

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 5, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber by Chairman Zacchio. Members present: Mrs. Maguire and Messrs: Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Zacchio.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

15/16-60 Amend/Restate Pension Ordinance, Chapter 2 Article II Section 21

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Chairman Zacchio. Chairman Zacchio waived the reading of the following legal notice:

"TOWN OF AVON
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Avon, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, Selectman's Chamber, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT to consider the following:

To consider and permit all interested persons to speak on the plan of the Town Council to amend and restate, as required by the Internal Revenue Service the Town of Avon 401 (a) Plan for Full-Time Employees/ 401(a) Money Purchase Plan.

A copy of the proposed amendments is on file on the Avon Town Clerk's Office and open to the public for inspection during normal business hours.

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 8th day of April, 2016.

Brandon L. Robertson, Town Manager"

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council close the public hearing.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Speich, Stokesbury, and Pena voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the amendment and restatement, as required by the Internal Revenue Service the Town of Avon 401 (a) Plan for Full-Time Employees/ 401(a) Money Purchase Plan for the Pension Ordinance, Chapter 2, Article II, Section 21.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Speich, Stokesbury, and Pena voted in favor.

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: April 7, 2016

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the April 7, 2016 Meeting as submitted.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor. Mr. Pena abstained.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council add agenda item 15/16-77 Approve Eagle Scout Proclamations to the agenda under New Business.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Speich, Stokesbury, and Pena voted in favor.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Adam Lazinsk, 88 Deepwood Drive, commented that from time to time he also attends the Board of Education meetings and prior to them he looks at the agenda and noted that they also post the packets that the members receive. He commented that during the course of your deliberation on any Council night he will hear about the packets that you received, he recognizes that the material is public information, but no easy access to it. He asked if it was possible to scan the packets into the computer system like the Board of Education does in the form of a PDF. Chairman Zacchio asked the Town Manager to look into it and figure out how that might be done. Mr. Stokesbury commented that confidential items would be an exception. Mr. Lazinsk suggested that even if it is done after the fact. Chairman Zacchio responded that the agendas are posted, we do not scan the entire but we certainly can.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Stokesbury commented that the Avon High School Booster Club is having their big fundraiser this Monday with the Migli Golf Tournament at the Avon Country Club.

Mrs. Maguire commended Chairman Zacchio for the handling of the Town Meeting; the presentations were very informative and there was a lot of communication. She reported that she attended the AHS synthetic turf field meeting on Monday morning – a preliminary meeting about what has already occurred, the overall plan, and plan going forward, getting to know each other, the process, and their next meeting will be held on May 16th will be much longer with a checklist of things to go through. She commended Mr. Pena on a wonderful National Day of Prayer that he and Steve Wilson put together and thanked Mr. Pena for taking it on every year. She commented that Avon Education Foundation gives money to the schools, Senior Center and Library and will be having their big fundraiser starting this weekend with an online auction through E-bay and more information will come out through the Town's web site.

Mr. Pena reported that he attended the Lion's Club and Horse Guard fundraiser a few weeks ago that was well attended. He noted that when budgets come we always hear about the threat of possibly shutting down the Horse Guard. He commented that the Library has a great presentation with the VFW Post on display and encourages everyone to stop by and look at it.

Mr. Speich commented on the budget workshop and how well all three boards worked together even with the hard decisions having being made about the reduction in State funding and we came to a great conclusion. He commented on the dumpsters in the front of Town Hall and

asked if there was any way that they can be moved as it takes away from the beauty of the Town Hall. The Town Manager responded that he will talk with Public Works.

Chairman Zacchio commented that when the State budget comes around and talks about cuts, the Horse Guard has been a major point of contention and where they might consolidate at some point; we had a budget battle last time and the Council did a proclamation helping the Horse Guard and raise some public awareness on it. He noted that he went on a tour of the barns with Commandant Chris Miller last week to understand where they are with budget right now and to look at the site. He added that there is some legislation that they think will pass giving them ability to lease stalls to private horse owners and expects it to pass this session. He was shocked to see that there were only nine horses in the barn while there are more than fifty stalls. He noted that leasing the stalls would raise revenue and hopefully close that gap and put them in a more self-sustaining position. He commented that the Horse Guard is a staple in Avon and has been at that site since the 1950s, we would hate to see the State do something different with it, and like to see it remain as it is today. Chairman Zacchio also congratulated Mr. Pena who has decided to run for the 8th Senate seat currently held by Senator Witkos and he will campaign very hard and has been a public servant in Avon for a number of years and volunteers in other aspects. He noted that getting involved in public service you have to have a spirit for it and Mr. Pena has that. He congratulated him and wished him well.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

15/16-05 FY 16/17 Budget Development

The Town Manager reported that the Budget Referendum is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11th. He participated in a CCM webinar earlier this morning to hear where things stand. He noted that in terms of revenues there is a lot of movement; we are not one of the communities dealing with the capped mill rate motor vehicle tax this year because in Senate Bill 1 that was adopted last year towns that had a mill rate in FY 17 above 32.5 for motor vehicles were going to be taxed at that, there was going to be a State grant revenue to offset some of that lost income and some would have to be made up by an increase in real estate and personal property. He noted that yesterday the 32.5 mills has been increased to 37.0 mills but still does not affect Avon. He reported that our ECS funding will be reduced which is what we planned for and it appears that the worst case scenario is \$13,000 higher than we included in the budget and can absorb in the budget. He noted that we solved for a \$348,000 problem and the actual is \$362,000, netting out the \$125,000 in revenue. He reported that our budget is ready for referendum. He noted that the State is projecting that we will receive additional MRSA (Municipal Revenue Sharing Account) money in the amount of \$374,000 in FY 17; we have not budgeted for any of that and he does not think it will materialize as the source for MRSA funding is the State sharing a portion of sales tax revenue and there is no doubt that the State is going to find itself in the same situation by October 2016. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if there was any update on the 2.5% budget cap. The Town Manager responded the 2.5% budget cap is going to carry through and there has been activity around the exemptions to the spending increase cap including debt service, binding arbitration awards for collective bargaining, and legal judgements. He also noted that the State may include some language so if you have a population increase in your town it may give some relief from the cap. Chairman Zacchio commented that it would be good to have a turnout of more than 9%, whether it is up or down, as per Town Charter.

15/16-25 Appointment: Avon Water Pollution Control Authority (R - 12/31/2018)

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 15/16-25 Appointment: Avon Water Pollution Control Authority (U – 12/31/2018) to the June 2, 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

15/16-39 Appointment: Planning & Zoning Commission – Alternate (R–12/31/2017)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Stokesbury, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Jeff Fleischman as an alternate member to the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2017.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

15/16-42 Appointment: Wild & Scenic River Study Committee (R – 12/31/2017)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 15/16-42 Appointment: Wild & Scenic River Study Committee (R – 12/31/2017) to the June 2, 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

15/16-43 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (R – 12/31/2017)

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 15/16-43 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (R – 12/31/2017) to the June 2, 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

15/16-66 Appointment: Avon Clean Energy Commission (R – 12/31/2017)

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 15/16-66 Appointment: Avon Clean Energy Commission (R – 12/31/2017) to the June 2, 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Speich, Stokesbury, and Pena voted in favor.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

15/16-68 Approve Proclamation: Prince Thomas of Savoy Society's Centennial Birthday

Chairman Zacchio reported that Prince Thomas of Savoy, otherwise known as the Italian Club, of which many members are in attendance tonight are celebrating their centennial birthday in the spring. He added that they have been a part of our town for all of that period of time and a grass roots organization that has provided so much value to the people of Avon and the surrounding communities. He noted that we have a proclamation for them tonight.

Chairman Zacchio read the following proclamation as follows:

WHEREAS: The Prince Thomas of Savoy Society has its roots in our town dating back to 1892. Italian immigrants provided the needed workforce following the fatal accident at Ensign-Bickford in 1915.

WHEREAS: Prejudices that existed at the time, especially during the early 1900s, encouraged local Italians to unite as their own social community. On March 11, 1917 the Prince Thomas of Savoy Society's constitution was ratified by the State of Connecticut and the Society was born.

WHEREAS: In the 1930s and 1940s, the industrious and hard-working Italian immigrants built up Avon's economy by establishing themselves in the construction and building industries, providing jobs for hundreds of area citizens. Avon Old Farms School for Boys was built almost entirely by Italian immigrants who were, or would become, members of Prince Thomas.

WHEREAS: The Prince Thomas Society, now with approximately 250 members, has continued to thrive and grow over the years. Extensions and renovations to its home on Old Farms Road (dedicated in 1932) have been on-going. Its administrations have been aggressive in their promotion of Italian culture, and the Society's traditions are vigorously maintained through its music, its games, its food, and general social camaraderie.

WHEREAS: By direction of the then Society president, the by-laws were re-written in 1997 allowing non-Italians to become members. Its doors are now open to all regardless of nationality, religion, race or social status.

WHEREAS: In 1952 the Society adopted the Women's Auxiliary, made up mainly of the spouses of its members, to maintain much of the Society's functionality. Its membership currently exceeds 150 dedicated women.

WHEREAS: The Society has become one of Avon's major centers for social gatherings via its various programs such as bocce, darts, horseshoes, a singing group, card tournaments and with annual picnics, monthly dinner-dances, food fairs and a number of "on-the-fly" activities. The building and grounds are meticulously and constantly maintained. The Society declares its prominence in the community through the songs of its singing group... I Cantori (The Singers)... which performs for many of the area organizations with their musical promotion and preservation of old Italian folksongs.

WHEREAS: The most important Society and Auxiliary activity is the awarding of significant and generous annual scholarships to aspiring and deserving seniors or to scholars already enrolled in a college curriculum.

WHEREAS: The Prince Thomas of Savoy Society has, since 1945, provided a home and base of operations for Avon's very active VFW and its Auxiliary (Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States), Gildo T. Consolini Post 3272. The Post is named for a late member of the Society, the first Avon soldier to be killed-in-action in WWII. The bridge over the Farmington River in Avon is named in his honor. An honor roll of those WWII veterans can be found near the front entrance at 32 Old Farms Road. The Society also pays great tribute to all of its deceased members

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Mark Zacchio, Chairman of the Town Council of Avon, Connecticut, do hereby proclaim that the 11th day of March, 2017 to be the Prince Thomas of Savoy Society's Centennial Birthday, and the entire year of 2017 to be the Society's Jubilee Celebration of 100 years of preserved heritage and culture...as:

A YEAR OF CONTINUED COMMUNITY SPIRIT

...in the Town of Avon, and to encourage the citizens of Avon to support the activities of the Society in its endeavors throughout the year, and to enhance the integrity of its programs and projects. I am honored to affix my signature to this proclamation on this, the 5th day of May, 2016.

15/16-69 Comprehensive Energy Management Plan-Performance Analysis

Bernie Zahren, Chairman, Avon Clean Energy Commission introduced Adam Teff, Consultant with Titan Energy, who put together the ACEC Performance Analysis report. Mr. Zahren reported that we started working on this in 2010 and in 2012 we had a consultant help us with the baseline numbers and set this goal based on a uniform metric of energy used per square foot of building space that we had in the Town and Board of Education facilities and put that into BTUs. He noted that we took the kilowatts for the electricity, gasoline and diesel usage, oil and natural gas usage, put it into one big pot, use 2008 as a baseline and we said our goal was by FY 14/15 to reduce by 15%. He is very pleased to report that we did much better than that goal and a lot of was in the schools and deserve credit for their aggressive push to get people to turn off lights, turn off computers, etc. and the Clean Energy Commission ran a couple challenges in the schools to get the students to reduce energy. Chairman Zacchio commented that Gary Mala and the Board of Education did an excellent job of culture change about turning things off and it really makes a big difference.

Mr. Zahren commented that the Commission feels there are places that we could attack going forward which we want to do. He added that we did not even have the solar panels on the two schools and Public Works facility and in service yet until the end of FY 14/15. He noted that it is something to celebrate and should do some sort of press event and acknowledge what we have accomplished and where we want to go. He commented that energy use is not going to get by just turning off lights but have to do more aggressive analysis of where we are using too much. He noted that we are part of this Clean Communities challenge of which he attended a conference in February with about 70 towns there. He commented that we have set guidelines to reduce our carbon footprint and the irony is that we have reduced our energy use under this energy index per square foot but our entire carbon emissions for the Town and Board of Education facilities have actually still increased partly because of the increase in square footage at the Library and the minor square footage increase with the Board of Education. He noted that we cannot say that we met every single goal and we have a bigger challenge to continue to reduce our carbon footprint not just for the Town facilities but for the residents, businesses, etc. He commented that the Commission has met twice, one as a sub-committee with the Town Planner and then with the development director for Carpionato Group and have proposed a list of things the Commission would like to see in the new Town development to be sustainable and energy conserving. He added that the director was receptive as long as it does not make it too expensive. He noted that one thing we talked about several years ago in front of the Council was the micro grid concept which are becoming a very popular thing and he attended a session last week at Pace University in New York where they have entire study group that will do studies for you on micro grids. He commented that we have many incentives in Connecticut and this new Town center and the Town Hall facilities would make a wonderful application for a micro grid and the ability to run these facilities even if the entire grid was down and also be saving energy on an ongoing basis by generating your own power and heat. He added that as part of the new charge for the Commission they would like to address issues with the new Town center.

Adam Teff made a presentation (a copy of which is included and made part of these minutes). He reported that he started work on the performance analysis of the original Avon Clean Energy Commission (ACEC) Plan in February, going through utility bills, interviews with people involved with the implantation of some of these energy conservation measures, touring the sites

himself, communicating with Solar City to get most up-to-date information about the solar installed at the schools and Public Works and led to the offering of this analysis. He noted that the energy use index (EUI) comparison is the preferred metric because it takes into effect your energy use relative to square footage. He added that a kBtu or 1,000 British thermal unit is a way to reference the amount of energy it takes to heat one pound of water at 1 degree of Fahrenheit. He noted that part of the value of the EUI measurement is that you compare to most like property in your geography and in New England the Board of Education buildings can be in a 60-80 range on the EUI scale. He noted that the Board of Education started at 95 in FY 07/08 and ended up at 62 in FY 14/15; very positive movement due to energy conservation measures and behavioral changes. He added that the Town will see the majority of the benefit in FY 15/16 from solar generation. He highlighted the Town numbers as well but noted that these buildings are much more diverse with the police station where the lights are always on versus the library as a low density user. Mr. Speich inquired about the reduction in oil consumption. Mr. Teff responded that the library has abandoned the use of oil and natural gas and relies on the geo thermal system now. Mr. Zahren noted that you are using more electricity to pump the geo thermal system.

Mr. Teff commented on vehicle data usage which peaked in FY 13/14 when new vehicles were introduced to the Town's fleet and there are pretty strict anti-idling regulations. Chairman Zacchio commented that he has read about switching vehicles to propane or natural gas and asked if there is any focus on that in our future or buy us anything in terms of efficiency. Mr. Zahren responded that all new technologies will be more efficient. He commented that charging stations for the new Town center would be a positive statement.

Mr. Teff commented that CO2 emissions with the municipal buildings in FY 15/16 have been flat and can contribute to that the Library expansion and increase use of electricity at that site and a number we can expect to turn around. He noted that the school buildings have been very positive changes from FY 07/08 to FY 14/15 to the tune of 25% and in FY 15/16 we expect that to be around 30% once you have a full 12 months of the solar being active at the schools. Mr. Stokesbury questioned how electricity being used generates CO2. Mr. Teff responded that we take into account offsite generation. Mr. Stokesbury commented that we are captive to their technology. Mr. Zahren responded that we are a fairly high nuclear base so ours is not that bad versus other states that use more coal and natural gas. Mr. Speich questioned if there has been talk about carbon trading between municipalities. Mr. Zahren responded that we have this program in the northeast where there is a penalty on the utilities for what they generate and the money goes into the general energy efficiency fund and the green bank funding that we have in CT. He noted that we buy renewable energy credits (RECs) as an offset against our carbon emissions and partly how we are meeting our objectives with the clean communities' pledge that we made. Mr. Teff noted CO2 emissions for all vehicles. He added that when you put it all together, the Board of Education, all Town buildings, and vehicles, the aggregate is just under 28% and if you compare to FY 08 to FY 15 you are over the line once you start factoring in solar. He noted the solar power footnote.

Mr. Teff highlighted the Avon Clean Energy Commission (ACEC) goals. He noted that the Board of Education still needs a system to track use and cost in a more systematic way. He noted that for streetlights the Town would have the option to purchase those from Eversource and convert them to a higher efficiency in an LED fixture and the Town can explore as there is

an existing inventory. Chairman Zacchio commented that he would like to see the cost benefit analysis on that. Mr. Zahren commented that “Town-Wide” on the goals includes Town and Board of Education facilities and does not include private residences or businesses. Mr. Teff commented that the Town had done a great job engaging with Solarize CT. Mr. Zahren noted that we had over 200 homes that qualified based on their roof, etc. and the closing rate was approximately 30 homes with new solar. He added that we should be promoting commercial buildings as they make good open space for solar panels and continue to promote it to residents. Mr. Teff highlighted the Clean Energy Communities goals. He noted that they are voluntary but when you meet certain goals you are awarded points which lead to incentive dollars. Mr. Zahren reported that we ran programs that qualifies for the points and every time you get to 100 points you were entitled to another \$10,000 and have received several already and used some dollars to upgrade the air conditioning in this building. He added that he does not think those \$10,000 awards are going to continue after this State budget is passed and already suspending the awarding of any more points for now. He asked if the Town Manager if we have an application in the works. The Town Manager responded that he is working with the Director of Public Works and will talk to Mr. Teff to figure out what a good project would be. Chairman Zacchio commented that to Mr. Zahren’s point we should move on it before it disappears. Mr. Teff noted that participating in the Clean Energy Communities program has been exceptional for Avon. He added that are many opportunities for private entities and residents to engage in the same programs that the Town has and would serve everybody well.

Mr. Zahren thanked Mr. Teff for a wonderful job. Mr. Teff commented that it is nice to work with towns that are thoroughly invested. Chairman Zacchio commended Mr. Teff on a great presentation. He noted that it is good to see our movement since 2008 and has been a real partnership with the Board of Education and their ability as they have the largest of the buildings and their participation has been paramount with the Town being able to hit some of these goals and the Avon Clean Energy Commission (ACEC) has been outstanding in not only the original charge of identifying how these goals but bringing them to Council as often as you have and challenging us to continue to think about this and move forward in a way that hits those goals; it has been a great partnership all the way around. He noted that the ACEC is working with the Town Manager on what a new charge might look like and what we would like to see in the next 3-5 years and looking forward to seeing the ACEC before Council again. Mrs. Maguire questioned if this presentation has been shared with the Board of Education. Peggy Roell, Board of Education member, present in the audience, stated that it would be nice to have a one-page summary that the Superintendent of Schools could send out to the school district to say thanks and show what their hard work did and think of what else we could do to keep it up. She commented that it is a bigger community thing. Mr. Zahren commented that we should program a joint presentation with the press because what has been accomplished in the schools is quite remarkable to get those kinds of reductions in energy use without huge capital expenditures; you did it the hard way by telling people to use less energy. Mrs. Roell responded that it would be nice to get something from the ACEC to recognize the people in the schools who really did the hard work. Mr. Zahren agreed.

Chairman Zacchio asked the Town Manager to work with them on informing the community as these are big accomplishments by the Town and the Board of Education and what we have tried to do with the Avon Clean Energy Commission and the hard work that has gone into it. Mrs. Roell commented that the message might also include money saved in the budget.

15/16-70 Supplemental Appropriation: LGBT Moveable Senior Center Grant, \$450

Jennifer Bennett, Senior Center Coordinator, reported that they worked with the Simsbury and Canton Senior Centers to do LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) programming for older adults and started two years ago. She added that they linked up with Connecticut Community Care Inc., home care program for elders, and LGBT advocacy group and they went bigger with the programming. She noted that since this is our second year we now have auxiliary funding for a 2 or 3-hour program or for Avon being a full day will have a 5-hour program which includes a LGBT speaker and will occur in June (pride month). She noted that Avon has LGBT people in our community and the message is that the Senior Center is a safe space to come and the program is open to the entire state. She added that it also brings people to their regular programs as a result. Chairman Zacchio commented that this is our second year and questioned if we did the auxiliary last year. Ms. Bennett responded that the first year was different in how the funding came through. She noted that the amount changed from \$450 to up to \$500 once they looked at what was allocated for all of the senior centers to do their programming. Mr. Pena questioned if Canton and Simsbury will also receive up to \$500 each. Ms. Bennett responded yes, each town that participates a full day will get up to \$500 and the auxiliary will receive up to \$200. Chairman Zacchio thanked Ms. Bennett for her hard work.

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 15/16 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

Recreation Activities Fund, Other Local Revenues, Donations & Grants, Private Sources, Account #09-0360-43651 in the amount up to \$500.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

Recreation Activities Fund, Senior Citizens, Services-Other, Account #09-5301-52189 in the amount up to \$500.00, for the purpose of encouraging participation in the benefits that Connecticut Senior Centers provide, by offering the "Moveable LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Senior Center" programming to help create LGBT inclusive aging services.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-71 Technology Lease/Purchase Approval

Chairman Zacchio reported that the Board of Education has been leasing technology equipment over a number of years now and any lease with the Town needs to be approved by Council. He noted that the Superintendent of Schools has been very successful with the reverse auction process and getting the best prices and has saved the Town a lot of money. Mr. Stokesbury commented that more importantly it puts technology in the schools.

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Speich, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve a 48-month lease agreement between Dell Financial Services, LLC and Town of Avon for the Board of Education to secure 45 workstations and monitors for Avon High School.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-72 Set Public Hearing Date: Neighborhood Assistance Act

Chairman Zacchio reported that the Town is a conduit for folks who apply to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program and come through a public hearing process before Council; it is a State program, administered by the State which requires a public hearing and then the Town signs off that it was held.

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council set a public hearing to consider participation in the Neighborhood Assistance Act in accordance with Public Act 95-268 to be held at the June 2, 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-73 Approval of Real Estate Tax Refund, \$3,424.17

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve a real estate tax refund of \$3,424.17 to LoanCare Servicing.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-74 LoCIP Authorization

Chairman Zacchio reported that the LoCIP grant money is generally used to roll into the Pavement Management Program.

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to apply for a LoCIP grant in the amount of \$108,947.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-75 Resignation: Avon Clean Energy Commission (D – 12/31/2017)

Chairman Zacchio noted that Mitch Kennedy has been a valuable member of the Avon Clean Energy Commission and will be missed.

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Mitch Kennedy from the Avon Clean Energy Commission.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

15/16-77 Approve Eagle Scout Proclamations

Chairman Zacchio reported that four scouts, Michael Robert Frost, Samuel Michael Donahue, Ian James D'Arcangelo, and Geoffrey Bjorn Kirk, are being recognized by the Town for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout of Boy Scout Troop 274.

Chairman Zacchio read the following proclamation as follows:

RESOLVED: That the Avon Town Council present to Michael Robert Frost, Ian James D’Arcangelo, Samuel Michael Donahue, and Geoffrey Bjorn Kirk the following Proclamation:

May 5, 2016

Permit the Town Council to join your many friends in offering our heartiest congratulations upon your achievement as an Eagle Scout.

This is indeed an appropriate honor for the many years you have spent as a Boy Scout. As a Boy Scout you have had to show qualities of leadership, integrity, loyalty, and service to your troop, community, school, church, and your friends.

The high standards of the Boy Scouts of America are well known and your elevation to Eagle Scout most certainly attests to your fulfillment of their high standards.

Congratulations on your outstanding achievement!

Chairman Zacchio noted that Sam’s Eagle Scout project was the sign at Countryside Park and the other scouts did local projects as well. Mr. Stokesbury congratulated the Eagle Scout Advisor, Peggy Roell, for her hard work. Mrs. Roell invited Council to attend the ceremony on May 28th.

IX. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: The Town Manager reported that the Board of Finance appointed Blum Shapiro to continue as the Town’s Auditor for a five-year period beginning on July 1, 2016 and we are scheduling a kick-off meeting for the FY 16 audit and noted that there is a new partner being rotated in.

The Town Manager reported that the bids for Paperchase Trail/Hurdle Fence Drive Sanitary Sewer came back much higher than expected so the AWPCA will discuss and perhaps bid out as two separate projects or make other modifications to bring the bids down. Mr. Stokesbury questioned when that becomes an issue for the homeowners and if they have an ultimate say whether the project goes forward. The Town Manager responded that they have to be in favor of it. He noted that the Town Engineer thinks that if the projects can be separated the bids will come in lower and can stagger when they start and save on budget.

The Town Manager reported that an RFQ is out with responses due on May 16th and putting together a third-party review team for the Carpionato Group application for site plan and special permit that we are now expecting to get in August for the September meeting. He added that this would be for on-call services, engineer, architectural review, or anything that we might need to advise the Planning and Zoning Commission on the application. He noted that we have an ordinance in place to charge the applicant for these services.

The Town Manager reported that CDI-Infrastructure is doing an evaluation phase of the Town-wide radio system with an inventory of what the existing system is and give us a number of recommendations for improvements. He noted that he is very glad that Tom Kline is on board with this and has talked to him to understand the physics of the system and what we are looking for from the consultant. He added that the Committee will come before Council with a recommendation prior to any future action. He noted that this could potentially be a multi-million dollar project which means a bond authorization.

The Town Manager reported that new Engine 7 and Engine 11 are under construction with delivery in November and May respectively. He noted that a bid is in development for Company #4 to reinforce the floor and there are some improvements they want to make to the basement. He added that we have \$100,000 in capital budget for Fire Stations Improvements for FY 17 and should be more than sufficient to take care of Company #4 with funding leftover for improvements to other stations. Mr. Speich questioned if the basement work at Company #4 deals with the moisture/mold issue. He noted that under the energy audit they were very high in oil usage as they used to keep the temperatures above 72 degrees to ward off the mold and should help as a savings there too. Chairman Zacchio commented that Company #4 remains a station that will be open servicing that area in the long-term plan and it would be good to take care of any issues that exist and move on.

The Town Manager reported on Avon Police Department Improvements and that the Director of Public Works is working to refine the cost estimate which was originally estimated as a \$2.3 million project. He noted that it is a difficult space to work in and dealing with prevailing wages and there is potential for a small bump out to create an additional office. He discussed with the Director of Public Works talking with CRCOG who has an on-call contracting service and see if there is a way to refine the price based on scope. He noted that his preference would be to do this through the capital budget over a few budget cycles but if it turns out that it is necessary to fund this through a bond authorization he would come back with a recommendation that Council appoint a building committee to look at the project scope and make a final recommendation on the project before we go out to the expense of contract documents, etc. Chairman Zacchio questioned if we have figures from when we renovated other Town buildings to compare to.

The Town Manager reported that we are still on track for the STEAP project this summer.

Misc. B: Construction Update: The Town Manager reported that the Public Works is spending a lot of time at the Fire Training Center and is putting our paving work in Town behind slightly but will get back on track by early next week. He noted that we are still on track to get everything done as outlined earlier.

The Town Manager commented on the Old Wheeler Lane Project and that we expect that the road will be closed to thru traffic from June 15th through August 26th.

The Town Manager reported that we have a number of projects underway at Sycamore Hills. He noted that both pools will be open on schedule. He noted that the tennis courts have approximately 111 linear feet of cracks that need repair of which some will be under warranty. Mr. Pena commented that the Recreation and Parks summer brochure is out. The Town Manager responded yes, it was went out Town-wide and was an insert in the Valley Press. The Town Manager reported that some work is scheduled for the Senior Center.

Misc. C: Plan of Conservation and Development: The Town Manager reported that Steve Kushner, Special Projects Manager, is working on this. He will invite him to come before Council in July or August to give an overview and take any input, incorporate it into the Plan prior to the Planning and Zoning Commission taking final action on it. He noted that it is great to have our retired Town Planner able to dedicate 100% of their time on preparing what is one of the primary foundational documents in the Town.

Misc. D: AHS Synthetic Turf Field Recreation and Parks Sub-Committee: The Town Manager reported that the Sub-Committee had their first meeting this past Monday morning. He noted that the new Project Manager with BSC Group attended. He added that methodology was discussed and a matrix that they will create to attract all of these issues. He noted that their next meeting is on May 16th and will be a working meeting.

Misc. E: Avon Police Department One Day Hiring Process: The Town Manager reported that there are four vacancies in Patrol that we are looking to fill right now. He noted that the event will run the same as it has in the past and kick-off at 7:00 a.m. this Saturday, May 7th. Mr. Stokesbury questioned the schedule of events. The Town Manager responded that he would send it to Council.

Misc. F: Old Farms Road Feasibility Study: The Town Manager reported that there was a scheduling issue with the consultant for tonight's meeting and will be rescheduled as an agenda item at Council's next meeting.

Misc. G: Bear Awareness Program: The Town Manager reported that Officer Eric Lindell did a great job with a safety training class after the assault on the rail trail last year so he will now be running a workshop on bear awareness and hoping to get a CT DEEP Conservation Officer to attend as well and we will get the word out on the workshop.

Mr. Stokesbury commented that he had a follow-up from one of the recent budget meetings where he asked a question about the Board of Education running surplus for the fiscal year and there was some push back on how we report out and where we stand on our budget. He asked the Town Manager to look at that issue and see if there is a way that we can show it in a systematic way. The Town Manager responded that we have our Finance Department monthly report. Mr. Stokesbury commented that it is in there by percentages. The Town Manager responded that we provide a monthly report which is also provided to the Board of Finance which is a two-sided scorecard; we note revenues to the positive or negative and with expenditures basically the same thing and also to track the status of Unassigned Fund Balance. He added that he will take a look at it and see if we can streamline that information. Mr. Stokesbury commented that when he was a Board of Education member he found it helpful to have and when he was representative to the Board of Finance it was often discussed. He noted that we have a cycle problem where our package this month has end of February numbers.

The Town Manager reported that he had our Town Engineer keeping track of the funding for the Old Farms Bridge Project which goes back to 2012 when the State took responsibility for design, permit, and construction of the bridge. He noted that we are still in the design phase. He added that the Town Engineer asked the State if there is any jeopardy of funding for the permit and construction phases and the answer was that it is there now.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Collective Bargaining
- B. Pending Claim/Litigation

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council go into Executive Session at 9:08 p.m.
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

The Town Manager and Town Attorney Al Smith attended the session.

15/16-76 **Possible Action on Item Discussed in Executive Session**

On a motion made by Mr. Stokesbury, seconded by Mr. Pena, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a tentative agreement with the Dispatcher Union CILU Local #22 resulting in a three-year contract from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

XII. ADJOURN

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

Attest:

Nick Hogan, Assistant Town Clerk

Original ACEC Goals

- Establish a system to track and benchmark all Town energy use against quantifiable goals
- Reduce Town and BOE energy used in operations by 15% of total kBtu/SF by 2015, against a 2008 baseline:
 - Improve the energy efficiency of Town and BOE buildings
 - Increase the measured fuel efficiency of the Town's vehicle fleet
 - Reduce the number and wattage of street lights and other outside lighting
 - Reduce the Town's "carbon footprint" by 20% by 2020
- Educate the community as a whole and encourage energy conservation and the adoption of clean, renewable energy generation



EUI Comparison

BOE

Facility	Sq. Ft.	Electricity (kWh)	Gas (ccf)	Oil (gal)	EUI kBtu/SF
Total	505,600	6,110,240	262,137	5,000	95.91

Facility	Sq. Ft.	Electricity (kWh)	Gas (ccf)	Oil (gal)	EUI kBtu/SF	% Change
Total	596,600	4,222,973	213,346	4,807	62.03	-35.33%

Town

Facility	Sq. Ft.	Electricity (kWh)	Gas (ccf)	Oil (gal)	EUI kBtu/SF
Total	112,086	1,021,149	43,491	10,346	83.81

Facility	Sq. Ft.	Electricity (kWh)	Gas (ccf)	Oil (gal)	EUI kBtu/SF	% Change
Total	133,455	1,270,273	36,875	5,131	66.26	-20.94%



Vehicle Data

Year	Annual Miles Traveled	Gasoline (Gallons)	Diesel (Gallons)	Miles Traveled per Gallon	% Change
FY 08	497,814	54,149	24,243	6.35	0
FY 09	498,833	52,537	24,112	6.5	-2.4%
FY 10	470,561	46,590	22,021	6.86	-8.0%
FY 11	515,228	42,736	24,551	7.66	-20.6%
FY 12	537,802	39,538	22,123	8.72	-37.3%
FY 13	524,723	37,959	25,319	8.29	-30.6%
FY 14	598,892	32,380	31,130	9.43	-48.5%
FY 15	521,747	34,245	33,130	7.74	-21.9%
Average	520,700	42,517	25,829	7.69	-24.18%

CO2 Emissions

Municipal Buildings	FY 08 CO2 kg/MMbtu	FY 15 CO2 kg/MMbtu	% Change Against Baseline	FY 16 CO2 kg/MMbtu (est.)	% Change (est.)
Electricity	337	419	24.40%	391	15.88%
Natural Gas	219	201	-8.23%	201	-8.23%
Oil	107	53	-50.41%	53	-50.39%
Total	663	674	1.57%	645	-2.76%

School Buildings	FY 08 CO2 kg/MMbtu	FY 15 CO2 kg/MMbtu	% Change Against Baseline	FY 16 CO2 kg/MMbtu (est.)	% Change (est.)
Electricity	2022	1398	-30.89%	1224	-39.48%
Natural gas	1431	1165	-18.61%	1165	-18.61%
Oil	52	50	-3.86%	50	-3.86%
Total	3505	2612	-25.48%	2438	-30.44%

CO2 Emissions Cont.

Vehicles	FY 08 CO2 kg/MMbtu	FY 15 CO2 kg/MMbtu	% Change Against Baseline	FY 16 CO2 kg/MMbtu (est.)	% Change (est.)
Total	749	690	-7.95%	690	-7.95%

All	FY 08 CO2 kg/MMbtu	FY 15 CO2 kg/MMbtu	% Change Against Baseline	FY 16 CO2 kg/MMbtu (est.)	% Change (est.)
Total	4918	3975	-19.16%	3773	-23.28%

Solar Power Footnote:

System sizes for each are as follows: Department of Public Works (65.8 kW), High School (234.6 kW) and Middle School (163.2 kW). All systems are currently functional and offsetting kWh consumption at their respective properties. These systems should produce approximately 585,000 kWh/year.



Conclusion

ACEC Goals	Status
Establish Data Tracking System for Town and BOE	50% complete
Reduce Town-Wide Energy Use by 15% by 2015 Against FY 08 Baseline	100% Complete
Improve Energy Efficiency of Town Buildings	On-Going
Increase Vehicle Fuel Efficiency	On-Going
Reduce Streetlight Energy Use	Incomplete
20% Town-Wide Carbon Reduction by 2020	Nearly Complete, On-Going
Engage with Community to Advance Goals Set Forth in The Plan	On-Going

Clean Energy Communities Goals	Status
Reduce Town-Wide Energy Use by 20% by 2018 Against FY 08 Baseline	Complete
Purchase 20% RECs by 2018	Complete, On-Going
Promote Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology Throughout the Community at Large	On-Going

