

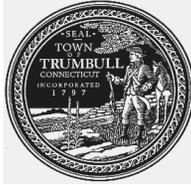
Town of Trumbull

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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

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Town Council Minutes April 2, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Carl A. Massaro, Jr. called the regular meeting to order at 8:08 p.m. at the Trumbull Town Hall. All present joined in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair asked all those present during the moment of silence to keep in their thoughts Democratic Registrar Ms. Jane Aiello who is in the hospital with a sudden malady.

ROLL CALL: The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

PRESENT

Suzanne S. Testani
David R. Pia
Jeff S. Jenkins
Chadwick Ciocci
James F. Meisner
Jeffrey Donofrio
Gregg Basbagill

Vicki Tesoro
Ann Marie Evangelista
Michael J. London
Carl A. Massaro, Jr.
Tony J. Scinto
Mark LeClair
Fred Palmieri, Jr.

Thomas Whitmoyer
James Blose
Kristy Waizenegger
John A. DelVecchio, Jr.
Debra A. Lamberti
Martha A. Jankovic-Mark

ABSENT: Jane Deyoe

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Robert Nicola, Town Attorney Edward Walsh, Chief of Staff Daniel Nelson, Tax Collector Mary Moran, Town Clerk Suzanne Burr-Monaco, Director of Finance Maria Pires, Judy Ferrigno of the Tax Assessor's office, Redistricting Committee Chairman Mr. William Holden, Mr. James Nugent Chairman of the THS Building Committee, Greg Smolley of JCJ Architecture, Brian Holmes of O&G Construction, Alfonso Barbarotta of AFB Construction Management and Mr. and Mrs. Lombardi.

The Chair asked all present to join in a second moment of silence to remember the shooting of seven school children in Oakland.

The Chair acknowledged the St. Joseph Men's Basketball team for winning another state title, Trumbull High School Men's Hockey team for winning a state championship. The Color Guard championship results are as follows: The A-guards placed 4th, the World Guard has no competition because there is not another guard of their caliber from here to Ohio or from here to Florida.

Discussion Item: Trumbull High School Building Committee Update: Chairman's Report - Mr. James Nugent, Chairman reported:

- Project is moving quickly and will be completed by September 2102 with some trailing items.

- THSBC is on the April 12th BoF agenda. A package (concession stand, paving and site-work numbers) will be submitted to the BoF and the Town Council. There are a large number of items that they have been carrying in the budget, when the budget was reduced difficult decisions needed to be made.
- Five bids submitted. The concession stand construction low bid - \$585,596. The concession stand equipment low bid - \$57,790 with a combined total of \$645,000. The THSBC had been previously advised that the concession number should be \$515,000. The site paving and landscape work bid came in at a little over \$2 million the budget can carry \$2.2 million.
- M-Wing is being finished and the project will be racing through the summer possibly with double shifts.
- The Chair stated that the THSBC will be scheduled on the Education Committee agenda and the May Town Council agenda.
- Ms. Mark requested that the THSBC keep the Senior Center in mind for use of the existing concession stand kitchen equipment.
- Mr. Nugent and Mr. Barbarotta indicated for Ms. Tesoro that the B-House a/c issue resolution is that they will not take the boiler room apart (A 3 ½ month project) until school is out. The \$100,000 cost for temporary a/c does not guarantee they will be able to balance the system. If the project is delayed there will be delay claims. They would recommend taking the boiler room apart; keeping the project on schedule, but that is not being received well. Ms. Tesoro stated that THS has interior rooms with no windows, Mr. Barbarotta stated that the equipment to move the air would be operational if the boiler was taken apart, although it would not be conditioned air, it would meet the requirements.

*The Chair exercised his right not to vote unless otherwise noted.

1. RESOLUTION TC24-16: Moved by Ms. Tesoro, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio.
BE IT RESOLVED, That _____ of _____, be and the same is hereby appointed an alternate member of the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term ending the first Monday of December, 2013.

Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on 3-27-12 and voted unanimously to amend the resolution, inserting Timothy Cantafio of 72 Tait Road and voted unanimously as amended.

The Chair recognized the amendment in committee.

Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Mr. Pia to amend Resolution TC24-16 to read as:
RESOLUTION TC24-16: BE IT RESOLVED, That Timothy Cantafio of 72 Tait Road, be and the same is hereby appointed an alternate member of the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term ending the first Monday of December, 2013.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended unanimously.

2. RESOLUTION TC24-25: Moved by Ms. Waizenegger, seconded by Mr. London.
BE IT RESOLVED, That First Selectman Timothy M. Herbst, be and the same is hereby authorized to sign an agreement between the Town of Trumbull (Subgrantee) and Patricia K. Lombardi & George J. Lombardi Jr. (Seller) for the purchase of property located at 48 Larkspur

Dive based on FEMA acquisition requirements provided in 44 C.F.R. Part 79 and relevant program guidance (Severe Repetitive Loss Program).

- Mr. Nelson indicated for Ms. Mark whether there will more qualifying houses in this neighborhood would be contingent upon the availability of federal funds, the ratio of severe repetitive losses and future weather, it was noted that 2011's weather patterns were extreme. The Pequonnock River Initiative established a guideline of recommendations to preserve the valley. The goal of the initiative was to preserve the integrity of the river.
- The Chair stated that 5-6 year's ago the Town had made a widespread application for assistance due to a series of torrential rain storms, the only grant awarded was on Lake Avenue for the severe flooding that occurred in the Canoe Brook Lake watershed. After two attempts and the perseverance of the Lombardi's they were awarded this grant. There has been a great demand on these funds in the last year, due to the extreme weather in CT. Mr. Nelson added that the Lake Avenue acquisition required the Town to contribute 25% as opposed to this grant which only requires the Town to pay 10% of the demolition costs.

By unanimous consent the Town Council amended the resolution correcting the spelling of Drive contained in the resolution.

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended unanimously.

3. RESOLUTION TC24-28: Moved by Mr. Jenkins, seconded Mr. Pia.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 18 Taxation, Article I In General, Section 18-1 Payment of Tax on Motor Vehicles of the Trumbull Municipal Code is hereby amended to the following: In accordance with Section 12-144a of the Connecticut General Statutes the Town Council hereby determines that any tax on motor vehicles due the Town shall be payable in a single annual installment as provided by law.

- The Chair indicated the updated information requested in committee had been distributed to the council prior to this meeting. The Chair indicated to Ms. Mark that there was still some question with regard to the amount of the \$1.2 million in the rears and the attributable amount of the missed January tax payments.

Moved by Mr. London, seconded by Mr. Ciocci to send Resolution TC24-28 back to committee (as amended).

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

4. RESOLUTION TC24-29: Moved by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Pia.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 18 Taxation, Article I In General, Section 18-2 Reserved of the Trumbull Municipal Code is hereby amended to Section 18-2, Payment of Tax on Personal Property: In accordance with Section 12-142 of the Connecticut General Statutes the Town Council hereby determines that any tax on personal property due the Town shall be payable in equal semi-annual installments as provided by law.

- Committee Report: The Legislation & Administration Committee met on March 26, 2012 a public hearing was held and voted 5-1 (Against: Jenkins) to amend adding the following language to the end of the resolution, effective as of October 1st of the Grand List of 2012, and voted unanimously as amended.
- The Chair recognized the amendment in committee.

Moved by Mr. Pia, seconded by Mr. Ciocci to amend RESOLUTION TC24-29 to read as:

RESOLUTION TC24-29: BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 18 Taxation, Article I In General, Section 18-2 Reserved of the Trumbull Municipal Code is hereby amended to Section 18-2, Payment of Tax on Personal Property: In accordance with Section 12-142 of the Connecticut General Statutes the Town Council hereby determines that any tax on personal

property due the Town shall be payable in equal semi-annual installments as provided by law effective as of October 1st of the Grand List of 2012.

- Mr. Pia explained this represents a fairly nominal business tax and is more than reasonable to go to two (2) payments per year.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

- The Chair explained the amendment was to defer the two (2) payment system until the Grand List of 2012. The first payment would be due July 1st, 2013 with a second installment in January 2014.

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended unanimously.

5. RESOLUTION TC24-30: Moved by Ms. Mark, seconded by Mr. Palmieri.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 18 Taxation, Article III Senior Citizen and Disabled Persons Tax Relief Regulations, Section 18-43 Tax Relief of the Trumbull Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

(1) *Tax credit.* For applicants who elect to apply for a tax credit under this article, said tax credit shall be on a graduated basis as follows:

Annual Qualifying Income	Benefit
\$0 - \$16,200	\$2600
\$16,201 - \$39,500	\$1560
\$39,501 - \$61,000	\$780
\$61,001 - \$70,000	\$312

This tax credit program shall be effective as of October 1 of the Grand List of 2012.

(2) *Deferral*

(a) Benefit shall be up to seventy-five (75) percent of tax due less amounts received under state elderly tax relief programs.

(b) All benefits shall be reimbursed in accordance with Section 18-42(7) (b).

(c) Total deferments for all years shall not exceed the assessed value of the real property.

(d) The recipient shall enter into a written agreement with the Town providing for reimbursement. The amount of such tax deferral benefit shall be recorded on the land records of the Town and shall constitute a lien on the property.

(e) Interest in the amount of 3% per annum shall apply to deferments effective as of October 1 of the Grand List of 2012. Interest shall not apply to deferments prior to October 1 of the Grand List of 2012.

(3) *Freeze*

(a) Any applicant for benefits under the freeze program meeting the eligibility requirements of section 18-42, except that the minimum age will be seventy (70), may elect to apply for a freeze under which such applicant shall pay the gross tax levied on applicable property, calculated for the first year the application is granted (the "freeze amount") and shall be

entitled to continue to pay no more than the freeze amount for each subsequent year in which the applicant, or his surviving spouse, continues to meet such qualifications.

(b) In the event that the applicant shall make improvements to his property resulting in an increase in his assessment, an amount calculated by multiplying the increase in taxpayer's assessment attributable to the improvement by the mill rate in effect in the year such reassessment takes place shall be added to the freeze amount then applicable to obtain a revised freeze amount which will be the freeze amount for subsequent assessment years.

(c) Unless otherwise extended, this tax freeze shall expire after the Grand List of October 1, 2011.

Moved by Mr. Meisner, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio to waive the read of the committee minutes.
VOTE: Motion CARRIED 19-1(Against: Mark)

- The Chair indicated that the L&A Committee met on March 26, 2012 a Public Hearing was held the committee voted 5-0-1 (Abstention: Mark).

Moved by Mr. Ciocci, seconded by Mr. Pia to ad the .99 of the end of each the last 3 brackets. Mr. Meisner indicated under tax laws all amounts are rounded to the next dollar. Ms. Ferrigno confirmed. Mr. Ciocci withdrew his motion.

- Ms. Mark indicated that there had been 7 brackets previously the highest at \$58,000 and is now proposed at \$70,000. Public comment had suggested a \$40,000 cap, indicating \$40,000 was low and suggested to stay at \$58,000. Ms. Mark spoke in favor of the lowest bracket at the double amount but spoke against the upper bracket at \$70,000. Ms. Mark spoke in favor sending the resolution back to committee for further analysis of deleting the top bracket and breaking up the second bracket.
- Mr. Palmieri stated that the committee minutes indicated that 961 people would be affected by this program, of those 961, 30 people would be affected by the top tier.

Moved by Ms. Mark, seconded by Mr. Meisner to send Resolution TC24-30 back to committee.

VOTE: Motion FAILED 6-13 (Testani, London, Lamberti, Pia, Scinto, Ciocci, Waizenegger, Jenkins, Evangelista, Blose, Donofrio, LeClair, and Tesoro).

- Ms Mark indicated that she is in favor of increasing the benefits in the lower brackets and wants all to be aware that this doubles the senior tax relief and would like to see it benefit the people it should benefit.
- Mr. DelVecchio spoke against the \$70,000 bracket and noted that it is important to keep the people who are not as fortunate in the scope.
- Mr. Pia echoed Mr. DelVecchio's and Ms. Mark's comments. Mr. Pia will support this resolution, indicating if it needs to be revised; it could be revisited next year.

Moved by Mr. Meisner, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio amend the resolution by deleting the \$61,000-\$70,000 bracket with a benefit of \$312.

- Mr. Ciocci stated the median income in Trumbull is \$80-\$100,000. The \$70,000 cap is below the median income.
- Ms. Mark indicated in committee the number of people in each bracket was discussed, the middle 2 brackets had significantly more people than the top or the bottom tier. Mr. Ciocci indicated those numbers reflect the number of participants not the number of individuals who could take part in the program and spoke in favor of keeping the program as proposed. Ms. Tesoro clarified the 30 people in the top tier is a projected number for the proposed bracket. The Chair confirmed the table with 4 brackets on page 8 of the L&A minutes are projected numbers.
- Mr. LeClair spoke in favor of the resolution, senior tax relief keeps the seniors in our Town, it and keeps the demographics balanced. The per capita income in Trumbull is \$97,000 per household.
- Ms. Ferrigno confirmed for Mr. DelVecchio that the current senior tax relief program is \$600,000 the proposal would double, bringing the projected total to \$1.2 million.
- Ms. Mark spoke in favor of senior tax relief but noted that it needs to go to the correct people.

VOTE: Motion to amend FAILED 8-11 (Against: Testani, London, Lamberti, Scinto, Ciocci, Waizenegger, Jenkins, Evangelista, Blose, Donofrio and LeClair).

VOTE: ADOPTED 15-4 (Against: Mark, Palmieri, DelVecchio and Whitmoyer).

6. RESOLUTION TC24-31: Moved by Mr. Lamberti, seconded by Ms. Testani.
BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That effective May 16, 2012 Chapter 6, Section 6-1 of the Trumbull Town Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 6-1 voting districts

In accordance with Section 9-169 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull does hereby redive the Town of Trumbull into four (4) voting districts.

(Mr. DelVecchio left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.)

- The Chair stated the resolution requires a Public Hearing which will be held after the Chairman of the Redistricting Committee's and the Minority Report's comments are made.

(Mr. DelVecchio returned at 9:13 p.m.)

- Committee Report: The R&R Committee met on 03-27-12 and voted to amend 3-2 (Against: Palmieri and Whitmoyer). The resolution carried as amended 3-2 (Against: Palmieri and Whitmoyer).
- The Chair noted the amendment in committee and distributed an amended version of the resolution; this version removes the effective date of the resolution but includes the district descriptions as presented in committee. Pursuant to Statute 9-169 Redistricting resolutions are effective upon adoption.

Moved by Mr. London, seconded by Mr. Scinto to amend Resolution TC24-31 to read as:

RESOLUTION TC24-31: BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 6, Section 6-1 of the Trumbull Town Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 6-1 voting districts

In accordance with Section 9-169 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull does hereby redivide the Town of Trumbull into four (4) voting districts.

District 1 Bounded generally by:

Northerly: The Monroe town line.

Easterly: The Shelton town line and Booth Hill Road, each in part.

Southerly: Wisteria Drive, Old Sawmill Road, West Lake Road, Twin Brooks Drive, Beach Memorial Drive, Hedgehog Road, Daniels Farm Road, Route 25 Expressway, Pequonnock River, Daniels Farm Road each in part.

Westerly: Church Hill Road, Main Street (Rte 111), Briarcroft Avenue, Placid Street, a perpendicular line from the end of Placid Street to the Pequonnock River, Pequonnock River, Whitney Avenue, Lower Broadway (adjacent to Long Hill Green), Main Street (Rte 111), Main Street (Rte 25), each in part.

District 2 Bounded generally by:

Northerly: Daniels Farm Road, Pequonnock River, Route 25 Expressway, Daniels Farm Road, Hedgehog Road, Beach Memorial Drive, Twin Brooks Drive, West Lake Road, Old Sawmill Road, Wisteria Drive, the Shelton town line, each in part.

Easterly: The Shelton and Stratford town lines, each in part.

Southerly: The Stratford and Bridgeport town lines, each in part.

Westerly: Reservoir Avenue.

Westerly Again: Booth Hill Road.

District 3 Bounded generally by:

Northerly: The Monroe town line.

Easterly: Main Street (Rte 25), Main St (Rte 111), Lower Broadway (adjacent to Long Hill Green), Whitney Avenue, Pequonnock River to that point perpendicular to Placid Street, Briarcroft Avenue Main Street (Rte 111), each in part.

Southerly: Walker Road, Sterling Road, Mulberry Street/Hampton Road, Elliot Road, Histon Road, Garwood Road, Park Lane, Canoe Brook Road, Wildwood Drive, Lake Avenue, Driftwood Road, Madison Avenue, Kaechelle Street, each in part.

Westerly: The Easton town Line.

District 4 Bounded generally by (all that portion of Trumbull in the 134th Assembly District):

Northerly: Kaechelle Street, Madison Avenue, Driftwood Lane, Lake Avenue, Wildwood Drive, Canoe Brook Road, Park Lane, Garwood Road, Histon Road, Elliott Road, Hampton Road/Mulberry Street, Sterling Road, Walker Road, Main Street, Church Hill Road, White Plains Road, each in part.

Easterly: Reservoir Ave.

Southerly: The Bridgeport town line.

Westerly: The Fairfield town line.

- Ms. Mark requested a recess to review the resolution distributed. The Chair confirmed for Ms. Mark, that the amended resolution distributed is the same as the resolution on this agenda with exception of the addition of the district descriptions and the elimination of the effective date, the meets and bounds are the same as the Redistricting Committee Report.
- Ms. Tesoro called for a recess, noting the removal of the effective date is major change.

The Chair called a recess at 9:23 p.m.

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 9:30 p.m.

- Mr. Meisner indicated barring a compelling reason for removal of the effective date he spoke in favor of leaving the effective date as it was this would allow for the possibility of a referendum. Holding a Public Hearing on the day of the vote does not allow for meaningful public comment and suggested a motion to leave the effective date in the resolution.
- The Chair stated the resolution originally drafted to adopt the Redistricting Committee's recommendation carried over the May 16th date, the date represented the 90 days prior to the August primary date. The date was essential for the earlier resolution creating the Redistricting Committee. In preparation of this meeting the Chair reviewed the statute. Per the statute the Redistricting resolution is effective upon adoption, the council would be acting contrary to state law if an effective date was inserted other than the date of adoption. The Chair confirmed for Mr. Meisner that the council has always proceeded on the basis that state law supersedes the Town Charter.
- Mr. Donofrio stated he was able to view the statute on his tablet referenced by the Chair at this meeting via his tablet and confirmed for the Council that CGS 9-169 b, which governs the effective date of changes in voting districts is effective upon adoption.

- Ms. Tesoro stated that the legal precepts have not been followed throughout the process. A Public Hearing should have been held at the beginning of the redistricting process and again after the maps had been developed. She voiced concern over holding a public hearing at this meeting and not having been able to have discussion with their members and those of the Redistricting Committee. Per council rules the council should not act on an ordinance without a committee of the council holding a public hearing.
- The Chair indicated the Council could form a committee of the whole.
- Ms. Tesoro added that the committee report should include the date the public hearing was held, that could be done tonight, but believes it should have been held earlier on this issue.
- The Chair stated this in an ordinance, the proposal is to amend it, on that basis a public hearing has to be held. Due to the significance of this resolution holding the Public Hearing in front of the entire council would be beneficial for all of the Town Council rather than holding it in a committee on an off night where it would not be filmed. The Chair explained the process he was following: The council would form the resolution at this meeting prior to the public hearing, the public would speak to the resolution completely understanding what it is the council is considering and voting on, as opposed to opening and closing a public hearing and subsequently amending the resolution after the Public Hearing closed, where the public would not have an opportunity to speak on the amended resolution.
- Ms. Mark stated the elimination of the effective date is a material change and spoke against not hearing this in committee.
- The Chair clarified that the council needs to adhere to state law and would not want to vote on something that was not enforceable.

VOTE: Motion to amend CARRIED 12-7 (Against: Mark, Palmieri, DeVecchio, Meisner, Basbagill, Whitmoyer and Tesoro).

- Mr. Holden explained the Town is redistricting because the law requires and read for the Council CGS 9-169 f. Trumbull did not comply with the law in 1992 or 2002. The present district plan was adopted before cluster housing, condominiums or apartments were developed. The change in population trends has lead to disparity of the population in the voting districts. Each elected representative should represent approximately the same number of people, a difference of no more than 10% is deemed to comply. The current district has a variance of 32% between the representatives with the lowest district to the highest population district which is a violation of federal law and the Town Charter. On January 5, 2012 the Town Council approved the resolution creating the Redistricting Committee. Minor districts have been considered substantially equal in the past and have been referred to in 1984. The framers of the original Charter adopted in 1965 did not contemplate the council having the exact same number of Town Council seats, if they had they would not have established a 21 member Town Council with a the Town continuing to use the four (4) voting districts that had been in use for years under the RTM form of government. The council did not specify a number of districts when it formed the Redistricting Committee, as it was done in 1984 when the number seven (7) districts was in the resolution. The recommended plan of four (4) districts is the northeastern, southeastern, southwestern and northwestern sections of Town converging in the center. The four (4) plan predated the council and goes back to the RTM form of government. The first principle the Redistricting Committee had to adhere to was the One Person One Vote, everyone on the committee agreed it was desirable to use geographical divisions which use the same boundaries as general assembly districts, to avoid split districts. The Report of the Redistricting

Committee and the Minority Report meet these requirements. The redistricting Committee agrees four (4) districts are preferable for the following reasons:

1. The current polling places are located in public schools; this creates problems for the schools and election administration. The recommended plan contemplates only using three (3) public schools and one privately owned facility, in the past St. Theresa's School and Calvary Church were used as polling places in the 7 district plan. A stipend of \$350 was paid as recently as 7 years ago for the use of one of those facilities.
 2. Parking in each of the public and private facilities is more voter friendly. It will be easier for the schools to have in service days on regular election days, special elections and primaries.
 3. Voters needing handicap accessibility will have better accessibility at the new polling places. All polling places are on main roads, eliminating the need to drive through residential neighborhoods.
 4. A cost savings of \$8,000 per year if there is only one (1) regularly scheduled election. In even numbered years where there is one (1) split district used there is a similar savings. When there is a special election or a primary there will be additional savings on top of the \$8,000.
- Ms. Tesoro, coauthor of the Minority Report summarized the Minority Report as follows. The Minority seven (7) district plan is the preferred method for the upcoming redistricting for the following reasons:
 1. It fully accomplishes all of the objectives for the Redistricting Committee set by the Council and Chairman Holden. Trumbull did need to be redistricted there was never an objection.
 2. All of the unnecessary split districts were removed as does the majority Redistricting Plan.
 3. They followed the One Person One Vote rule.
 4. Per Resolution TC24-8, the Minority Plan satisfies the charge of substantially equally populations in all of their districts. The 4 district plan failed to meet the criteria.
 5. The Minority Plan meets all of the charges with less disruption to the voters, a primary importance. Changes to the plan should encourage the voters to vote not to disenfranchise them. The primary argument is that the 4 district plan will make voting more inconvenient and will disenfranchise the voters.
 6. The seven (7) district plan has equal population and equal representation, the four (4) district plan changes districts for ½ of the population. The Minority plan changes districts for approximately 13% of the population. This plan meets all of the requirements of the One Person One Vote Rule and is less likely to be the subject of a referendum or a legal challenge. It preserves the strong minority representation of the Council, while the Majority Plan destroys minority representation. The savings under the majority Plan cannot be guaranteed.
 7. Increased voter choice will result in voter confusion and longer lines at the polls. There is no outcry from the voters for change.

The Chair called for any further motions from the Council on this resolution before opening the Public Hearing, the point being for the public to know what proposed changes there are before public comment is heard.

Hearing none the Chair opened the PUBLIC HEARING at 9:55 p.m.

There were 15 people from the public to speak (Public Comment Attached)

The Chair closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 11:15 p.m.

- Mr. Basbagill as a social studies teacher at the high school spoke against voting on this resolution this evening and suggested going back to the district, having Town Hall meetings and sending the resolution back to committee.

Moved by Mr. Basbagill, seconded by Mr. Palmieri to send Resolution TC24-31 back to committee.

VOTE: Motion FAILED 8-11 (Against: (Against: Testani, London, Lamberti, Scinto, Ciocchi, Waizenegger, Jenkins, Evangelista, Blose, Donofrio and LeClair).

- Mr. Meisner explained under the current plan there are two(2) candidates that are sure to be elected, under the proposed plan either 4 or 5 candidates would run and only one (1) of which would sure to be elected. There is the possibility of having four (4) of the same party out of the 21. This is dispiriting. The outcome of this could be that the full number of candidates would not be fielded. This is an attack on the minority representation system. In Bridgeport they have this and does not look to Bridgeport for what we should aspire to do.
- Mr. Whitmoyer asked that either of the republican R&R members present at that to convince him that the four (4) district plan is better than the seven (7) district plan? Commended Ms. Tesoro and Ms. Aiello for a job well done. It cannot be defined as to how much will be spent or saved, suggested changing the current polling places if there are parking or access issues. If it is going to cost a little money for the right to democracy and the right to vote, than it will, the sum cost of money should not be up for discussion.
- Mr. London indicated there has been a great deal said with regard to the four (4) district plan appearing to be a power play, that is exactly the case with how the lines were drawn in the seven (7) district plan, they were drawn to reduce the power of one party in certain districts. The four (4) district plan does in fact have the One Person One Vote and for the majority of the voters in this Town the number of districts will not affect them; they will still go to the polls.
- Mr. Scinto addressed Mr. Whitmoyer's question and explained that with the four (4) district plan it is possible to vote for more people in one district. Mr. Scinto quoted the 1984 report explaining that those words best explain the seven (7) district plan as follows: "Under the seven (7) district there are fewer options for the electorate and places greater control in the hands of the political apparatus." Under the seven (7) district plan 75% of nominated candidates are assured election by either party. Under the new plan you can vote for more people and that is taken out of the equation.
- Mr. Donofrio indicated that the Town Council had received the supplemental legal opinion of the Town counsel and the cases that were cited in the opinion. There is no disagreement on behalf of anyone who has spoken that the current plan violates the protection clause of the 14th amendment because of the disproportionate representation between districts 4 & 7 and possibly 1 & 4. The United States Supreme Court has held on numerous occasions over the last 40 years that the population per representative methodology is appropriate for evaluating equal protection compliance. The four (4) district plan as proposed, apportioned between seats is appropriate. There is nothing in the Board of Estimate case referenced that reverses or overturns the 25 years prior precedent of holding the population representation as an appropriate methodology for compliance with the equal protection clause. From a legal perspective he is confident that the legal opinion given by Town counsel is correct.
- Ms. Tesoro stated that Mr. Herbst noted at the beginning of the process he explained this was to be apolitical process and were not to look at party affiliation. They went to a GIS expert to help draw the maps, noting it is less expensive, it is quicker, can be changed and can get plans out to

the public. Ms. Tesoro noted that she believes in doing the right thing and believes she has done the right thing and asked Mr. London to retract his statement with regard to gerrymandering. The four (4) district plans changes almost everyone's district, from the legal principles of redistricting you are supposed to look at the incumbent's as a courtesy to them. Ms. Tesoro quoted the January 5, 2012 page 11 of the minutes. The districts who elected the incumbents should know where they are going to end up.

- Ms. Testani stated that she also does the right thing, it is up to the people to decide what kind of job they do and asked for respect for those of who have been seated at this meeting and accused of a power grab, she is not in this for the personal reasons, she is in this for people of Trumbull and has done things right as Ms. Tesoro has.
- Ms. Waizenegger stated there has been much heard about fairness and bipartisanship but when the committee was set up, the minority separated themselves from the committee, engaged the services of someone, before the organizational meeting explaining that this is disheartening. One of the maps included the political affiliation on the Town, noting the appearance of that and coming to the organizational meeting with proposal in hand. Bipartisanship deserved a chance.
- Ms. Tesoro stated setting up a committee based on 3-2 did not speak to bipartisanship, the spirit of the committee was not cooperative, citing examples with regard to rescheduling meetings due to conflicts and never having been allowed to talk about the plans. A Public Hearing was not held at their committee level.
- Mr. Basbagill stated that they should start with the party affiliation map in order not to appear to hide information. Opening that information is appropriate. Mr. Donofrio confirmed for Mr. Basbagill as requested, that he does not see anything in the Minority Report that would violate the 14th amendment protection clause.
- Mr. Meisner stated the seven (7) district plan was based upon making the least amount of changes possible keeping equal population in each of the districts in order to match up with the state districts. Commended them for coming up with seven equal neighborhood based districts. The accusation has been made that the seven district plan of years ago had been gerrymandered concentrating democrats into certain districts; if that is the case it was not effective since there is only one democrat from each district on this council. The issue that is really being talked about is going down to possibly only four from one party.
- Mr. Palmieri has not heard one cogent defense of this motion. There are flaws with each of the plans, the Town has spoken tonight and are more in favor of the seven (7) district plan. The lack of strong comments supports that.

Moved by Mr. Palmieri moved to postpone Resolution TC24-31 until another public hearing is held. The Chair stated that motion has been voted on previously, it is a rehearing.

Mr. Palmieri withdrew his motion.

- The Chair confirmed for Mr. London that this vote requires a simple majority.
- Mr. Basbagill stated that the council members represent the whole of the district, district 1 will have 5 representatives and ¼ of the Town will have 6 representatives, noting the unfairness.
- Mr. Pia stated wanted to support the four (4) district plan, but is concerned for 20,000 voters at 4 polling places. Mr. Pia spoke to the seniors, long lines; the 17-4 minority, majority, which could result in less people stepping up to volunteer.
- Ms. Testani stated that she is responsible for 3,500 seniors in the Town of Greenwich, she advocates for those people, noting it can be done; people call her and e-mail her. It can be done advocating on a volunteer basis.

- Ms. Mark questioned why it is necessary to have the possibility of a 17-4 majority speaking against the possible of a minority of 4. There is a need for redistricting to avoid the split districts. The Minority Plan meets all of the charges issued to the committee. The legal opinion is more of a personal opinion, it does have some legal pieces in the beginning, the super majority is not equal and references Greenwich and Darien both of those Towns are examples of republican town meetings, they represent the registered voters in town not the whole population. This does not follow our Charter. The legal opinion supports both plans. Their plan represents the same number of candidates to choose from and each Town Council member would represent the same number of constituents considering the workload it is important to look at those details and hopes to discuss this more. Please consider the consequences.

Moved by Mr. Meisner, seconded by Ms. Mark to amend the amended resolutions as:
 RESOLUTION TC24-31: BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That Chapter 6, Section 6-1 of the Trumbull Town Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 6-1 voting districts

In accordance with Section 9-169 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull does hereby redivide the Town of Trumbull into seven (7) voting districts as follows: (Descriptions of Districts Attached).

The Chair asked for confirmation from the council that they understand the motion is to amend with the seven district plan and description of districts, the council confirmed.

- Ms. Tesoro stated the seven (7) district plan is the better plan it fully conforms to the law, the council's charge and impacts fewer voters. The four (4) district plan creates districts of unequal size and a district of an additional representative, in the larger district the voters are represented by 6 and the smaller districts are represented by 5. Why is that necessary when there is a plan with balanced populations and representatives? It is the better plan for the voters.

Moved by Ms. Tesoro, seconded by Mr. Whitmoyer for a roll call vote. A 2/3 majority vote is required. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

The clerk call roll call vote to amend and recorded it as follows:

* The Chair voted

AYES

Pia Whitmoyer
 Basbagill Meisner
 Palmieri
 Tesoro
 DelVecchio
 Mark

Nays

Testani London
 Donofrio Scinto
 Blose LeClair
 Jenkins Ciocci
 Lamberti Massaro
 Waizenegger Evangelista

VOTE: Motion FAILED 8-12 (Against: Testani, London, Lamberti, Scinto, Ciocci, Waizenegger, Jenkins, Evangelista, Blose, Donofrio, Massaro and LeClair).

- Mr. London called the question.
- Point of Order was called by Mr. DelVecchio he had not spoken twice.
 Mr. DelVecchio stated he had voted for equal representation and voted for change at the national level, but that change happened in a bad way and stated that is what is happening

here. Mr. DelVecchio thought the council did its best work when there had not been a super majority and spoke against 20,000 at 4 polling places.

- Ms. Mark called point of order she had not spoken twice.
- Mr. London stated that the question was called.
- Ms. Mark stated moot point there will not be a 2/3rd majority vote, the question can not be called she had not spoke twice, Robert's Rules. The legal opinion is appropriate for a RTM, this is the second part of the Charter Revision, this not a good plan and will have to live with the consequences.

* The Chair voted.

Vote: Motion to call the question FAILED 13-7 (Against: Mark, Palmieri, DelVecchio, Meisner, Basbagill, Whitmoyer and Tesoro).

Moved by Ms. Tesoro, seconded by Ms. Mark to amend the amended Resolution TC24-31 to return the resolution to committee for further discussion of the definitions on the boundary lines due to a lack of reasonable clarity in the definitions of the district lines in the four (4) district plan as presented.

- Ms. Mark stated that there is a month and would still have the time get it done.
- Mr. Ciocchi stated that this council has been disrespected by the same people calling for bipartisanship; there had been no compromise when he had suggested a tri-partisan committee.
- Ms. Tesoro stated that 95% of the people here spoke in favor the seven (7) district plan, this had been in the paper and had been noticed for awhile; people did not come out to speak against or for the four (4) district plan.
- Ms. Mark suggested sending the resolution back and talk about it more, this will not be solved tonight,
- Ms. Tesoro explained for Mr. Meisner that there are inaccurate district descriptions within the four (4) district plan and are questioning the legality of the description.

The Chair clarified for the council that the motion is to send the resolution back to committee to review the description of the boundary lines.

VOTE: Motion FAILED 8-11 (Against: Testani, London, Lamberti, Scinto, Ciocchi, Waizenegger, Jenkins, Evangelista, Blose, Donofrio and LeClair).

The Chair read the amended resolution to the council.

Moved by Ms. Tesoro, seconded by Ms. Testani for a roll call vote. A 2/3 majority vote is required.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

The Clerk called the roll call vote and recorded it as follows:

*The Chair voted.

<u>Ayes</u>		<u>Nays</u>
Testani	LeClair	Pia
Donofrio	Scinto	Basbagill
Blose	London	Palmieri
Jenkins		Tesoro
Lamberti		Mark
Waizenegger		DelVecchio
Evangelista		Meisner
Massaro		Whitmoyer

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended 12-8 (Against: Pia, Mark, Palmieri, DelVecchio, Meisner, Basbagill, Whitmoyer and Tesoro).

7. RESOLUTION TC24-26: Moved by Mr. Pia, seconded by Mr. Meisner.
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan is hereby approved.
Moved by Mr. Meisner, seconded by Basbagill to waive the reading of the committee minutes.
VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

The Finance Committee met on 3-26-12 and 5-0-1 (Abstention; Tesoro).

- The Chair noted that this legislation is directly related to the next resolution to be able to receive grant funds from the state of CT.
- Mr. Messier spoke in favor the Capital Plan, but does not imply support of the sale of the Nature Center property.
- Mr. DelVecchio echoed Mr. Eisner's comments and reminded people that the Nature Center years ago had to fight for \$10,000 to make the bathrooms ADA compliant. There has been discussion of building a new building when the Town has other needs.
- Mr. Ciocchi spoke in favor of the Capital plan but does not support every individual item in the plan.
- Ms. Mark echoed all of the previous comments, there are items within the plan that she could not support especially the sale of the Wagner Tree farm and because of that spoke against the resolution.
- Mr. Pia spoke in support of the resolution but not of all of the items. Mr. Pia will submit his list of questions via e-mail to the Director of Finance and the Chief of Staff.

VOTE: ADOPTED 16-3 (Against: Tesoro, Mark and DelVecchio).

8. RESOLUTION TC24-27: Moved by Mr. Blose, seconded by Ms. Testani.
BE IT RESOLVED, That the First Selectman is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Trumbull a grant application for the Local Capital Improvement Program to obtain financial assistance pursuant to Public Act 87-854, allocation for 2012. Distribution: Roadway Paving \$240,000. Total, 2012 allocation: \$240,000.

Upon motion made by Mr. Pia, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio the Town Council waved the reading of the committee minutes by unanimous consent.

The Finance Committee met on 03-27-12 and voted unanimously.

- The Chair explained that this is annual grant application to the state, the Five Year plan is a prerequisite to this grant.
- Mr. Nelson stated for Mr. Basbagill and Ms. Mark that he is not aware of any plans for sewers Moose Hill Road. Mr. Basbagill noted that there had been a fatality on this section of the road and is in favor of redesigning that section of the road for safety.

VOTE: ADOPTED unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss and upon motion made by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Mr. Basbagill the Trumbull Town Council adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni
Town Council Clerk

Resolution TC24-31 Public Hearing

1. Gloria Francesconi of 16 Plymouth Avenue a resident of Trumbull since 1963 and a representative for the League of Women Voters submitted and read a prepared statement into the record (Attached).
2. Jon Greene of 23 Topaz Lane stated that running for the Town Council is a feet on the street operation, and spoke to the importance of the candidates visits to the Town voters' neighborhoods and houses, it allows the voters to ask the candidate what they stand for. The candidates would now represent 8,500-10,000 voters. The voters need to know 4 candidates and will now need to get to know 8-10; the tendency will be to vote the party line. If you believe in an educated electorate you should vote this down. There will be 10,000 voters in the super district, voters during rush hour will be coming every few seconds and will not be much better in the other districts. This will cut minority representation, Town government is unique, and at the federal level there is diversity, in Trumbull we are not that diverse. In the 2011 the local election was a success for the Republican Party; the overall vote for Town Council was 55% to 45% every district was with in a few % of 55%-45%. The only cities provided by the Town attorneys in their legal opinion were Greenwich and Darien each of which has a representative town meeting form of government. Greenwich has 230 members in their RTM and Darien has 100 members which guarantees minority representation. He moved to Trumbull from a small town, although it was larger it still felt small to them and asked if we would feel confident with a 17-4 town council, if it would be a balanced perspective or if you would feel comfortable presenting this proposal in front of the whole town to say that are all of their interests are represented in a fair and balanced manner? If either of those answers is no the council should vote this down. Mr. Greene asked that this resolution be tabled; the public hearing is being held minutes before a vote this is unfair to the public.
3. Scott Wich of 47 Killian Avenue had read as much as he could on this, one of the things he did not read a lot about was the perspective of a Trumbull resident, all he needs is one person to listen to him, he is fortunate to have 3 representatives, it is a great system and it works, he does not need 5 or 6. This is not going to be helpful on Election Day or the lines. More is not better, sometimes it is just more and in this case more is less. Each representative is representing 1000,s more people and questioned if his voice will be heard, it is almost like too many cooks in the kitchen, and it diminishes him as a resident. Mr. Wich spoke to a statement by the First Selectman who had said this is a public policy issue; this is a significant public policy issue there is not a resolution that the council will vote that is more important than this resolution. This resolution will define this council's relationship with the people they represent. There are two proposals, comparing the two, the 4 district is less effective in one core critical area, the ability to represent the people and less effective in their ability to feel represented by the council.
4. Doug Sutherland of 14 Petticoat Lane is an involved resident and has been following this issue from the beginning and was struck by the opening comments by the First Selectman to the Redistricting Committee members speaking to the importance of the task of the committee and the importance all residents and voters of Trumbull. The process should be fair, apolitical and embrace the One Person One Vote, the districts should be drawn in such a way that there would

be no gerrymandering or the appearance thereof and come to close as possible to equal representation as they possibly could. After Mr. Sutherland followed the process over the last month and half, the committee had failed in all of those counts; he feels the First Selectman set up the process to fail from the start by appointing a 3-2 committee, injecting partisanship into the committee from the beginning. The plan is a power grab; it fails to embrace the fundamental principal of One Person One Vote. The minority plan achieves all the goals of the committee and asked the Town Council to vote to accept the democratic 7 district plan and reject the radical republican 4 district plan.

5. Marilyn Lord of 62 Driftwood Lane urged the Town Council to vote down the 4 district Majority Plan it will confuse voters, it will not make things simpler and questioned having to move half the town to a new polling place. The Minority Plan is more thought out and has many more advantages, the main advantages are less voter confusion, minimal disruption to council members and their districts and preserves minority representation. All districts would have equal representation and would be closer in number of voters; it is unfair and un-American to create uneven districts. Why create a district that is twice the size of other districts. She does not want election literature from some many candidates, does not want to find out about so many candidates and likes having 3 representatives. This will put the voter on information overload, questioning what the ballot will look like, the cost to print. She asked the council to be sensible and considerate to the voters with the decision tonight.
6. Jean Rabinow of 17 Fairview Avenue stated the 4 district plan is a power grab to remove some portion of minority representation and is unnecessary, the republicans as well as the democrats know that Trumbull is aging, the odds of the republicans losing the majority any time soon are vanishing and getting smaller as the population ages and has less need for the services the taxpayers support such as schools, pools even the library. In order to preserve the republican majority on the council either plan would work, if we do lose minority representation on the council you will wind up looking more like Bridgeport, which has 1 republican every couple of years and noted they have all kinds of craziness at the executive level which she does not like and does not think it is good for Trumbull. She has never voted a straight ticket since she came to Trumbull, she pays attention to who comes door to door, and it is going to be harder for people to come to her door with a district that is twice the size as before, it is not good for the voters or for the councilmen. With regard to cost savings the big problem with voting in Trumbull is the check in spots are slow, they now split the lines for all of the larger districts. Two lines per district is not going to be enough for a 4 district plan and will have to pay for the additional checkers, and does not think the \$8,000 will be saved per election, the man power will be needed. If voters turn away due to the wait that is a big deal, anything that makes it harder to vote is not favorable.
7. Cindy Katske of 129 Meadowview Drive spoke in favor of the 7 district plan. Redistricting should not be a political issue, it should be about the voters. Looking at both plans, the 7 district plan is better for the voters, it complies with all legal requirements, as does the 4 district plan, and moves far fewer voters than the 4 district plan providing consistency for the majority of voters, minimizes voter confusion and complies with the Town Council resolution which the 4 district plan does not. The legal opinion only speaks to the 4 district plan and the current configuration but not the 7 district plan, it concludes that the 7 district plan does conform to constitutional legal principals, but in so far as the opinion compares the 4 district plan to the existing configuration the opinion misses the mark, no one is concerting the current

configuration complies with legal requirements. Any comparison of the 4 district plan with the current only states the obvious and is unnecessary and believes the council should not approve the plan based on the resolution of January 5, 2012. The resolution charged the committee to create districts with substantially equal populations, the committee failed in its task because the 4 district plan failed to have substantially equal districts, districts can not vary by more than 10%. The 4 district plan does not meet the requirements of the resolution. The proposed 7 district plan does meet the requirements of the resolution. The 4 district has a disparity in the number of council members per district; the 7 district plan has equal representation. The 7 district plan keeps things simple and well balanced. The 4 district plan moves 18,000 residents to new polling places, which should be done only if necessary. The 7 district plan is better because it moves fewer residents. Cost savings was never a requirement, the cost savings of \$8,000 is over stated, and many voters will have to drive further which will off set any savings. Cost savings should not be a reason to approve. Making the registrars' job easier should not be reason for the 4 district plan, if using schools as a polling place is a hardship why not find a different place anyway. The 4 district plan increases the number of candidates on the ballot, the goal should be to make voting easier for the voter, not harder, many voters will have a hard time to keep track, the ballot will be double sided and will take longer to vote, noting this is not a good combination. Ms. Katske spoke against the 4 minority representation and believes in a strong minority voice and the checks and balance that come with the minority representation. The 4 district plan should be voted down, the provision that affects the balance of power and the system of checks and balances deserves to be put to the voters for approval. Ms. Katske spoke to her disappointment that not one word of discussion took place at the R&R meeting by the majority with regard to this resolution and are left with questions unanswered about what factors were liked about the plan and what they did not like about the 7 district plan. The 4 district plan does not make sense. The 7 district plan meets all legal requirements and asked to put the voters first and approve the 7 district plan.

8. Mark Altieri of 89 Woolsley Avenue had served 14 years on the Town Council and was the former Town Council Chairman. The 4 district plan has a super district that is beyond the 10%. The term he served with a super majority was the least effective for Trumbull, and spoke against a 17-4 possibility; no matter who is the 17. He has seen it in other towns and did not like what he saw. It is required to redistrict, the 7 district plan meets the requirements. The greater disparity in the council, the more partisan the Town becomes, which is not good for Trumbull and hopes all will vote for the 7 district plan.
9. Tony Silber of 43 Stag Lane urged the council to vote against the 4 district plan, the sweeping plan is not consistent with the CT General Assembly for redistricting or consistent with the charge the committee was given and respectively asked the council to consider what the intent or motivation is for throwing out a 7 district format that has served the town very well for 30 years, what problem is that needs to be fixed. The 4 district plan radically transforms our system in clumsy manner. No legal opinion will change that fact. The legal opinion did not compare the two plans to each other. The goal is a difference in philosophy of government it obliterates the majority representation. This is not good for Trumbull or any community. It will confuse thousands of voters and will suppress voters. This change to the Town Council make up should only take place in a Charter Revision or a referendum, this council voted down the change in Town Council structure as it should have and now here it is again. Much good comes from minority representation. We know from other towns when one political party has absolute power it leads to bad decisions and asked why we are doing that here and why we would want

that here in Trumbull. He hopes the Town Council takes a step back and asks what we are doing. The Town Council represents the voters.

10. Perry Molinoff of 39 Lafayette Drive who has served for 3 terms on the Town Council and as an alternate on the BoF for one term stated a super majority is a powerful thing, if you stay united. It is hard to achieve a super majority in an election, but it did this last November. He had served some of his terms with the majority and some were as the minority. There is a down side to a super majority, in a bare majority everyone's vote is a tie breaker, super majority allowed for his individual objections to be ignored. He has crossed party lines and has been thanked for sticking to his convictions. He asked if this council was ready to cross party lines and vote their conscience. This vote has the potential to undermine the power of dissent that he had experienced; majority representation was to limit the majority to no more than 2/3 of the council. One minority from each district keeps this ratio. The power of dissent would be gone and asked the members of the super majority why do they spend hours a month serving on the Town Council, right now you have to change the mind of 3 of your peers, how much more difficult would it be to change 6? When the pendulum swings back and it always does, will you be happy to see a huge majority controlling the agenda without them having that power of dissent. If not sure, he urged the council to send this back to committee and do what is right for Trumbull.
11. Mr. Steve Elbaum of 52 Tudor Lane in 1988 was working in NYC in city government at the time the Supreme Court found the form of government in NYC unconstitutional in the Board of Estimate v. Morris. The 4 district plan made him think of that case. The districts are not equal in the 4 district plan, questioning how the plan represents a good faith effort for equal districts. There is probably a good reason why no other town in the state does it this way. There is a good chance this will be overturned in court and urged the council to approve the 7 district plan, it satisfies all of the goals the committee set out to establish.
12. Roy Fuchs of 221 Fitch Pass read from the top of page 2 of the second legal opinion, with regard to a good faith effort made in equal population of districts if they are within 10%. Mr. Fuchs attended 3 of the 4 redistricting meetings, there had not been a lot of conversation there people were talking at each other, not to each other and not one mind was changed. He had predicted it would end in a party line vote. What is now is that the majority would win, it was not hard to see that at the first meeting. If one side of the street has 5 representatives and the other side of the street has 6 representatives, he asked the question if both have the same equity in the system.
13. Cindy Penkoff of 101 Columbine Drive an alternate on the BoF believes that the entire whole Town Council represents her, every time the council votes it votes on something that affects her, it does not matter what district you represent, and trusts that the residents of the Town will make up a council they want. Ms. Penkoff believes in One Person One Vote and equal opportunity for all candidates for those positions. The current system does not support that idea. The 4 district model is not new to Trumbull and should be used again, when you are town wide candidate you do not have to worry about how many republicans, democrats or independents live in your district. Ms. Penkoff knocked on 8,000 doors as a town wide candidate; it is not out of the realm of possibility. When you lose as a town wide candidate you do it fairly, all positions in town should have the same opportunity. Ms. Penkoff has faith in the residents when it comes to the balance of the Town Council. When speaking to displacing residents we

are not talking about sending them to another town to vote, she can go the other side of Trumbull within 10 minutes; this is not an inconvenience. Information is out there and is easy to disperse to the people as to where and when to vote.

14. Mike Guidice of 17 Carriage Drive could not understand how this could be happening, speaking to the importance of this issue, this is the first and only public hearing; the Town Council will have only 10 minutes to discuss this and then vote. He asked the council to stop and take step back to give the public time to understand what is happening.
15. Dave Kane of 521 Old Saw Mill Road stated that a libertarian says to do what ever you want, but just don't bother me and if you are going to do what you want be prepared for the consequences; he does not want to deal with what is on his mind, he questioned why there no one from the town to speak in favor of this district plan? If the council goes off to vote and it is a party line vote you have insulted all those who spoke at this public hearing questioning how anybody could listen and not be convinced? When you have a committee that has to get something done, a 3-3 committee would create something that is fair and equitable. This will affect everyone for the next 10 years. Mr. Kane spoke favorably of Trumbull as a small town.
16. Joan Mazza of 50 Plumb Tree came to the meeting with an open mind is an independent voter, and believes it is wrong to do this so fast without public input, and thinks this very scary and asked that the council to consider the consequences.