

Town of Windsor Locks  
**MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING**  
February 27, 2024  
Windsor Locks Town Hall  
50 Church Street  
Windsor Locks, CT 06096

Pursuant to the foregoing notice, a Town Meeting of the electors and those qualified to vote at Town meetings of the Town of Windsor Locks, Connecticut was held at the Windsor Locks Town Hall in the Ella Grasso Room on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024**, at 7:30PM.

**I. Call to Order**

- a. The Honorable First Selectman Paul Harrington called the Town Meeting to order at 7:30PM in the Ella Grasso room located at the Windsor Locks Town Hall.

**II. Reading of the Call**

- a. Christopher Latournes, Town Clerk read the reading of the Call.

**III. Nomination of a Moderator**

- a. First Selectman Paul Harrington entertained the nomination of a moderator at which time Michael Ciarcia (*15 Meg Way*) **MOVED** to nominate Mr. Joseph Calsetta (*121 Orchard Hill Drive*) seconded by Scott Storms (*10 Dexter Road*), which passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

**IV. New Business**

1. Moderator Joseph Calsetta asked for the introduction of a resolution coming before the floor at which time First Selectman Paul Harrington **MOVED** for the adoption of the following resolution **SECONDED** by Neal Cunningham (*61 Pershing Road*):

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Windsor Locks, acting herein by Town Meeting, approves and accepts the reports of various Town Officers, Boards and Commissions for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023.

- b. The moderator opened the floor for discussion.
- c. Board of Finance Chairperson Lori Quagliaroli (*4 Norman Avenue*) explained that the Annual Report is put together by our Boards and Commissions, and they should submit a report every year. If any town member would like to know how their money is being spent, this is a good place to look and it is also a good place to look for those who do not account for their money.
- d. First Selectman Paul Harrington announced that there were copies of the Annual Report available if anyone wanted to take a copy home and the Annual Report is also available on the town website:  
<https://cdn.townweb.com/windsorlocksct.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2023-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>
- e. Resident Eric Marsh (*94 South Elm Street*) inquired if we are allowed to modify the Annual Report? What is the purpose of the meeting?
- f. First Selectman Paul Harrington explained that approval of the Annual Report is required from the Town Charter in the month of February. Harrington added that our auditing report from CLA is also included in the Annual Report.
- g. Being no additional discussion, Moderator Joseph Calsetta called for a vote on the original resolution which was passed by voice vote with one opposition.

**MOTION CARRIES**

2. Moderator Joseph Calsetta asked for the introduction of a resolution coming before the floor at which time First Selectman Paul Harrington **MOVED** for the adoption of the following resolution **SECONDED** by Lori Quagliaroli (*4 Norman Avenue*):

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Windsor Locks, acting herein by Town Meeting, approves the termination of Capital Improvement Advisory Commission (CIAC) recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

- a. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion.
- b. Resident Eric Marsh (*94 South Elm Street*) requested additional information from the First Selectmen.
- c. First Selectmen Harrington gave a brief history on CIAC. CIAC was established twenty-one years ago, and it was a non-elected board deciding on what capitals should be approved for the Board of Finance to review. Our Financial "Gate Keepers", the Board of Finance should be able to see all the Capitals request. Sometimes a capital may be presented to the Board of Finance that could be funded through the budget. Selectman Harrington checked with other boards and commissions, and they wanted to discuss their capital requests with the Board of Finance directly to streamline the process.
- d. Resident Eric March (*94 South Elm Street*) asked First Selectman Harrington the reasoning on why CIAC was established?
- e. First Selectmen Harrington couldn't comment because he wasn't around when it was established.
- f. Moderator Joseph Calsetta explained that he was on the Board of Selectmen and voted when CIAC was established. Calsetta said this was requested by Mal Hamilton, who was the Chairman of the Board of Finance when CIAC was created. CIAC was set up to research and vet boards and commissions capital requests and how we could fund them. CIAC never turned out how they wanted it to turn out.
- g. Selectman Storms (*10 Dexter Road*) supports the resolution and thanked the people that served on this committee.
- h. Neal Cunningham (*61 Pershing Road*) stated that former First Selectman Jeff Ives asked him to run the commission and that's how it started.
- i. Selectman Savino (*128 Elm Street*) thanked the board for the job they did and praised them for doing a great job.
- j. First Selectman Harrington also thanked the CIAC members.
- k. Being no additional discussion, Moderator Joseph Calsetta called for a vote on the original resolution which was passed by voice vote with one opposition.

**MOTION CARRIES**

3. Moderator Joseph Calsetta asked for the introduction of a resolution coming before the floor at which time First Selectman Paul Harrington **MOVED** for the adoption of the following resolution **SECONDED** by several residents:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Windsor Locks, acting herein by Town Meeting, approves the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$61,000 to restore water and sewer to Pesci Park Snack Shack as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

- a. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion.
- b. Resident Eric Marsh (*94 South Elm Street*) requested Paul Harrington to tell them why?
- c. First Selectman Paul Harrington was out two years ago to the Pesci Park Snack Shack for a water issue. He explained the condition of the pipe and that you wouldn't want anyone drinking water out of it.
- d. Board of Finance member Lacinda van Gieson (*70 Grove Street*) asked having drank out of this, are there any reparations or anything we should be aware of?
- e. Being no additional discussion, Moderator Joseph Calsetta called for a vote on the original resolution which was passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES**

4. Moderator Joseph Calsetta asked for the introduction of a resolution coming before the floor at which time First Selectman Paul Harrington **MOVED** for the adoption of the following resolution **SECONDED** by Patty Murphy (*29 Chapman Chase*):

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Windsor Locks, acting herein by *Town Meeting*, approves the transfer of \$455,000 from the general fund into an account to be created to be used for purposes following ARPA guidelines as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

- a. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion.
- b. Board of Finance member Michael Ciarcia (*15 Meg Way*) stated he is a member of the American Rescue Plan Advisory group and Windsor Locks Board of finance and felt he has a good handle on how we got to the \$455,000. He strongly feels that this transfer is a bad idea. Taking money from a less restrictive count and transferring it to a more restrictive account is generally something he would not advocate for. They currently have \$1.2 million dollars of ARPA funds that still needs to be acted upon and he would not be in favor of this transfer.
- c. Resident Eric Marsh (*94 South Elm Street*) was surprised it was legal to take money from ARPA and get reimbursed for something and then use the money for the general fund.
- d. First Selectman Harrington explained how they went to the voters to fund the new rescue truck. The new rescue truck was \$850,000. The town needed to act quickly to get in line with the fire truck building company to get our truck repaired. They decided to refurbish this truck. The thought process was to use ARPA funds immediately to start the process. The town put in an insurance claim and the agreed upon value was \$455,000. That check was written to the Town of Windsor Locks which had to go into the general fund.
- e. Selectman Storms (*10 Dexter Road*) believes the intent of the referendum was that ARPA would be reimbursed. They later found out that they could not legally put this insurance money back into the ARPA fund. He's okay with this resolution but the purpose of this money is for ARPA and wants this money used with the same process as how the ARPA funds are spent.
- f. Mark Whitten (*31 Acorn Drive*) stated that they (Board of Finance) agreed that they would follow ARPA rules to spend this money. ARPA funds needed to be allocated by 2024 and spend by 2026. Now this money does not need to be used during the same time span.
- g. Eric Marsh (*94 South Elm Street*) thought we were voting for the money to follow the same rules as how we spend ARPA funds, shouldn't we be following the same dates, needing to spend this money by 2026?
- h. First Selectman Harrington explained the town has specific rules to unlock ARPA money. First the ARPA committee approves the money followed by the Board of Selectman and then the Board of Finance. If under \$10,000 is requested the Board of Selectman can choose to approve. Anything from \$10,000 to \$200,000 we need to go to Town Meeting. Anything above \$200,000 we need to go to referendum.
- i. Being no additional discussion, Moderator Joseph Calsetta called for a vote on the original resolution which was passed by voice vote with one opposition.

**MOTION CARRIES**

#### **IV. Adjournment**

There being no more business to come before the meeting, the Moderator announced adjournment at 7:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Latournes

Town Clerk