

TRUMBULL TOWN COUNCIL

April 23, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The special meeting of the Trumbull Town Council was called to order at 7:35 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	John DelVecchio, Jr.	Michael London
Michael Rappa	Debbie Lamberti	Carl Massaro
Suzanne Testani	Perry Molinoff	Chad Ciocci
Jane Deyoe	Mark Altieri	Dan Helfrich
Robert Pescatore, Jr.	Martha Mark	Tony Scinto
Mary Beth Thornton	Matt Reale	
Cheryl Bochet	Kathleen Bivona	

ABSENT: Jeffrey Jenkins, John Rotondo

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

Item 1. RESOLUTION TC22-193: Moved by Mr. Reale, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio

BE IT RESOLVED, That the annual budget for the Town of Trumbull for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010, as recommended by the Board of Finance and amended by the Town Council, be and the same is hereby adopted and that the sums stated therein as amended for their respective purposes be and the same are hereby appropriated.

The Chair stated the budget would be reviewed department by department. Any amendments to a particular department will be voted on when reviewing that department. A vote will be taken at the end of each sub-section. Votes will be taken on the total of the budget and on the total of the enterprise funds. A final vote will be taken on the grand total.

01 –

Technology

Mr. Altieri recused himself and left the room at 7:42 p.m. His son works in this department. He was replaced by Vice Chairman Reale.

Mr. Pescatore moved to amend account #522204 (Services & Fees - Contractual), with a reduction of \$21,000 taking the amount to \$59,890, seconded by Mr. London.

Mr. Pescatore explained \$15,000 of the reduction is for secure internet, email and anti-virus and the \$6,000 reduction is for web hosting. He believes we are overpaying for these services. He did request information from Ms. Heim and Ms. Smith but feels the answers provided weren't really what he was looking for. Mr. Pescatore stated he made the same motion last year.

Mr. Molinoff stated he'd like to know if someone in the Technology Department had done a review and analysis of the changes. He stated he is concerned about taking action at the Council level without knowing if an appropriate analysis had been done by the Technology Department.

Mr. Scinto pointed out there's been a whole year in which to make the changes. Last year it was approved and then vetoed.

Ms. Thornton stated that she recalls the discussion from last year and that she did discuss it with the Director of Finance and members of the Technology Department. A review was done and she believes the monies we pay are because we are a municipality and we require specialized firewalls and specialized services.

Mr. DelVecchio does not have a background in this area. He stated it would have been helpful to him if information had been provided a couple of weeks ago to give him the opportunity to form a better judgment as to the motion.

VOTE: Failed 9-9 (Approved: Pescatore, Lamberti, Mark, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro)

*Acting Chairman Reale voted on this item.

Moved by Mr. Pescatore to amend account #581888 (Capital Outlay), with a reduction of \$2,000 taking the amount to \$6,400, seconded by Ms. Testani.

Mr. Pescatore stated that due to the economy he'd like to see this account reduced to last year's level.

Mr. Molinoff stated he does not know what the \$2,000 represents. If someone else knows, he is willing to listen but if not, then it would just be cutting blindly.

VOTE: Failed 8-9 (Approved: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro)

*Acting Chairman Reale did not vote on this item.

Chairman Altieri returned to the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Town Attorneys

Moved by Ms. Testani, seconded by Mr. Pescatore to amend account #501101 (Salaries-FT/Permanent), with a reduction of \$33,669 taking the amount to \$98,945.

Ms. Testani stated the Town has gotten by in the past with fewer attorneys. She proposes cutting one part time position in consideration of the financial climate.

Mr. Rappa stated the Town Attorneys attend just about all the meetings in Town. He appreciates having one in attendance at committee meetings. If the position is cut, then coverage will not be the same.

VOTE: Failed 9-9 (Approved: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

Town Hall

Moved by Ms. Deyoe, seconded by Mr. Scinto to amend account #522208 (Contributions), with a reduction of \$22,830 taking the amount to \$20,250.

Ms. Deyoe explained we did not have CCM last year and we got through it alright. In this financial climate this amount should be reduced.

Ms. Thornton stated this was discussed at the Finance Committee level. Through a reverse audit, CCM saved us \$23,000 per month on our U.I. electric bill until 2012. She believes this is good justification to keep the group in the hope of finding other monies.

VOTE: Failed 8-10 (Approved: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

01 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$15,486,547

02 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$9,588,402

-03

Public Works – Street Lights

Moved by Mr. London, seconded by Mr. Pescatore to amend account #590015 (Utilities-Traffic Lights), with a reduction of \$19,658 taking the amount to \$373,502.

Mr. London stated he believes this 5% reduction is easy to accomplish.

Ms. Testani explained that Monroe doesn't have street lights and their safety isn't compromised.

Mr. Reale stated he is all for making decreases and saving money but not at the expense of public safety. He pointed out that the heading of this line item is "Utilities-Traffic Lights".

Mr. Molinoff explained there is no opportunity to discuss with the experts since they are not here tonight. They were available at the committee meeting and that's when the discussion should have occurred. Had that happened, Council would have had the opportunity to review and discuss in order to understand the issues and make their own judgment of what they think is best. The ramifications of a cut would be known.

Ms. Mark stated they're trying to cut as much as possible due to the economy. She suggested the Public Works Department could figure out the best way to implement it.

Mr. Ciocci explained there are a couple of different ways this could be done without affecting safety. It doesn't mean a particular part of town has to be blacked out.

Ms. Bochet suggested the issue be explored and that the Police look at it from a safety point of view. Then if it appears to be feasible, do it next time.

VOTE: Failed 9-9 (Approved: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

03 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$8,179,388

04 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$293,105

05 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$600,298

06 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$92,303,377

07 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$1,516,922

08 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$2,190,032

09 ACCOUNTS REMAIN UNCHANGED: \$4,410,398

TOTAL GENERAL FUND REMAINS UNCHANGED: \$134,568,469

VOTE ON TOTAL: Adopted 10-9 (Opposed: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item.

SEWER - WPCA- ENTERPRISE FUND REMAINS UNCHANGED: \$4,976,276

VOTE: Passed 10-9 (Opposed: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item.

TASHUA KNOLLS ENTERPRISE FUND REMAINS UNCHANGED: \$2,010,998

VOTE: Passed 10-9 (Opposed: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item.

GRAND TOTAL BUDGET REMAINS UNCHANGED: \$141,484,113

VOTE: Passed 10-9 (Opposed: Pescatore, Lamberti, Ciocci, London, Scinto, Deyoe, Testani, Massaro, Mark)

*Chairman Altieri voted on this item.

Mr. Helfrich moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. DeVecchio. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. with unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Lusebrink,
Council Clerk