

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024**

The Glastonbury Town Council with Town Manager, Jonathan Luiz, in attendance, held a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall at 2155 Main Street, with the option for Zoom video conferencing. The video was broadcast in real time and via a live video stream.

1. Roll Call.

Council Members

Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta, Chairman
Ms. Jennifer Wang, Vice Chairman
Ms. Deborah A. Carroll
Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh
Mr. John Cavanna
Mr. Larry Niland
Ms. Mary LaChance
Mr. Jacob McChesney
Mr. Whit Osgood

a. Pledge of Allegiance. *Led by Tom Gullotta*

2. Public Communication and Petitions pertaining to the Call.

William Marut of 264 Carriage Drive, supports the \$150,000 CIP expenditure to retain a zoning professional consultant who would work towards expanding affordable housing in Glastonbury. He believes that the only feasible way to accomplish the 11+ tasks listed for TPZ project updates by the building zone regulations subcommittee would be through this consultant.

Pamela Lucas of 145 Moseley Terrace, stated that the Town's zoning provisions are overly complex, sometimes contradictory, and not up to date with current land use methodologies. Changes are necessary to ensure that development is consistent with the Town's needs. She supports the \$150,000 CIP expenditure to hire a zoning consultant.

Rob Dakers of 15 Trifiro Circle, also supports retaining a zoning professional to enhance alignment between the Town's zoning needs and adopted affordable housing plan.

Ms. Carroll read the written comment received, as listed on the Town website:

Laura Cahill of 17 Montauk Way, is an alternate on the TPZ but is speaking as an individual tonight. She believes that changes in the Town's zoning provisions are essential to expanding housing opportunities in Glastonbury. To this end, she strongly supports the \$150,000 CIP expenditure to retain a zoning consultant who would review and develop recommendations that support Subdivision Regulations, improvements in usability, compliance with state statutes and best practices, and potential affordable housing zoning map changes.

3. Special Business as contained in the Call.

a. Budget reviews for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

- **Continued presentation and discussion concerning Town Operations, Debt & Transfer, Revenues & Transfers, Capital Reserve Fund, Capital Improvement Program and other budget related matters involving the combined 2024-2025 budget proposal.**

Mr. Osgood stated that he had asked the Superintendent what was put into the 1% fund at the end of last year. He thought that Dr. Bookman had responded with \$11,000 but there is a clarification that it was actually \$967,000. He also pointed out that the \$290,000 line item for Hebron Avenue parking should be renamed to Hebron Avenues/GHS parking lot improvements. This is because the Town Manager has indicated that the site can be sealed rather than repaved, and the additional funds can cover the high school. Mr. Gullotta added that he had also suggested that the High Street school playground be handled.

Mr. Osgood would like to include the \$1.2 million Naubuc School roof replacement, in addition to the \$2.5 million for the Gideon Welles school roof replacement, for a total of \$3.7 million to bond. Mr. Gullotta clarified that Mr. Luiz has also added the GHS roof to that proposal. Ms. Rowley explained that the net cost to bond for the Gideon Welles and GHS roofs is \$3.98 million. Originally, it was in the budget for about \$6.4 million, but school roofs receive a 33% reimbursement. Mr. Osgood would remove the fire engines from bonding and proceed with the school roofs. He also noted that the \$382,000 allocated for Addison Park renovations could be an ARPA fund expense. Mr. Luiz has to check the timing of when that will get done.

Mr. Osgood pointed out that, in 2027, there is a \$2 million appropriation for non-reimbursable bridge repair. He believes that it would be smart to begin programming money, at about \$600,000 per year for three years. He also believes that it makes sense to fund the first fire apparatus under ARPA, rather than bonding. He then suggested that the ARPA funds for the animal control shelter be reprogrammed to the fire truck because he does not support spending \$2 million on an animal shelter. Mr. McChesney asked if the Town Manager has a list of priorities that he would cut from the Town operating budget, if the BOF's proposed reduction of \$147,000 were to hold. Mr. Luiz replied yes, and he will forward that list to the Council.

Mr. Gullotta responded to the public comments made tonight, which all advocated for hiring a zoning consultant in the CIP budget. He explained that, about a year or two ago, several volunteers were involved in that effort, including himself and Mr. Cavanaugh, and were ready to proceed. However, at the time, the community development department was vacant and recruitment was underway for a new town manager. The current community director arrived with no knowledge of the town's history, so she asked the Town Manager for a consultant. He reiterated that the Council was proactive in this matter.

b. Executive Session

- **Discussion of confidential attorney-client communication concerning compensation to firefighters.**

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Mr. Cavanaugh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby enters into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of:

- a. *Discussion of confidential attorney-client communication concerning compensation to firefighters.*

Attendees to include Council Members, Town Manager, Labor Attorney, Fire Chief, Director of Human Resources, and Director of Finance and Administrative Services.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 7:59 p.m.

4. Adjournment.

Motion by: Ms. Carroll

Seconded by: Mr. Cavanaugh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby adjourns the Town Council meeting of March 4, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.

Result: Motion passed unanimously {9-0-0}.

Respectfully submitted,

Lilly Torosyan

**Lilly Torosyan
Recording Clerk**

**Thomas Gullotta
Chairman**