

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHTON  
October 26, 2009

The Town Council of the Town of Southington held a regular meeting on Monday, October 26, 2009. Chairman John N. Barry called the meeting to order at 7:05 o'clock, p.m.

The following Councilpersons were present, viz:

Arthur Secondo	Christopher Palmieri
David Zoni	Nicholas DePaola
Anthony D'Angelo	John Carmody
Michael Riccio	Edward Pocock, III
John N. Barry, Chair	

Ex-officio members present were as follows, viz:

Anthony J. Tranquillo, Director of Public Works/Town Engineer  
Mark J. Sciota, Deputy Town Manager/Town Attorney  
John Weichsel, Town Manager

A prayer was recited by Councilman Nicholas DePaola.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance being led by Town Manager John Weichsel.

There were approximately 25 other persons in attendance.

**JOHN N. BARRY, Chairman, Presiding:**

**II. Minutes**

Mr. Palmieri made a motion to accept the Minutes from the last meeting. Mr. Zoni seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**III. Councilman Communications**

**A. Resignation from Conservation Commission (Attachment 1)**

The Chair announced this is the resignation of William Barry and that will be entered into the record and we plan on filling the unexpired term during the Town Manager's Report.

**B. Report on Tourism District**

Neal Witkin, the Town of Southington's representative for the tourism district gave a brief update of what's going on with the district and what impact that might have for Southington.

Neal Witkin thanked the Council for the appointment for another three years on the Central Regional Tourism District. Up until a few weeks ago we weren't sure we were going to have regional tourism continue in the state because of budget issues. When it finally did go through, the regional tourism districts were being consolidated. We're being merged into the New Haven District which has 19 towns and 14 industry representatives. The Central Regional Tourism District which we are in, has 46 towns and 14 industry representatives. The Board of Directors haven't figured out just how the district is going to be reorganized.

Our office in downtown Hartford was closed when the money ran out from the last budget. We had to lay off all of the people on our staff. We were pretty much dysfunctional after June, 2009.

We were able to get the fall driving brochure out that we did last year highlighting a lot of things in the regional area; i.e. Karabin Farms and Lewis Farms. We think we are one of the stronger tourism organizations in the state. We won a Destiny Award last year which is a national award for our marketing efforts. We're trying to put ourselves back together.

Explained the budget impacts. Last year we had about \$950,000. This budget the budget is \$426,000. We have rehired our Executive Director, a master mind at marketing. We are trying to hire back one of his staff. We've relocated to a state office at Constitutional Plaza. Our website is back up.

As a mass market effort, we tried to lobby the state legislature to keep the state tourism intact. We put out a brochure that says tourism really does work in Connecticut. We cited a lot of the statistics and what tourism does for us and for our economy in Southington, Connecticut.

- \$14 billion in Connecticut economic activity annually comes from tourism and cultural activities.
- \$1.7 billion of state and local tax revenue depend upon tourism and culture.
- 170,000 jobs come from tourism and cultural heritage.
- \$88 million from hotel room taxes last year in Connecticut.

If we have a budget of 6 million for marketing and tourism and we earn 88 million from hotel room taxes by itself, that 88 million never went back into marketing. It went right into the general fund and it disappeared.

- Eight out of 10 visitors from out of state attend a Connecticut historic or cultural activity such as our Apple Harvest Festival.

- One out of every three Americans first job was in the tourism industry.

Tourism is very important. We're trying to make sure we talk to our state legislators and our elected officials to let them know that tourism is important to us and marketing to get people to come to Connecticut and our towns and enjoy our restaurants, hotels and all of our attractions is very important to us.

We hope tourism will be a strong marketing effort regionally. And, will bring a lot of business and economic activity to Southington.

The Chair asked what he would do to try to let the state and regional authorities know about the Barnes Museum or Mount Southington or Lake Compounce when they meet. Is your voice being listened to? Mr. Witkin explained the publications being used spread the word about our wonderful town and our attractions and their distribution.

Mr. Riccio stated the numbers presented are shocking. For me it is incredibly disturbing how shortsighted our legislature is when it comes to what tourism can do for the State of Connecticut. It's about seeking other sources of revenue so the burden doesn't fall on the people that live here. When people go on vacation, they spend a lot of money. We need to do what we can at the local and state level - \$88 million in hotel revenue and they (the state) can't even give 10 percent back to keep the program going? To me it is absolutely ludicrous.

Mr. Riccio commented he has received brochures from the State of Wyoming and the State of Nebraska. Big time money is spent on tourism. We have just as much in Connecticut to offer as any other state in the country.

Mr. Witkin said because they are challenged financially this year, they are forming a committee to see what we can do to raise some funds or grant money and direct that towards some marketing efforts.

Mr. Secondo noted what a great job Neal has done. He has the initiative and desire, very sincere.

Mr. Pocock asked about the setback in time as far as some of the efforts you guys were working on before the budget cuts? Mr. Witkin said he didn't know the impact at this point. He explained the re-establishment of the office is now taking place.

We don't know what the new Board is going to look like with New Haven being melded into the Hartford area. A total of 65 towns instead of 46. It's a larger region.

Mr. Pocock said it is amazing what Mr. Witkin has been able to do on this committee. When you pull in 88 million in tourism and you

can't get anything back, that's tough. But it is important what you do.

Thank you.

The Chair called on Town Clerk Leslie Cotton. November 3<sup>rd</sup> is Election Day and she'll give us a brief oversight of what's going on for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is Election Day and it is important everyone gets out and participates.

Ms. Cotton stated Election Day is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, a week from tomorrow. Tomorrow (October 27<sup>th</sup>) is the last day to register to vote. The Registrar of Voters will be in their office October 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 8:00 pm to register voters.

All of the 12 polling places that we utilize for elections will be open on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. She reminded those who vote at Plantsville School that they will be voting at the Plantsville Congregational Church because of the school construction.

Any questions on registering to vote, call the Registrar's Office at 276-6268.

Absentee ballots are still available for the election and you apply through the Town Clerk's Office. You can do that up until the day before the election. There is information on the Southington website as well as an absentee ballot application. [www.southington.org](http://www.southington.org) is the website address. Or you can call the Town Clerk's office for information.

The ballot is the same type of ballot that we had the last couple of years. It's a scanned ballot. You'll fill in the circles. The ballot is two sided. You need to flip it over and vote both sides. Then you can put it into the scanning machine in any direction.

Please remember to vote both sides.

It's important to come out and vote this year. This is a local election and that is, I think, the most important to the residents in this town. A local election hits our pocketbooks more than any other election.

Please get out and vote!

Mr. Riccio brought up the condo complex on Liberty Street: Renaissance Commons. They were required to extend the sewer main over there? Did they need to extend the sewer main to service that property? Mr. Tranquillo explained they needed to extend the sewer main on their own property and connect into the main at Liberty at their cost. It is not a Sewer Equity Act issue.

Mr. Riccio stated there was a lot of confusion at our last meeting regarding the sewer treatment facility. He asked what was the dollar amount approved by the voters? Attorney Sciota noted it \$14.5 million. Mr. Riccio asked how much was spent in total on that project. Mr. Tranquillo said it was something in the \$15 million range.

Mr. Pocock said this is our last meeting and some of us won't be sitting here next time and some of us will. I hope to be sitting here, but nonetheless, we know there is an election coming up. I just want to say what an absolute honor it was to serve the people of Southington. And, to serve with all of you. Politics aside and all of the other junk that we go through on the campaign trail, we're all tired. It's been a pleasure and an honor and I just want to have that on the record before it closes. So, thank you.

#### **IV. Town Manager's Report and Communications**

##### **A. Report of the Board of Finance**

The Town Manager asked for question on the report.

(No response)

##### **B. Appointment: 1 member, Conservation Commission to fill unexpired term to April 2010**

Mr. Weichsel stated the name of Anne Hulick, who is currently an alternate, has been indicated and she is hereby appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mr. William Barry.

##### **C. Winter bids (Attachment 2)**

Steve Wlodkowski and Tony Tranquillo are here. I'll indicate the summary that you were given, 17 of the trucks that bid have been awarded the contract. One pickup truck and 3 loaders from Marek Brothers. That entire group represents the plow effort.

On the sidewalk, we have 3 snow blowers from Pat's Lawn Service, 4 from Quinlan and 2 from Marek brothers.

Steve is at the mike for detailed questions.

Mr. Zoni asked if any are new vendors to the highway department or have you worked with these folks before? Mr. Wlodkowski said some are new. The new ones are in the standard plow truck item. Martello Construction is new. Pro Energy has worked for us before but he never put on any big trucks with us and this year he bid two big trucks. Purity Builders, LLC out of Rocky Hill, they're also new to us this year.

Mr. Zoni asked if references have been checked. Mr. Wlodkowski said he did not check references on them. We inspected their equipment. And, the equipment is all up to snuff it's what we need and their insurance is all in order. We haven't treated them any different than anybody else when they were new.

Mr. Zoni brought up in the past you used a vendor and then the following year you recommended we didn't use them. Mr. Wlodkowski said it does happen from time to time. Mr. Zoni said he was trying to avoid that.

Mr. Palmieri asked Steve to review the salt versus sand on the roads. Mr. Wlodkowski announced this year we're going all salt, using no sand except when required from time to time on the weather conditions. When there is freezing rain and ice on the road, sand is definitely necessary.

The program has gone all salt. He explained with the salt program the overtime is reversed. Instead of it being post storm, it is pre storm. We have to get out and pretreat. The salt has to be put down ahead of the storm.

We were 100 percent salt on the west side of town last year and it worked out really well. He explained how it cut our sweeping dramatically on the west side of town.

There is a savings in the budget, there is less for contact sweeping. We reduced it last year and again this fiscal year. He discussed the benefit once the catch basins are all caught up which should be a three year cycle.

As an aside, we have our roll off truck and our dumpsters in service now at the transfer station. We've made an investment in some of our own equipment there. We're currently about 50 percent operational. We take over 100 percent of the transfer on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We should save a lot on hauling costs. It's going well.

Mr. D'Angelo asked regarding the salt (1) the cost of the salt in comparison to the sand and (2) environmentally, salt versus sand.

Mr. Wlodkowski said about environmental issue, sand has long been a detriment to the environment. It builds up in the catch basins and ends out at the downstream end. We have an abundance of sand in the wetlands that we're slowly picking away at.

Salt, again, I don't think is what everybody makes it out to be, the cure all, end all. Some publications have been concerned with the salidity (sp) in the water. Roadside ponds, et cetera. Due to the excessive salt. A lot of areas that are using salt, just starting out, so the nice thing about salt is we just put down a bare minimum. All the equipment is calibrated to put just what we need. We don't overdo it. It is expensive. Again, in the end you are using less product.

I think overall this will be a good year to see. We should have a cost reduction. Last year we used a lot less sand because this year we haven't had to buy any. I think in general it will be a cost savings.

Mr. DePaola asked about the minimum hours for trucks; I thought we were going to cut that out this year. We have two bids with a four hour minimum. Mr. Tranquillo commented people can bid anything they want. Steve has considered that and feels the 4 hours is a reasonable time.

Steve said for the standard plow, we normally take all the bidders outside of the ones you disqualified? Mr. Wlodkowski said this year we don't have all of them on. Of the 24 trucks that were bid, we're going to use 17. There was discussion of the remaining being a back up. We normally put out 12 or 13 of our own trucks to plow.

On the snow removal, triaxles, JVIII Construction has haul only, at \$95/hour. And, with a plow \$195. We don't need it with a plow. Mr. Wlodkowski said he would use the truck alone.

You're happy with all these people, correct? Mr. Wlodkowski said we'll know when it starts snowing. We're always fair with people who come to work with us.

Mr. DePaola said he thought the roads were in very good shape. Mr. Wlodkowski responded: we do the best we can.

Thank you.

**D. Appointment: 1 member, Housing Authority, 5 year term to October 2014**

Mr. Weichsel advised this item can be tabled until the next meeting.

**V. Town Attorney's Report**

**A. 8-24 - former Southington Drive-In**

Mr. Sciota advised this is the final action the Council needs to take on this \$200,000 grant for the drive in property. We are currently in front of the PZC. We're looking for permission at this point to move forward with the all purpose field, the pavilion and the restrooms. There is no monetary amount for the drive in at this time. At this point we have enough money to do what the Council has authorized us to do (pavilion, restrooms and all purpose field).

Mr. Tranquillo added he met with Mr. LaPorte in response to a suggestion by Mr. Riccio. We have agreed to move the pavilion building slightly to the north and to move the restrooms slightly to

the south and connect the two. It's more efficient and more convenient for the visitors of the pavilion. The final plan will show that.

Mr. Riccio added if the drive in theater happens and is successful, the pavilion won't be in the way to park cars.

Mr. Pocock said there's been a lot of talk about the lights but I want to make sure the placement of where the circuits would shut off is coordinated with this plan. Mr. Tranquillo said they had a discussion with Metcalf & Eddy and we told them exactly how we wanted the lights to operate and it will dovetail perfectly.

Attorney Sciota added one thing to Executive Session which is contract modification negotiations that we're doing.

The Chair, hearing no objections, add that to the meeting Agenda.

Thank you.

## **VI. Report of Special Committees**

### **A. Sewer Infrastructure Committee**

Mr. Pocock reported the meeting was very brief. We did accomplish some things. We talked about:

The Sign: The view I expressed was that we wanted the sign moved. There was a lot of spirited conversation and in the end everybody agreed that the sign should be moved back towards the gate.

Next, how much is this going to cost? The estimates went out today and it's a changeover. To move the sign with the posts it's going to be about \$2500. To install a double column sign is going to cost \$1,000. To take down the sign is going to cost money if you decide to do that. Some monies are going to have to be expended to do what we wanted.

I want to make it clear that the employees that put the sign up were just simply following the plan. I talked to them at length. The overlying factor is the employees care. They didn't do this to upset the entire Town Council.

They do agree the sign has to be moved and it doesn't fit in. I spent a lot of time down at the site --- so the record is clear --- anyone who has the delusion that the old drive-in sign is somewhat nostalgic in what it is; I can see why Mike was so upset. The only thing nostalgic about that sign is the two posts that are rusted out underneath this thing. The rest of it is all brand new. I don't know how that happened but it doesn't look anything like the old drive-in sign.

That's the first recommendation. I would not say the committee voted though we're all in agreement. I don't think there was a quorum to make a motion to move that forward.

Mr. Zoni asked if the highway department could move the sign. Mr. Wlodkowski said he would look at it and report back.

The Lights: Mr. Pocock said he would let Mr. Tranquillo present that one as it is a little more complicated and I want to be sure it's on the record properly.

Mr. Tranquillo said there was some confusion as to what the Council wanted, so I will summarize the decision we came to and where we are at this moment. What's been decided is that the lights at the treatment plant will have three circuits. Circuit A will be the lights inside the plant, fence and one light outside the fence. Circuit B will be from where I just ended with the one light outside the gate, to the vehicle access gate halfway down the driveway. Circuit C will be the lights closest to Route 322.

Circuit A will be under the full control of the sewer plant and they will also control B and C for the time being. At some point in the future, B and C, which is the lights along the driveway, will be rewired into the park department operation, including the pavilion building. They will have control of those lights.

At some point the plant operator will also have a key to the lights in the pavilion so he can control B and C, also.

The treatment plant is very happy with that arrangement. They can operate them now especially under emergency conditions and they have to get there with snow on the ground, in the middle of the night, to go get their vac truck so they can get out and not have an accident. They'll know where the driveway is. They'll have full control of the lights.

They will also have control after the lights are rewired into the park. Again, for emergency conditions, they will have control of those lights for safety.

The Parks Department will operate B and C on a normal basis.

All the lights can be operated on a time clock and photo sensor system. No wasted electricity.

The cost of the lights was originally estimated at \$6,700. That will change slightly. It will be about half that to rewire the lights.

We recommend you go with what I just elaborated on.

Mr. Pocock added, the last post closest to the drive in, that post is going to be removed? Mr. Tranquillo said it can be but it

doesn't need to be. The sign will no longer be there. Mr. Pocock said aesthetically it could be removed.

The other thing, the lights that are going to be near the screen? Mr. Tranquillo said two of those were originally eliminated and they will be eliminated in this proposal, also.

Mr. Riccio said if you are going to have the electricians out there, aesthetically, just pull that last pole. The one closest to 322.

Mr. Tranquillo said the last issue was LED lights. At this point we are getting prices for changing to LED. We'll get a capital cost of doing that and we will also get a life cycle cost to see how long it will take us to repay that cost.

Mr. Pocock said this thing was a tough exercise. It's done. This is what it's got to be if this is the direction we want to go. It's unfortunate but the LEDs and some of the other things that have to be done concerning the lights, in the long run it was a good concern.

The Chair said we can get a consensus from the Council. In terms of the lights, obviously, the two near the screen would be eliminated. And, the recommendation of the closest one down to 322, for an aesthetic standpoint, should also be gone. No objection from the Council for that?

(No response)

In terms of the sign, we're going to wait and see. Our highway department will see if they can absorb the cost. In terms of the sign location, does anyone object to the suggestions by the committee? Sound good for everyone?

Mr. Riccio said let the highway department look at it. If they can't do it, just go ahead and move the sign and not bring it back here again. It doesn't make any sense.

The Chair suggested Steve just send a memo to the Council determining if he can or can't move the sign.

The new position of the sign was discussed as being a more natural location.

Other work of the sewer committee: The line cleanings, etc. I purposely set this up so that regardless of who is elected and if I am not there, the work can continue on. They have a plan. All the stuff is laid out and is clear as to what needs to be done. I thank you for the opportunity.

The Chair thanked Messrs. Pocock, Palmieri & Zoni for their work on this committee.

Mr. Zoni brought up at the last Council meeting we had a speaker at the podium who was an employee of the treatment facility. He brought up several issues. Were those discussed? Do you have an update on those issues? He seemed quite concerned.

Mr. Pocock said the media for the denite plant came up. It's a specialized material that is put inside the chamber and it comes from Sweden or Norway. If you run out of it, you're going to want to put the same kind back in. It's not something you Fed Ex overnight. The storage of it, it's not going to go bad. It's better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it. In this case it is something that you're going to want to have there. It's part of the operation and I am quite glad they have it.

Mr. Tranquillo elaborated on the surge issue in the input tank to the denite gallery. Metcalf & Eddy is looking into the minor problem there. They'll come up with a solution. We're working on that.

#### **B. Emergency Medical Services Committee**

Mr. D'Angelo reported we met on October 14<sup>th</sup> and went through the percentages for three months. The percentages have gone up quite nicely. We're at 95.9 to 96 percent. AMR did indicate they have been attending workshops and getting some new computerized equipment for the dispatching area and they retrained some of the dispatchers to redeploy their ambulances in different spots throughout the town to see where there should be some hot spots. They're gathering a lot of information and data from this traffic computerized programming.

They will come back with a power point presentation on this new equipment to help them plan better where to put the ambulances.

The committee did agree with Fire Chief Clark that from now on the fire department will be in attendance at all school bus accidents. They'll act as a backup if necessary. He is requesting a meeting with the school department and the police department to work out the details.

They also help out the ambulances on all highway calls, too.

Mr. Riccio asked if there was a bus accident on West Street last week and was it bad? Mr. Palmieri said there was and it wasn't bad.

Mr. Riccio stated that at a recent ambulance call, the ambulance was at a car wash? Mr. D'Angelo explained the complainant did come in and we did talk with them about it at the last meeting. He explained the circumstances. Mr. Riccio observed that if the ambulance is on duty, it should not be at the car wash when they're supposed to be on duty.

Mr. Zoni asked if they knew the status of the GPS that is being installed in the ambulances so the dispatchers know where they are? Mr. D'Angelo said they do know where they are and they're getting updated computerized equipment that will say where they are, where they have been and they're keeping tabs on where they are each hour of the day so that way they can move them in different locations based on the hours.

The Chair asked Attorney Sciota to give a brief background on how we come to have AMR as our ambulance provider in town. There might be confusion as some communities provide ambulance service through their volunteer fire department or their fire departments. In Southington it is an outside vendor that is under contract.

(End of Tape #1, Side A)

(Beginning of Tape #1, Side B)

Attorney Sciota explained they do not charge the town for the service. They charge the actual individuals. Part of the contract though is they must report on Priority I calls and Priority II calls. They have to be from the dispatch, 7 minutes and 59 seconds; they must maintain 90 percent for a month period.

Our committee meets every quarter --- Chuck Motes and I meet every month to go over the reports --- we look at the ones who do not meet the criteria and figure out where the issues area and we meet with AMR representatives. We've been working on this for years.

AMR has a chase car which is a fourth vehicle which is not an ambulance but a car that reports to scenes that can render medical assistance but cannot transport. That's been assigned to Southington for about a year or two.

The committee feels we've been getting very good service. Unfortunately, we do have situations and we try and look at them and see how they can improve each time. As I often say, it's unfortunate but somebody has to make up the non-100%. They've been at approximately 95% over the last several months.

They are contracted thru June 30<sup>th</sup> of next year. The Council decides then whether they want to do an RFP or a rollover at that time.

Also on the committee is the Fire Chief, a representative from the Police Department, a doctor from the hospital as well as somebody from the community, as well.

The IT Committee met last week. Mr. Zoni asked Ms. Cotton for an update on where we stand with our on line video of our meetings. This subject that came up when we were discussing the verbatim Minutes.

Ms. Cotton said we have three or four vendors that it seems will be able to help us out. We are in the process of setting up meetings with them. We are encouraged that one of these folks will be able to help us out. It is still on the horizon. I wish it had moved a little bit further along than we are at this point. But we are still in the process.

## **VII. Public Communications**

Arthur Cyr, 103 Berlin Avenue. Spoke about attending a BOE meeting last Thursday. It was a pleasure to hear a report from the BOE about a building project that was coming in on time and under budget. This town as a whole should learn from the BOE and the Plantsville and South End School projects. How well they went.

I know Mr. Cox appreciated it when I said a good project manager like a good operations manager or property manager is worth their weight in gold in making sure things get done right.

I think in the future we might look at every one of our major projects having a project manager.

Everyone in the room at that meeting or people that read the paper the next day had to be thrilled to hear that we were going to get Plantsville School returned to the students and staff the first of January. I think it's great!

Attorney Sciota advised that this is a town project, not a BOE project. The Chairman of the building committee gave us a report on that and it was on Channel 14. I appreciate what you're saying, but that is a town building project.

Mr. Cyr brought up another reason for going to the BOE meeting was they honored 14 or 18 of their retirees. I think it was very nice.

I'd like to look down this row and say to Messrs. Riccio, Carmody and DePaola, I may not have agreed with some or all of your decisions or policies over the years, but I do want to stand here and personally thank you for your dedication and service to this town.

I hope you enjoy your voluntary retirement. And, to the rest of you who may be involuntarily retired next week, remember that it is sometimes nice to be retired.

Thank you.

Illio Fusciello, 82 Autran Avenue. Spoke about his property issue indicating that he wants to be paid by the town.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **A. Action on report of Board of Finance**

Mr. Palmieri made a motion to approve the report of the Board of Finance. Mr. Secondo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**B. Award of Snow plowing bids**

Mr. D'Angelo made the motion to approve the snow plowing bids as recommended by our Town Highway Department Supervisor.

Mr. Zoni asked that the motion be amended to include the stipulation that the new vendors be checked for references. Mr. D'Angelo had no problem with that.

Mr. Zoni seconded. Motion passed 9 to 0 on a roll call vote.

**C. Award of School Access Walk bids**

Mr. Palmieri made a motion to award the school access walk bids as presented. Mr. Secondo seconded. Motion passed 9 to 0 on a roll call vote.

**D. Action on 8-24 - former Southington Drive In**

Mr. D'Angelo made a motion to approve the 8-24. Mr. Zoni seconded.

Mr. Riccio added that should be subject to the changes Mr. Tranquillo brought forward.

Motion passed 9 to 0 on a roll call vote.

**IX. New Business**

**A. Appointment: 2 members, Board of Park Commissioners, 4 year terms to October 2013**

Mr. D'Angelo nominated Susan Lockes of 49 Summit Street for the Parks Board. She served on many boards in town as well as the American Legion Auxiliary and the Falcon's Nest. She has some background with sports in high school and college, as well. Mr. Palmieri seconded.

Mr. Riccio nominated Joseph LaPorte. Mr. Palmieri seconded.

Mr. Riccio nominated Michael J. Fasulo. Mr. DePaola seconded.

Roll Call vote and each member will call out two names of the three.

Pocock:                LaPorte        &        Fasulo

Riccio:                Laporte        &        Fasulo

Secondo:              LaPorte        &        Fasulo

Zoni:	Lockes	&	LaPorte
Carmody:	LaPorte	&	Fasulo
D'Angelo:	Lockes	&	LaPorte
DePaola:	LaPorte	&	Fasulo
Palmieri:	Lockes	&	LaPorte
Barry:	Lockes	&	LaPorte

The Chair announced the two new Parks Commissioners will be: Mr. Fasulo and Mr. LaPorte and I thank them for wanting to serve our community and congratulations to both of you.

**B. Appointment: 1 member, Board of Assessment appeals, term to October 2010**

Mr. Zoni nominated Thomas Frechette who resides at 67 Pepperidge Drive in Southington. He has a BS in Marketing.

Mr. D'Angelo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The Chair thanked Mr. Frechette for serving the community and congratulations.

**C. Tax Refunds (Attachment 3)**

Mr. Pocock made a motion to approve the tax refunds which are all under \$1,000. Mr. Zoni seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**X. Miscellaneous**

The Chair acknowledged three members of the Town Council who have decided not to run for re-election. I'll call upon Mr. D'Angelo who will be presenting a traditional plaque to Mr. Carmody.

Mr. D'Angelo stated to Mr. Pocock that he thanked him for his service and enjoyed serving with him. We may not have always agreed, but I really appreciated your information, your wisdom and it was a pleasure working with you.

To John Carmody, he stated: I worked with you for this term and I really didn't know you that well before. I want to thank you very much as I enjoyed working with you for two years. When you talk, I listen. You really put some insight into the issue. We might not have always agreed, but I did appreciate what you said. I enjoyed working with you for two years.

Prior to the Council, the plaque says: Thank you for watching over me (the town), John Carmody. You started with the PZC in 1999 thru 2007 and then as a Town Councilman from 2007 to 2009.

On behalf of the residents, I thank you for watching over Southington for these many years.

(Applause)

John Carmody expressed his appreciation. It was a short stint on the Town Council but when you're at the meetings you see the end results of a lot of work. A lot of times people don't agree with you and sometimes they do. The truth of the matter is we're all volunteers. In a lot of instances, it's a lot of hard work that goes into it and we all volunteer. At the end of the day what it means is we all care about Southington.

I appreciate Mr. Cyr's sentiments, but I don't think I am retiring necessarily. Just taking a little break. I have a demanding career, a demanding family and this is a demanding job. It really is.

People who serve deserve a tremendous amount of credit and respect for what they do. I hope I'm back again when I have more time to do this the right way. I hope I'm back and I get a chance to work with a lot of you guys.

I think we did some tough hard work. You'll see me on that side of the podium soon. Some things I want to see come to fruition that we started. We had some tough decisions to make and I think overall my experience was a good one and I enjoyed working with each and every one of you and I appreciate it.

Thanks.

(Applause)

Mr. Zoni will present to Mike Riccio, Minority Leader. Congratulations, Michael. I would also like to say that it has been my honor to serve with all these gentlemen. I hope someday long into the future that I'll receive a plaque just like this. But today is Michael's day.

Mike has been on the Town Council since 2001. He served on the PZC from 1993 to 2001 and Chairman from 1997 to 2001. He's also been very active on our open space committee and is responsible for much of the open space in our inventory.

He truly cares about the Town of Southington. I always believed his heart was right where it belonged. We didn't always agree on things. And, sometimes we had some fun together --- eating pies, et cetera.

Today's Michael's day and thank you very much for serving, Mr. Riccio.

(Applause)

Mr. Riccio expressed his thanks. I am pleasantly surprised. I want to thank everybody I served with up here on the Council and past Councils which I can see in pictures around this room.

I really enjoy what I do and have done in my political career. It's been fun. I've learned how to smile a little bit more from comments from Mr. Secondo and my friends in the public.

I've been very passionate, as a lot of you know, and I appreciate you all being passionate. If you are not passionate, I don't think you'll remain up here very long because it takes a lot of energy and you have to believe in what you're doing.

I would like to give my sincerest thanks to Mr. Weichsel. I learned a lot from him over the years. And, it means a lot to me. Thanks an awful lot.

So, with that said, I'll be back!

(Applause)

Mr. Palmieri made the presentation to Nick DePaola. Mr. Palmieri said at the risk of sounding repetitive, I think it is worth repeating. It's been an honor serving with everyone. I think you can tell from everyone up here tonight, we really do work well together and we are acting in the best interest of the town. So it has been a pleasure to work with the eight of you on the Council. Thank you.

I have the honor of presenting to Councilman DePaola. I've had the pleasure of working with him unofficially and it has been an honor to work with him officially as a Councilman over the last couple of years. I have quite a resume to share with you all honoring some of Councilman DePaola's achievements over the years.

First of all he served on the Ambulance Award Committee. He was a member of the Board of Education for six years. Member of the Connecticut Housing Partnership for three years. A member of the High School Building Addition Committee. Elected as a member of the Library Board of Directors and served for six years. Was a member of the Parks Board for five years. Was on the Permanent Schools Building Committee for 15 years. Was a Police Commissioner for five years. Served on the Revitalization Commission. Served on the Southington Housing Partnership. Was elected to the Town Council for eight terms, 16 years serving on the Town Council. And, also served on the Viet Nam Memorial Committee.

So it truly is an honor to present this to you. You'll be missed on the Council. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

Mr. DePaola expressed the honor is all mine. I've had a long career and I've enjoyed every minute of it. We haven't always agreed

but I have nothing but the highest respect for the people on this side of the table as well as the people on the other boards and commissions that I've served.

The administration has been great to work with. John Weichsel, I understand, is up for a Congressional Medal of Honor.

(Laughter)

Serving with me, is valor beyond the call of duty. And, I do appreciate that. I appreciate all the work the other departments have done. We do have a good town here. We're not perfect but each year we're trying better and better. I believe it was Augustus Cesar who said: I found Rome a city of bricks and I left it a city of marble. I think the same thing should apply to us here on the Council that when we approached Southington with our first term and when we leave Southington, we have left it a better place to live and a better place to work than when we first started.

As said earlier, these are fine gentlemen and ladies to work with. Never once in my entire career did I ever doubt their honesty, integrity or their enthusiasm for the job.

Thank you very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Secondo acknowledged a lady who has had to endure over 45 years of public service: Eleanor (Mrs. DePaola). Thank you!

Mr. Secondo said, especially regarding Mr. Carmody, refreshing new insight and a knowledgeable man and probably one of the best dressers outside of Pocock on this Council.

(Laughter)

As far as Mr. Riccio, we've all had comfortable shoes and then all of a sudden there's a pebble in the shoe. That's what Riccio has been: a pebble in the shoe sometimes.

(Laughter)

His father is my Godfather which didn't mean anything when he and I would have conflicts. But one thing about his family is they're dedicated to Southington. One solid and dedicated family and that much I have to respect them for.

Mike, I know you'll be back. It's been somewhat of a pleasure being here because of the fact that we share a passion for this town and your children and my grandchildren will be about the same age, who knows, some day they'll be up here together.

As far as Nick, to tell the truth, he's been the voice of reason on this Council. Maybe someday in the Historical Society, Nick, it

will be noted you were a leading statesmen along with several other ones here since 1954. It's unbelievable how many boards and commissions you've been on.

Having sat next to you, you've proven there can be no political fence between not only friends but people who care about this town. I am convinced that we represent all the people in this town. And, it was an honor, Nick.

I think Southington is a much better town because of you guys, my guys and all the guys before us that served on this Council. Some day the recognition will be afforded this council.

And, to Mr. Weichsel, who is responsible for the leadership this town has had. We've reached pretty close to our peak John, and when you do retire, you can look back and say, the contributions of the old and the new have made the town what it is, because of you.

Thank you.

Mr. Weichsel expressed his thank you.

The Chair thanked all his colleagues serving with him on this Council for the last two years.

Thank you for your service to the community.

To the three members who are leaving us, thank you very much for your dedication and hard work to the people of Southington. I wish you very good luck in the future.

And, to the people of Southington who have attended Town Council meetings, ones that have come up to the podium and spoken on issues, I want to thank you for your participation in your community.

For those of you who watch Town Council meetings on Channel 14, I also thank you for having an interest in how your town government operates. It's very important for people to be informed and educated about issues that are facing us.

With that, I'd like to remind everyone to get out and vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I also send my appreciation to the administration of our community, our Town Manager, Town Attorney, Director of Public Works and our Town Clerk who are all very important partners in making sure the Council does its work properly and efficiently.

Thank you all very much. Thank you again to my colleagues. I appreciate your last two years very much.

**XI. Adjournment - Executive Session: Pending Litigation C.G.S. Section 1-2009(3); Sine Die**

The Chair asked to have a motion to adjourn into executive session --- the last one of my term - Sine Die. Thank you very much.

Who will be in executive session? Attorney Sciota responded: The Manager, the Town Attorney and the Public Works Director for one of the two items.

Mr.Zoni made the motion which was seconded by Mr. D'Angelo. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:30 o'clock, p.m.)

Attest:

Leslie G. Cotton  
Leslie G. Cotton, Town Clerk

**RECEIVED & FILED**  
TOWN OF SOUTHBINGTON

OCT 30 2009

By Leslie G. Cotton M  
Town Clerk

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Southington Town Council entered executive session immediately following the Town Council meeting with the following in attendance in order to discuss Pending Litigation and contract modification negotiations.

The following Councilpersons were present, viz:

Anthony D'Angelo	Christopher Palmieri
David Zoni	Michael Riccio
Edward Pocock, III	Nicholas DePaola
Arthur Secondo	John Carmody
John N. Barry, Chair	

Ex-officio members present were as follows:

John Weichsel, Town Manager  
 Mark J. Sciota, Deputy Town Manager/Town Attorney  
 Anthony J. Tranquillo, Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

Mr. Tranquillo left after the pending litigation item was discussed.

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

Mr. Riccio made a motion to adjourn from executive session. Mr. Pocock seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

(Executive session was adjourned at 9:05 o'clock, p.m.)

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mr. D'Angelo made a motion to adjourn the Town Council meeting which was seconded by Mr. Zoni. Motion passed unanimously.

(Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 o'clock, p.m.)

---

Mark J. Sciota  
 Acting Secretary

John Weichsel, Manager Town of Southington  
Mark Sciota, Deputy Manager Town of Southington

Reference: William Barry Resignation Letter from Inland Wetlands

October 9, 2009

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the Town of Southington Inland Wetland Commission. I thank you, Manger John Weichsel, and the Town Council for the opportunity to serve this great town. I learned much from the experience as a commissioner but feel I no longer have the time available to do the job that is required. I respectfully submit my resignation and hope to serve our town in the future.

Thank you in advance,

William F. Barry

# Town of Southington

## Highway Department

STEVEN WLODKOWSKI  
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
GEORGE HARRISON COLE  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



DELLA BITTA DRIVE  
TEL. (860) 276-9430  
FAX (860) 276-9101

October 22, 2009

Mr. John Weichsel  
Town Manager  
Town of Southington  
75 Main Street  
Southington, CT 06489

**RE: TOWN STREET SNOW PLOWING BIDS**

Dear Mr. Weichsel,

Attached you will find the summarized bid results for the 2009/2010 Snow Plowing/  
Removal bids.


The equipment that will be used on a per storm basis is as follows:

- 1) 17 of the 24 trucks shown on page 2 of 6 of the summary.
- 2) 1 pickup truck from Martello Construction @ \$48/hour, 1 pickup truck from M & M Roofing @ \$75/hour each, and 1 pickup truck from Pat's Lawn Service @ \$84.50/hour.
- 3) 3 loaders w/4-way plows from Marek Brothers Construction @ \$185/hour each and 1 compact loader w/plow from Dan Quinlan Grounds Maintenance @ \$125.00/hour.

All other equipment will be used on an as needed basis from lowest to highest bidder.

Please contact me with any questions that may arise.

Yours Truly,

  
Steven Wlodkowski  
Highway Superintendent

SW:lt  
Attached

CC: Mr. Anthony Tranquillo, Public Works Director

2009/2010 SNOW PLOW/REMOVAL BIDS RECEIVED

STANDARD PLOW TRUCK.....PAGE 2

OPTIONAL BID/PICK-UP TRUCKS.....PAGE 3

SPARE PLOW TRUCKS.....PAGE 4

SNOW REMOVAL TRIAXLE DUMP TRUCK.....PAGE 4

SNOW REMOVAL/LOADER.....PAGE 5

SNOW REMOVAL/SMALL SKID STEER LOADER.....PAGE 5

SNOW REMOVAL/BACKHOE.....PAGE 6

TRUCK WITH SAND SPREADER.....PAGE 6

SNOW PLOWING TOWN STREETS 2009 – 2010  
STANDARD PLOW TRUCK

MARTELLO CONSTRUCTION LLC.....	1 @ \$ 88.00
PRO ENERGY LIGHTING LLC.....	2 @ \$135.00
KGM CONSTRUCTION & EXCAVATING INC.....	1 @ \$147.00
PURITY BUILDERS LLC.....	1 @ \$148.75
DAVIS TRUCKING INC.....	* 2 @ \$160.00
EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.....	4 @ \$163.00
JANET’S SWEEPING PROPERTY CARE LLC.....	1 @ \$165.00
MAREK BROS. CONST. CO., INC.....	3 @ \$165.00
DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINTENANCE LLC.....	* 2 @ \$165.00
ACE TRUCK REPAIR INC.....	2 @ \$174.75
CONNECTICUT PAVING.....	2 @ \$175.00
TC & SONS TRUCKING, LLC.....	1 @ \$175.00
JV III CONSTRUCTION INC.....	2 @ \$195.00

24

\* DAVIS TRUCKING INC. – **4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK**

\* DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINTENANCE LLC – **4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK**

OPTIONAL BID/PICK-UP TRUCKS

MARTELLO CONSTRUCTION LLC.....	1 @ \$ 48.00
M & M ROOFING LLC.....	1 @ \$ 75.00
PURITY BUILDERS, LLC.....	3 @ \$ 84.50
CONNECTICUT PAVING & CONCRETE.....	1 @ \$ 85.00
LAROSA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.....	5 @ \$ 85.00
PAT'S LAWN SERVICE.....	1 @ \$ 85.00
PRO ENERGY LIGHTING LLC.....	4 @ \$ 85.00
S.X. SAND & STONE.....	1 @ \$ 89.00
DAVIS TRUCKING INC.....	*1 @ \$ 90.00
EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.....	2 @ \$112.00
JANET'S SWEEPING LLC.....	2 @ \$125.00
JV III CONSTRUCTION INC.....	2 @ \$150.00

\* DAVIS TRUCKING INC. – 4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK

SPARE PLOW TRUCK

JANET'S SWEEPING LLC.....	1 @ \$165.00
EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.....	1 @ \$170.00
PURITY BUILDERS, LLC.....	1 @ \$179.75
MAREK BROS. CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.....	3 @ \$190.00

SNOW REMOVAL/TRIAXLE

S.X. SAND & STONE.....	1 @ \$ 71.00
DAVIS TRUCKING INC.....	*1 @ \$ 72.00
JANET'S SWEEPING LLC.....	1 @ \$ 73.00
MAREK BROS. CONST. CO., INC.....	4 @ \$ 73.00
O & D EXCAVATING INC.....	*1 @ \$ 74.00
KGM CONSTRUCTION.....	1 @ \$ 80.00
LAROSA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.....	1 @ \$ 85.00
CONNECTICUT PAVING & CONCRETE.....	1 @ \$ 90.00
PURITY BUILDERS LLC.....	1 @ \$ 94.50
JV III CONSTRUCTION INC (HAUL ONLY).....	1 @ \$ 95.00
JV III CONSTRUCTION INC. (PLOW).....	1 @ \$195.00

\* DAVIS TRUCKING INC. – 4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK

\* O & D EXCAVATING INC. – 4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK

\* DAVIS TRUCKING INC. - 4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK  
\* O & D EXCAVATING INC. - 4 HOURS MINIMUM PER TRUCK

EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.....	1 @ \$ ?
J.V. III CONSTRUCTION INC.....	1 @ \$250.00
O & D EXCAVATING, INC.....	0 @ \$000.00
MARKER BROS. CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC.....(W/4 WAY FLOW)	3 @ \$185.00
PURITY BUILDERS LLC.....(4-1/2 YARD)	1 @ \$184.50
O & D EXCAVATING, INC.....	*1 @ \$160.00
CONNECTICUT PAVING & CONCRETE.....	1 @ \$155.00
JANET'S SWEEPING LLC.....(1-1/4 YARD I.D.)	1 @ \$150.00
KGM CONSTRUCTION & EXCAVATING INC.....(W/4 WAY FLOW)	1 @ \$147.00
DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINTENANCE LLC..(L-20 VOLVO COMPACT)....	1 @ \$125.00
LAROSA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.....	1 @ \$125.00
KGM CONSTRUCTION & EXCAVATING INC.....	1 @ \$115.00
DAVIS TRUCKING INC.....	*1 @ \$ 95.00
S.X. SAND & STONE.....(4-1/2 YARD)	1 @ \$ 89.00
MARTELLO CONSTRUCTION LLC.....	1 @ \$ 55.00

SNOW REMOVAL/LOADER

JANET'S SWEEPING LLC (2007, S250 BOBCAT SKID STEER 2 SPEED W/SNOW BUCKET OR 8 FOOT 4-WAY SNOW FLOW).....	1 @ \$125.00
JANET'S SWEEPING LLC (2008, S185 BOBCAT SKID STEER 2 SPEED W/STD. BUCKET OR 7-1/2 FOOT 4-WAY FLOW).....	1 @ \$120.00
DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINT. LLC (NEW HOLLAND SKID STEER).....	1 @ \$100.00
PAT'S LAWN SERVICE (2004 BOBCAT HIGH LIFT 23 H.P. DIESEL).....	1 @ \$ 95.00
PURITY BUILDERS, LLC (SKID STEER).....	2 @ \$ 89.50

SNOW REMOVAL/SMALL SKID STEER LOADER

SNOW REMOVAL/BACKHOE

TRUCK WITH SAND SPREADER

DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINT. LLC.....	1 @ \$165.00
CONNECTICUT PAVING.....	1 @ \$185.00
TC & SONS TRUCKING LLC.....	1 @ \$190.00
PURITY BUILDERS LLC.....	1 @ \$194.50
JV III CONSTRUCTION INC.....	1 @ \$225.00
EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.....	3 @ \$ ?

# Town of Southington

## Highway Department

STEVEN WLODKOWSKI  
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
GEORGE HARRISON COLE  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



DELLA BITTA DRIVE  
TEL. (860) 276-9430  
FAX (860) 276-9101

October 22, 2009

Mr. John Weichsel  
Town Manager  
Town of Southington  
75 Main Street  
Southington, CT 06489

**RE: 2009/2010 SCHOOL ACCESS WALK SNOW REMOVAL BIDS**

Dear Mr. Weichsel,

After reviewing the bids for Snow Removal for School Access Walks, I recommend the following bidders and equipment be used:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Pat's Lawn Service                | 3 Snow blowers @ \$65/hour ea.  |
| 2. Dan Quinlan Grounds Maintenance   | 4 Snow blowers @ \$80/hour ea.<br>1 JD1420 w/snow blower @ \$120/hour<br>1 ASX RC-30 w/v-plow @ \$95/hour |
| 3. Marek Brothers Construction Corp. | 2 ASV'S w/snow blowers @ \$100/hour ea.   |

I have attached a summary sheet for your reference.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Wlodkowski".

Steven Wlodkowski  
Highway Superintendent

SW:lt

Attached

CC: Mr. Anthony Tranquillo, Public Works Director

2009/2010 SNOW REMOVAL SCHOOL ACCESS WALKS

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>COST PER HOUR</u>
PAT'S LAWN SERVICE	ARIENS, 11 HP	3 @ \$ 65.00
	2004 BOBCAT S-175 HIGH	1 @ \$ 95.00
	LIFT SKID STEER 24 H.P.	
	DIESEL LARGE BUCKET	
DAN QUINLAN GROUNDS MAINT.	13/10 H.P. ARIENS	4 @ \$ 80.00
	JD 1420 W/SNOW BLOWE	1 @ \$120.00
	GEHL 3825 SX W/V-FLOW OR	
	BUCKET	1 @ \$ 95.00
	ASV RC-30 W/BUCKET OR	
	V-FLOW	1 @ \$ 95.00
	NEW HOLLAND LS190	
	W/SNOW BUCKET	1 @ \$100.00
	L-20 VOLVO COMPACT	
	LOADER BUCKET OR 10' FLOW	1 @ \$125.00
	SANDING WALKS TRUCK TO	
	HOLD SAND - PER MAN	
	LABORER	\$ 60.00
LAROSA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.	TORO 8 H.P.	2 @ \$ 85.00
	BOBCAT 753/773/CAT 236	3 @ \$ 98.50
EVERGREEN NURSERY INC.	ARIENS 12 H.P.	5 @ \$ 98.00
	SKID STEER LOADERS	2 @ \$128.00
	BOMBADIERS	2 @ \$128.00
MARK BROS. CONST. CORP.	ASV W/BLOWERS & V FLOWS	2 @ \$100.00
	NEW HOLLAND W/4-FLOW	2 @ \$100.00
PURITY BUILDERS LLC	BOBCAT W/BLOWER 843	1 @ \$119.00
	BOBCAT W/BLOWER 185	1 @ \$119.00
	BOBCAT W/BUCKET 843	1 @ \$ 99.00
	BOBCAT W/BUCKET 185	1 @ \$ 99.00

**REVISED 10/23/09****List of Requests for Abatement or Refund of Taxes for Town Council Meeting October 26, 2009:**

<b><u>Taxpayer's Name</u></b>	<b><u>Reason for Refund</u></b>	<b><u>Amount of Refund</u></b>
CitiMortgage Inc	Duplicate Pmt List #17506 R 2008	5283.34 *
DCFS Trust	Assessor C/C List #40596 M 2008	281.87
Florio, John A or Darlene P	Assessor C/C List #60900, 60897 & 60898 M 2008	256.42
Honda Lease Trust	Assessor C/C List #81390 & 81397 M 2008	285.82
Peterson, Kristen M or Mark	Assessor C/C List #161446 M 2008	64.71
Saab Leasing Co	Assessor C/C List #190007 M 2007 & 190006 M 2008	423.16
Teske, John K	Assessor C/C List #200389, 200390, 200391 and 200392 M 2008	382.80
Zhu, Mai Dian or Lisa Chu	Assessor C/C List #260285 M 04; 260292 M 05; 260304 M 06 & 260299 M 07	700.00

\* explanation attached