

TOWN COUNCIL

TRUMBULL, CT
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MINUTES

March 2, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Trumbull Town Council was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Chairman Mark Altieri. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

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

Dan Marconi	Jeffry Jenkins	Matt Reale
Michael Rappa	John Rotondo	Kathleen Bivona
Suzanne Testani	John DelVecchio, Jr.	Michael London
Jane Deyoe	Debbie Lamberti	Carl Massaro
Robert Pescatore, Jr.	Perry Molinoff	Chad Ciocci
Mary Beth Thornton	Mark Altieri	Dan Helfrich
Cheryl Bochet	Martha Mark	Tony Scinto

ABSENT: None

* Chairman Mark Altieri exercised his right not to vote unless otherwise noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the February 2, 2009 meeting were accepted as presented by unanimous consent.

Item 1. RESOLUTION TC22-153: Moved by Mr. Marconi, seconded by Ms. Thornton

BE IT RESOLVED, That Anthony Silber of 43 Stag Lane, be and the same is hereby reappointed as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2011.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 2. RESOLUTION TC22-154: Moved by Ms. Bochet, seconded by Mr. Rotondo

BE IT RESOLVED, That the reappointment by the First Selectman of Lawrence Dinkes of 99 Meadowview Drive, as a member of the Trumbull Monroe Health District is hereby approved for a term extending to March 3, 2010.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 3. RESOLUTION TC22-155: Moved by Mr. Pescatore, seconded by Ms. Bivona

BE IT RESOLVED, That Steven Lupien of 35 Deep Gorge Road, be and the same is hereby reappointed as an alternate member of the Board of Finance for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2013.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted 16-3-1 (Opposed: Ciocci, Testani, Pescatore; Abstention: Deyoe)

Item 4. RESOLUTION TC22-156: Moved by Ms. Lamberti, seconded by Mr. Rotondo

BE IT RESOLVED, That the reappointment by the First Selectman of Don Espach of 34 Colonial Drive as a member of the Golf Course Commission, be and the same, is hereby approved for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2010.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 5. RESOLUTION TC22-157: Moved by Mr. Rotondo, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That Frank Scifo of 6 Friar Lane, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Ethics Commission for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2013.

2/3 affirmative vote required for passage

Committee report: Finance Committee met February 24, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 6. RESOLUTION TC22-158: Moved by Mr. London, seconded by Mr. Pescatore

BE IT RESOLVED, That Eric Michel of 29 Catherine Street, be and the same is hereby reappointed as a member of the Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee for a term extending to the first Monday in December, 2013.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 7. RESOLUTION TC22-159: Moved by Ms. Bivona, seconded by Ms. Bochet

BE IT RESOLVED, That Kevin Petriello of 54 Pert Street, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Trumbull Day Commission for a term extending to September 1, 2011.

Committee report: R&R Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 8. RESOLUTION TC22-160: Moved by Ms. Deyoe, seconded by Mr. Reale

BE IT RESOLVED, That Michael Vartulli of 75 Daniels Farm Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Trumbull Day Commission for a term extending to September 1, 2012.

Committee report: Finance Committee met February 24, 2009 and voted 2-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 9. RESOLUTION TC22-161: Held in Committee

Item 10. RESOLUTION TC22-162: Held in Committee

Item 11. RESOLUTION TC22-163: Moved by Mr. Scinto, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$850,000 is hereby appropriated for the planning, acquisition and construction of sanitary sewers, phase IV, part B contract IV, and authorizing the issue of \$850,000 of bonds or notes of the Town to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Committee report: Finance Committee met February 24, 2009 and voted 3-0 to recommend.

Joe Solemene, Trumbull WPCA Administrator, explained this portion of the Jog Hill project is known as the North Nichols project and it is a \$400,000 windfall for the residents. There are some short term bonding costs associated with the borrowing that are included in the appropriation. Only the amount that is spent will be used. When the rest of the Jog Hill project is completed, the amount of the North Nichols project will be added to it. The people serviced by this Contract will pay their share. Based on the \$4 million dollars of reconstructive work that will be done by the State on Huntington Road, (North Nichols Project), Mr. Solemene believes the Town will be a big winner.

VOTE: Adopted 18-2 (Opposed: Ciocci, Mark)

Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Mr. Molinoff to make this emergency legislation.

VOTE: Adopted 19-1 (Opposed: Pescatore)

Item 12. RESOLUTION TC22-164: Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Mr. Marconi

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$50,450 is hereby appropriated from the unreserved fund balance to EMS Salaries-PT 01022600-501102 and EMS Overtime 01022600-501105.

Committee report: Finance Committee met on February 24, 2009 and voted to amend by to amend by inserting the amount \$50,000 after the Salaries account number and \$450.00 after the Overtime account number.

Chairman recognized the committee report as an amendment.

VOTE: Passed unanimously

VOTE: Adopted unanimously as amended

Item 13. RESOLUTION TC22-165: Moved by Ms. Testani, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That First Selectman Raymond G. Baldwin, Jr., be and the same is hereby authorized to sign, on behalf of the Town of Trumbull, an application and contract with the State Library for a Historic Preservation Grant.

Committee report: L&A Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 4-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Item 14. RESOLUTION TC22-166: Moved by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Bivona

BE IT RESOLVED, That the final plans and specifications of Phase I of the Trumbull High School like new renovation are hereby approved.

Committee report: Education Committee met February 26, 2009 and voted 4-0 to recommend

Jim Nugent, Trumbull High School Building Committee Chairman, briefly listed key elements of the project. Phase I will include the construction of a new auditorium in the existing courtyard. It is being constructed first because upon its completion, we will then be able to use the existing auditorium as swing space – a place to move classes to – while their regular classrooms are being renovated.

Construction of a new boiler system is part of Phase I. When the new auditorium is built, it will be connected to the new boilers. As each portion of the building is completed, it too will be connected to the new system. This approach will eliminate the need for a temporary system and the costs associated with it. The State will not pay for the redundancy of connecting first to the old system and then at a later date, connecting to the new system. They will pay if we connect as planned.

Phase I also includes the construction of a Natatorium (pool). The American Disabilities Act requires that when renovations are done, the campus, including the field, must be made accessible to all people. There are many issues associated with the Hillcrest pool which led to the recommendation that a new pool be constructed. By including restrooms that are accessible from the field in the Natatorium and by locating the Natatorium at the end of the football field near the concession stand, we will address those field related ADA issues and solve the issues associated with Hillcrest pool as well. One way or the other, these issues have to be addressed and are included in Phase I due to the favorable bidding environment.

Brian Holmes, O&G Construction, explained the bidding environment is favorable. People are looking for work and he expects there will be considerable interest in the project and that the bids will be competitive.

Michael London remonstrated the way the project has been prioritized in Phase I. He resents feeling as though he is being pressured into voting on it tonight. He believes the Natatorium is an extreme luxury during these difficult economic times and thinks it should be done last.

Kathleen Bivona pointed out that she and Jeffrey Jenkins are the Town Council's Representatives to the Trumbull High School Building Committee. It is their responsibility to attend the Building Committee meetings and report back to their respective caucuses. At this point, the Building Committee has expended an inordinate amount of time on this project. She questions the timing of Mr. London's objections. The reasons for approaching the project this way have been explained and presented a multitude of times.

Al Barbarotta, Owner's Representative, explained Phase I consists of the elements they believe they could realistically get designed and out to bid in this favorable bidding environment, under construction and occupied in the first year. This was an economic decision. You can't do work in the classrooms while the students are occupying them. The students have to be moved out so the work can be done. They have to go somewhere, so before that work can be done, the place where they will go has to be created. How the work moves through the school with the least impact on the students and on the learning environment, as economically as possible, is how the project was approached. The ADA issues must be addressed and if we lose this favorable bidding opportunity, we will just wind up paying more.

Suzanne Testani read from a prepared statement. She stated she believes bringing the boiler room up to Code is a necessary project. However, she castigated the plans for the Natatorium and Auditorium and she is deeply concerned as to how we as a community will be able to afford future projects if we approve these plans as presented.

Mr. Barbarotta explained there are excessive costs associated with renovating and then continuing to use the existing auditorium space as an auditorium. The rear wall would have to be removed and pushed back into the courtyard. The roof would have to be raised and the installation of an elevator would be required if a mezzanine were added. Additional costs would be incurred by the portables that would be needed for swing space. Superintendent Ralph Iassogna indicated in a letter that the formula to determine the seating capacity of a school auditorium is typically 50% of the student body. Even if the seating area footprint was reduced, the vestibule, stage, connecting corridors will stay the same size, the ventilation system, sprinkler system, and mechanicals will probably be just as costly. The plan as presented meets that criteria and has been designed within budget.

There are a host of issues associated with the Hillcrest pool. The ventilation system is woefully inadequate, there are mold issues, the ceiling isn't high enough to allow diving, there's no way to separate the diving from the main swimming area, there are safety and security issues involving adults using the locker room during the school day at the same time the students are using them; and there's no way to create separate facilities. Major repairs are being made but they are only temporary repairs. Including the pool in the Trumbull High School project will bring a reimbursement of approximately \$900,000. Otherwise, we have to pay the whole thing ourselves.

Mr. Barbarotta stated this information has been around for quite some time. The educational specifications have been approved by the State. There will be redesign costs associated with any design changes made now and we'll miss this favorable bidding environment as well as the summer construction season.

Pescatore read from a prepared statement. He excoriated the proposed plan, the fiscal management of the town and stated there is other work that needs to be done too. He urged Council to vote against the resolution.

John Rotondo reasoned that it sounds as if we are getting the best value for our dollar. He believes Council wants to get lower costs for the taxpayers but at the same time we also have a school that needs to be renovated. Mr. Rotondo stated he feels we have an

opportunity to do both and that now seems to be the time to take advantage of this economy.

Moved by Mr. Reale, seconded by Mr. Molinoff to make this a Roll Call vote.

VOTE: Passed 14-7 (Opposed: Testani, Jenkins, Massaro, Mark, Pescatore, Lamberti, Scinto)

*Mr. Altieri voted on this item.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kathleen Bivona	Yea	Carl Massaro	Nay
Cheryl Bochet	Yea	Perry Molinoff	Yea
Chad Ciocci	Nay	Rob Pescatore, Jr.	Nay
John DelVecchio, Jr.	Yea	Mike Rappa	Yea
Jane Deyoe	Nay	Matt Reale	Yea
Dan Helfrich	Yea	John Rotondo	Yea
Jeff Jenkins	Yea	Tony Scinto	Nay
Debbie Lamberti	Nay	Suzanne Testani	Nay
Michael London	Nay	Mary Beth Thornton	Yea
Dan Marconi	Yea	Mark Altieri	Yea
Martha Mark	Yea		

VOTE: Adopted 13-8

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item.

Chairman Altieri called for a recess at 9:52 p.m.

Chairman Altieri reconvened the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

Item 15. RESOLUTION TC22-167: Moved by Mr. Massaro, seconded by Mr. London

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull High School Building Committee shall bid all contracts by open shop without exclusive limitation or restriction to particular trade groups or labor organizations.

Committee report: Education Committee met February 26, 2009 and voted 2-2 (Opposed: Thornton, Molinoff) not to recommend.

Minority Leader Carl Massaro stated that he believes that a decision of this magnitude should be considered at the Council level. We are the appointing body and the Building Committee does things with our consent.

Majority Leader Matt Reale stated the Building Committee handles the day to day operations and affairs of this project. If there is something that we want to review, we can do that. Taking pre-emptive action and micro-managing the project will send a bad message.

The Building Committee has already taken a vote in favor of an open bid contract.

VOTE: Failed 10-10 (Opposed: Thornton, Reale, Rotondo, Bivona, DelVecchio, Helfrich, Bochet, Molinoff, Marconi, Rappa)

16. RESOLUTION TC22-168: Rendered moot

17. RESOLUTION TC22-169: Rendered moot

Item 18. RESOLUTION TC22-170: Moved by Mr. Massaro, seconded by Mr. London

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull High School Building Committee shall deliver to the Chairman of the Town Council within 30 days a written report outlining in detail the scope of the “renovate as new” project minimally including the conceptual redesign of existing classrooms, labs, office, athletic, administrative and all other spaces as well as proposed new spaces. Said report shall also include the following:

1. A detailed description of the phases of construction;
2. A timetable for completion of each phase of the project;
3. A cost estimate for the project broken down by each phase;
4. A statement of impact on school operations during each phase of construction.

Committee report: Education Committee met February 26, 2009 and voted 4-0 to send without recommendation.

Mr. Rappa stated he feels the Construction Budget Analysis Form meets the criteria set forth. He believes this resolution to be a moot point since the information has been provided.

VOTE: Failed 9-11-1 (Approved: Lamberti, Deyoe, Pescatore, Ciocci, Scinto, London, Massaro, Jenkins, Testani; Abstention: Mark)

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item

Item 19. RESOLUTION TC22-171: Held in Committee

Item 20. RESOLUTION TC22-172: Moved by Mr. Ciocci, seconded by
Mr. Reale

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to settle the matters known as Hainsworth vs. Town of Trumbull, CHRO No. 0850 111, 112, 113 and L'Homme vs. Town of Trumbull, CHRO No. 0850 120, 121, 122.

Committee report: L&A Committee met February 23, 2009 and voted 4-0 to recommend.

VOTE: Adopted unanimously

Mr. Helfrich moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. DeVecchio. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m. with unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Lusebrink,
Council Clerk