

TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Tolland Public Library  
Program Room  
Tolland, CT 06084

REGULAR MEETING

7:30 – 10:00 P.M.

AGENDA  
July 12, 2017

**VISION STATEMENT**

*To represent education at its best, preparing each student for an ever-changing society, and becoming a full community of learning where excellence is achieved through each individual's success.*

A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting – June 28, 2017

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (2-minute limit)

*The members of the Tolland Board of Education welcome members of the public to share their thoughts and ideas at this time. When appropriate to do so, members of the Board and the administration may respond to comments during "Points of Information". However, in consideration of those in attendance and in an effort to proceed in a timely manner, follow-up discussion may need to take place outside of the meeting setting.*

D. POINTS OF INFORMATION

E. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT - Alexandra Simon and Mallory Goldsmith.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- F.1 Obsolete and Surplus Equipment
- F.2 Workshop session on budget (no enclosure)

G. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

H. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I. BOARD ACTION

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (2-minute limit)

*Comments must be limited to items on this agenda.*

K. POINTS OF INFORMATION

L. CORRESPONDENCE

Town Council Meeting- June 13, 2017

M. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION-For the Purpose of discussing the Secretarial Contact and Vote and for Personnel

O. NEW BUSINESS

P. ADJOURNMENT

**TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Hicks Municipal Center  
Council Chambers  
Tolland, CT 06084**

**REGULAR MEETING – June 28, 2017**

**Members Present:** Mr. Sam Adlerstein, Chair; Ms. Kathy Gorsky, Secretary; Ms. Karen Moran, Ms. Colleen Yudichak, Mr. Jeff Schroeder, and Ms. Susan Seaver

**Guests Present:** State Representative Tim Ackert, State Representative Sam Belsito, State Senator Tony Guglielmo

**A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Adlerstein called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed State Representatives Tim Ackert and Sam Belsito, and State Senator Tony Guglielmo. He said tonight's discussions would focus on what is happening in Hartford and its impact on Tolland. He asked everyone in attendance to break out into small groups briefly to discuss what they don't yet know about the process. After a brief break-out discussion, those attending regathered.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Regular Meeting – June 14, 2017  
Ms. Gorsky made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 14, 2017 regular meeting. Ms. Moran seconded the motion. Changes: None. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Brenda Falusi of 4 Laurel Ridge Road said there are a lot of unknowns. She said she doesn't know a lot about the budget situation in Hartford or the right questions to ask or what is the real unfunded liability of the State. She doesn't know what a three month budget is nor what will happen with teacher pensions. She said it is clear Board of Education members are overworked by all the subgroups they participate in and she appreciates all their efforts. She also noted that the concrete foundation problems in town will also add to Tolland's budget woes as it will impact home values.

Laura A. Roberts of 74 Nedwied Road noted that Town Manager Steve Werbner had mentioned the situation with the State might result in a 20 percent tax increase on Tolland residents, and they should be aware that this might put a fire under other residents with concrete foundation problems to report that they have a problem as well.

Kristen Morgan of 167 Dockerel Road said if they could know for certain that tax rates might have to be raised a 20 or 25 percent for a year or two, they might be able to get behind it, but not knowing anything it is difficult to plan. She said Tolland's Town Council and Board of Education, both Democrats and Republicans, work together for the betterment of the town, but they are not seeing this at the State level.

**D. POINTS OF INFORMATION**

None.

**E. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

Mr. Adlerstein said Alexandra Simon and Mallory Goldsmith are the BOE's new student representatives and they will be joining them at the next meeting. Ms. Gorsky said she will contact Jen Palumbo to get their contact information. Ms. Moran noted that the next BOE meeting will be held at the Town Library in the Public Room on July 12, 2017.

**F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Willett was not in attendance this evening. Mr. Adlerstein noted that at their last meeting, Dr. Willett had rolled out some detailed plans and potential options for addressing next year's, budget and he expects this will be discussed further at the next meeting.

**G. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS**

There were no reports. Ms. Gorsky said the Policy Committee meeting was rescheduled to July 26, 2017 at 2:30pm.

Mr. Adlerstein said he attended the Town Council meeting on Tuesday night and not having a State budget makes it very difficult to create the town budget. Meanwhile, the new school year will be starting in a matter of weeks. He said the town is sending out real estate bills based on last year. Until the State comes out with a budget, Tolland remains in limbo. He added that Town Manager Steve Werbner announced at the meeting that he will be retiring at the end of May, 2018, and his letter is posted on the town website.

Town Council member Kristen Morgan said the Town Council is planning some community forums, not just at Town Hall, but also going to places where people meet in town.

**H. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Mr. Adlerstein said dialogue is always useful and so he hoped to make good use of our state legislators who are with them this evening. He provided a one-page handout created by the collaborative efforts of the Connecticut Association of Board of Educations, Connecticut School Business Officials, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents and the Connecticut Association of Schools, entitled "Special Legislative Session Issues and Concerns."

Mr. Adlerstein asked those in attendance to break out into a few groups to discuss the obstacles and potential solutions for establishing a level funded educational budget by July 1,

2017, meaning having the State provide the same funding to the educational budget as they did the previous year.

Attendees broke out into three groups, each with one legislator, for about twenty minutes, then reported back the crux of their discussions.

Ms. Falusi, speaking for Rep. Ackert's group, said obstacles included the problem that Tolland is continually being compared to other municipalities that are not apples to apples in similarity. Tolland has a much smaller commercial base than some of the towns they are compared to, and this results in Tolland's residential base being more harshly impacted. Other obstacles on their list were the inability for legislators to work across party lines at the State level, the "Don't Knows" of the state budget, the lack of action in moving ideas forward, and the concern that there is no long-term, multi-year planning going on.

Rep. Ackert said that from his perspective, not having a cohesive group in Hartford, makes it difficult to make things happen. He noted that the Republicans have a plan that has been vetted line by line. He said with a need for \$40 billion and knowing they have less than \$35 billion in income, they cannot fund all of the necessary programs, so any plan is going to be very harsh. He said the State of Connecticut is being seen more and more as not a good investment, which puts them in a continually downward cycle.

Rep. Ackert said that under the Republican plan, Tolland would get an ECS (Educational Cost Sharing) increase of about \$90,000. There is also an OPM (Office of Policy and Management) bill that would result in Tolland losing about \$7 million in cost sharing revenues. The Governor's budget would result in about a \$5.6 million cut to Tolland. He said only one party—the Republicans—have come up with five budgets, two in the Senate and three in the House, but because the bipartisan effort didn't take place, they can't vote on anything. One party dictates and controls the process. Rep. Belsito said the Republican plan will not pass because it is a Republican budget. Rep. Ackert said none of the plans offer rainbows and will have harsh cuts. They either shift the burden to the State or to the towns. Rep. Ackert had to leave for another engagement, but before he left encouraged people to contact Speaker of the House Joe Aresimowicz, Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, and the Governor's office to voice their concerns.

Mr. Schroeder, speaking for Senator Guglielmo's group, said obstacles include having very little time left in this fiscal year to come out with a budget, and that the Speaker of the House has indicated he does not want to do a three-month mini-budget. Additionally, there are competing budget plans at the State, and the obstacle of what to do about teacher pensions. Potential solutions included a sales tax increase, bringing tolls back to the state, voting on the Senate Republican budget, as well as getting bipartisan cooperation and cutting the bureaucracy.

Senator Guglielmo said 32 percent of the State budget is wages and benefits. Mr. Adlerstein asked if this figure is in line with other states. Senator Guglielmo said Connecticut is only one of two states that collectively bargains wages and benefits. There is also the issue of COLA (cost of living adjustments) for retirees, as Connecticut figures in overtime when

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calculating the rate. He also added that tax increases only help in the short term, but down the road result in people leaving the state.

Ms. Morgan, speaking for Rep. Belsito's group, said their list of obstacles included that the State won't consider voting on the Republican budget, that Democrats want to increase taxes, the negative funding for the Lighthouse Plan for the district for special education, and the lack of focus on duplication. The solution needs to be a bipartisan effort.

Rep. Belsito said towns are not going to get what they need and they will all need to make some very difficult decisions.

Senator Guglielmo said the problem is that the Speaker of the House will not call a vote, and the reason is because the number of elected Democrats and Republicans is now a close number. It didn't used to be that way, so votes would be called because if there was a much larger number of one party over the other, the majority party could afford to have a number of their members not present because they were away on vacation. Now the Speaker does not want to risk calling a vote in case too many of their people cannot get back in time to vote.

Mr. Adlerstein brought up two slides. The first showed the cost equalized mill rates for each of Connecticut's towns, where Tolland falls at #49. The second slide showed the per-pupil spending, where Tolland ranked 16<sup>th</sup> from the bottom at #154. He said he expects Connecticut will need to move toward regionalization with schools, but how that will look is difficult to guess. He said Tolland is one of five to seven towns that are being hit the worst and they need to make the State understand that a \$5 million hit to Tolland is not something that can be absorbed.

Senator Guglielmo said Tolland's bond rating is one of the best in the State and its residents shouldn't be punished for being frugal and well-managed. Rep. Belsito said he agreed 100 percent and encouraged people to keep the faith.

I. BOARD ACTION

None.

J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

K. POINTS OF INFORMATION

Mr. Adlerstein said at their next meeting at the Town Library on July 12 that he expects Dr. Willett will expand on the scenarios he presented at the previous meeting, and that they will report on their discussion this evening

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

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**M. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Adlerstein said he expects to have an Executive Session at the next meeting to discuss personnel issues.

**N. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Moran made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schroeder. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Gentile  
Clerk (substitute)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND**

**ITEM:** Obsolete and Surplus Equipment

**ITEM SUBMITTED BY:** Walter Willett, Ph.D., Superintendent

**For BOE meeting:** July 12, 2017

**ITEM SUMMARY:**

The Administration requests that the Board of Education declare the attached items as obsolete and turn the items over to the Town Council in accordance with Board of Education Policy 3040, Disposal of Obsolete, or Surplus Equipment/Materials.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY:** [N/A or put in a summary]

**BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:** [N/A or put in a summary]

**BOE ACTION DESIRED:**

*Proposed motion: Motion to determine all items included in this report as obsolete and/or in disrepair and to turn the identified items over to the Town according to Board Policy 3040.*

**SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:**



### **Birch Grove**

Scanner HP5200C Ser#5695K132JK (office)  
Samsung DVR V5500 Ser#6Ray619118K (music room)  
RCA Monitor mod J32332 Ser#936624640 (music room)

### **Tolland Intermediate School Obsolete and Surplus Equipment List Submitted by Bethany Hill, TIS LMS**

Computer Tech  
Dell optional computer monitor stands (2)  
Keyboards (3)  
Labtec speakers (1)  
Mice (5)  
Obsolete and Surplus Equipment  
11 3M Overhead Projectors 213  
Bretford TV stand  
Luxor TV stand  
Philips Magnavox TV, not working  
RCA VCR, not working  
Sony TV  
VHS video camera stands (4)  
Magnavox VHS video camera  
Panasonic VHS video cameras - one in black case (2)  
Eiki overhead projector with no arm  
Buhl overhead projector with no arm  
LCD projector that no longer works with current technology  
Record players (2)  
Coby CD player - does not work  
GPX CD player - does not work  
Dukane filmstrip projectors (2)  
Kodak slide carousels (2)  
Magnavox VHS player  
Blue plastic case filled with non-working headphones  
Metal microphone stand bases, and silver covers

### **Obsolete Text Inventory Tolland Intermediate School - Language Arts/Reading**

Company	Grade	Title	# of books
Houghton Mifflin	5	Expeditions Basal	70
		Teachers Editions Sets	5

		Practice Workbooks Vol. 1	25
		Practice Workbooks Vol. 2	31
Houghton Mifflin	4	Traditions Basal (Blue)	60
Houghton Mifflin	3	Horizons 3.1 Basal (Purple)	41
		Horizons 3.2 Basal (Purple)	26
Scott Foresman	5	Seeing is Believing Basal (Red)	16
	5	Three Cheers Basal (Blue)	4
	5	Running Free Basal (Rust)	1
Macmillan/McGraw	5	Don't Forget to Fly Basal (Blue)	25
HBJ	5	Language (Salmon)	57
	4	Language (Purple)	80
Great Source	5	Write Source - Blue	70
	4	Write Source - Green	12
Silver Burgett and Ginn	3	English (Silver and Green)	21
Silver Burgett and Ginn	3	Geography of States and Regions	8

### **Tolland Middle School**

3 hanging wall maps - inaccurate, no longer part of the curriculum - left from THS

1 large TV (1999) Sharp 25VTK100 Serial # 352796 (Broken)

Standing lamp

Obsolete textbooks:

American Nations  
American History - All the People  
Reconstructing America  
Social Studies Workbooks  
Connected Math Workbooks  
US History Textbooks - Age of Extremes  
Obsolete Language Arts workbooks, textbooks, gradebooks  
Approximately 30 classroom chairs left from THS with metal pieces that are getting sharp - hazardous.

### **Tolland High School (McGrath)**

Spanish  
#23 Destinos textbooks 1992 McGraw Hill  
#19 Situaciones workbooks Level 3 Spanish for Mastery

French  
#18 Promenade et Perspectives 1987 French 3 textbooks, Scott Foresman  
#21 Connaitre et se connaitre readers 1980  
#10 Goosebumps in French Sous Sol Interdit  
#11 Goosebumps in French Sang de #24  
#22 readers Vol de la Joconde  
#24 Mystere de Faux Billets, 2000  
#11 Lettres de Mon Moulin, 1968

Latin  
#11 Jenney's Latin First Year books, 1990  
#14 Ecce Romani I, Longman publisher, 1995  
#15 Ecce Romani II, Longman, 1995  
#7 Ecce Romani III, Longman, 1995  
#16 Spartaci Filius, Reader, Casterman, 1983  
#8 Ancient Rome History, 1968  
6 boxes assorted Latin curriculum, vcrs and resource books  
#28 Latin/English dictionaries, Amsco Publication, #28

### **Maintenance (Sztaba)**

Clarke Floor scrubber, model # 00380A-2=obsolete, need of repair at Parker  
Windsor Admiral, mini-Kvac machine, model # ADM=obsolete, needs repairs, left at Parker  
Minuteman floor scrubber=obsolete, doesn't run, needs repairs  
Canon Calculator (Board office)  
Sharp Calculator (Board office)  
Quill Calculator (Board office)  
IBM Typewriter (Board office)

# MEETING MINUTES

## TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL HICKS MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM JUNE 27, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rick Field, Chair; William Eccles, Vice-Chair; Robert Green; Paul Krasusky and Kristen Morgan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Skoczulek and Joseph Sce

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steven Werbner, Town Manager; Mike Wilkinson, Director of Administrative Services; Lisa Hancock, Director of Finance and Records; John Littell, Fire Chief/Director of Public Safety

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Rick Field called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Observed.
4. **PROCLAMATIONS:** None.
5. **PUBLIC PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (*on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Town Council*) (2 minute limit): None.
6. **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS:** None.
- 7a. **REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO THE COUNCIL:** None.
- 7b. **REPORTS OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS:** **Robert Green, TWC:** It was a very productive meeting. The financials are very good, and things are moving in the right direction on all fronts. **Sam Adlerstein, BOE:** Colleen Yudichak was nominated to be the new Vice-Chair of the BOE. Ms. Yudichak and Karen Moran are stepping up as potential leaders. The Board spent a lot of time at the last meeting doing 'what-if' scenarios with the State budget, which will continue tomorrow night. He believes all three of the State Legislators will be in attendance at tomorrow night's BOE meeting. The Board has instructed Dr. Willett to put as much as he can into the 1% fund. They may need to tap into that to bridge whatever might happen. He is saving as much as he possibly can. Mr. Adlerstein explained what the 1% account is: This account must be used on non-recurring items. The Board will come to the Council to advise what they would like to use the funds for, and the Council will need to approve it. Mr. Field clarified that the Board does have control over how they would like to spend the funds. Ms. Hancock advised that the Ordinance is on-line regarding this.
8. **NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):**
  - 8.1 Consideration of a resolution appropriating \$2,150,879 for Capital Projects and authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes less any grants or other sources of funds received by the Town for said projects and the setting of a Public Hearing thereon for July 11, 2017.

Mr. Werbner said these are part of the Capital Improvement Plan, which was presented to the Council. The Council has the ability under the Town Charter to issue bonds not exceeding 5% of the current tax levy (\$2,162,863), without having to go to referendum. So these items may be acted upon outside of the budgetary

process. These are not affecting the General Fund balance. These are all borrowed funds under our debt plan. The amount they are requesting to borrow, that was in the Capital Improvement Plan, is \$2,150,879 less any grants or other sources of funds received by the Town to finance such appropriation for the following projects:

1. The cost for certain road pavement, parking lot and drainage improvements in an amount of \$200,000 to be financed with general obligation bonds and notes;
2. The cost of the Public Works garage renovations including the demolition of the existing metal frame portion of the building, replacement with a longer metal frame building, a wash bay, hookup to water and sewer system and lunch room for employees in the amount of \$1,349,779 to be financed with general obligations bonds and notes;
3. The cost of purchasing heavy machinery and equipment, such as a front line truck and a pavement roller in an amount of \$190,300 to be financed by general obligation bonds and notes.
4. The cost in the amount of \$410,800 that the Town is responsible for Engineering and other costs associated with the Old Cathole North project being mainly funded by the State of CT under the LoTCIP program. The State will pay their share of the costs directly.

Bill Eccles motioned that the following resolution be introduced and set down for a Public Hearing on July 11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Tolland Town Council Chambers:

RESOLVED, (1) That the Town of Tolland (the "Town") appropriate (i) the sum of \$200,000 for the cost of drainage and detention basin replacement and design, repairs and improvements to all or portions of certain town roads identified by the Town Manager and the Public Works Department (the "Drainage Project"), (ii) the sum of \$410,800 for the cost of the pavement resurfacing, sealing, repair and/or reconstruction of certain portions of Old Cathole Road North (the "Pavement Project"), (iii) the sum of \$1,349,779 for the cost of reconstruction, renovations and repairs to the Town's public works garage including, without limitation, the demolition of the existing metal frame portion of the building and its replacement with a longer metal frame building, the construction of a wash bay and lunch room for employees and hook-up of building to water and sewer systems (the "Garage Renovation Project"), and (iv) the sum of \$190,300 for the cost of purchasing heavy machinery and equipment, such as a front line dump truck to be used in connection with the transport of asphalt, gravel and other materials, plowing, sanding and such other purposes required by the Town and a pavement roller to be used in connection with the rolling of pavement, gravel and ballfields (the "Equipment Acquisition," together with the Drainage Project, the Pavement Project and the Garage Renovation Project, collectively, the "Projects"). The appropriations may be spent for design and construction costs, equipment, materials, site improvements, architects' fees, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Projects or their financing. The Town Council is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Projects. The Town Council may reduce or modify the scope of the Projects if funds are insufficient to complete all of the Projects, and the appropriations authorized hereby may be spent on the Projects as so reduced or modified. The Town Council may reallocate the appropriations among the Projects so long as the aggregate amount of the appropriations is not increased.

(2) That to finance said appropriation for the Drainage Project, the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 (or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds received by the Town for said project), to finance said appropriation for the Pavement Project, the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$410,800 (or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds received by the Town for said project), to finance said appropriation for the Garage Renovation Project, the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$1,349,779 (or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds received by the Town for said project), and to finance said appropriation for the Equipment Acquisition, the Town issue bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$190,300 (or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds received by the Town for said project). The bonds or notes

shall be issued pursuant to Chapter 109 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended (the "Connecticut General Statutes"), and any other enabling acts.

(3) That the Town issue and renew temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the Projects or the receipt of grants for the Projects. The amount of the notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed \$2,150,879. The notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the Connecticut General Statutes with respect to any notes that do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

(4) That the Town Manager and the Treasurer of the Town (the "Officials") be authorized to sign said bonds, notes or other obligations of the Town by their manual or facsimile signatures and to determine the amounts, rates of interest, dates, maturities, dates of principal and interest payments on such bonds, notes or other obligations, the form of such bonds, notes or other obligations; the provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of the holders of such bonds, notes or other obligations and all other terms, conditions and particular matters regarding the issuance and securing of such bonds, notes or other obligations and to execute, sell and deliver the same, and provide all supporting documentation as may be necessary or desirable to accomplish such purposes and to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12, and in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes and any other applicable provision of law thereto enabling. The bonds, notes and other obligations authorized hereby shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the full faith and credit of the Town.

(5) That the Officials are hereby authorized to designate a bank or trust company to be the certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for such bonds, notes and other obligations; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds, notes or other obligations; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds, notes or other obligations; that the law firm of Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C., Hartford, Connecticut, is designated as the attorneys at law to render an opinion approving the legality of such issue or issues.

(6) That the Officials are authorized to sell the bonds, notes or other obligations at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds, notes or other obligations; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds, notes or other obligations, including, but not limited to, entering into a continuing disclosure agreement pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12. If the bonds, notes or other obligations authorized by this resolution are issued on a tax-exempt basis, the Officials are authorized to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds, notes or other obligations, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(7) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the Projects. The Officials are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes or other obligations authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(8) That the Town Council shall approve any contracts with engineers, contractors, architects and other persons for the Projects.

(9) That the Town Manager is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town, to apply for and accept state grants to finance the appropriations for the Projects, and to execute and file any application or enter into any grant agreement prescribed by the State of Connecticut.

(10) That the Officials and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other actions which are necessary or desirable to complete the Projects consistent with the foregoing and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

Seconded by Robert Green. All in favor. None opposed.

- 8.2 Consideration of a resolution to appropriate \$116,517 for the Recreation Center Heating System and \$17,500 for the Fire Dept. Replacement AED Program and the setting of a Public Hearing thereon for July 11, 2017.

Mr. Werbner said these are capital projects that are funded by other sources other than the General Fund dollars. The Fire Department's replacement of AED's is an on-going program that is funded by revenue they receive from ambulance calls that goes into their equipment account. The improvements to the Recreation Center heating system are required because they are part of the Parker School heating system. As the Parker project is started, it will be cut off from that particular heating source. The funding source that they anticipate using for this project is as follows:

CIRMA Insurance Rebate Funds	\$ 40,030
Recreation Program Fund	26,487
Utility Fund	<u>50,000</u>
	\$116,517

Bill Eccles motioned that the following resolution be introduced and set down for a Public Hearing on July 11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in Tolland Town Council Chambers:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Tolland Town Council that it hereby appropriates as follows:

**FROM**

1. CIRMA Insurance Rebate Funds	\$ 40,030
Recreation Program Fund	26,487
Utility Fund	<u>50,000</u>
	\$116,517

2. Ambulance Reserve Fund the amount of \$17,500 for an replacement of AED Devices

**TO**

Accounts to be established in the Capital Projects fund.

Seconded by Robert Green. All in favor. None opposed.

- 8.3 Appointments to vacancies on various municipal boards/commissions: No appointments tonight.

- 8.4 Consideration of a resolution to approve the necessary funds to ratify IAFF (Firefighters) AFL-CIO Local 3954 Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period dated July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.

Mr. Werbner said this is the last of the three contracts that were up for negotiations. As with the other groups, the agreement is within the parameters that were established by the Council (2% wage increase over three years). The cost of the 2% in the next fiscal year is \$5,500 for the increase.

Bill Eccles motioned to accept the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tolland Town Council that it hereby approves the necessary funds to ratify IAFF (Firefighters) AFL-CIO Local 3954 Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period dated July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 and authorizes Steven R. Werbner, Town Manager, to execute said agreement on behalf of the Town of Tolland.

Seconded by Robert Green. All in favor. None opposed.

9. **OLD BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):** None.

10. **REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER (A WRITTEN REPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE MONTH ONLY):** Mr. Werbner reported on the budget. If there is not a budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>, there are two things that can happen. The Governor has proposed a mini budget, which would cover the first three months of the next fiscal year, or a Resource Allocation Plan which the Governor has authority to take certain fiscal actions to try to balance the State's resources based on the available dollars that he has to use without any new income. The Senate Democrats will meet to discuss the mini budget. The House Democrats have no desire to discuss a mini budget, and only want to discuss a full budget. The Republicans only want to talk about their budget, which includes drastic reductions to the concession agreement with the State labor unions, as well as significant labor laws with collective bargaining. There is no practical way to get a full budget passed by Thursday night. He believes the Resource Allocation Plan will become effective, and is the most devastating of the proposals put forth. What does this do for towns? It reduces the ECS grant program by \$515m.; It eliminates: all funding for priority school districts, the state property pilot program, college and hospital pilot programs, Pequot Mohegan fund, property tax relief, veteran's program, property tax elderly circuit breaker program, property tax elderly freeze program and it reduces the amount that is allocated for the municipal revenue sharing grant. Also, all municipal projects funding will not be authorized. He reviewed the effects of the Plan on Tolland. After the State adopts a budget, it would take Tolland a minimum of 6 weeks to go through their process. It is likely that Tolland will not have a budget until December. What do we do come September when school opens, and you don't have a budget. Do they start the year with everything status quo or do they plan based upon the variance of \$1m - \$9m? They do not know where things are going to line up. The State Legislatures are not worried about the municipalities. Mr. Werbner said they need to do something. They need to get into a room and hammer it out. This needs to be resolved. Tolland is in a devastating position. He believes there is going to be a need for some discussion between the Council and the BOE. At some point, Tolland is going to lose dollars, and it is not going to be a pretty picture.

Mr. Field agreed with Mr. Werbner. He is disappointed. He did post on social media saying that he thought the only place that had politicians that couldn't do their job and couldn't govern were in Washington D.C. Apparently, he is wrong. The people in Hartford don't seem to have a clue. They were elected to do the budget. The Legislators need to get off their butts and go to work. They are not doing their jobs.

Mr. Krasusky said they need to quit playing the politics.

Mr. Eccles made the comment that both parties are represented on this Council, and they all seem to work together. They are Tolland residents first, and then Connecticut residents. This isn't politics; these are lives that they are messing with.



Discussion continued regarding the budget and possible different plans they could use to try to deal with it.

Mr. Werbner suggested having community meetings to see where the residents stand. How much of an increase are they willing to pay? To the extent that any work can be done up front, before a budget is received from the State, it would allow them to be ahead of the game.

Mr. Werbner read a letter into the record:

It has been my distinct honor to serve as Tolland's Town Manager since 2005. Tolland is an outstanding community made up of wonderful residents who give countless hours volunteering for Boards and Commissions which help to guide the Town's present day activities as well as its future. I have been blessed during my tenure here to work with outstanding Councils, most who have served in a non-partisan fashion always focused on the best interests of Tolland.

After much soul searching I have decided to retire on or before May 31, 2018. I have served in local government since starting off as an intern in Manchester in 1976 and am proud of what I have been able to accomplish in my over forty year professional career. My original intent was to retire in early January, however, I appreciate that the budget turmoil we face resulting from the lack of a State budget as well as a municipal election in November make it a difficult time to start a recruitment process for Town Manager. Therefore after discussions with the Town Council it was agreed that I will continue working under the same terms and conditions as currently structured until May 31, 2018 so that I can complete the current budget process, the 2018/19 budget as well as assist with the Manager Selection process. Should the Town Manager selection process result in an appointment of a new Town Manager prior to May 31, I can adjust my retirement date accordingly.

I am pleased that I am leaving for my successor an organization that is comprised of some of the finest employees at all levels. Those who I work most closely with at the Department Head level as well as the employees in the Town Manager's Office are of the highest caliber and are well suited to carry forward the strong professional work ethic which is now instilled within the organization.

While in Tolland I am most proud of how we have been able to build a strong organizational structure highlighted by the strong financial position we find ourselves in and our Triple A bond rating which is unique amongst Towns our size with similar demographics. I am also proud of the projects accomplished from completion of the new high school, to renovating the basement of the Senior Center, the retro fit and remodeling of the Town Hall, the improvements to Parks such as Cross Farms and the installation of artificial turf and lights at the High School Field, the renovations and expansion of the Library, the infrastructure improvements made on 195 to allow for future economic development possibilities, the conversion of many of our school buildings to geothermal and the planning for the expansion of the Highway Garage and retrofit of the former Parker School to 37 units of elderly housing. I am also proud of my role in helping to foster the creation of the Eastern Connecticut Health Insurance Program of which I have served as Chair since its inception. By collaborating with other Towns and Board of Educations and East Conn we were able to self-insure rather than fully insure our health benefit program saving the Town millions of dollars in premium cost over a five year period of time.

Tolland faces many challenges in the coming years however I am confident that the community as it has done in the past will come together to develop appropriate paths for success moving forward. I want to thank the residents of this Town for the assistance they have provided me over the years and I will always remember the warm reception which I along with my family received

when first moving to this community. I look forward to the next chapter of my life but will remember with fondness my time in this community.

With Best Regards,

Steve Werbner

Mr. Field said Mr. Werbner has done a great job for this town, and will be missed.

**11. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 11.1 June 13, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes: Bill Eccles moved to adopt the minutes; Seconded by Robert Green. All in favor. None opposed. Kristen Morgan abstained.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL**

- 12.1 Email from Betsy Gara re: the budget
- 12.2 Email from DRVM re: treated road salt for 2017 – 2018 winter season
- 12.3 Email from Mary Knowles re: town ice cream truck
- 12.4 Magazine Connecticut Town and City re: blind budgeting

**13. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Mr. Field reported the following:

- ~ He is feeling down that Tolland is losing Mr. Werbner.
- ~The tax bills sent out only reflect ½ a year. He advised that if you want to pay your full tax bill in your July 1<sup>st</sup> installment, you can do so using the numbers from last year. Although, you will need to pay the difference once the budget is finalized in the January installment.

**14. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS FROM COUNCILPERSONS:** None.

**15. PUBLIC LISTED PARTICIPATION** (*on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Town Council*)  
(3 minute limit)

**Deb Goetz of 176 Kate Lane:** She thanked Mr. Werbner for his work and for staying on during the budget process. She asked if there was a way to split up the second installment, which is currently unknown.

*Mr. Werbner said no. The installments are set by state statute.*

With regard to the January installment, she asked if they had any insight as to what residents can plan for. Will it be a 10% increase, a 15% increase or what?

*Mr. Field said they have no clue right now. Mr. Eccles said they will be putting a number out for people to vote on at some point. They could put a number out now, but it may change.*

With regard to the suggestion of doing community workshops regarding the budget, she believes they will get the same voices they always hear. She suggested that they do some type of listening tour where they go out into the community, such as the Senior Center, book clubs, etc.

She said everyone deserves the raises that they have received, especially the firefighters, but has anyone asked if the town or the school employees will delay their raises for a time period?

*Mr. Werbner said he is holding off on any increases at this point in time for any unaffiliated department heads of the town. With the employees, he will wait until he knows what they are working with. Then, he might go back to the unions and ask if they are willing to do something with their raises in order to save jobs or services. It certainly is on the agenda, but they don't know where they are at right now.*

**Sam Adlerstein of 164 Pine Hill Road:** He asked what a scenario would be if a mini budget was passed.

*Mr. Werbner said there is about \$300m of new revenue that the Governor has incorporated as a result of suggestions that have been made either in the Democratic or Republican budgets. The Governor said it would*

*help offset some of the decreases to some of the municipal aid programs. They have yet to produce any of the town by town runs for the mini budget. From what they have said, the reductions are bad, just not as bad as the Resource Allocation Plan. He is going to try and get more information on this tomorrow.*

16. **ADJOURNMENT:** Bill Eccles moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Robert Green at 8:37 p.m. All were in favor.

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Richard J. Field, Council Chair

**Michelle A. Finnegan**  
**Town Council Clerk**