Town Council
# Town of Trumbull
CONNECTICUT
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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

TELEPHONE
(203) 452-5000

RULES & RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 31, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7”00 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PRESENT: Joy Colon, Chairman, Jennifer Winschel, Vice Chairman, Bill Mecca, Steve Spillane, Tony Scinto, John Foreman, Matt Dunn, Alternate (not voting), Brian Walsh, Alternate (not voting)

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro, Chief Administrative Officers Cynthia Katske, Kathleen McGannon, Town Attorney Daniel Schopick, Town Council Chairman Ashley Gaudiano, Town Council Members Jerrod Ferrari and Carl Massaro

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1. RESOLUTION TC31-54: Moved by Scinto, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of Arnold Gerst as a member of the Land Acquisition Committee for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2027 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - Arnold Gerst of 19 Hillston Road was present and indicated his party affiliation as independent.
   - He and his wife moved to Trumbull four years ago from New Jersey to be closer to their children who live in the area.
   - Was a lawyer for 50 years before relocating to CT and has experience working with municipal bodies. He represented 15-20 municipalities, has appeared before many boards and commissions in N.J and is currently active in the Trumbull Rotary.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

2. RESOLUTION TC31-55: Moved by Winschel, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of George Christian as a member of the Land Acquisition Committee for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2029 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - George Christian of 11 Red Fox Lane was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat.
   - He has been a resident since the early 90's. He raised his son here who went through the Trumbull school system and graduated from Trumbull High School.
   - He has served as a trustee of the trust that supports the Fairchild Nichols library for 20 years.
   - He is retired now and looking for opportunities to serve Trumbull.

   VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

3. RESOLUTION TC31-56: Moved by Foreman, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of Kevin Kroszner as a member of the Land Acquisition Committee for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2028 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - Kevin Kroszner of 685 Orchard Street was present and indicated his party affiliation is independent.
   - He has lived in Trumbull for most of his life, he moved here right before middle school, went to Trumbull High School and is raising his children here.
   - He indicated he works for an online travel agency.
   - He would like to give back to the community and to continue to make Trumbull a great place to live.

   VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

4. RESOLUTION TC31-57: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Winschel

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox as a member of the Land Acquisition Committee for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2026 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox of 36 Overlook Place was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat.
   - He and his wife have lived in Trumbull since 2005

- Has been a history professor at Western Connecticut State University since 2004. His main area of expertise is East and Southeast Asian history but has a strong interest in land use policy.
- This is an educational interest for him, having grown up in the Bay Area in California, and has seen both the pluses of a wonderful national and regional park system, and some of the problems that come with inordinate amount of land being in public hands is something he has an academic interest in.
- He has been looking to give his support in the form of volunteer-ship to the town of Trumbull, and when he was made aware of this opportunity, it was something he was interested in for those reasons.
- It was confirmed Jennifer Sommer is the last sitting member of this committee.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

5. RESOLUTION TC31-58: Moved by Foreman, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of Maxwell Palmer as a member of the Trumbull Education and Government Access Television Commission for a term extending to the first Monday of December 2027 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - Maxwell Palmer of 25 Norwood Terrace was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat.
   - Has been a Trumbull resident for 18 years and has two children in the school system.
   - He has been the head of the Middlebrook Fathers' Club.
   - Professionally he is a creative director in the finance industry and also has a small video production business usually doing private events such as weddings and school plays.
   - He would like to volunteer to be able to give back to the community and feels his particular set of skills would be useful.
   - It was confirmed he will be replacing James Haulund.

   VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

6. RESOLUTION TC31-59: Moved by Winschel, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment by the First Selectman of Michael DeFeo as a member of the Golf Course Commission for a term extending to the first Monday of 2028 be and the same is hereby approved.

   - Michael DeFeo of 1375 Huntington Turnpike was present and indicated his party affiliation as independent.
   - Has been a lifelong Trumbull resident with the exception 5 years when he purchased his first house in Bridgeport.

- He is a retired sales professional and ran a small family business as a manufacturer's representative in the HVAC industry for 45 years. Of the 45 years he ran that business for 35 years.
- He has various rental properties and also has managed properties for the family. He has a degree in accounting from the University of Rhode Island and has had his real estate license for 20 years, but mostly did real estate for family and friends.
- Because he is now retired, he would like to offer his expertise to the golf commission. Tashua Knolls is one of the top-rated public courses in the state and would like to help maintain that.
- It was confirmed this appointment was due to a vacancy.

*Moved by Colon, seconded by Mecca to amend by adding the word "December" after the phrase "the first Monday of".
VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED as amended by unanimous consent.

7. RESOLUTION TC31-60: Moved by Dunn, seconded by Mecca

   BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull that the appointment of Paul Timpanelli to the Representative Policy Board of the Aquarion Water Authority is hereby confirmed for a term ending June 30, 2028, or until a successor is duly appointed and confirmed. (Full Resolution Attached)

   - Paul Timpanelli of 5628 Main Street was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat.
   - Has lived in Trumbull since 1954 and is a graduate of the Trumbull school system. Has a bachelor's degree from Sacred Heart University, a master's degree at St. John's and a second master's degree at the University of Delaware in Association Management. He has been involved in the town of Trumbull in an appointed or elected position since 1971. Almost all those years serving in some capacity or another, he served in elected office for 24 years, and appointed office for 8 or 10 years.
   - First Selectman Larry Hyman, a republican appointed him as a member of the Conservation Commission and then graduated to the founding chairman of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, which serves as the root of his interest in this position. The RPA is going to be a significant step in a new direction for our regional water company. In his experience as a member of the Conservation Commission and the Wetlands Commission, that there's nothing more important to the quality of life than the quality of our water.
   - He thinks people with direct government experience are needed. He has not only served locally, but also served the state of Connecticut and three different governors, two of whom were Republican in various capacities on the state level. So, this position is one which provides a great deal of authority to those that are appointed. There are 59 members to this body within this body's purview are the

issues of water rate, water quality, water reliability, as well as spending for property acquisitions and bonding authorities to keep our water supply reliable and clean.

- He has an interest in doing this, and hopefully will have the town council's your support.
- It was confirmed he could serve on the BOF and this commission because this is not a Town of Trumbull commission.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED by unanimous consent.

ADJORNMENT: There being no further business to discuss and upon motion made by Mecca, seconded by Foreman the R&R Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni

Margaret D. Mastroni, Clerk

FULL RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TC31-60:

AQUARION WATER AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Town of Trumbull is entitled to representation on the Representative Policy Board of the Aquarion Water Authority; and

WHEREAS, the First Selectman has submitted the appointment of Paul Timpanelli to serve as the Town of Trumbull's representative; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed said appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Trumbull that the appointment of Paul Timpanelli to the Representative Policy Board of the Aquarion Water Authority is hereby confirmed for a term ending June 30, 2028, or until a successor is duly appointed and confirmed.