Town of Trumbull

CONNECTICUT
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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

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AUGUST 3, 2026
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. 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:

PRESENT:	Ashley Gaudiano	Joy Colon	Carl Massaro
	Christine El Eris	William Mecca	Jason Marsh
	Jennifer Winschel	John Foreman	Kelly Mallozzi
	Mary Isaac	Tony Scinto	Jerrod Ferrari
	Matthew Dunn	Michael Buswell	Richard Wolf
	Brian Walsh	Steven Spillane	Thomas Broderick
	Ann Sather (via teleconference)		

ABSENT: Nicole Satin, Anthony Dorsey

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro (via videoconference), Chief Administrative Officer Kathleen McGannon, Town Attorney Daniel Schopick, Chief of Police Michael Lombardo, Director of Public Works George Estrada, Public Works Director of Operations Rich Infante, Parks Superintendent Dmitri Paris, Registrar of Voters Jean Rabinow, Finance Director Maria Pires

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved by Colon, seconded by Winschel to approve July 13, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted. VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was one person present who wished to speak about a non-agenda item, (Per Town Council Rules & Regulations, this is not allowed).
There were two (2) people present to speak to an agenda item, (See public comment attached).

By unanimous consent the Town Council took Resolution TC31-53 out of order.

1. RESOLUTION TC31-53: Moved by Massaro, seconded by Mecca

BE IT RESOLVED, That Vicki A. Tesoro, First Selectman, is hereby authorized as the individual authorized to sign the grant application to the Connecticut Secretary of the State, and all subsequent contracts, amendments, reports and related documents in order to administer and implement the early voting program. (Full Resolution Attached)

Committee Report: The Finance Committee met on July 27, 2026, and voted unanimously.

VOTE: ADOPTED by unanimous consent
Moved by Colon, seconded by Mecca to PASS as Emergency Legislation.
VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

DISCUSSION: Proposed E-Bike Ordinance

The Chair introduced the concept of a potential e-bike ordinance and explained Chief Lombardo and Town Attorney Schopick have been collaborating on it.

Chief Lombardo explained the challenges with e-bikes, including conflicting interpretations of the park's ordinance and state law. The Chief described efforts to educate youth and enforce rules, including the use of additional police officers and community policing. He mentioned a grant was recently awarded to them to buy helmets, other safety equipment, and plans to provide safety tips at upcoming events.

Points of discussion, questions and concerns are as follows:

- Enforcement of e-bikes in school parking lots and trails was questioned. It was confirmed there is a BOE e-bike policy.
- It was suggested teaching rules of the road and e-bike safety could be integrated into gym curriculum.
- Chief Lombardo clarified that the park's ordinance currently allows e-bikes on roads but not on trails.
- It was requested that 15-11 of the Town Code be circulated to the full Council.
- There was an inquiry about the current fines for e-bike violations and the possibility of increasing them.
- Attorney Schopick suggested involving the schools in educating students about e-bike safety and rules.
- The classifications of e-bikes under state law and the town's authority to legislate by ordinance was questioned. It was clarified towns do not have the authority to change the classifications.
- Attorney Schopick explained the challenges with age-specific legislation and the need for clear definitions in the ordinance.
- First Selectman Tesoro emphasized how serious they take this situation; this is not only a serious problem in the state of CT but all over the country. Most municipalities are dealing with the same issue. She and her administration have spent a lot of time reviewing the present ordinance and state law. They have met with our delegation and will continue to do so because they really need to go back and do some more work in order to put more restrictions into the ordinance to have more teeth into it. They will be

able to do more to revise the current ordinance to help enforce state law and keep everyone and especially our youth safe.

- Chief Lombardo emphasized the importance of parental responsibility, the need for more enforcement and education.
- The need for appropriate lighting and/or reflectors on e-bikes in the dark was discussed
- Dmitri Paris discussed the park ordinance and the town's efforts to prohibit e-bikes in park properties.
- Currently the fine for e-bikes on a trail is $25, there have been discussions on increasing that.
- Defined bike lanes by striping were suggested.
- It was confirmed a Pedestrian Master Plan is currently being worked on.
- Overall, it was agreed this is a safety issue for both e-bike riders, walkers & vehicular traffic and there is a need for a town ordinance.
- A draft e-bike ordinance will be prepared and should be ready to be circulated ahead of the September committee meeting.

2. RESOLUTION TC31-52: Moved by Marsh, seconded by Mallozzi
   BE IT RESOLVED, THAT $829,409 is hereby appropriated from the Fund Balance to various accounts. (Schedule Attached)

   Committee Report: The reading of the Committee Report was waived by unanimous consent.

   Snow/Salt/Repairs:

   - Councilman Massaro questioned the snow and salt the budget overrun expressing concern about the lack of authorization for additional expenditures.
   - Maria Pires noted she would come before the board more often to update the status of these accounts.
   - George Estrada explained the reasons for the overrun, many of the storms were over weekends and sometimes running into the following Monday, or on holidays and the high cost of salt and the need for continuous purchases during the winter. More storms lead to more snowplow repairs. He highlighted the challenges of managing snow removal during a difficult winter and the importance of having a reliable salt supplier which the town does. Our town had salt available while many other towns ran out. He explained at one point there was concern that the state would need to take some.

   Tree Maintenance Budget:

   - Dmitri Paris apologized for not providing regular updates to the board of finance on tree maintenance and storm events. He thought it was happening. He explained the process of determining the urgency and responsibility for tree maintenance, emphasizing the need for safety and liability considerations.
   - It was confirmed the town was not eligible for FEEMA funds for the microburst storm.
   - It was clarified that the report differentiates between calls from residents, town-determined responsibilities and provides detailed case notes for each event.

- It is the town's practice of taking on the cost of removing trees from town property The town conducts surveys to determine property lines and ensures that the responsibility is clearly defined.
- Dmitri Paris further explained that the town takes down trees due to severity of failure, even if they are on private property, and attempts to get restitution. The town sends certified letters to residents to inform them of the responsibility and hazard, and then proceeds with removal.

Tree Diseases and Natural Failure:

- Dmitri Paris explained that certain trees have shorter lifespans and that natural disasters are common, especially with invasive diseases like the emerald ash borer
- The town is currently dealing with beech leaf disease, which is caused by nematode in the bud of the leaf and takes several years to cause tree failure.
- Beech trees are commonly found in parks and undeveloped areas, and the town anticipates a significant number of tree removals in the next two to three years.

Utility Companies and Tree Maintenance:

- It was clarified that utility companies are responsible for pruning trees that pose a hazard to power lines, but the town is responsible for cleaning up after them.
- The town's role is limited to removing hazards that utility companies do not address, and the town often incurs additional expenses for full tree removals.
- As part the utility company's ground-to-sky clearing program they have removed trees and required signed permission by the homeowner.

Moved by Colon, seconded by Massaro to reduce the total amount by $58,940 (BOE Interest on Bonds) total amount is $770,469.

- The source of the BOE bond interest is not covered by the contingency fund, it can be covered/transferred within the department's accounts.
- Maria Pires explained that the fiscal year's contingency fund is a reserve for unemployed workers' comp and other funds such as unsettled labor agreements.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

Maria Pires explained the source of the additional bonded interest was due to the town borrowing more than initially budgeted for due to projects being completed ahead of time.

Councilman Massaro noted that the town knew the bond interest expense in March. Maria Pires noted the excess is reviewed monthly with the Board of Finance.

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

	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mike Buswell	✓		
Mary Isaac	✓		

Steven Spillane	✓		
Bill Mecca	✓		
Ann Sather	✓		
Ashley Gaudiano	✓		
Jennifer Winschel	✓		
Christine El Eris	✓		
Richard Wolf	✓		
Jason Marsh	✓		
Carl Massaro		✓	
John Foreman	✓		
Thomas Broderick	✓		
Matt Dunn	✓		
Joy Colon	✓		
Brian Walsh	✓		
Kelly Mallozzi	✓		
Tony Scinto		✓	
Jerrod Ferrari	✓		

VOTE: ADOPTED as amended 17-2 (AGAINST: Massaro, Scinto)

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss the Trumbull Town Council adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni
Margaret D. Mastroni
Clerk

FULL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Act 25-168, the Connecticut Secretary of the State will provide a grant to each municipality of at least $5,000 for costs related to implementing and conducting early voting; and

WHEREAS, additional funds will be allocated to municipalities according to a formula, with the Town of Trumbull receiving a total of $24,725.09; and

WHEREAS, grants will be distributed as soon as possible and towns must report expenditure within 30 days of fully expending funds, and no later than June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, acceptable utilization of funds includes costs directly tied to changes necessary to implement early voting; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Trumbull will utilize the funding for regular and overtime pay for office/election workers who have access to the Centralized Voter Registration System (CVRS), additional pay for EV workers who take new training, including training on using the new tabulators during the entire period of EV, regular and overtime pay for police officers to escort ballots and supplies to and from the EV site at the Library, creating, printing and distributing new dual-language voter information postcards, including translating the postcards into Spanish and paying a state-approved translator for that service, and updating the Town's web pages and FAQs about EV with information in both English and Spanish, again including paying a state-approved translator.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Vicki A. Tesoro, First Selectman, is hereby authorized as the individual to sign the grant application to the Connecticut Secretary of the State, and all subsequent contracts, amendments, reports and related documents in order to administer and implement the early voting program.

TOWN OF TRUMBULL					
PROPOSED YEAR END SUPPLEMENTALS					
FY 2026					
				BOF/TC	**BALANCE**
ITEM #	**ACCOUNT**	**ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION**	**AVAIL BUDGET**	**SUPPL**	**AFTER SUPPL**
07-26-02	**FROM:**	FUND BALALNCE		**555,946.00**	
	TO:	**SNOW REMOVAL**			
	01-0301-01-501105-	SALARIES-OT	(253,384.54)	253,385.00	0.46
	01-0301-01-534402-	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	(302,560.33)	302,561.00	0.67
				555,946.00	
		DUE TO VARIOUS STORMS DURING THE WEEKENDS			
07-26-03	**FROM:**	FUND BALALNCE		**101,523.00**	
	TO:	**TREE WARDEN**			
	01-0808-00-522205-	PROGRAM EXPENSES	(57,635.50)	57,650.00	14.50
	01-0808-00-578806-	EMERGENCY SERVICES	(43,872.50)	43,873.00	0.50
				101,523.00	
		DUE TO TREE STORMS			
07-26-04	**FROM:**	FUND BALALNCE		**171,940.00**	
	TO:	**DEBT SERVICES-INTEREST ON BONDS**			
	TO:				
	01-0600-00-595888-	BOE-INTEREST ON BONDS	(58,935.83)	**58,940.00**	4.17
	01-0900-00-595888-	TOWN-INTEREST ON BONDS	(112,985.65)	**113,000.00**	14.35
				171,940.00	
		DUE TO ADDITIONAL BORROWING			
		TOTAL-ALL SUPPLEMENTALS		**829,409.00**	

Reduced at 8/3/2026 Mtg- (58,935.83)

New Total 770,469

Public Comment

1. Winston Chou of 141 Royals Court raised concerns about e-bikes on trails, noting conflicting interpretations of the town ordinance and state law. He explained & described a meeting he attended with the police chief and other officials to address the issue, highlighting the need for clearer definitions and enforcement.

2. Janice Feher of 110 Whitney Avenue shared her concerns about safety on the trails, particularly with e-bikes, and supported the need for better enforcement.