

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 8, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber by Chairman Zacchio. Members present: Mrs. Maguire and Messrs: Pena, Evans, and Stokesbury.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Zacchio.

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING:** November 19, 2014 Special Meeting  
December 4, 2014 Meeting

A correction was made under "Communications from Council" (pg. 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph) which should read, "...about the camaraderie, mission...."

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the November 19, 2014 Special Meeting as amended.

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

Mrs. Maguire clarified a comment under "Communications from Council" (pg. 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph) which should read, "...a few residents commented to him...." and strike "the" before "Ms. Clark that Company 1...." Mrs. Maguire clarified a comment (pg. 6, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph) which should read, ".....the gravel from the tanks...." Mr. Stokesbury clarified a comment (pg. 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph) which should read, ".....twenty-five year service life."

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the December 4, 2014 Meeting as amended.

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

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE** - None

**VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL**

Mr. Stokesbury reported that he attended the Country Club Road Sidewalk Public Information Meeting with Chairman Zacchio and Mrs. Maguire last month; pretty good turnout by property owners; it was a good meeting. He noted that Chairman Zacchio spoke at the meeting to clarify a few issues about the process. He added that it was a good kick-off to get them involved.

Mrs. Maguire reported that Avon Education Foundation awarded a grant of \$300 to Jennifer Bennett at the Senior Center; they went on their prize patrol and Mr. Pena was there as the grant was in his name. She noted that the funds will be used for "My Story, My Gift" where the seniors will tell their stories, tell their memories and collaborate with the Avon High School students and record these memories and be available for them to give to their families and to share with the community. She also mentioned other grants that were awarded including: \$2,100 to the Avon Middle School for lighting for the Unified Arts Program, \$2,300 to the Avon High School for a frag tank for the marine biology department, and \$787 to Roaring Brook School for Blazer's Trail and they will be working with the Avon Historical Society and Winding Trails to get information on trees, etc.

Mr. Evans mentioned the fire at Farmington Woods and that the Avon Volunteer Fire Department and other departments responded and he expressed his appreciation and thanks to those brave firefighters. He asked the Town Manager about a report that someone suffered an injury with a slip and fall responding to the scene. The Town Manager responded that the person injured was Jamie DiPace but unclear of the injuries he sustained. Mr. Evans asked the Town Manager to extend our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Chairman Zacchio reported that he attended the State/House joint legislative session with the Governor's kick-off speech; after the Governor's inauguration he was a guest of Brian Becker's from our 19<sup>th</sup> District and received a tour of the Capitol. He noted that one of the things that will hit home for us is the Governor's message about what he intends the next four years to look like and spoke mostly about infrastructure especially roadways but also included rails and/or buses and/or pedestrian connections. He added that a real focus on infrastructure/bridge/road work/re-routing of roads. He thought of Old Farms Road and may be an opportunity sooner for us if the Governor is serious about the infrastructure investment and will keep an eye on it.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **13/14-31 CT-DOT Project #04-131 Old Wheeler Lane Bridge**

Larry Baril, Town Engineer, reported that there is a Public Information Meeting scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup> with a snow date of January 28<sup>th</sup> and in line with the process that is required under the Federal Local Bridge Program which is going to pay for 80% of the project. He noted that we are at that 30% design threshold and AI, the consulting engineers, have given us three different options to consider, two rehabilitation and one replacement. He added that the recommendation is the cheapest of the three of those options and they need to present those options to the residents and describe what the process will be moving forward. He noted that at this point we will be asked to either continue or discontinue with the process; our agreement takes us to 30% design and we can continue under the 80%/20% share through completion or not. Chairman Zacchio questioned if there is a standard width that we would typically install on a road that is carrying buses or is a connection that is likely to carry high traffic and more specifically width wise, not that we are thinking about sidewalks on Old Wheeler Lane but if we were to ever do that, knowing the expense that comes with the Country Club Road discussion we have had crossing a body of water, do we install bridges wide enough to handle foot pedestrian traffic. Mr. Baril responded that if we anticipated pedestrian traffic we would accommodate at that point. He noted that Old Wheeler Lane Bridge has sidewalks on both side of it so the intent would be to replace the superstructure with sidewalks on both sides. Mr. Stokesbury inquired

about a bike lane. Mr. Baril responded that there is no intention of putting a bike lane. He noted that the bridge itself has a width of twenty-six feet which is wider than our normal local road so there is some accommodation for that but having sidewalks on both sides is probably the right way to go. He added that if we were to try to expand the bridge width to accommodate a bike lane we would have to be in replacement mode; their intent on the rehabilitation mode is to use the existing abutments.

Mr. Pena questioned that because the bridge is utilized by many people, particular the schools, will we post the Public Information Meeting town wide when construction is ready to begin. The Town Manager responded yes, the appropriation will have to be part of the budget process and we would notify because there would be a road closure while the work is being done and we will push the word out about it. Mr. Baril reported that for the Public Information Meeting an ad will appear in the Hartford Courant, we are sending letters to all residents on Old Wheeler Lane, Old Wheeler Court, and its area, you get notices as well as Town staff and Elected Officials and are encouraged to share the information; and it will be posted on the Town's web site. Mr. Stokesbury questioned what the substance of the presentation will be. Mr. Baril responded that they are going to talk about the process, the variables in the cost structure as it is not just replacing the bridge as they have to protect the grounds, any aesthetic alternatives there might be, construction sequence, how it will impact traffic, etc. Mr. Evans questioned that under the scenarios being looked at if Mr. Baril can give them some sense of what the project costs will be. Mr. Baril responded that the current, pre-design estimate, there are three, the first rehabilitation cost lowest is \$930,000, second rehabilitation cost is \$980,000, and the replacement structure is just shy of \$3 million. Mr. Evans questioned if that is the total versus 80%/20%. Mr. Baril responded those are totals and the Town of Avon's share is approximately \$200,000. Mr. Evans questioned if we need to start reserving capital this year for this. The Town Manager responded this will be a fiscal year 2016/2017 project if we are looking at later summer of calendar year 2016. Mr. Evans questioned the anticipated construction schedule. Mr. Baril responded eight weeks; their goal is to get the project done while school is not in session. Mr. Evans commented that if we wanted to reserve over two years capital budget we would want to start this year. The Town Manager responded yes, but he did not think we need to do so. He noted that we have been funding for the design work and we started that in fiscal year 2012/2013 so we have had \$85,000 to date appropriated for that.

**13/14-76 Appointment: T.C. Representative for Lakeview Association (12/31/2015)**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 13/14-76 Appointment: T.C. Representative for Lakeview Association (12/31/2015) to the February 5, 2015 meeting.

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

**14/15-12 FY 15/16 Budget: Town Council Budget Workshop Schedule:  
Recommended Date: Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the Budget Workshop Schedule for Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Selectmen's Chamber as follows:  
8:00 a.m. Budget Overview

8:20 a.m. Library  
 8:40 a.m. Fire Department  
 9:00 a.m. Police Department  
 9:25 a.m. Break  
 9:40 a.m. Public Works  
 10:10 a.m. General Government  
 10:30 a.m. Public Safety (except Fire and Police)  
 10:50 a.m. Health/Social Services  
 11:10 a.m. Recreation & Parks  
 11:30 a.m. Conservation & Development  
 11:50 a.m. Lunch  
 12:20 p.m. Engineering / Sewers  
 12:40 p.m. Special Revenue funds / Capital Improvement Program  
 1:00 p.m. Adjustments, wrap-up – Adjourn

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

**14/15-32 Board of Education-Request for Supplemental Appropriation \$208,350 (Fisher Drive Pre-K and Special Education)**

The Town Manager reported that the initial number that was approved at the last Council meeting was \$290,377; the agenda says \$133,350, but the number that needs to be approved is \$208,350. He noted that the reason the number has gone down since the last Council meeting is because there were grant revenues included in the \$290,377 that did not require a supplemental appropriation. He added that we wanted to bring it back and have the actual amount approved even though it is lower. He noted that this was identified just prior to the last Board of Finance meeting so in the interest of time and efficiency we brought it to them at the \$208,350, they approved, so now it is to Council.

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

**RESOLVED**: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 14/15 Budget by increasing:

**REVENUES**

General Fund, Intergovernmental, Education Program Grant, Open Choice, Account #01-0330-43343 in the amount of \$73,500; General Fund, Other Local Revenues, Rent & Reimbursements, Account #01-0360-43619 in the amount of \$52,000; General Fund, Charges for Services, BOE Tuitions Receipts-Parent Paid, Account #01-0340-43507 in the amount of \$7,850 for a General Fund total of \$133,350; and State and Federal Education Grants Fund, Intergovernmental, Open Choice Capital Grant, Account #13-0330-43343 in the amount of \$75,000, for an all funds total of \$208,350 and increasing

**APPROPRIATIONS**

General Fund, Board of Education, General Service Account, Account #01-9401-52185 in the amount of \$133,350; and State and Federal Education Grants Fund, Board of Education, Education Grant Programs, Account #13-9401-59200 in the amount of \$75,000, for an all funds total of \$208,350, for the purpose of providing Pre-K and special education services.

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

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **14/15-37 Technology Lease/Purchase Approval**

Chairman Zacchio noted that the Town has to approve any borrowing that happens throughout the organization and the Board of Education in leasing something falls under the debt policy which is why it is before us.

Gary Mala, Superintendent of Schools, reported that this is very similar to other purchases with financing that you have approved in the past. John Spang, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, reported that the lease purchase is for just over 400 computers, all of which will go into classrooms; there are 50 desktop computers, 25 each into two foreign language labs, one at the Avon High School and one to be built at the Avon Middle School. He added that the bulk of the purchase is for 312 Chromebooks and 13 mobile carts that different teachers can take into their classrooms and use. He noted that they have some of these now and are very popular and this would allow them to buy more. Chairman Zacchio questioned how many carts they have now. Mr. Spang responded that this purchase would almost double the quantity of carts. Mr. Evans questioned that these prices are obtained through a reverse auction process. Mr. Spang responded that it is an internet bid, vendors put in lower prices, they can see only the last bid and if they want to go lower than that they can. He added that we had three vendors; one lowered his price three times and another vendor lowered his price twice; Dell was the successful bidder. Mr. Mala commented that the bid is approximately 28% less than the State contract price on the identical items. He added that we have made the pricing available to the entire community of Avon. Mr. Spang commented that the same pricing to the community which we started a year ago there have been 32 purchases made, approximately \$17,000. Mr. Evans commented that these prices include the factor of the interest rate, for example, \$310 for each of the Chromebooks includes paying it out over four years. Mr. Mala added that also includes a 4-year warranty. Mr. Evans commented well done.

Mr. Pena questioned if they notify the State that your price is better than what they are getting. Mr. Mala responded that it was presented to the Department of Administrative Services and there has been some effort to procure using this process. He noted that when a law passed in 2008 that prohibited the use of reverse auctioning for services, not goods, and he had spoken to Representative Brian Becker not too long ago about bringing that back into the legislature to have it expand to services as well. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if the desktop unit price includes monitors, etc. Mr. Spang responded that today the desktops are one-piece including the monitor. Mr. Stokesbury commented that at the end of the lease we have the option of buying for one dollar for each unit and questioned if we have ever not bought the units at the end of the lease. Mr. Spang responded that approximately one year ago we did return several hundred computers because they were obsolete and time to replace them. Mr. Mala added that was the remaining bulk of units in the previous administration so they were not procured using our process that we use now; the District was paying a certain amount over a four-year period of time and then Dell came back with a fair market value which was some \$90,000 and the response was no.

On a motion made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Pena, 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 50 desktop

computers for two world language labs – 25 each at the high school and middle school and 13 mobile carts with 25 Chromebooks on each cart at all five schools.

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

**14/15-38 Approve Resolution: Adopt 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update**

Chairman Zacchio commented that this is part of CRCOG and the Emergency Management Director and other Town staff have worked on this for a span of time and they have done a great job with the Plan. He questioned how this integrates with other communities. The Town Manager responded that it is an appendix of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, an overall umbrella plan for the region and then CRCOG worked with each of the communities individually to identify specific strategic planning objectives and goals and that was a process that was begun in 2012 where departments had input and he reviewed a draft before it was finalized. He added that a lot of is carryover with surrounding communities but there are some areas that are specific where towns have identified service needs that some do better than others. He noted that it is a really good process because CRCOG serves as that umbrella, overall coordinating agency, and all of the communities work independently to do their own with CRCOG’s assistance and it is all funded through CRCOG. Chairman Zacchio noted that we have experienced it with the October 2011 snowstorm that put all of the communities into a tail spin, a lot of collaboration that happened immediately between community towns, this is another step up in that process. He thanked the Emergency Management Director and Town staff for putting the Plan together.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon Town Council recognizes the threats that natural hazards pose to people and property with the Town of Avon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon in collaboration with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan known as the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update has identified mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from the impacts of future natural hazards and disasters that affect the Town of Avon and the region; and

**WHEREAS**, public and committee meetings were held between March 15, 2012 and October 2, 2013, regarding the development and review of the 2014 – 2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency/ Department of Homeland Security has approved the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update, on condition of local adoption, enabling the Town of Avon to apply for Hazard Mitigation grant funding; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption by the Town of Avon Town Council demonstrates their commitment to achieving the hazard mitigation goals outlined in the Town of Avon’s section of the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Avon Town Council hereby adopts the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

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

**14/15-39 Review, Discussion, Set Public Hearing: Sewer Easements: Old Farms Crossing**

Chairman Zacchio reported that in the past we have had this on the agenda when the builder was putting in a house at the end lot and was already putting in some lines that we had an opportunity to connect the sewer underneath and take advantage of the construction costs that were there and now we need to set a public hearing to accept the easement. The Town Manager commented that we didn't anticipate this but we had an opportunity to pick-up potentially a major part of the sewer service area at Berta Lane so now we are back to accept on the easement.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council set a public hearing to be held at their February 5, 2015 meeting to consider that the Town of Avon accept two Sanitary Sewer easements from Old Farms Crossing Associated, LTD Partnership as shown on a map entitled, "COMPILATION PLAN PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER EASEMENTS OLD FARMS CROSSING ASSOCIATES LTD. PARTNERSHIP by the Avon Engineering Department, dated September 15, 2014." The first easement is adjacent to an existing Sanitary Sewer Easement and contains approximately 1,231 sq. ft. The second is located adjacent to the westerly property line and contains approximately 30,425 sq. ft.

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

**14/15-40 Appointment: Avon Water Pollution Control Authority (U – 12/31/2014)**

Chairman Zacchio reported that the position for AWPCA Chairman, Mike Farrell, is off cycle from the rest of the Board. The Town Clerk commented that the AWPCA is a five member board and two members are appointed and in the alternating year the other two are but in between there is one member, as listed in the Town Charter.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council re-appoint Michael Farrell to Avon Water Pollution Control Authority for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2018.

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

**14/15-41 Appointment: Avon Clean Energy Commission (D – 12/31/2015)**

Chairman Zacchio commented that Lisa Levin had submitted her resignation in October but agreed to stay on the Commission through December 31, 2014.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 13/14-76 Appointment: T.C. Representative for Lakeview Association (12/31/2015) to the February 5, 2015 meeting.

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

**IX. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS**

**Misc. A: Purchasing Update:** The Town Manager reported that for the Banking Services-RFI it has been on hold as the Finance Department has been working on the audit and earlier this week the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report books were delivered and will get back to this

item. He added that we will be working with the Board of Education staff on this item and in February or March he will have some updates to report. He reported that for the APD Facility Design-RFQ there is \$25,000 appropriated for fiscal year 2014/2015 to hire an architect to assist with some design and planning for improvements at the Police Department. He added that we have been through the bid process, did interviews and selected KBA who we will be talking with over the next couple of weeks to finalize the scope and agreement for services.

**Misc. B: Construction Update:** The Town Manager reported that with the solar projects we have executed the PPAs and related agreements with Solar City for the DPW facility, AMS and AHS. He noted that the DPW facility has received approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission and building permit approval. He added that there is a walkthrough on January 14<sup>th</sup> and assuming all goes per the plan we should be installing by the end of the month and the panels will be up and operational in the spring. Mr. Stokesbury questioned with regards to the road improvements if it is typical to finish the year's projects before the winter season. The Town Manager responded that we try to tie everything up; there may be some appropriation left as a result of the work that was done in the fall because we want to have something to do in the spring on the road side and not waiting until July 1<sup>st</sup> when the next appropriation becomes available. Chairman Zacchio commented that is also dependent on the oil prices, the weather and availability of the contractors. Mr. Stokesbury commented that Enfield did a \$60 million bonding project to pave over five years; something that we choose not to pay for so it is encouraging that we continue to keep it in the short-term capital budgets. Mr. Pena commented that Simsbury did that not too long ago. The Town Manager responded that several towns have done it. Chairman Zacchio commented that they leave it open with an authorization and bond as they work. The Town Manager responded that Avon's approach is pay as you go and with our debt service declining that capacity goes up into capital and right into roads. He added that where the oil prices are really helping us, we are looking at locking in gasoline prices and going out through fiscal year 2015/2016 because the numbers are approximately \$2.33/gallon. Mr. Evans questioned that the fuel contract would be for the town vehicles for that period of time. The Town Manager responded yes.

**Misc. C: Avon High School Synthetic Field:** The Town Manager reported that as we discussed at the last Council meeting about a recommendation to have BSC take another look at Avon High School. He noted that there is a remaining appropriation from the initial contract with BSC. Council appropriated up to \$40,000, the contract was \$31,000 and in three phases and we never got to the third phase which was pre-referendum services; we have billed for \$26,000 to date and the cost estimate for BSC to review the high school property as a potential location is approximately \$9,500 so there is room in the original appropriation. He noted a couple of complexities because it is on school property and there a few statutes that come into play and he has been talking to the Superintendent about that and procedurally want to review all of that. He commented that for the next Council agenda you will see this item on there and motions will be needed to revise the original motion that was approved for the original appropriation as it was specific to the Thompson Road project and amend the charge to the Recreation and Parks Committee. Mr. Stokesbury commented this would be to move forward to look at the opportunities that might be at Avon High School. The Town Manager responded that it is to evaluate the work that has been done already as it has been looked at before, most recently in 2007, and the result of that review is what prompted the focus to move to the Thompson Road property and to develop schematic, preliminary design and budget.



Bill Reboul, 23 Sudbury Way, questioned that when you put the charge for design if you are going to go apples to apples between the two because the price coming back for the high school because it does not have the square footage nor the ability to cover like Thompson Road will be two completely different projects and two completely different prices. Chairman Zacchio responded that their intent was not to compare the projects as much as to evaluate the Town properties against the Statement of Needs to determine what capabilities we have at each site. He noted that similar to what we did at the Thompson Road property, we had a white canvas there to say here are our needs, what fits and what are the costs associated, and what are the options? He added that our intent would probably be to do the same, the charge would be to ask the Recreation and Parks Committee to do the same. Mr. Reboul questioned if the Board of Education is already in consensus and understands that they will be picking up the cost to maintain that on an ongoing basis from a budget perspective. Chairman Zacchio responded that it would be premature to consider who will pick up the costs for maintenance or how we would even handle that. Mr. Reboul commented that he is assuming that the charge is going to include use, drainage, traffic, zoning, boundaries, and everything else involved. Chairman Zacchio responded that would be pretty fair, similar to the Thompson Road property; we would be looking for a price for whatever options are available.

**Misc. D: Town Council Standards of Conduct Policy:** The Town Manager reported that this item was discussed last month. He noted that in the fall he asked the Town Attorney to look at the policy; it has been five years since adoption in November 2009 and as we have had more experience with the policy and worked with it we have identified some issues. He has asked the Town Attorney give his own review. He noted that this is another area that has become a little more complicated because it is not just the Town's Standards of Conduct Policy, there is also the Board of Education's bylaws that deal with Standards of Conduct that are connected and then there is the Town's Comprehensive Personnel Plan that is also connected. He has been working the Superintendent of Schools and the Town Attorney on it; we are almost there and it will be on the agenda for next month. Chairman Zacchio questioned if there are a lot of red-line changes. The Town Manager responded that there are two primary areas. Chairman Zacchio commented that he wants to make sure that we do not dissolve the intent of the policy originally which was pretty much focused on the authority to hire and employment decisions along with the money to do that and the control around that employment connection; we want to make sure that those are staying intact. He understands that we have some small items that have come up over the last few years that we want to try and address and as long as it is within that scope. The Town Manager responded that is exactly what we are tailoring the changes to address. He noted that looking back through the record and talking with former Town Attorney, Dwight Johnson, some of the issues that have come up really are unintended consequences. Mr. Pena questioned if at all possible we can get a copy of the red-lined policy. The Town Manager responded yes; Council will receive an opinion from the Town Attorney and red-lined versions of the Standards of Conduct with strike out language and new language and the Comprehensive Personnel Plan and the changes that need to be made there. Mr. Evans questioned if there is a connection between the resignation of the Republican Registrar of Voters and our existing Conflict of Interest Policy. The Town Manager responded no; she got a full time job in town.

**Misc. E: Resignation of Registrar of Voters:** The Town Manager reported that the resignation is a result of two officials that are independently elected to what are offices that are governed by State statute and the Standards of Conduct Policy needs to be clarified to ensure that those

individuals do not have a conflict which they cannot. Chairman Zacchio commented that we could be in conflict with the State statute which supersedes us.

**Misc. F: Solarize Avon:** The Town Manager reported that there will be a workshop next Tuesday night from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Avon Free Public Library. It was noted that there was a great turnout at the initial kick-off meeting. The Town Clerk noted that we have to get 300 more leads to even come close to the goal. The Town Manager reported that we are having weekly conference calls and the Superintendent of Schools has been very helpful sending out a message to parents. Chairman Zacchio inquired about sandwich board signs at the Library to advertise it. The Town Clerk responded we have not used sandwich board signs but will work on that.

**Misc. G: Equipment Failures at Pump Stations:** The Town Manager reported that we are taking care of the pump failure at one station and control panel failure at the New Road station in the operating budget.

**Misc. H: Collective Bargaining Agreement between Avon Board of Education and the Avon Administrative & Supervisory Association:** The Town Manager reported that a successor contract has been filed with the Town Clerk's Office between the Board of Education and the Avon Administrative and Supervisory Association. He noted that the contract becomes effective within thirty days of filing in the Town Clerk's Office unless the legislative body holds a meeting and rejects it. Mr. Stokesbury commented that traditionally we would take no action. The Town Manager responded yes, traditionally that is what has happened. The Town Clerk added that it has been published in the newspaper that we have received it.

**Misc. I: Stormwater MS4 Permit:** The Town Manager reported that if the changes that have been recommended by DEEP and have been advertised in the revised permit were ever to take effect we would have a very significant impact to our operating budget. He added that it would require more monitoring, more street sweeping, more catch basin cleaning, etc. He noted that the Stormwater MS4 Permit expired in 2006 and we have been operating under an old permit while they have been thinking about revisions and without consulting the towns first DEEP came up with their idea of what the Permit should be and they advertised it this past summer and all of the municipalities got upset about it. He commented that the Council of Small Towns, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, Senator Witkos wrote a letter to DEEP about this, everybody is on top of it and at the public hearing that was held on December 17<sup>th</sup> at DEEP they did say that they will be making revisions to the Permit. He noted that we will continue to monitor that really closely but should see a lot of improvement there.

**Misc. J: Alarm Service:** The Town Manager reported that in 1979 the Council adopted an ordinance that allows residents and businesses to connect to the Police Department for purposes of alarm monitoring. He added that the Chief of Police has been talking to him for a year about this and he really wants to get out of the business because the equipment that we have with the company that is used for the monitoring is antiquated and we need a big infusion of capital to get it up to speed and aside from the monetary aspect, from an economic aspect the Chief of Police is not convinced this is the best service for residents because it is not plugged into the Dispatch system rather a monitor that stands alone. He noted that residents would be better served to go out and contract with one of the commercial vendors rather than connected to the Police Department. He added that we would not cancel any contracts, rather would not renew them on

June 30, 2015 and advise the approximate sixty residents and businesses that are connected that we will not be renewing and give them some options for commercial vendors for the service. Mr. Evans questioned if those residents pay the Town for that service. The Town Manager responded that they pay \$75 per year. Mr. Pena commented that this a great service for residents; it is much faster than the much larger companies that exist. He added that when you get a call, they immediately call the resident/business. He has also spoken to the Chief of Police about this and understands why we do not want to stay in that business. Mr. Evans questioned if we need to modify the ordinance. The Town Manager responded that the ordinance gives the Town the ability to provide the service but when the ordinance was adopted Council also authorized the development of a regulation which says that the Town Manager can make a determination not to offer this service so Council does not have to make any change to the underlying ordinance. Chairman Zacchio commented that the service was really an incentive for businesses, mainly along Route 44, to have alarms because it helped the Police Department identify if something was going on and it expanded to some housing; it is not highly used so unless we are going to spend a lot of money on infrastructure changes and get into the alarm business which he does not think we want to do, it may very well fail and leave people without anything and you do not want to put people in that situation either. Mr. Stokesbury asked the Town Manager if he had formulated an opinion yet. The Town Manager responded that he agrees with the Chief of Police's recommendation. He added that we would get a notification out to those affected by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.  
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Evans, and Stokesbury voted in favor.

The Town Manager and Town Clerk attended the session.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council come out of Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.  
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Evans, and Stokesbury voted in favor.

14/15-42 Supplemental Appropriation from Unassigned Fund Balance for Heart and Hypertension Claims, \$54,270.01

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council favorably recommends to the Board of Finance an appropriation not to exceed \$54,270.01 from General Fund, Other Financing Sources, Unassigned Fund Balance, Account #01-0390-43913, to General Fund, Claims & Losses, Services- Other, Account #01-8101-52189 for the purpose of paying disability benefits under the State's Heart & Hypertension Laws.

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

**XI. ADJOURN**

On a motion made by Mr. Pena, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:  
**RESOLVED**: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.  
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Evans, and Stokesbury voted in favor.

**Attest:**

**Ann L. Dearstyne, Town Clerk**