

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

REGULAR MEETING

7:30 – 10:00 P.M.

AGENDA
May 23, 2018

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 – May 9, 2018

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. CORRESPONDENCE

E. POINTS OF INFORMATION

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

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- G.1 POCD-Andy Powell
- G.2 Summer Meeting Review - July 11, July 25 and August 8 BOE meetings
- G.3 Board of Education Goals
- G.4 Food Service Meeting

H. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

I. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

J. BOARD ACTION

K. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (2-minute limit)

Comments must be limited to items on this agenda.

L. POINTS OF INFORMATION

Town Council Special Meeting – April 24, 2018

Town Council Meeting – May 8, 2018

M. FUTURE

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Superintendent Evaluation

O. NEW BUSINESS

P. ADJOURNMENT

TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

Hicks Municipal Center
Council Chambers
Tolland, CT 06084

REGULAR MEETING – May 9, 2018

Members Present: Ms. Colleen Yudichak, Chair; Ms. Karen Moran, Vice Chair; Ms. Susan Seaver, Ms. Jane Pasini, Ms. Christina Plourd, Mr. Jeff Schroeder, Mr. Sam Adlerstein

Members Absent: Ms. Michelle Harrold, Secretary, Mr. Bob Pagoni

Administrators Present: Dr. Walter Willett, Superintendent of Schools; Mark McLaughlin, Business Director

A. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Yudichak called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting – April 25, 2018

Ms. Plourd motioned to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2018 regular meeting. Ms. Pasini seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

D. CORRESPONDENCE - none

E. POINTS OF INFORMATION - none

F. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT – Alexandra Simon and Mallory Goldsmith

- Band
 - Band will march in the Memorial Day Parade
 - Band will play the *Star Spangled Banner* at the Hartford Yard Goats' game on Thursday, May 31st; a band member will throw out the first pitch; tickets are \$17 and some of this will go to the music program
- NHS held its induction last night. It was a great event and many juniors were inducted.
- Some Student Council members met with the Director of Food Services. They discussed forming student focus groups so the Director could hear from students across all grades what they would like to see such as more vegetarian and vegan options.
- Student Council is reviewing fundraising opportunities and is considering a car wash.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

G.1. Monthly Financial Report

Dr. Willett reviewed attachment G.1.

The April 2018 financial report shows an available balance of \$2,162,867 or 5.5% of the BOE's current budget. The BOE anticipates fulfilling its 2017-2018 budget obligations in accordance with CGS 10-222 and the district is continuing to write grants.

Ms. Plourd inquired if the object detail page could be provided with future financial reports and inquired about 2 line items: stipends and pension/severance. Mr. McLaughlin explained some of the items on the financial report roll a number of accounts into a single line vs. the object detail report.

Mr. Schroeder noted that there has been a significant savings on the Tuition Education Agency and Student Transportation Services lines and inquired what is contributing to the positive balances. Dr. Willett explained that this is partially due to fewer outplacements and they are seeing a positive change due to the benefits being realized by some of the district's programs.

G.2. Piano Donation

Dr. Willett reviewed attachment G.2.

A donation of an upright Baldwin piano with a value of \$2,000 was made to TMS. Any donation with a value in excess of \$500, per Policy 3050, requires written communication and a presentation of the information to the Board for official recognition. The Board thanked the donor.

G.3. Goals

Dr. Willett reviewed attachment G.3.

Tonight the Board addressed the goal activity for the third time. Prior to the meeting, the members ranked the items previously discussed. An aggregate of this information is available in the attachment. Items #6, #9, #7, #11, #15, and #8 were the highest ranking.

A discussion regarding the next step in the process of goal setting took place including how many goals the Board would like to put in place.

Mr. Adlerstein recommended editing item #11 to read as follows, "Create a broad coalition of impassioned residents focused on Strategic Prevention with positive momentum, a method, and leadership in place to move it along."

Ms. Seaver recommended combining items #6 & #7 and Mr. Schroeder suggested rewording item #2 to reflect "working more closely with the Town Council." Discussion took place on both. Dr. Willett recommended using terminology that refers to encouraging development of quality special programs that can be alternatives to outplacement rather than using terminology as a goal to have fewer outplacements. The district wants to create amazing quality programs in Tolland that people want to be a part of that will be a great alternative to any other outplacement options. The Board having goals that encompass items #6 & #7 will allow it to support what is needed for the programs as options arise. For this to happen effectively there needs to be flexibility to ensure the programs retain their value.

Also discussed were community workshops. Dr. Willett noted that attendance at these workshops by members of the Board is critical to provide weight and to show support of the programs. The Board has an important role of advocacy and promotion. Dr. Willett explained that boards of education help by supporting regulations, policies, financial ideas they believe are important, and encouragement and development when it comes time to put political weight behind an issue such as SBAC testing, assessments, and mastery-based

learning. Having the elected members support something such as mastery- learning assists in the Superintendent in being able to get into the League of Innovative Schools.

Dr. Willett recommended that the Board's goals include shared services, Strategic Prevention Framework, mastery-based learning, and financial support for curriculum. The goals should reflect the Board's core values.

Mr. Adlerstein explained that the Board's goal should be to achieve the top priorities including an alternative to outplacement, a tuition-based program, mastery-based learning, Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF), and improved curriculum support. Ms. Moran added that she would be ok with some of the goals being moderately broad/specific to identify the focus of Tolland's BOE for the public.

Dr. Willett clarified the six goals as: mastery-based learning and responsive education, tuition programs, alternatives to outplacements, curriculum development, SPF, and shared services. These are items: #6, #7, #8, #9, #11, and a combination of #3 and #17. Mr. Schroeder recommended adding technology as well and recommended the following as goals: item #6, item #7, item #9, item #11, item #8, combine items #3 and #17, combine items #2 and #14, and item #10. This list is in the order of priority as determined by the Board members via their survey responses.

A brief discussion of meetings took place. Ms. Plourd recommended coordinating the schedule of the workshops so that they fall during weeks when other meetings have not been scheduled. Ms. Moran noted that they have been doing this with the community workshops and added that the weekly Superintendent's Bulletin lists all of the upcoming workshops and meetings.

Dr. Willett spoke in regard to mastery-learning and responsive education. By focusing on these, the Board members will make themselves experts on these topics so they will have an understanding and become advocates of the programs. Although not a tangible item a goal can be to be an advocate for a philosophy. This an important and attainable goal.

A discussion took place regarding having a subcommittee to wordsmith eight items into a concise list (items #6, #7, #8, #9, #11, #3 & #17, #2 & #14, #10). The Board was in agreement with the goals articulated. It was decided that the Communication Committee would take on this task.

G.4. 1% Fund – (up for review 8-27-2018)

Item G.5 was addressed first and then the Board returned to item G.4.

Dr. Willett reviewed attachment G.4 which provides an overview of the fund and noted that there are additional resources regarding this topic on the Dashboard. Recently at the state level, on March 29th, the House of Representatives came up with an act that would allow up to 2% to be put into the reserve fund rather than up to 1%. It was noted on the local level, with regard to the ordinance, that this item comes up for review this year in August between the BOE and Town Council as it does every 5 years.

Mr. Adlerstein commented that last year, an unusual year, the Town Council used the 1% fund as a way to balance the budget. Given the language, the Council cannot do this. In

turn, he would like to clarify with the Town Council that it is as written and not an unassigned reserve prior to June 30th. Money put into the fund is for educational purposes. Mr. Schroeder recommended reviewing the document now and again if the allowable contribution amount changes.

Ms. Plourd commented that there needs to be better communication with the Council on what happened this year and the year before. At the State level there is massive support for the fund and from the outside looking in, it appears to be a way to find efficiencies and put money into a savings account for the school system – a fiscally responsible plan. That said, the use of the fund does not seem to have been responsible. It would have been taking money from salaries and putting it in the 1% fund. She explained that to people on the outside, it is seen that they are being overtaxed in order to fund the reserve. In turn, she does not believe the discussion with the Council can be that the Board wants it in writing in a particular way but that they should look at the history. As a Board, they should discuss what the fund should be used for and communicate with the Council. Ms. Plourd added that she believes they should have hired the interventionists. If the Board is about the students and cost avoidance, then at minimum they should have been hired. Ms. Plourd explained that she is not blaming anyone but they cannot find efficiencies with the salaries and then not tell people.

Dr. Willett commented he does not think that during the processes over the last two years that anyone acted irresponsibly. The BOE and TC tried to react to the information available. Making statements in January that would guarantee that the Town would have anything in June would have been precarious. Between January and June, no one knew what other surprises might arise. Uncertainty is dangerous. In regard to the 1% fund, there is great support for it. It is not philosophically different than an unassigned/unencumbered balance on the side of the town. The house supports Educational Reserve Funds because there are fluctuations in things like special education as well as capital projects and other items.

Dr. Willett explained that it does not make sense for the Town and Board to be divided. The 1% fund was not used irresponsibly and was used to offset the tax impact on the Town which includes the Board. People are working to find solutions in difficult circumstances and he does not believe that anyone has done anything wrong. The fund still has tremendous usefulness even if it is just used to offset special education fluctuations. If a few students with special needs move into Town in May, for example, there could be a hundred thousand or more in fluctuation at a critical moment of the budget. If the Board did not have the money it would have to go to the Town so it makes sense to have a reserve.

Ms. Plourd clarified that she does believe the fund is a good thing and will communicate with her Senator in favor of it. Her concern is with the communication with the Council. She is not blaming anyone and recommended for next year's budget putting this as one of the goals and holding the Board accountable so what is promised in the budget is delivered. In the current budget, the Board promised people interventionists, a business teacher and others. The people voted on the budget and it passed because of these things but those positions were not filled.

Mr. Adlerstein commented that there were items in the budget that were needed such as the staff including the interventionists that were not done. As to why they did not follow through there were many reasons. Ms. Plourd responded that she knows there were other reasons and when they go to the Council they need to have this conversation.

Dr. Willett explained that in last year's budget situation when it was not approved until November, the district was looking at unstable budget fluctuations at the State level. Given this, how was it wrong not to overspend? Everyone's intentions were good. To label that something was done wrong will only foster continued division which will affect the community.

Mr. Adlerstein explained in regard to the district not hiring the staff, at that time it faced the risk of losing over \$1M in funding. The Town Council never said there would not be a risk of further holdbacks. It would have been irresponsible to hire staff given the situation. If the Town Council said to go ahead, take the risk, and do what was in the budget, then the district would have hired the staff.

Dr. Willett noted that it could look disingenuous to label actions as right or wrong if it is valued when one elected body takes a certain action, but disparaged when another elected body takes a similar action. The same items need to be defended on both sides. Ms. Yudichak added that the 1% fund was done to show transparency but it has caused tension. Ms. Moran agreed and added that it was to prevent what has been called, "Christmas in June". The Board and the Town Council need to discuss it.

Dr. Willett will speak with the Town Manager regarding the fund and Ms. Yudichak and Ms. Moran will speak with Mr. Eccles and Mr. Skoczulek respectively in regard to the 1% fund being available only for education and how to handle the 5-year review.

G.5. POCD

Ms. Samokar sent a survey regarding the POCD to Ms. Moran which she distributed to the Board members. The questions were broad and topics included spatial needs and community facilities. Ms. Samokar's response was that she spoke with PZC about the Board's concerns. The budget and scope of work for the POCD update does not include a session with the Board. Mr. Powell, a member of the PZC, was assigned to communicate with the Board through the Superintendent. Ms. Moran would like to see more conversation regarding the Board's needs in the future, particularly as it pertains to the POCD. The conversations she has had with the Town Manager and the Town Council around the strategic plan for the future of Tolland often came back that such discussions should take place when they work on the POCD. Mr. Adlerstein commented that there is a perception that education is one of the drivers of why people choose to live in Tolland and this needs to be in the POCD in some form and is concerned that it is just about buildings.

The Superintendent will reach out to Mr. Powell to learn when he can attend a Board meeting for further discussion and assemble documents for the session. The Board has some questions on what information the PZC is seeking regarding the POCD. Is it about buildings or the strategic vision for the Town?

G.6. Shared Services Committee Information and Nomination

Dr. Willett reviewed attachment G.6.

Ms. Yudichak received a call from Mr. Eccles who was concerned about adding a 4th BOE member. Ms. Yudichak explained that the only two options are for a BOE member to step down or for Mr. Adlerstein to be an alternate on the Committee. The Committee currently has three Town Council members and three Board of Education members. Mr. Adlerstein had expressed interest in joining the Committee and has background in this area.

Ms. Yudichak appointed Mr. Adlerstein to the Shared Services Committee as an alternate.

H. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

- Shared Services – a Shared Services meeting will be scheduled for after the next Town Council meeting.
- Finance and Facilities – the Committee met on Monday and discussed safety and security processes (the feeling was that the members were comfortable in this regard), expansion of mental health services (future agenda item for the Board), and the 1% fund
- Communications – the Committee did not meet but Ms. Moran attended the Tolland Elementary PTO (Birch Grove and TIS) meeting on Monday evening. At this meeting the following was discussed: the principals presented reports, a guest author spoke (funded by TEPTO), mileage club started, kindergarten screenings have begun, the placement process is underway, the fire drill was successful, SBACs are almost complete, focus groups for culturally responsive education, math pathways, Tolland Green Day (upcoming), 5th grade promotion ceremony, poetry month in the Library was a success, 1st grade students visited the library to get their library cards, Spring Fling is on May 17th, bus driver appreciation.

In regard to prom photos on the Green, the district does not sponsor this event but Dr. Willett does do paperwork to ensure resources are assigned. That said, he recommended that the community considering choosing another location such as the beautiful Crandall Park for photographs. The traffic on the green can make the location precarious.

Ms. Moran reminded people about the upcoming Charter Revision Meetings (Workshop, May 17th, 7PM, Library Program Room; Tuesday, May 22nd, 7PM, Council Chambers, Town Council Meeting where the Charter Revision Commission will present the draft.)

- Town Council Liaison – Ms. Yudichak attended last night's meeting. At the meeting there was a proclamation to honor the Tolland Lion's Club 2018 Citizens of the Year – Laurel & Steve Leibowitz who do so much for the Town and the schools. The Board also expressed its thanks to them. Lastly, the Town's AAA rating was renewed.
- PTO Liaison – Mr. Adlerstein attended the TMS PTO meeting last night. They discussed bus driver appreciation and plans for hosting a walk-a-thon fundraiser sometime in middle to late October. Lastly, if anyone is interested in volunteering, PTO officer positions are open.

I. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Ms. Yudichak noted that she spoke with Mr. Eccles and Mr. Skoczulek regarding having a workshop to discuss goals. They were in favor of having a subcommittee (due to there being so many meetings) but were open to having a session with both entities if there is not a facilitator. They felt that the last meeting got a bit off topic. They want to come out of the meeting with goals. Ms. Moran commented that the Board would like it to be a workshop so they could work together and other items could be discussed. Ms. Yudichak responded that the discussion of other items could be done at another session.

The Board discussed that the meeting should begin with a review of the current working agreement and then they could build from it. Once complete, goals could be addressed. Mr. Adlerstein noted that if the facilitator was prepared with what they would like to see at the meeting then she could accommodate the request.

Ms. Yudichak will speak with Mr. Eccles again and Ms. Moran will speak with Mr. Skoczulek.

Ms. Seaver motioned to extend the meeting past 10PM. Ms. Pasini seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dr. Willett noted that now that there has been some synthesis of the goals planned (which will be worked on by the Communications Committee), he inquired if there should be a set of mutual goals, or if the meeting is to discuss each other's goals, find solidarity, and sign the working agreement. He believes many of the goals of the two entities are convergent.

J. BOARD ACTION - none

K. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

L. POINTS OF INFORMATION - none
(Town Council Meeting – April 24, 2018)

M. FUTURE
• Expansion of mental health services at the schools

N. NEW BUSINESS - none

O. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Schroeder motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 P.M. Mr. Adlerstein seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pascuzzi
Clerk

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: Planning of Conservation

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

FOR BOE MEETING: May 23, 2018

ITEM SUMMARY:

Mr. Andy Powell will attend tonight's meeting to discuss the Planning of Conservation and Development and next steps.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

N/A

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

N/A

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Discussion regarding POCD efforts and mutual interests with regard to the Town and School System.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: Summer Meeting Review

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

FOR BOE MEETING: May 23, 2018

ITEM SUMMARY:

Annually the Board of Education considers the cancellation of some of the summer meetings. The topic of cancellation of the board meetings for July 11, July 25 and August 8 is therefore presented for discussion.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

N/A

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

N/A

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Review dates – first reading.

Consideration of BOE meetings and dates. If cancellation is desired:

Potential Move to Action.

Potential Motion: Motion to cancel the Board of Education meetings for July 11, July 25, and August 8.

First, Second, Discussion, and Vote.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: BOE Goals

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

FOR BOE MEETING: May 23, 2018

ITEM SUMMARY:

The communications committee and Jeff Schroeder met to synthesize the BOE goals and came up with the following:

Goal 1: <i>Support and encourage specialized programs that can serve as alternatives to outplacement</i>
Goal 2: <i>Support and encourage the development of tuition programs</i>
Goal 3: <i>Support the implementation of Mastery Learning and Responsive Education initiatives</i>
Goal 4: <i>Support and encourage Curriculum Development, and Teaching & Learning best practice</i>
Goal 5: <i>Engage in the Strategic Prevention Framework</i>
Goal 6: <i>Engage the Superintendent to explore and research shared service opportunities</i>
Goal 7: <i>Engage Town, State, and Federal officials to discuss and advocate for education</i>
Goal 8: <i>Foster the continued development of instructional technology</i>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

N/A

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

N/A

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Board review of goals as part of the goal setting process. Adoption to be followed by meeting with TC. Potential Move to Action.

Potential Motion: *Motion to accept the Board of Education goals for 2018-2019.*

First, Second, Discussion, Vote.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA ITEM BACKGROUND

ITEM: Food Service Meeting

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

FOR BOE MEETING: May 23, 2018

ITEM SUMMARY:

The Student Council met with Ms. Kassman-Harned, Director of Food Service. It was reported to be a very productive meeting. They discussed Federal guidelines that the program must follow when planning the different meal options at each school and reviewed many of the vegetarian and vegan options that are available daily at the high school, as well as why dairy is used so often in the vegetarian meals.

Ms. Kassman-Harned noted that if students have specific needs or allergies, she can develop meal plans for that student, if they wish to buy lunch on a regular basis. Possibilities were discussed for promoting options for next year, with possible videos for the morning announcements. Ms. Kassman-Harned would like to create a focus group of students to meet with her on a regular basis to discuss meal options.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

N/A

BOARD ATTORNEY REVIEW:

N/A

BOE ACTION DESIRED:

Review of information requested.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED:

None.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL TOLLAND SENIOR CENTER APRIL 24, 2018 – 12:30 P.M.

ANNUAL BUDGET PRESENTATION

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson William Eccles, Brenda Falusi

OTHERS PRESENT: Steven Werbner, Town Manager; Michael Wilkinson, Director of Administrative Services; Lisa Hancock, Director of Finance and Records; Walter Willett, Superintendent

Chairperson Eccles gave his presentation. He outlined the budget goals: maintain or improve services, hold taxes at a reasonable amount, maintain creditworthiness; and make progress towards self-reliance. While the fund balance could be used to pay for capital items; that would work against Tolland's current credit rating. A good credit rating helps Tolland get lower interest rates when it needs to borrow. Also, Tolland is dependent on a state government which looks at financially well run towns, with higher incomes like Tolland, as a way to fund towns which have bad management or lower than average income levels. This funding scenario will lower Tolland's state grants, which funds a large part of its education system. Chairperson Eccles reviewed the budget expenditures. The 2018-2019 budget is \$56,170,697. With no use of fund balance, the mill rate increases 1.40 mills, or 4.07%. With use of \$690,000 in fund balance, the mill rate would increase by 0.86 mill, or 2.49%. A slide was discussed showing how the tax increase would affect three homes at low, medium and high market values. The differences are \$8.42, \$13.50 and \$25.75 respectively. There were several questions from a resident at the presentation relating to the budget and Town and BOE operations. Chairperson Eccles reviewed the referendum question: Voting will take place at the Library Program Room on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Presentation ended at 1:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Wilkinson
Director of Administrative Services

MEETING MINUTES

TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL HICKS MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER 6th FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM MAY 8, 2018 – 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Eccles, Chair; David Skoczulek, Vice-Chair; Brenda Falusi; Tammy Nuccio; John Reagan; Paul Reynolds and Christine Vincent

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steven Werbner, Town Manager; Michael Wilkinson, Director of Administrative Services; Christopher Jordan, Assistant Finance Director; Linda Byam, President of the Tolland Public Library Foundation

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** William Eccles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Observed.
4. **PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**
 - 4.1 Proclamation – Honoring Tolland Lions Club 2018 Citizen(s) of the Year – Laurel & Steve Leibowitz

Mr. Eccles read the following Proclamation:

Tolland Lions Club 2018 Citizens of the Year Laurel and Steve Leibowitz

WHEREAS, the Tolland Lions Club has selected outstanding Tolland citizens who have tirelessly volunteered many hours over many years for the betterment of Tolland; and

WHEREAS, Laurel and Steve started the “Tolland Challenge Little League” and continuously supported, managed and coached for the last 22 years; and

WHEREAS, they continued to run the “All Star Bowling League” during winter months which was started by their daughter, Jen, 10 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Laurel has been a strong advocate for the Lions Pediatric Eye Screening; and

WHEREAS, she was also very active in the Tolland Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, Steve helped run “The Eagle Scramble”, a fund raising golf tournament benefitting the Tolland High School sports programs; and

WHEREAS, he was also a Volunteer EMT for the Tolland Fire Department and continues to hold a special membership there.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William N. Eccles, Chair of the Tolland Town Council, on behalf of the Town Council and community at large, do hereby congratulate Laurel and Steve Leibowitz on their Tolland Lions Club Citizens

of the Year award, and commend and recognize them for their endless efforts and continued volunteerism to enhance the lives of Tolland's residents.

5. **PUBLIC PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (*on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Town Council*) (2 minute limit):

Laurie Worth of 268 Hunter Road: They are concerned about the town owned property at 215 Hunter Road, which is the Peaceful Valley Barn and property. They were at the Tolland Ag meeting last night to discuss it, where there was a good discussion. She wants to make sure that this is brought to the Council's attention. It is a beautiful place, and it has been a beautiful place for years.

Mr. Eccles said he did review the minutes of the Ag Commission and it is his understanding that they will be contacting the current renter to see what her intentions are.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS:** None.

7a. **REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO THE COUNCIL:**

Brief overview on activities and any major issues that will be undertaken by:

7a.1. Tolland Public Library Foundation: Linda Byam, President of the Foundation spoke. A PowerPoint was submitted to the Council in their packet providing information on the Foundation. Ms. Byam provided the background and purpose of the Foundation, the names of the Board of Directors, spoke a bit about their major accomplishments for 2016-2017, and the 2017-2018 goals.

7b. **REPORTS OF TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS:** **Christine Vincent, Ag Commission:** She was unable to attend the meeting, but made mention that Linda Palmer is not seeking reappointment for the next term. She has done a tremendous amount of work, and for that they thank her. **Paul Reynolds, Highway Garage Construction Committee:** They received their building permit at the meeting. They are outlining safety requirements and the separation of the town property from the construction site. There is a lot of work in a tight schedule. **David Skoczulek, PCC:** They are in Memorial Day Parade mode. **Blight Committee:** They are still looking for two more members. **Bill Eccles, EDC:** No new business was discussed. **John Reagan, WPCA:** They spoke of delinquencies and Lisa did a budget presentation. **Tammy Nuccio, Recreation Committee:** The heating system is all set and is running well, they are reviewing the current field uses policy; Trails Day is June 3rd, a fun run is scheduled, and a pickle ball tournament is scheduled for June 9th. They are also looking at a site for a cycling cross tournament. **Brenda Falusi, PZC:** Marijuana dispensaries were discussed, they are still working on the VCS, they received an update on the POCD survey responses, and a church is interested in going up in the Industrial Park area. **Colleen Yudichak, BOE:** She congratulated the Council on the budget passing. She asked when a joint meeting could be held to discuss goals. Tomorrow night, some of things they will discuss are the BOE's goals and the 1% fund.

8. **NEW BUSINESS (ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS):**

8.1 General budget discussion and consideration of a resolution to establish a mill rate.

Mr. Werbner advised that the FY 2018-19 Town Operating & Capital Budget of \$56,170,697 was approved by voters at the May 1, 2018 referendum. The budget reflects a spending increase of \$450,450 or .81% which requires a tax rate of 35.34 mills. The requirement to set the mill rate is in Section C9-7 of the Charter. The Charter provision states that the Council shall fix the mill rate ten days after the annual Budget referendum.

David Skoczulek motioned to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the proposed FY 2018-2019 budget of \$56,170,697 passed at referendum on May 1, 2018.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tolland Town Council that it hereby sets a mill rate of 35.34 mills and authorizes the Town Manager or his designee to mail out tax bills reflecting this final rate with an assigned due date of July 1, 2018.

Seconded by Tammy Nuccio. All in favor. None opposed.

8.2 Consideration of a Resolution designating the Closeout of Certain Bond financed projects and reducing the authorized and unissued amounts for such projects.

Mr. Werbner said there are various old capital projects that had bond authorizations associated with the total amount of the project. These projects have been completed. Some of the remaining balances are for the difference between State grant funding and the total appropriation. We cannot issue any debt in excess of the difference between the grant funding and the original appropriation. Since the projects have been completed and all grant funding has been received we need to officially close the bonding resolution.

David Skoczulek motioned to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the projects and purposes set forth on Schedule A below (the "Projects") are hereby determined to be complete, or are no longer intended to be completed, and are, therefore, to be closed out; and

WHEREAS, such closeouts affect the appropriations and authorized/unissued bond amounts of the Projects; and

WHEREAS, Schedule A below sets forth the amounts of reductions of appropriations and bond authorizations (see column labeled "Reduction") for the Projects; and

WHEREAS, after such reductions are made, the revised appropriation and authorized/unissued bond amount for each Project will be zero dollars (\$0.00).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Projects set forth on Schedule A below are hereby determined to be complete, or are no longer intended to be completed because of changes in circumstances, and that the appropriations and bond authorizations for the Projects are hereby reduced in the amounts set forth on Schedule A, and that the revised appropriation and authorized/unissued bond amount for each Project is hereby determined to be zero dollars (\$0.00).

SCHEDULE A

<u>Project and Authorization Date</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Revised Appropriation and Authorized/Unissued Bond Amount</u>
2011-12 Various Capital Projects - 7/26/11	\$101,509	\$0
2013-14 Various Capital Projects - 7/9/13	\$500	0
School Security Project – 12/9/14	\$65,217	0

Seconded by Paul Reynolds. William Eccles; David Skoczulek; Brenda Falusi; Tammy

Nuccio; John Reagan; Paul Reynolds and Christine Vincent in favor. None opposed.

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

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

10. **REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER (A WRITTEN REPORT SHALL BE PROVIDED THE 1ST MEETING OF THE MONTH ONLY):** Mr. Eccles congratulated Mr. Werbner, Ms. Hancock and their staff for receiving two (2) triple A ratings with Standard and Poor and Fitch. Mr. Werbner said they are waiting to see what happens with some important Bills, one of which is the Crumbling Foundation Bill. He believes Tolland should be ok financially.

11. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 11.1 April 10, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes: David Skoczulek moved to adopt the minutes; Seconded by Christine Vincent. All in favor. None opposed. Tammy Nuccio abstained.
- 11.2 April 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes: David Skoczulek moved to adopt the minutes; Seconded by Christine Vincent. All in favor. None opposed. Tammy Nuccio abstained.
- 11.3 April 23, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes: David Skoczulek moved to adopt the minutes; Seconded by Paul Reynolds. All in favor. None opposed. Brenda Falusi, John Reagan and Christine Vincent abstained.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE TO COUNCIL**

- 12.1 Various advertising items

13. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Nothing to report.

14. **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS FROM COUNCILPERSONS:** Ms. Falusi commented that Friday was National Firefighters Day. She thanked the firefighters for their dedicated and faithful service. Also, this week is teacher and nurses' week, she thanked them for their dedicated and faithful service. She advised that Sustainable CT is looking for a poet laureate, and that Heidi Samokar has done a wonderful job looking at the list for this. She agrees with Ms. Yudichak that a goals meeting should take place. She advised that CERT 40 had a graduation of 11 new members. Also, two residents have approached her about banning all plastic bags in the Town of Tolland.

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

Colleen Yudichak of Blueberry Hill Road: She wanted to know what the next steps were for the Charter. *Mr. Eccles said a workshop is scheduled for May 17th, and referred her to the website for the detailed schedule. They do have a target date of November, so that it can go to referendum.*

16. **ADJOURNMENT:** David Skoczulek moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Christine Vincent at 7:43 p.m. All were in favor.

William N. Eccles, Chairman

Michelle A. Finnegan
Town Council Clerk