

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 1, 2016**

**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: Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Zacchio.

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**16/17-04 Road Acceptance for Founders Way**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:30 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, September 1, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, Selectmen's Chamber, 60 West Main Street, to consider the following:

To accept the title of road and all appurtenances thereof for “Founders Way” on a certain map entitled “ROAD ASBUILT for JZMAR, LLC, FOUNDERS WAY, AVON CONNECTICUT, prepared by Neriani Surveying Inc., Scale: Hor: 1”=40’, Vert: 1”=4’, Date: Jan. 12, 2016 revised to June 16, 2016, Sheet 1 of 1.”

Copy of said map is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and open to the public for inspection during normal business hours.

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

Brandon L. Robertson  
Town Manager”

Chairman Zacchio noted that all of the engineering is up to Town code.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council close the public hearing.

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

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the title of road and all appurtenances thereof for “Founders Way” on a certain map entitled “ROAD ASBUILT for JZMAR, LLC, FOUNDERS WAY, AVON CONNECTICUT, prepared by Neriani Surveying Inc., Scale: Hor: 1”=40’, Vert: 1”=4’, Date: Jan. 12, 2016 revised to June 16, 2016, Sheet 1 of 1.”

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

**IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING:** July 27, 2016 Special Meeting

Corrections to the July 27, 2016 Special Meeting minutes were made as follows:

On page 2, last paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> line, change “She” to “He” and in the 4<sup>th</sup> line add “it” before “is a testament....”

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the July 27, 2016 Special Meeting as amended.

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

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE**

Terri Wilson, Avon Historical Society, reported that it has been three and a half months since the Derrin House fire. She noted that work is going on there now. She thanked a State organization that is not funded, but is a series of volunteers under the State Library and Archives called COSTEP that has been helping tremendously. She added that COSTEP includes subject matter experts to help museums and cultural organizations get through disasters and crises. She noted that they just did this with the Shelton Historical Society. She reported that she has written about COSTEP with stories in the newspapers; they have been a wonderful help to us. She added that they have interviewed several companies, gone through the environmental reviews, and have hired American Integrity Restoration (AIR) of whom Bill Pacelia is in attendance tonight and he is a former Deputy Mayor of Rocky Hill of sixteen years so he has experience with municipalities. Mr. Pacelia commented that their interaction with the Town’s Fire, Police, and Building Departments have been fabulous. He added this is an ongoing process, are happy to have been chosen and happy to answer any questions. Ms. Wilson shared photos of the clean-up and noted that AIR will do demo, mitigation, and some repairs as our insurance only covers to a certain point, will take approximately three months, and then some fundraising will have to be done to do extra repairs down the line. She thanked the Board members who have been sitting through lots of meetings, phone calls, and e-mails; it has been a learning process for all. She noted that they are working on it and are committed to make it whole. Mr. Speich questioned to what point the mitigation will be done. Mr. Pacelia responded that mitigation begins with the cleaning of the fired debris and move into a content phase of which the Board did a tremendous job in categorizing the artifacts, and we bar code every artifact and make a determination of which will be cleaned and restored. Ms. Wilson commented that nothing in the house belonged to the Derrin family, but there were items from Avon families that we were able to save and will restore. She added that it is a shared project all the way through. Mr. Pacelia added that mitigation phases begin with water which Avon Volunteer Fire Department did a fabulous job, but the smoke way heavy in the fire room and the room next to it suffered more smoke than upstairs so they begin to mitigate the smoke and odor and then move into lead abatement phases which is where they are at right now. He noted that four rooms have been demoed with plaster coming off the wall; there is very little lathe that we have to take off. He added that the next phase will be the ice-blasting of any charred areas and they feel that there is no structural components that will have to be replaced and should start next week, then the roof of the porch will begin to come off and be working in the upstairs area. Mr. Stokesbury questioned if we have discovered any pleasant surprises. A Board member responded that we did not get any mold. Ms. Wilson added that they are now seeing the original part of the roof and 18<sup>th</sup> century

construction and finding an abandoned well. Ms. Wilson commented that she will try to come to next month's Council meeting with another update. Mr. Stokesbury asked to let them know about fundraising. Ms. Wilson responded that [gofundme.com/Derrin](http://gofundme.com/Derrin) is one place to donate, they are planning some fundraisers, and they will be sending a letter to businesses in Town. She noted that they have to come up with a plan on what to do with the Derrin House next after it has been remediated; we have an opportunity to discuss with the public. Chairman Zacchio asked about a fundraising booth at Avon Day. Ms. Wilson responded that they will have a booth at Avon Day. Council thanked all.

Nancy Anstey, Avon Day Committee Chair, provided a status report on Avon Day. She noted that they had a slow start but in the past few weeks things have picked up; they are up to 51 non-profit and corporate booths versus 55 last year, for Taste of Avon they are at 9 versus 7 last year and still working on a few more. She added that entertainment is all set and once the schedule is finalized it will be posted on the Town's web site. She noted that they need volunteers to help at the ticket booths and also other tasks. She commented that if anyone knows any business that might want a booth or be a corporate sponsor please let her know. Mr. Pena questioned how much the booths are. Ms. Anstey responded that they are \$275. She noted that she and Wendy Howard went out to some places on Tuesday and will follow-up, having about 10 days to get the maps done reflecting booth space. She requested that opening ceremonies are at 1:00 p.m. and would be nice to have as many Council members on the stage and they need someone to be the spokesperson. Chairman Zacchio will respond to Ms. Anstey as soon as possible. She repeated that their wish list items are booths and volunteers. She thanked the Council for increasing their funding which has certainly helped. Mr. Pena volunteered to help at the ticket booth. Council thanked Ms. Anstey.

Deborah Mundair, 39 Gatewood, spoke on behalf of the Friends of the First Company Governor's Horse Guards and they appreciated the Town's support when it looked like the budget was being threatened and they are doing some programs to try to raise the connection with the public and are working with the Avon Historical Society and the Avon Free Public Library with exhibits and on September 17<sup>th</sup> they have a community oriented day of programming at the Library. Mr. Pena questioned if the community event is posted at the Library. Mrs. Mundair responded yes, including nineteen media outlets. Chairman Zacchio commented that when he spoke to Commandant Miller months ago he mentioned there was activity around legislation to rent stalls. Chairman Zacchio asked about the status. Mrs. Mundair responded that they do have permission now to rent twelve stalls and it has been advertised.

Adam Lazinsk, 88 Deepwood Drive, commented that he has recently driven over the new Old Wheeler Lane Bridge. He noted that when you plan accordingly and can shut off a road it is a great example of how smoothly things can go. He added that if you look at the Old Farms Road Project as an Old Wheeler Lane project on a bigger scale you can get it all done by planning accordingly. He also commented that he has been following with interest and concern the talk in Hartford about regionalization and he reads that as regional taxes. He added that Hartford's problems have been decades in the making and we didn't cause it; CCM is having conversations as well and members say that maybe it's not a bad idea. He commented that he's taxed enough; if my taxes go to Hartford and don't go back to Avon so where does it go. He thinks Council as a representative body needs to reach out to legislators or CCM to say that this idea of regional

taxation is not a good idea. Chairman Zacchio responded that we have talked to legislators about our feelings on the regionalization piece which is an infant stage at this level. He added that we are members of the CRCOG Board where Mayor Bronin had initially pitched the idea of Hartford's importance to the suburbs and some financial support that might flow out of the suburbs to help Hartford; we were not too excited about that and if our budget was going to be taxed in some way to help Hartford we would need some way of controlling how that was spent and getting that house in order before suburbs start to send dollars was more important and both are developing concepts at this point but rest assured that we are involved in it.

## **VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL**

Mr. Stokesbury commented that Mr. Lazinsk hit one of the hot topics we've seen over the last few weeks. He reported that Wethersfield voted to combine their computer services between Board of Education and Town; it is another reminder of a way to consolidate some costs and he urges us to continue that planning that is recommended to us through the Matrix from about seven years ago. He also reported that the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection awarded a Sustainable Farming Award to Sub Edge Farm and that is quite the honor, getting regional and perhaps national attention and should be proud that we have been able to put the resource to good use for the community.

Mrs. Maguire commented that she enjoyed the Farmer's Market again this year; it has growing attendance, well run, and easy to get to. She noted that the school year has gone off really well, no real glitches, and kids were happy to be back to school. She had an opportunity to meet the interim principals at Avon Middle School and Avon High School and they are excited about the opportunity to be here in Avon.

Mr. Pena commented that the Farmer's Market is good for the community and hopes the Library continues with it next year. He reported that he spoke to Larry Sparks, Principal at Roaring Brook School, and said the Old Wheeler Lane Bridge construction went very well.

Mr. Speich apologized for not being at Council's July meeting. He commented that the Old Wheeler Lane Bridge looks beautiful. He noted that Engine 11 has won two awards at firemen's parades for Best Appearing Custom Apparatus.

Chairman Zacchio commented on Old Wheeler Lane Bridge and that it did go very smoothly and there was language in the contract to meet deadlines with some punch list items still to be done while the road remains open. He thanked and congratulated the administration on the Board of Education for what has been the best open this year that we've seen in four or five years; the bus schedules worked flawlessly, the schools opened well, very little issue with what we had normally seen with disruption in the first days of school, and reminded everyone that this is done under what right now is a lot of change that is happening within the organization, two new leaders, the Sheff Grant that is late and there was a lot of activity on how to fund certain positions to keep them open, a huge number of new families registered in August or the last week before school started, Pine Grove School is at capacity and had to rearrange classrooms to have space for the students, with all of that and budget constraints and hiring new teachers not planned with the enrollment reality it went smoothly and was a lot of good hard work to get there. He asked Wendy Howard, Board of Education liaison, to take this back to the Board of

Education. She agreed to do so and thanked the Chairman. Chairman Zacchio commented that there will probably be more support asked of our Board in the coming months because they are in fact chasing a budget with a number of new teachers they had to hire because of the number of students coming in. He noted that our enrollment is flat from where it was but higher than we expected. He added that it is good news for Avon in terms of people moving in and want to be here in the community and educational system that we provide.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

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

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Stokesbury, 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 October 6, 2016 meeting.

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

### **15/16-84 Appointment: Avon Clean Energy Commission (D – 12/31/2017)**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 15/16-84 Appointment: Avon Clean Energy Commission (D – 12/31/2017) to the October 6, 2016 meeting.

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

### **16/17-03 Contract Recommendation: STEAP Phase IV (Sidewalk & Decorative Lighting Installation)**

Chairman Zacchio reported that this is for the sidewalk and decorative lighting installation on Hopmeadow Street running from around the Sperry Park entrance north into the Simsbury line. He noted that we went out to contract on this before and bids came back higher than we expected and grant monies would have provided for so we took a different path. The Town Manager reported that at Council's July meeting there was an appropriation made to purchase the light poles and that between that meeting and this meeting we would go back and put another bid out on the street and through the combination of more competitive bidding and providing some of the work in-house we could get the number down. He added that we were able to do that using this EZIQC contracting program through CRCOG that we are also using for the Police Department Project to great effect. He added that approval of this contract will allow us to complete the sidewalk from Sperry Park down to the Simsbury line with the lighting and the only part of the project that will remain incomplete is the south circuit and will revisit that in the spring. He noted that this work would be completed before winter arrives.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council award a contract to Millennium Builders, Inc. of Rocky Hill, CT, in an amount not to exceed \$266,579.52 for installation of sidewalks and electrical conduit and lighting bases along the east side of Simsbury Road as part of the STEAP Phase IV Project.

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

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **16/17-06      Presentation: CALEA Reaccreditation Award to Avon Police Department**

Chairman Zacchio reported that this is a process that we go through that really examines the entire Police Department and a source of pride for Avon that we go through it and win it.

Chief Mark Rinaldo thanked the Town Manager and Town Council for the support they give to the Police Department. He noted that they have been accredited since 1993 and will be their 8<sup>th</sup> successful cycle and are extremely proud of the Department.

Lieutenant Walsh introduced the core team during the accreditation process: Officer Dena LaFleur, Officer Jennifer Raskardo, Dispatcher Mary Shea, and Sgt. Schmalberger; missing are Dispatcher Mareka Williams, Officer Jeff Dubien, and Officer John O'Neill who were also very intrical in getting everything prepared. Chief Mark Rinaldo introduced Paul McMillan, who was Chief of Police of the Boston Transit Authority Police Department and is now our regional accreditation manager and without his guidance and help we would not have made it. He thanked Mr. McMillan for attending tonight. Mr. McMillan thanked the Council, on behalf of Chairman Rick Meyers and the full Board of the Commissioners, for this opportunity to come down and present the certificate. He reported that CALEA was created in 1979 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Black Officers' Executive Law Enforcement Officers, the National Sheriffs' Officers, and the Police Executive Research Forum and since its inception its purpose is to prove the delivery of public safety services, primarily by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives, establishing an administration and accreditation process and recognizing professional excellence. He added that based on this theme of recognizing professional excellence he can think of no better time than this public meeting to recognize the Avon Police Department for this award. He noted that it is an indication of the hard work that they have put into this to receive this award. He noted that the certificate is symbolic of a bigger meaning and it represents the Police Department's efforts to achieve accredited status and thereby demonstrating its willingness and effectively address contemporary public safety concerns and demonstrate professional excellence, it also represents a commitment to doing the right thing and doing it for the right way and it represents adherence to a professional code; and it represents an ongoing dedication to ensuring that the Department's resources are appropriately developed, effectively deployed, and consistently managed.

Mr. McMillan noted that there was a public session held when CALEA came here and a number of residents came and expressed appreciation for the commitment of the Police Department to the Town. He noted that this is the Department's 8<sup>th</sup> award so this is an ongoing commitment by them to maintain this body of standards and commitment to professional excellence. He presented the certificate to Chief Rinaldo and read it as follows: "Be it hereby known that the Avon Connecticut Police Department having fully demonstrated its voluntary commitment to law enforcement excellence by living up to a body of standards deemed essential to the protection of the life, health, and safety and rights of the citizens it serves and having exemplified the best professional practices in the conduct of its responsibilities for over fifteen years it is hereby the recommendation of the members of this Commission awarded this certificate of advanced meritorious accreditation effective the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016."

**16/17-07     Appointment: Fire Inspectors**

Chairman Zacchio noted that two of the volunteer firefighters recently completed the fire marshal certificate program and now eligible to be appointed as Fire Inspectors. He added that Joe Speich, Mr. Speich's son, has completed the fire code module for this program and can be appointed to a Fire Inspector.

Chairman Zacchio commented that we have a Code of Conduct Policy and because this is Mr. Speich's son, even though he is not a dependent and does not live within his household, he has chosen to recuse himself from the process. The Town Manager noted that for these positions it is a statutory requirement that the local legislative body appoint them. Mr. Stokesbury clarified that we are appointing all three individuals as Fire Inspectors and Joe Speich has already been a Fire Investigator but the other two have not. Chairman Zacchio responded yes. Mrs. Maguire questioned the reappointments that are mentioned in Mr. DiPace's memo. The Town Manager responded that he did not think we needed to act on those. Chairman Zacchio asked if appointment letters would go out. The Town Manager responded yes. He noted that the last time Council took action on these positions was in 2008.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint Aaron Gelber, Matthew Polesel, and Joseph Speich to serve as Fire Inspectors.

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

Mr. Speich rejoined the meeting.

**16/17-08     Approval of Real Estate Tax Refunds, \$12,009.20**

Chairman Zacchio asked the Town Manager to explain the assessor correction/court stipulated judgement refund. He commented that usually these are overpayments where the bank has paid the real estate mortgage tax and the owner has paid it independently and a refund is issued. The Town Manager responded that this could have been part of a tax appeal.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approves real estate tax refunds to the following: HCR Manorcare Properties LLC \$6,222.24 and Elizabeth Ann Henry and Michael J. Dugan \$5,786.96. Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Stokesbury, and Speich voted in favor.

**16/17-09     Discuss Town Council Meeting Dates/Time for Calendar Year 2017**

Chairman Zacchio commented that we typically move around the July/August meeting schedule and it tends to throw not only us off but the residents off because we generally meet on a monthly basis. He asked if Council wants to combine the July and August meetings into one later July meeting and if we want to change the meeting times from 7:30 to 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Maguire responded that she likes the idea of the combination of July and August as agendas tend to be light during that time period. She noted that as far as the time, during the school year 7:30 p.m. works better. Mr. Stokesbury commented that each Board sets their own start time and

there is no perfect answer. Mr. Pena commented that he is comfortable either way with the summer meetings and start times. Mr. Speich commented that 7:30 p.m. is fine with him. Council concurred that it would change its calendar year schedule starting in 2017; instead of meeting in both July and August over the summer Council will hold a regular meeting on the last Thursday of July and keep the meeting start times at 7:30 p.m. A 2017 meeting calendar will be drafted for approval at Council's October meeting.

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

**Misc. A: Purchasing Update:** The Town Manager reported that the new Engine 11 has been received and the old Engine 11 was put up for public auction and noted that old fire apparatus is not really worth anything; he added that the other apparatus is still on schedule for October delivery. He reported that the Director of Public Works is working on getting the steel on order to reinforce the footers in the floor at Company 4 and he is working closely with fire department personnel to make sure that we remodel the basement to their needs as we had a lot of moisture problems over the years; we want to eliminate all of those issues going forward and provide some enhanced restroom facilities. Mr. Stokesbury questioned the funding for this. The Town Manager responded that funding is included in their current year capital budget. Chairman Zacchio commented that he took a drive over to the Fire Training Center in Farmington and it looks fantastic; it will be an awesome training tool. He added that he is so glad that Farmington started that project and invited us to join them as partners. He noted that we owe a lot of thanks to our Public Works Department for their in-kind services that saved us some money and have done a tremendous job. The Town Manager commented that the project has gone fairly smoothly. He noted that our Public Works Department should be off the site by the end of October and we will work closely with Farmington to reconcile the finances. The Town Manager reported that we continue to work on the Police Department Renovations Project through the EZQIC program, we have good estimates, we have \$250,000 in the current year budget and he will likely make a recommendation for an additional appropriation in FY 18 and that should take care of it. He noted that Public Works has been very busy with road improvements and will have a lookback for Council at their next meeting. He reported on the AMS Science Labs Project and in April 2015 Council appointed a Building Committee who were charged with securing the services of an architect and developing an educational specification for this project with \$673,000 budgeted and as they got into they realized the budget would be insufficient; he and the Superintendent of Schools have discussed this and at this point he will take the memo from the Director of Public Works and send it over to the Superintendent of Schools and suggest that he think through with this Board a revaluation of this project, either re-scope it or re-appropriate the funds to another project. Mr. Stokesbury commented that it goes back to the Board of Education capital budget sub-committee that he chaired previously to see where it falls priority wise.

**Misc. B: Construction Update:** The Town Manager reported that with road improvements Cadbury and Indian Pipe Trail have been milled and should be paved by next week, in addition to Sunset Trail which also included drainage improvements and should address the drainage issues on that road. He reported on the Sycamore Hills Recreation Area and the pavilion work has been pushed back to the end of October and most recently there is some painting work being completed. He reported that we received a request from the Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) to approve a 40' x 8' self-contained unit at the back of Company #1 for office space and



storage, it does not require Planning and Zoning Commission approval but was approved by Planning staff, it is on order and will be placed at the rear of the building. Mr. Stokesbury questioned the financing for the unit. The Town Manager responded that they will rent it for approximately \$4,500 per year and the AVFD had money left at the end of the last fiscal year to use towards it. Mr. Stokesbury commented that it is a temporary solution to equipment storage and other issues. The Town Manager responded that you will hear more about that at their capital presentation. Mr. Stokesbury commented that he is trying to avoid a temporary solution from becoming permanent and they deserve better.

**Misc. C: Plan of Conservation and Development:** The Town Manager reported that comments have been incorporated from the discussion back in June; very close to completion and Mr. Kushner is happy to come back before Council with the changes that have been made; if not and you are happy with the way it looks he will include an item on the next Council agenda and draft a letter of support and endorsement for you to authorize him to send to the Planning and Zoning Commission who will go on record supporting it. Mr. Speich questioned if the Planning and Zoning Commission approves the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and if that requires a public hearing. The Town Manager responded yes to both items; the public hearing is scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup>. He added that Hiram Peck, the Town Planner gave a presentation to the Avon Clean Energy Commission last week and they were very pleased with it; one of the primary themes that threads through all of the chapters is sustainability and was well received.

**Misc. D: High School Synthetic Turf Field Recreation and Parks Sub-Committee:** The Town Manager reported that the Sub-Committee has completed their work; they were appointed by Council back in April, they met six times, they deserve a pat on the back because they waded through a lot of technical, detailed information to complete the charge. He noted that there were three elements to the charge: approve the Statement of Needs, make a recommendation with cost estimates regarding the base project with options, and make a recommendation regarding operations in terms of hours of use, facility maintenance, etc. He added that the Statement of Needs was approved unanimously, however the other two items had some no votes. His recommendation is to have another joint meeting with the Board of Education to receive a presentation that outlines and summarizes the sub-committee's findings and recommendations and provide an agenda item for public comment and questions and answers; he would also send out a notice to abutters on Sudbury and West Avon Road like we did last time; he would like to schedule this meeting for some time this month and the tentative date is September 22<sup>nd</sup>. He added that we would have BSC Group in attendance at this meeting. He noted that even if this project is built it does not address our field needs overall so staff is updating cost estimates for the Fisher Meadows Field Expansion Project, possibly as an in-house project and funding is available in the Fisher Meadows Fund that could be used to offset the cost. He has also spoken with our Bond Counsel and Financial Advisor to project ahead and the steps that would need to take place for a possible referendum. He offered to have either of them come in for Council's October meeting to discuss what a bonding question would look like. He noted that this project is not like the Library; the Library Project had outside funding with State funding and private fundraising but when the project went to referendum we had commitments for those dollars. He noted that for the turf field project we do not currently have funding in place.

Chairman Zacchio commented that we are taking this in phases: to determine what the project is, the financing, the affordability of it, and if we decide to package it with this one and done concept to expand it to what the Town will need it, built out now or depending on what project we pick and what its affordability is and hearing from the Bond Counsel and Financial Advisor will help us to determine how we might finance this and give us direction about what we can afford when and how and if we need other mechanisms in place with either State grants which is not in a great fiscal position and with local fundraising. He noted that the first step is scoping out what that project looks like which is a partnership with the Board of Education. He thanked the Sub-Committee for the work they did, they solved for a lot of issues that might have otherwise not have been thought through, some representatives present tonight fought for additional buffering along both Sudbury and West Avon Road. He noted that it comes back to us in a much better form than it went out to the Sub-Committee. He added that he was invited to a meeting on Tuesday night with some neighbors and has a keen sense of the concerns that they still have around the lights, timing of those lights, types of use they might incur and how it might affect their neighborhood; there is room and ground based on what has been recommended and what he heard to find some common ground and make some adjustments which is what we would expect to do. He added that it is first important for the Council and Board of Education to hear the full presentation and talk about anything that is still outstanding that needs to be addressed. He is working on a short document on what he heard at the meeting on Tuesday night and what were the most important points to the neighborhood and he will share it with both boards prior to the meeting so that you can be thinking about that and how we might adjust and tweak to satisfy both the neighborhood and the overall Town needs. He added that there is still a lot of work to be done. He stated that it was a productive meeting on Tuesday night, very enlightening for all of us to hear what everyone's thoughts in terms of the field and the lights and gives us good direction in terms of how we might solve some of those ourselves. He noted that the Sub-Committee did a tremendous job of solving for a lot of the concerns that we had and would be a good base project with some tweaks. Mr. Stokesbury commented that assuming we move towards a bonding approach and referendum, if we go in and our decision is an up or down vote for x number of dollars towards the project how do we build in complete flexibility as to where the balance comes from. He noted that the Friends of the Library raised funds and there was a State grant; we are in different economic times now and may find as a community that there is an unexpected source of money that comes in from left field and does not want to preclude that source of funding by the way we word the ballot. Chairman Zacchio responded that is a great question for our next meeting. Mr. Stokesbury commented that there is a committed fixed amount from the Town and the flexibility about the balance.

**Misc. E: S.B. No. 502 & Long-Range Financial Planning:** The Town Manager reported that as a result of the last Session there is a 2.5% soft cap on increases to municipal expenditures and there are a number of exceptions like debt service, binding arbitration awards, non-recurring capital projects; none of which has been defined or none of which OPM has any administrative guidance on just yet. He added that it is effective based on FY18 operating budget and the Town staff is trying to put some parameters on this so when we start talking about the budget we can provide some guidance. He noted that along with trying to anticipate the impact of this legislation we are looking at the budget in a more of a multi-year concept; we do that with the capital budget but the 2.5% cap and past guidance we have received from rating agencies and GFOA as they have reviewed our budget document annually has always been to have a multi-year financial plan for your operating budget as well and we are working on that now. He wants

to have a draft done by the middle of September and will talk to the Board of Finance about it and bring it before Council as well. He noted that it is an interesting process to go through and makes you think in a different way when trying to project out very fickle expenditures three to four years looking at a base year plus three; going into the details of personal services items, breaking out services and supplies and trying to project out to see where we will be in a few years. Mr. Speich questioned the reason for this legislation. The Town Manager responded that he thinks it had something to do with the MORE Commission that was appointed to find efficiencies in municipal operations and he understands that it is something that the Speaker of the House at the time was pushing strongly. Chairman Zacchio commented that it is incredible that a legislature that cannot control its own budget and in a deficit environment that they are in, and over-spending and over-borrowing they are in would make municipalities hit some arbitrary number without any concern for the Town's growth rate, expense rate, or desire to hire 100 police officers. The Town Manager commented that there is a penalty involved because if you exceed 2.5% in net of these reductions then they do reduce your Municipal Revenue Sharing Account (MRSA) at 50 cents on the dollar and by law we have to include a statement in our tax bills about the penalty.

**X.**      **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pending Claim/Litigation  
Land Acquisition/Real Estate

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council go into Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.  
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Pena, Speich, and Stokesbury voted in favor.

The Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager, and Town Clerk attended the session.

**XII.**    **ADJOURN**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.  
Mrs. Maguire, Messrs: Zacchio, Stokesbury, Speich, and Pena voted in favor.

**Attest:**

**Ann L. Dearstyne, Town Clerk**