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MINUTES
REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
Special Meeting
September 22, 2025

RTM Moderator Paul Goldstein called the September 22, 2025 Special Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrach Augmon-Bossa, Michael Bono, Jennifer Bracciale, Mary Childs, Harry Colonis, Timothy Condon, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Timothy Fioravanti, Paul Goldstein, Kristen Gonzalez, Narciss Greene, Ryan Healy, Christina Jessuck, Matthew Keatley, Lindsay Khan, Kate MacKenzie, Shawn Monahan, Ursula Moreshead, Chris Muckle, Kayla Mullen, Kathleen Mullen Kohl, Theodore Olynciw, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue.

ABSENT: Erica Casper

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J Brule, Selectman Richard Muckle, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Greg Attanasio, Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk David L. Campo, Town Attorney Robert Avena, Town Attorney Nick Kepple, Director of Finance Kim Allen.

CORRESPONDENCE

A legal opinion was received from Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple, and a letter from RTM Member Ted Olynciw in regard to the Final Item 3. (See Attachment)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Waterford Police Chief Marc Balestracci spoke in favor of a new Oswegatchie Fire Station. (See Attachment) Waterford Resident Vic Ferry, 13 Colonial Dr, spoke in support of the research and the need for five fire houses in Waterford. Waterford resident Jeffrey Craddoc, 38 Seabreeze Dr, spoke in favor of the passing of Items 4 and 5.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Keatley to accept the committee reports submitted by the Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee of the RTM and the Fire Services Review Special Committee. (See Attachment)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Driscoll, to move ITEM 4 and 5, then reverse 1 and 2 making the new order 4, 5, 2, 1, 3.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 4 – Waterford Code of Ordinances Consideration

PRESENTATION: Assessor Paige Walton, Town Attorney Robert Avena

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Driscoll, to approve a recommendation from the Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee of the RTM to amend the Waterford Code of Ordinances by adopting **Section 3.12.145 – Exemptions for Veterans with TDIU Determination** and **Section 3.12.186 – Alternate exemption for dwelling or motor vehicle of veterans' surviving spouse.** (See Attachment)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 5 – Emergency Legislation

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Khan, to approve the above matter as emergency legislation and to waive the 15-day waiting period, in order to codify as ordinances prior to the October 1, 2025 Grand List date.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 2 – Town Radio and Communications Upgrade

PRESENTATION: Emergency Management Director Steven Sinagra, Police Chief Marc Balestracci, Director of Fire Services Christopher Haley

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Bracciale, to approve a recommendation from the Board of Finance for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the Unassigned General Fund Balance for upgrades to the town's communication systems as prepared by Motorola dated August 13, 2025.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Khan, approve the above matter as emergency legislation and to waive the 15-day waiting period, in order to meet the deadline of the Motorola estimate.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 1 – Town Radio and Communications Upgrade

PRESENTATION: Emergency Management Director Steven Sinagra, Police Chief Marc Balestracci, Director of Fire Services Christopher Haley

MOTION by Dembek, seconded by Khan, to approve a recommendation from the Board of Finance that an appropriation not to exceed \$4,600,000 be approved for upgrades to the town's communication systems as prepared by Motorola dated August 13, 2025. The appropriation may be spent for design, demolition, renovation and construction costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, site improvements, survey costs, architects' fees, engineering fees, other consultants' fees, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs and other expenses related to the project and financing; to authorize the Board of Selectman to determine the scope and particulars of the project to authorize the issue of up to \$4,600,000 bonds or notes, and temporary notes to finance, in part, said appropriation; to authorize the First Selectman and the Director of Finance to determine the amount, date, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the transfer agent, and paying agent for the obligations to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent, and paying agent for the obligations, to provide for the keeping of a record of the obligations; to designate a financial advisor to the town in connection with the sale of the obligations; to see the obligations at public or private sale, to deliver the obligations and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the obligations; to designate Shipman and Goodwin as bond counsel to approve the legality of the obligations; to declare the Town's 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 the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings; to authorize the First Selectman and the Director of Finance to make representations and covenants to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the obligations and to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the obligations to provide secondary market disclosure information; and to authorize the First Selectman, the Director of Finance, and other proper officers and officials of the Town to execute and file all necessary applications, agreements and documents in order to obtain grants to finance the project.

A friendly amendment was accepted upon advice from Finance Director Kim Allen to reduce the \$4,600,000 to \$3,600,000 where it appears in ITEM 1.

Town Clerk David Campo notified the body that the complete resolution needs to be read into the record unless waived prior to taking action.

MOTION by Sugrue, seconded by Steward-Gelinas, to waive the reading along with reducing \$4,600,000 to \$3,600,000 where it appears in the resolution. (See Attachment)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

ORIGINAL MOTION WITH THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT PASSED: Unanimous

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Khan, approve the above matter as emergency legislation and to waive the 15-day waiting period, in order to meet the deadline of the Motorola estimate.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 3 – Fire Services Review Special Committee Final Report

PRESENTATION: Chairman Robert Tuneski, Director of Fire Services Christopher Haley

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to accept the Fire Services Review Special Committee's Final Report with its recommendation that no further action is required by the RTM at this time.

Chairman Tuneski read an opening statement and stood for questions.

A friendly amendment was offered by Driscoll and accepted to remove "with its recommendation that no further action is required by the RTM at this time".

Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple spoke in regard to a legal opinion he submitted in regard to the charge of the committee. (See Attachment) The body discussed the report, the authority of the body, and the future of Waterford Fire Services.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Bono, Bracciale, Colonis, Dembek, Goldstein, Healy, Jessuck, Keatley, MacKenzie, Monahan, Muckle, Steward-Gelinas, Sugrue

VOTING AGAINST: Augmon-Bossa, Childs, Condon, Driscoll, Fioravanti, Gonzalez, Greene, Khan, Moreshead, Mullen, Mullen Kohl, Olynciw

MOTION PASSED: 13-12-0

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to adjourn at 8:51 P.M.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

David L. Campo, CCTC
Waterford Town Clerk

Robert A. Avena
Raymond L. Baribeault, Jr.
James P. Berryman
Michael A. Blanchard
Eric W. Callahan
Michael P. Carey
Richard S. Cody
John A. Collins, III
Bryan P. Fiengo
Linda C. Grelotti
Theodore W. Heiser
Michael A. Hespeler
Jeffrey W. Hill
Carolyn P. Kelly
Kristi D. Kelly
Nicholas F. Kepple
Jillian K. Miller
Samuel M. Nassetta
Marjorie A. Richardson
Roger T. Scully
Martha Singer
Kayla M. Wright
Kyle J. Zrenda

In Memoriam
Andrew J. Brand
James F. Brennan
James J. Courtney
L. Patrick Gray, III
Michael V. Sage
Matthew Shafner
Max M. Shapiro
Charles J. Suisman
Thomas B. Wilson
Louis C. Wool

Of Counsel
Hinda K. Kimmel
Jay B. Levin
Richard A. Schatz

September 22, 2025

Paul Goldstein, RTM Moderator
Town of Waterford
15 Rope Ferry Road
Waterford, CT 06385

Dear Moderator Goldstein:

I have been asked to respond to an anticipated question regarding whether and to what extent the Fire Services Review Special Committee met its original "charge" when formed by the RTM in June of 2021. As the minutes of the June 2021 meeting reflect, the language of the charge to this Special Committee included reference to the creation of a "steering document" and "strategic plan". Though these words were in fact used in the motion to approve the formation of this RTM Special Committee, I am of the opinion, for reasons explained herein, that this aspect of the charge to the committee was inappropriate and improper because it would have required this RTM Special Committee to be conducting business which is outside the scope of authority of the RTM.

According to Waterford's Charter, the RTM, in sum, performs several crucial functions: it appoints individuals as well as forms standing and special committees, it adopts budgets and approves supplemental appropriations outside the budget process and it adopts and amends ordinances. (This recitation is not intended to express the entirety of the RTM's responsibilities, but rather to capture the primary role of the RTM as the Town's legislative body. See Attachment A - Town Charter Sections 3.1.1, 3.04.050, 3.04.060 and CGS §7-193 attached hereto).

The RTM creating a "steering document" or strategically planning for how the Town's Fire Department should run is not a role described anywhere in Waterford's Charter or ordinances. In fact, according to the ordinance adopted by the RTM to govern the operation of the Town's Fire Department (See Attachment B - Ordinance 2.36.020 et seq.), the Fire Director is principally responsible for administering the Department and charting its future course. Obviously, the RTM has profound influence regarding the current and future operation of the Fire Department based on its ultimate authority over the Department's annual budget.

A Tradition of Innovative Solutions

Given the primary responsibility for Fire Department operations granted by ordinance to the Fire Director it would, in my opinion, be improper for a Special Committee formed by and comprised of a majority membership of RTM members to usurp the role of the Fire Director in shaping the current or future proposed operations of the Department. Having an RTM Special Committee create a "steering document" or "strategic plan" with specific recommendations regarding Departmental operations would constitute, in my view, an infringement of the Fire Director's responsibilities.

As influential as the RTM is in how the Waterford Fire Department functions, either through its budgeting or ordinance powers, under Waterford's governmental division of responsibility the RTM must exercise those extensive powers as a response to the Director's initiatives through the Departmental budget rather than endeavoring to direct the course of Departmental activities through its own initiatives.

The Review Committee has performed an appropriate function by reviewing the Department and reporting its findings. It has made observations and made suggestions for the Director to consider going forward in his administration of the Department. The Committee has provided a useful overview regarding various issues facing the Department and all Town agencies, in particular the BOS, BOF and RTM who consider the Department's operational and capital needs each year. All of this is within the appropriate scope of the role of an RTM Special Committee. Refraining from an effort to meet an inappropriate charge is actually a positive rather than a deficiency. To do otherwise would have been an ultra vires action by the RTM, a Latin term meaning "beyond its powers" which refers to an act by a government entity that exceeds the scope of their legal authority, as defined by their charter and ordinances.

For the reasons cited herein and based on the delineation of authority for Fire Department management, the Fire Services Review Committee properly met its responsibilities to the RTM under Waterford's Charter and relevant ordinance.

Sincerely,



Nicholas F. Kepple
Waterford Town Attorney

NFK/pmn

cc: Robert Brule, First Selectman, Town of Waterford
Robert Tuneski, Chair, Fire Services Review Special Committee

3.1 - REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

3.1.1 - LEGISLATIVE BODY.

From and after the effective date of this charter, all legislative power of the Town of Waterford, including the power to enact ordinances, shall be vested in the representative town meeting hereinafter established, subject to the referendum hereinafter provided for and subject further to any powers expressly given to any board or commission by the terms of this charter or the provisions of the general statutes. The representative town meeting may delegate the power to implement or carry into effect any of the powers set forth in this charter to any officer, board or commission of the town.

(Amended 11-8-94, effective 12-8-94)

3.04.050 - Budget—Contents.

The budget breakdown, as presented to the board of selectmen, board of finance and the representative town meeting, shall contain the following:

A. For the last previous completed fiscal year:

Amount expended.

B. For the current fiscal year list:

Amount appropriated;

Amount expended (actual of January 1st and amount estimated for balance of fiscal year).

C. For the ensuing fiscal year list:

Amount requested;

Amount approved by the board of selectmen;

Amount approved by the board of finance;

Amount appropriated by representative town meeting.

D. A line item for each category of expense or special requirement.

(Prior code § 2-25; Amend. of 2-6-12)

3.04.060 - Budget—Preparation by representative town meeting—Presentation to finance director.

The representative town meeting shall prepare its budget by procedures to be established by the representative town meeting and incorporated in the rules of the representative town meeting. The budget of the representative town meeting shall be presented to the board of finance by the moderator of the representative town meeting.

(Prior code § 2-26)

[FINDLAW](#) / [CODES](#) / [CONNECTICUT](#) / [TITLE 7. MUNICIPALITIES](#) / § 7-193

Connecticut General Statutes Title 7. Municipalities § 7-193. Required provisions. Organization of government

Current as of January 01, 2024 | Updated by [FindLaw Staff](#)

(a) Any charter adopted or amended under the provisions of this chapter shall conform to the following requirements:

(1) The municipality shall have a legislative body, which may be: (A) A town meeting; (B) a representative town meeting; (C) a board of selectmen, council, board of directors, board of aldermen or board of burgesses; or (D) a combination of a town meeting or representative town meeting and one of the bodies listed in subparagraph (C). In any combination, the body having the greater number of members shall have the power to adopt the annual budget and shall have such other powers as the charter prescribes, and the body having the lesser number of members shall have the power to adopt, amend and repeal ordinances, subject to any limitations imposed by the general statutes or by the charter. The number of members in any elective legislative body, the terms of office of such members and the method by which they are elected shall be prescribed by the charter.

(2) The municipality shall have a chief executive officer, who may be one of the following: (A) The first selectman; (B) a chief administrative officer appointed by the board of selectmen; (C) a mayor elected by the electors of the municipality; (D) a warden elected by the electors of the borough; (E) a town, city or borough manager appointed by the board of selectmen, the council, the board of directors, the board of aldermen or the board of burgesses; (F) a chief administrative officer appointed by the mayor. Any municipality having a manager as its chief executive officer may also have a mayor who shall be the presiding officer of its legislative body, shall be the ceremonial head of such municipality and shall have such other powers and duties as the charter prescribes. The powers, duties and term of office of the chief executive officer shall be those prescribed by the general statutes and he shall have such other powers and duties as the charter prescribes.

(b) Every municipality shall have all municipal officers, departments, boards, commissions and agencies which are required by the general statutes or by the charter. Each municipality may have any municipal officers, departments, boards, commissions and agencies which are specifically allowed by the general statutes or which are necessary to carry out any municipal powers, duties or responsibilities under the general statutes. All such officers, departments, boards, commissions and agencies shall be elected, appointed and organized in the manner provided by the general statutes, except as otherwise provided by the charter or by ordinances or resolutions adopted pursuant to such charter. Any municipality may, by charter or by ordinances or resolutions adopted pursuant to such charter, alter the method of election, appointment or organization of any or all of such officers, departments, boards, commissions or agencies, including combining or separating the duties of each, unless specifically prohibited from making such alteration by the Constitution or the general statutes.

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2.36.020 - Waterford Fire Department.

The "Waterford Fire Department" is the town-wide department that provides fire-fighting, rescue and emergency medical services throughout the town.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2))

2.36.030 - Structure; authority.

The Waterford Fire Department shall be staffed through volunteers and/or paid individuals, who shall operate out of town facilities and/or publicly or privately owned entities with which the town has contracted. Such privately owned entities may include, but are not limited to Waterford Fire Engine Co. No. 1, Inc., Quaker Hill Fire Company, Incorporated, Goshen Fire Department, Incorporated, Oswegatchie Fire Company, Cohanzie Fire Company No. 5 and Waterford Ambulance Association.

- A. The board of selectmen shall appoint a director of fire services.
- B. The director of fire services is responsible to the first selectman and is charged with managing the Waterford Fire Department and directing the coordination of all fire, rescue, emergency medical services and on-scene fire ground operations. The director of fire services may divide the town into multiple geographical districts for purposes of providing coverage, and may redistrict from time to time.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2))

2.36.040 - Waterford Fire Department Personnel.

Any individual, volunteer or paid, wishing to serve in the Waterford Fire Department, must meet and maintain the qualifications for said volunteer or paid position as set forth by the director of fire services and director of human resources. Such volunteer or paid individuals are personnel of the Waterford Fire Department.

All personnel are responsible for operating in conformance with unified policies, rules and procedures established by the director of fire services. The director of fire services and/or his/her designee are responsible for ensuring that such policies, rules and procedures are followed.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2)).

2.36.050 - Powers and duties of the director of fire services.

- A. The director of fire services shall establish standard policies, rules and procedures for providing fire-fighting, rescue and other emergency and safety services throughout the town as from time to time shall be deemed appropriate. Such policies, rules and procedures shall be consistent with policies and direction from the first selectman and shall consider, and comply with as necessary,

applicable state and federal law; applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and/or other health and safety standards; and applicable provisions of the Town Charter, personnel policies and collective bargaining agreements.

- B. The director of fire services shall coordinate the training program of the Waterford Fire Department; take appropriate steps to improve efficiency, recruitment and community awareness; develop specifications for needed equipment and determine purchase requirements; evaluate risk management issues; develop annual budget recommendations; and develop strategic and tactical plans for future equipment and facilities.
- C. The director of fire services shall plan new programs and take necessary steps to have such programs implemented and represent the Waterford Fire Department before the board of selectmen, board of finance, representative town meeting, other town agencies, other state and local agencies and the general public. The director of fire services shall analyze the needs of the Waterford Fire Department and coordinate programs to meet those needs.
- D. The director of fire services shall make recommendations to the first selectman regarding the direction, discipline, suspension and relief from active duty of any paid individual or volunteer in the Waterford Fire Department, subject to the provisions of town ordinances, personnel policies and applicable collective bargaining contracts.
- E. The director of fire services shall maintain, or cause to be maintained, a current roster of all Waterford Fire Department personnel and their qualifications.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2))

2.36.060 - Funding of the Waterford Fire Department.

- A. Operation and funding of the Waterford Fire Department includes, but is not limited to, equipment and apparatus and shall be consistent with all policies, rules, and procedures set forth by the director of fire services.
- B. The director of fire services shall create and maintain a five-year operation and funding plan. Such plan shall be presented to the board of selectmen at the first meeting following the first selectman election cycle. Presentations to the board of finance and representative town meeting shall also be made at the first meeting following the first selectman election cycle.
- C. Any agreement between the town and one or more third parties, directly related to the provision of fire protection and/or emergency medical services, which is approved by the board of selectmen and signed by the first selectman shall then be forwarded to the board of finance and representative town meeting for notification purposes only.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2))

2.36.070 - Appointment of fire marshals and deputies.

The board of selectmen shall have authority for the appointment of a fire marshal and deputies. Funding requirements for the fire marshal's office shall be included in the fire service budget.

(Amend. of 10-7-19(2))

2.36.075 - Fire marshal fee schedule and enforcement.

- A. *Purpose.* The purpose of this fee schedule is to allow the Town of Waterford Fire Marshal's Office to collect fees in connection with the fire marshal's fire inspection and plan review responsibilities and other activities within the boundaries of the Town of Waterford, Connecticut, that are regulated by the Waterford Town Ordinances, the state fire safety code, the state fire prevention code, the Connecticut General Statutes and/or the regulations promulgated by the office of the state fire marshal or the department of emergency services and public protection.
- B. *Fee schedule for fire marshal duties.* Pursuant to Connecticut Agencies Regulations 29-291a-7a(g), the fire marshal shall adopt a fee schedule for certain prescribed duties in accordance with the Connecticut State Fire Prevention Code. Fees may be assessed for functions including, but not limited to, permits, plan reviews, inspections, and special events. Such fees may be modified as deemed necessary by the fire marshal. Such proposed modifications shall be submitted to the RTM for its approval and the RTM's consideration of said modifications shall serve as notice of changes to this fee schedule.
- C. *Posting of fee schedule.* The fire marshal shall post the current fee schedule, in public view, at the office of the fire marshal, the office of the building department, and on the town's website. Any occupancy existing on the adoption date of the ordinance codified herein shall be exempt from initial fees but shall be subject to renewal inspections and fees.
- D. *Exemption from fee liability.* All boards and agencies of the Town of Waterford, including the use of private fire company properties used for fire protection services, shall be exempt from the payment of fees pursuant to this chapter.
- E. *Enforcement of state fire prevention code.* When the fire marshal ascertains that there exists in any building, or upon any premises, a condition that violates the state fire prevention code, the fire marshal shall enforce such state fire prevention code in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 29-291(c) and may impose any penalties and/or fines as set forth therein, as may be amended from time to time.
- F. *Activity fees—Certification/license inspections.* When the office of the fire marshal performs an inspection that requires official certification issued from the office, a fee shall be charged for such inspection prior to the issuance of a certificate. The fees for such inspection noted below shall

apply. All other fees for inspections, reviews, or services must be submitted with applications for such services. Government, public education and nonprofit organizations are exempt from fees but are still subject to inspections as required.

Type of Occupancy	Initial Fee	Renewal Fee
Assembly use, liquor license	\$100.00	\$50.00
Carnival/Fair	\$100.00	N/A
DCF Code Compliance	\$50.00	\$25.00
Educational Facilities (Private)	\$100.00	\$50.00
Hood and Extinguishing Systems	\$100.00	\$50.00
Nursing and Convalescent Homes	\$250.00	\$100.00
Residential Board and Care	\$250.00	\$100.00
Day Care Facilities	\$100.00	\$50.00
Group Day Care (Home)	\$100.00	\$50.00
Hotel/Motel	\$200.00	\$100.00
Bed and Breakfast	\$100.00	\$50.00
Dry Cleaning Facilities	\$100.00	\$50.00
Retail Fireworks/Sparkler	\$200.00	\$200.00
Elevator Certification	\$100.00	N/A
Hazardous Materials Transport	\$50.00	\$50.00
Blasting Permits (set by State Statute)	\$60.00	N/A

Propane Filling Station	\$75.00	\$25.00
Propane Tank Installation	\$50.00	N/A
Propane Tank Use at Events	\$25.00	N/A
Burning Permits	\$25.00	N/A
Oil Tank Removal <1,000 gal	\$100.00	N/A
Oil Tank Removal >1,000 gal	\$250.00	N/A

G. *Plan review fees.* Whenever any person, firm, business or other entity submits a plan in connection with a building permit for review and/or approval from the office of the fire marshal, the fees for said review and/or approval shall be based on aggregate building square footage as set forth below.

Independent plan review may be required on any project.

Building plan review:

- (a) Up to 2,000 square feet: \$100.00
- (b) 2,001 square feet to 4,999 square feet: \$175.00
- (c) 5,000 square feet to 9,999 square feet: \$350.00
- (d) 10,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet: \$650.00
- (e) 20,001 square feet to 50,000 square feet: \$850.00
- (f) 50,001 square feet to 100,000 square feet: \$1,250.00
- (g) 100,001 square feet to 250,000 square feet: \$2,500.00
- (h) 250,001 square feet or greater: \$6,000.00

Fire alarm system plan review (square footage of area being protected):

- (a) Up to 2,000 square feet: \$100.00
- (b) 2,001 square feet to 4,999 square feet: \$120.00
- (c) 5,000 square feet to 9,999 square feet: \$200.00
- (d) 10,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet: \$350.00
- (e) 20,001 square feet to 50,000 square feet: \$750.00
- (f) 50,001 square feet to 100,000 square feet: \$950.00

(g) 100,001 square feet to 250,000 square feet: \$2,000.00

(h) 250,001 square feet or greater: \$3,000.00

Sprinkler system plan (square footage of area being protected):

(a) Up to 2,000 square feet: \$100.00

(b) 2,001 square feet to 4,999 square feet: \$120.00

(c) 5,000 square feet to 9,999 square feet: \$200.00

(d) 10,000 square feet to 20,000: \$650.00

(e) 20,001 square feet to 50,000 square feet: \$750.00

(f) 50,001 to 100,000 square feet: \$950.00

(g) 100,001 square feet to 250,000 square feet: \$1,250.00

(h) 250,001 square feet or greater: \$2,800.00

Food service type I hood system (includes final acceptance inspection): \$75.00

Hood, duct, and suppression systems:

(a) Kitchen suppression system (wet chemical): \$100.00

(b) Other special suppression system: \$100.00

(c) Hood and ductwork (mechanicals): \$100.00

H. *Plan review compliance.* Any plans for buildings may be required to have an independent plan review, as determined at the sole discretion of the office of the fire marshal. The independent plan review may be conducted by a plan reviewer hired by the applicant and subject to the approval of the office of the fire marshal. The applicant shall pay all costs associated with the contracted plan reviewer's independent review and any fees associated with the Waterford Fire Marshal's Office. The applicant shall submit the plan reviewer's written report prior to the office of the fire marshal's review and approval of any such plan. The office of the fire marshal has the final authority to modify submitted plans.

The office of the fire marshal shall have thirty days to complete the review of such submitted drawings and shall provide in writing authorization to release a building permit from the Town of Waterford Building Official in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 29-263.

When the review is completed and the plan fully complies with the Connecticut State Fire Safety Code, a plan review report shall be provided to the applicant. In addition, a recommendation for permit shall be forwarded to the building official.

Fire marshal inspections shall be required at various phases of the construction process and shall be specified on the plan review report. Once all required inspections have been conducted and passed, the fire marshal shall forward a recommendation for a certificate of occupancy to the building official.

- I. *Billing and enforcement.* No permit or required certificate shall be issued to any party until the fee for such permit or certificate has been submitted with the appropriate application. All fees shall be payable by check only, made out to "Town of Waterford Fire Marshal's Office." The Town of Waterford may take any enforcement action necessary to obtain compliance with the ordinance codified in this section.

(Amend. of 12-4-23(1))

2.36.080 - Volunteer firefighters and fire police incentive program.

- A. *Purpose.* Pursuant to § 7-148(c)(4)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Town of Waterford may enact an ordinance to organize, maintain and regulate the persons providing fire protection. This volunteer firefighters and fire police incentive program is designed to provide monetary compensation to active volunteer firefighters and fire police members in the Town of Waterford Fire Department, in an effort to assist in covering volunteers' expenses during the execution of their duties, while complying with the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. ("FLSA"). The FLSA permits payments for reimbursement of expenses, reasonable benefits and nominal fees to volunteers without impairing their status as volunteers. These benefits are in addition to the existing property tax abatement program for volunteer firefighters in Title 3, Chapter 3.12 of this Code of Ordinances. Town of Waterford Fire Department personnel employed by the Town of Waterford are not eligible for this volunteer firefighters and fire police incentive program.

- B. *Definitions.*

1. *Program:* The term "program" means the volunteer firefighters and fire police incentive program.
2. *Program year:* Program year is the fiscal year, i.e., July 1—June 30.
3. *Implementation date:* The implementation date of the program is July 1, 2020.
4. *Volunteer member in good standing in the Waterford Fire Department:* A volunteer member in good standing is defined as:
 - a. A certified firefighter (i.e., State of Connecticut Firefighter 1 or higher) who has participated in the minimum training sessions designated by the director of fire services and including, but not limited to, required training (as set forth in subsection B.8), by June 30 of the year preceding the year of eligibility (e.g., complete training by June 30, 2020, to be eligible for the program for the fiscal year July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021, absent a modification of the June 30 date by the director of fire services on an individual basis pursuant to subsection B.8); and/or
 - b.

A member of the fire police who has participated in the minimum training sessions designated by the director of fire services and, including, but not limited to, required training (as set forth in subsection B.8.d), by June 30 of the year preceding the year of eligibility (e.g., complete training by June 30, 2020, to be eligible for the program for the fiscal year July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021, absent a modification of the June 30 date by the director of fire services on an individual basis pursuant to subsection B.8); and who has been sworn in by the town clerk.

A volunteer member in good standing does not include any member terminated from volunteer service by the Town of Waterford or otherwise separating from volunteer service for any reason, voluntary or involuntary.

5. *Active volunteer firefighter in the Waterford Fire Department:* An active volunteer firefighter is a certified firefighter and member in good standing who, during the year of eligibility, has participated in a minimum number of approved training drills and maintains the minimum training requirements as set forth by the director of fire services.
6. *Active volunteer fire police member in the Waterford Fire Department:* An active volunteer fire police member is a member in good standing who has been sworn in by the town clerk and who maintains the minimum training requirements as set forth by the director of fire services.
7. *Approved training drill:* An approved training drill is a Waterford Fire Department level drill that is approved in advance by the director of fire services.
8. *Required training:* Required training is state and federal minimum requirements to function at emergency scenes. These requirements shall include, but are not limited to, the yearly certifications and recertifications along with the approved training drills. The director of fire services maintains the discretion, upon a showing of good cause by the volunteer, to excuse temporarily and/or until a date certain, the absence of any such certifications, recertifications and/or approved training drills.

Training shall include, but is not limited to, the following titles and substantive content (training titles and reference numbers may change from time to time):

a. *Minimum certifications:*

State of Connecticut Firefighter 1

Hazardous Materials - Operational Level

IS-700: National Incident Management System

ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System

ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

b. *Mandatory training:*

Attend routine training drills (Monthly)

OSHA Mandates

- Haz-Mat Operational Refresher
- Incident Command System Refresher
- Live Fire Training (Annual)
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- SCBA refresher
- Routine Fit Testing
- CPR Certification

c. Certified fire officer requirements (additional):

State of Connecticut Fire Officer 1

IS-800: National Response Framework

ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

ICS-400: Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff

d. Fire police requirements:

Hazardous Materials - Awareness Level

IS-700: National Incident Management System

ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System

9. *Stipend:* A stipend is an amount of money awarded to any active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member who meets the criteria set forth below and as may be modified, from time to time, by the director of fire services.
10. *Point:* A point represents participation by an active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member in an emergency fire response or approved training drills as described in subsection B.7. To receive a point, an active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member must actually attend an incident and/or respond to and arrive at an activated station before the incident commander dismisses the assignment and/or attend and complete approved training drills. Individuals serving with the Waterford Ambulance Service when attending and/or responding to a particular incident will not receive points related to that incident.
11. *Incident commander:* The incident commander sets priorities and defines the incident command system organization for the particular response and is responsible for the safety, accountability, and welfare of personnel through an incident.

C. Program components.

- 1.

Stipend schedule: Active volunteer firefighters and active volunteer fire police members who meet the criteria set forth below are eligible for stipends issued on a quarterly basis as follows:

First Quarter	=	July through September (Issued in October)
Second Quarter	=	October through December (Issued in January)
Third Quarter	=	January through March (Issued in April)
Fourth Quarter	=	April through June (Issued in July)

2. *Reporting requirements:*

- a. An incident report shall be generated and completed for every dispatched incident.
- b. All active volunteer firefighters and active volunteer fire police members must sign the report within fifteen minutes of the last vehicle returning to the station at the termination of the event.
- c. If an active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member is not able to sign the report within the allotted time set forth in subsection C.2.b, he or she must file a report within twenty-four hours of the incident.
- d. Anyone documenting another member's name on the report shall initial next to that entry for validation purposes.
- e. Attendance records shall be recorded and maintained on the town's approved records management software.
- f. The director of fire services or his/her designee shall prepare the quarterly reports for payment.
- g. All quarterly reports will be reviewed and approved by the director of fire services prior to the approval of issuance of quarterly stipend.
- h. The director of fire services shall also submit quarterly reports to the RTM on the status of the program.

3. *Stipend eligibility and amount:* An active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member shall not receive any stipend until receiving a minimum of thirty points during that fiscal year. The active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member will then be provided a stipend at the rate of seven dollars for each prior and subsequent point earned during that fiscal year (e.g., an active volunteer firefighter who has thirty-five points will receive two hundred forty-five dollars; an active volunteer firefighter with twenty points will

receive zero dollars). The director of fire services may propose changes to the mandatory/minimum eligibility criteria, point value (increase or decrease), stipend rate or amount (increase or decrease) to the RTM, which may act on such proposed changes by majority vote. As part of its determination, the RTM must evaluate continued compliance with the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

(R.T.M. 4-3-23 (part))

4. *Discretionary decisions on awarding of points:* The director of fire services, in the exercise of his/her discretion, will decide any disputes regarding the awarding of points under subsection B.10. The director of fire services, also may, in accordance with departmental policy, award points for reasons other than those expressly set forth in subsection B.10. These decisions shall be documented in the quarterly report.

(R.T.M. 4-3-23 (part))

5. *Higher level of training stipend:* An active volunteer firefighter who receives at least thirty points during a fiscal year and who is also a certified fire officer and meets all the additional requirements outlined in subsection B.8.c will receive an additional one hundred fifty dollars on an annual basis in recognition of his/her higher level of training. An active volunteer firefighter who receives at least thirty points during a fiscal year and meets the requirements for both Fire Officer 1 and EMT certification will receive an additional fifty dollars, for a total annual higher level of training stipend of two hundred dollars. These stipends will be issued at the same time as the stipend for the initial thirty points. The director of fire services may propose changes to the higher level of training stipend amount (increase or decrease) to the RTM, which may act on such proposed changes by majority vote.

(R.T.M. 4-3-23 (part))

6. *Initial education stipend:* An active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member will receive points commensurate with certification in the courses listed below. Education stipends will be issued in the quarter following certification and receipt of at least thirty points during a fiscal year. ¹

Points awarded equal fifty percent of the course hours. The chart below provides the courses and applicable points at the time of enactment.

The director of fire services retains the discretion to adjust points awarded based on the formula above, should the course hours change.

Firefighters Courses

Emergency Medical Technician (204 hrs)102 points

Firefighter 1 (168 hrs)84 points

Firefighter 2 (48 hrs)24 points

Fire Officer 1 (96 hrs)48 points

Fire Officer 2 (80 hrs)40 points

Fire Officer 3 (56 hrs)28 points

Fire Officer 4 (56 hrs)28 points

Incident Safety Officer (24 hrs)12 points

Health and Safety Officer (24 hrs)12 points

Fire Service Instructor 1 (48 hrs)24 points

Fire Service Instructor 2 (40 hrs)20 points

Q or CDL Endorsement (32 hrs)16 points

Aerial Operator (48 hrs)24 points

Pump Operator (48 hrs)24 points

Rescue Technician-CORE (48 hrs)24 points

Confined Space Rescue Technician (56 hrs)28 points

Rope Rescue Technician (64 hrs)32 points

Vehicle Rescue Technician (48 hrs)24 points

Trench Rescue Technician (56 hrs)28 points

Haz-Mat Rescue Technician (40 hrs)20 points

Fire Police Courses

Traffic Incident Management (6 hrs)3 points

Hazardous Material Awareness (8 hrs)4 points

ICS-100 (2 hrs)1 point

ICS-200 (4 hrs)2 points

IS-700 (4 hrs)2 points

(R.T.M. 4-3-23 (part))

7. *Ineligibility due to misconduct or separation from Waterford Fire Department:* The ordinance codified in this section incorporates by reference, the Waterford Fire Department Disciplinary Procedures Policy, as may be amended from time to time.

In the event that the director of fire services decides to impose disciplinary action short of termination against any active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member, the director of fire services retains the discretion to suspend any active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member from the program, as either the discipline or as a component of the discipline. The director of fire services retains the discretion to determine the status of any existing points (e.g., forfeited, retained) at the time of suspension.

Any active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member who is terminated from volunteer service by the Town of Waterford immediately forfeits all points and is not eligible for any stipend. The director of fire services and the human resources director shall evaluate and determine, in their discretion, the eligibility for a stipend of an active volunteer firefighter or active volunteer fire police member who voluntarily separated from volunteer service as of the end of a quarter.

D. *Funding and administration.*

1. *Funding:*

- a. Through its normal, annual budget process, the town shall determine whether or not to fund the program and, if so, in what amount.
- b. Any portion of the annual appropriation not expended during a fiscal year does not carry over to the next fiscal year.
- c. Should the total expenses for the program exceed the annual appropriation, then the quarterly stipends for the then-current quarter will be prorated to reflect the total amount available for distribution for that quarter. If the program exceeds the annual appropriation in a quarter other than the last quarter of the fiscal year, the program may be unfunded for quarters following the pro-rated quarter.

2. *Modifications:* Any modifications allowed under this section without an ordinance amendment (e.g., change in the course hours or points) will be recorded in an annual program update each July and maintained on file in the office of the director of fire services.

3. *Termination:* The town shall have the right through the RTM to terminate the program at any time through the ordinance process.

(R.T.M. 4-3-23 (part))

(Amend. of 4-3-23(1); Amend. of 10-5-20(4))

Footnotes:

¹ The implementation date of the initial education stipends for Emergency Medical Technician, Firefighter 1, and Firefighter 2 courses shall be retroactive to July 1, 2020.

Sept 19, 2025

Mr. Paul Goldstein, Moderator

Representative Town Meeting

Waterford, CT 06385

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

2025 SEP 19 P 12:51

ATTEST: *[Signature]*

RE: Final Report Fire Services Review Special Committee dated July 2025

Dear Mr. Moderator and Members of the RTM,

I would like to thank Chairman Tuneski and the Committee members for their years of hard work in putting together this report.

The charter of the new committee was "to review issues including performance, policies, and staffing and present their findings / recommendations of any changes needed to enhance public safety, creating a steering document and strategic plan".

I had anticipated a document such as the "Task Force 95 Systems Analysis prepared for the Waterford Fire Commission by the Long Range Planning Committee dated Feb.17, 1994". The very detailed report covered the following topic:

- a. Strengths
- b. Weaknesses
- c. Threats
- d. Recommendations

I expected this Committee to at least list the Weaknesses and Threats and then come back with a strong list of recommendations. Many of the weaknesses still exist 30 years later.

I see in Chief Howley's report his need for 3 additional firepersons for FY 27-28, 28-29 and 29-30. Is this a recommendation?

I have noticed in reading Chief Howley's Committee Report that our 5 stations are in need of repairs and various projects have been delayed or pushed out for various reasons unknown to the public. Would you tell us when these projects will be started or why they have not been highly recommended that this work be completed in this report?

1. Jordan

- a. Window replacement FY 2024 \$60,000 pushed out

- b. Flooring Replacement FY 2024 \$40,000 pushed out
- 2. Quaker Hill
 - A. Generator Replacement FY 2023 \$50,000 pushed out
 - B. Flat roof replacement FY 2025 \$100,000 pushed out
 - C. Rear parking lot FY 2025 \$50,000 pushed out
- 3. Goshen
 - A. Apparatus floor drain FY 2023 \$25,000 pushed out
 - B. Flat roof replacement FY 2025 \$75,000 pushed out
 - C. Bunk room renovations FY 2025 \$50,000 pushed out
- 4. Cohanzie
 - A. Skylight in apparatus bay - FY 2025 - \$30,000

The total cost to do all of these projects is \$450,000. Isn't the roof the most important items to fix before rain damages and mold starts growing?

The summary on page 43, 8.6 Overall Strategic Plan simply says, "the Fire Administrator and the First Selectman shall annually monitor the effectiveness of the fire services". Also, "the RTM shall re-appoint a Fire Services Review Committee to perform an assessment function like the Plan of Conservation & Development...." Really? Is this the overall strategy?

Ted Olynciw, RTM Rep. 2nd District

Good evening,

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

Tonight I wanted to take a minute or two to voice my support for the new Oswegatchie Fire House. Although I sit before you as the Town's Police Chief, I spent four terms on the RTM, one term on the Board of Selectman and was actually a member of the Oswegatchie Building Committee while serving on the Board of Selectman. In 2014, when I campaigned for State Representative, I spent considerable time reviewing this firehouse and its deteriorating conditions, which was 11 years ago. So I am uniquely familiar with the position each of you are in, regarding your vote to fund this project or not.

But this project goes beyond just the fire department. The proposed firehouse will serve as a strategic staging location, not only for our firefighters but also for police, public works, utility crews and others. This integrated approach fosters seamless coordination during emergencies and large-scale events, enabling faster response times and better resource management.

When multiple agencies operate from strategically located hubs, communication is streamlined, and lives are saved. For my entire career in Waterford, which spans over 24 years, we have used these firehouses to stage personnel from numerous services during significant storms, flooding, nor'easters and heavy snow forecasts. Should one part of the town be inaccessible due to road closures, floods or other reasons, this town has resources placed to ensure we can properly respond to the public in times of crisis. This has been a standard operating procedure for many years and has been successful.

In addition, the Oswegatchie Fire House, along with a couple of other fire houses, are emergency voting locations should the town experience any voter disruptions on Election Day.

So should you fund the new firehouse, I encourage you to leave in place the number of bays proposed. What one may view as wasted space, I view as properly planned emergency preparation, in addition to looking beyond today's needs and ensuring this critical infrastructure supports tomorrow's needs as well.

Investing in this firehouse is an investment in public safety and community well-being. It will provide our firefighters with state-of-the-art facilities, including improved training areas, modern equipment storage, and comfortable living quarters, all designed to support their

demanding work. Moreover, having staging locations for police, public works and utility crews on site, ensures that critical infrastructure maintenance and emergency repairs can be coordinated swiftly and efficiently.

By supporting this construction project, you are reinforcing the town's commitment to our firefighter's safety and the safety of every resident in our community.

In closing, I have heard the comments in regards to fire department staffing, the condition of other fire houses in town and the overall direction of fire services in Waterford. Working as closely as I do with town leaders and with several fire service directors, I am encouraged that we, as a town, have taken a multiple path approach to improving our fire services. In the past few years, there have been many successes to include the creation of Captains positions, a new and improved union contract, an increase in firefighter staffing, a plan for new communications to include state of the art radios and new pagers and finally a plan to have our first town-owned firehouse. There has not been a tunnel-vision approach, but rather multi-layered focus on ways to improve the fire service, which ultimately improves service to our residents.

I Thank you.

Marc Balestracci

FIFTEEN ROPE FERRY ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385-2886



PHONE: 860-442-0553
www.waterfordct.org

FIRE SERVICES REVIEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT JUNE 7, 2021 – SEP 22, 2025

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2025 SEP 22 P 3:31
ATTENTION: TOWN CLERK

On June 7, 2021, the RTM established the Fire Services Review Special Committee (FSRSC) and issued this charge:

"Review issues including performance, policies, and staffing and present their findings/recommendations on any changes needed to enhance public safety, creating a steering document and strategic plan."

The charge and membership parameters were adopted from the Public Protection and Safety Committee's recommendation and committee report on their Aug. 2020 charge by the RTM to "review of creation of an ad hoc in regard to Fire Services." That charge was in response to serious concerns about public safety failures that had made the news, as well as longstanding issues with contracted rescue services, that had triggered the then-First Selectman's statement to the RTM that "It's time we took a hard look at how our fire service is manned and make sure we're providing full service to our community." [The Day, 2/7/19]

FSRSC MEMBERSHIP:

This committee is unique in that, for what is believed to be a first, it included members from all of the town's governing bodies involved in budgeting, appropriations, and legislation, as well as representatives of all of the stakeholders.

Voting Members: two members of the RTM, 1 member of the RTM's Public Protection & Safety Committee, 1 member of the Board of Finance, and 1 member of the Board of Selectmen

Advisory Members: Director of Fire Services, Director of Emergency Management, Waterford Ambulance Service Director, 1 full-time firefighter (chosen by a vote of all career firefighters, and 1 Volunteer Chief (chosen by a vote of either the 5 chiefs or of all 5 volunteer companies)

The intent was to have experts from all those involved in fire and rescue at the same table to share not just their data, but their insights and concerns, in frank discussions to determine what we have, what we need (now and in 5-10 years) and what we need to do going forward to ensure the safety of our first responders, our citizens, and our property.

MEETINGS:

Due to delayed appointment of the Board of Selectmen's member, the initial meeting did not take place until April 2022.

Apr 18, 2022: The FSRSC's first meeting, which had been delayed until the appointment of the Board of Selectman's member. When newly elected Chair Tuneski opened the floor for suggestions on how to focus efforts, the First Selectman declared that FSRSC needed to recommend the creation of a building committee because the engineer had informed the town that the Oswegatchie fire station's roof was in danger of collapsing at any time. Members suggested that a direct request to the RTM by the First Selectman and Director of Fire Services would be the standard—and much faster—procedure. Chair asked members to come up with 3-4 critical issues that the FSRSC should consider for review and recommendations.

The committee then met monthly (except for June) from April 2022 to Feb 2023. During that period, about half of each meeting was spent discussing the need for a new station (the engineer's report was not provided until Nov. 2022), the rest of the discussions focused on determining the most critical issues to address—such as updating communications systems,

All meeting documents received/provided by members are available in the FSRSC section of the Agenda Center at www.waterfordct.org

adequate staffing at stations and overall, recruiting (both paid and volunteers), trends in volume and type of calls, response times (e.g., whether noticeable impact since 24/7 could only be achieved at two stations), apparatus and equipment (quantity, condition), impact of recent and planned developments, extreme competition for new hires as towns statewide adjusted to diminishing numbers of volunteers (due to a number of societal changes as well as the increased training demands as the nature of firefighting changed drastically). Topics changed from meeting to meeting—and within each meeting. Summaries are provided in the minutes, which can be found in the FSRSC's section of the waterfordct.org Agenda Center. No decisions were made or votes taken during this period, save for the OSW interim report. [Note: In response to suggestions made by Fire Services Director Howley, the RTM revised the Volunteer Incentive Program in April 2023 to give credits/payments for the hundreds of hours of training needed for a volunteer to become an EMT or be certified to actively participate at a fire incident.]

March 2023 through Jan 2024: No attempts to schedule meetings.

Feb 12, 2024: This was a regroup/restart meeting. General consensus on the Chair's summary of issues in the FSRSC pipeline: facilities 10-year capital plan; fleet management 10-year plan; staffing plans (volunteer and career, as well as specialties such as marine and fire police, training, and succession planning); mutual aid plans; and the interrelationship of the 5 fire stations and contracted rescue services. [Note: This was the last meeting attended by the WAS Director.]

The committee then met monthly from March through June 2024. In March, Director Howley distributed draft FY24-30 Fleet Management and Staffing plans for discussion at a later meeting. In the following meetings, he provided updated (i.e., reduced) numbers in volunteers, and added that previous stop-gap efforts of pulling 3 of the 4 fire marshalls into firefighting created difficulty in keeping up with inspections. He explained the recent drop in volunteer incentive payments was not due to a further drop in volunteers, but because after discovering 95% of those getting credit for rescue calls were performing them as staff of WAS, he stopped authorizing payments for WAS rescue calls. Fire Captain Martin noted that the historical response time data we have doesn't reflect impact of both reduced staffing in some areas and the increased traffic due to development and changing traffic patterns on several roads. Director Sinagra offered to help pull data from the new system, including reporting the incident district and the responding district/station. Director Howley will update the vehicle ratings for fleet and update the VIP payment reports to the number and types of incidents and certification status for each responder (with codes rather than names, to protect privacy. At the May meeting, members had a brief generic discussion on possible content for the final report and recommendations, which should incorporate data provided/promised by advisory members. Sinagra offered to draft a section on recent and planned changes in communications systems, including putting radio/pager replacements on a rotating schedule to avoid the recent huge hit to the budget when they had to be replaced all at once.

July 2024 through April 2025: No attempts to schedule meetings.

Mar 6, 2025: Chair presented a draft outline for the final report and told members he had been working on the report since the June 2024 meeting and hoped to have a partial draft ready in a few months. Members suggested, and voted on, changes to the outline and a formal draft review process to avoid multiple re-editing—i.e., provision of a partial draft at least a few days before a meeting so they had time to read and prepare suggestions/comments; review all proposed changes and get consensus/re-edit/reject, with a vote on each amended section before proceeding to the next. Committee also reviewed, and added to, the list of long-standing deliverables requested to provide data and documentation. (see pg 4)

Mar 27, 2025: Public comment and three members noted several factual errors, wrong names and dates, and lack of source citation in the first half of the draft report, which Chair had emailed to the committee the night before. Members Condon and Driscoll expressed concern on the lengthy history and outdated studies mentioned, and the lack of current data and specific recommendations and asked where some of the content came from, since we had not seen or discussed some areas in committee. Captain Martin suggested two IAFC Reports on combined departments that would be useful resources. Member Muckle stated that because the science of firefighting has become more efficient over the years, fewer responders are necessary. Atty Kepple advised the committee that while he appreciated the committee's efforts, there was no need to struggle with a lengthy report and they could make a recommendation and disband. Condon and Driscoll pointed out that the RTM charged the FSRSC to provide thorough review and present a report with specific recommendations. Kepple questioned the role or authority of FSRSC in charting the course of the town when there will be an administration or new director who has their own plan. Condon pointed out that the problems we have now are a result of the town not following through since 2011 on the initial plans and ordinances to implement the necessary policies and procedures. He also reminded members that the FSRSC was created after disturbing failures in fire and rescue services and citizens and elected officials were calling

for accurate review. While times and players may change, he added, a detailed, accurate, and well-publicized report would be reference for future officials. Discussion moved to asking members for progress reports on finding a potential outside reviewer critique the report before submitting to the RTM.

May 1, 2025: Chair noted that RTM Moderator had asked that report be delivered at the June 4 meeting. He asked members to submit their final edits to the first half of the draft report so he can tally comments and requests for additional information for review at the next meeting. Discussion moved to the first draft of the second half. Chair explained most of the information had come from Director Howley, but he also consulted the town website and Finance and Planning Directors. On the advice of others outside the committee he altered the style in the second half to be less “sterile.” Discussion focused on fleshing out this half, with updated information on the communications system and the forthcoming response time/headcount data. Chair noted that we still have no information from WAS, other than that their current staffing is now one 24-hour shift and one 16-hour shift. Condon cited the lack of justification for decisions or how/why the current status exist. He suggested that members Patton and Williams could provide insight into the evolution to a 3 core/2 satellite stations system, which would be the way to lead into staffing recommendations. Proposal to hire outside report reviewer passed over with no discussion.

May 29, 2025: First meeting with new Director Haley as an official member. Firefighter Williams reported that he had put in a new request for the long-awaited response time data and expected it to be available for our next meeting. Two members commented that the two drafts do not match the agreed-upon outline and explanations include opinions with no supporting data or data unshared with the committee. Haley noted that some of the information seems to have come out of the plan he supplied for his interview. Condon asked for more input from all our advisory members and suggested the report provide a roadmap of how to scale up, with a ranking of all 5 stations needs and capabilities. Haley cautioned that data is “liquid” and influenced by outside factors such as Covid, development, and traffic volume. He added that while the recent restructuring to focused 24/7 staffing has helped, Fire Services is forced to be agile and working desperately to provide minimum standards of service. Condon noted that whatever the final recommendations are, Haley will need the support of the community behind him. Chair explained his plan to collect all members’ written comments into a spreadsheet the committee can use to decide what goes into the final version of the report at our next meeting. He then entertained a motion to submit the draft version to the RTM. Condon and Driscoll pointed out that submittal would demand comment/decision by the RTM and that submitting a draft with known errors and seems to have been predicated on the need for a new station yet lacks data supporting that premise would make our credibility razor-thin and jeopardize the final report. No motion offered to submit draft. [A draft version, erroneously titled “Final Report” was posted on the OSW Building Committee’s website in June.]

June 18 2025: Firefighter Williams brought the 300+ pages of response data that had been delivered to him that day and that the new system provided the details on number of responders and incident/responder districts. Director Haley offered the proviso that data from years before the new system was not as accurate and there was some skewing of results during the Covid era. Condon offered to scan the pages so members would have access to the data and ability to present summarized info in the report. Lengthy discussion followed Haley’s status update on the fire services fleet, including Haley’s new plan for rolling stock as well as issues with, and possible adjustments to the town’s fleet management/capital budgeting plan that has not been reviewed or updated since 2011 annual allotment has not kept up with inflation/assumptions for fire apparatus are similar to those for much smaller, less costly vehicles and do not account for the 2-3yr delivery timeline for new purchases. Consensus that a detailed fleet management section with recommendations should be part of the final report. Condon offered to bring some suggestions to the next meeting for review by committee and specifics from Director Haley.

June 25, 2025: Director Haley reported that he had found the town’s last ISO report rating, which gave us impressive scores for our water system. He noted that it is more than a few years old, and expects higher scores for staffing and dispatch, but the amount of research and documentation required to get a new rating could take more than a year, especially considering the more pressing issues he needs to address. Discussion moved to potential changes to the fleet management plan, which has had no assessment since 2009, including carving out new fire service-specific guidelines, adjusting allocations for specific apparatus, regular actuarial reviews, and revising the implementation process. Condon explained that the RTM could adjust the plan through ordinances; Haley noted that the immediate need is staffing, not fleet management. Muckle stated that circumstances are forcing the FSRSC to get the report out so funding for the new OSW station can go forward. Condon said the process behind the new station needs to be changed, and there should be a plan to evaluate and address the condition of all 5 stations. Chair promised a new draft, with both halves combined and edited according to members’ comments in the previous three meetings, with a summary of recommendations.

July 9, 2025: Chair Tuneski and Muckle insisted that the report needed to be submitted ASAP, to help with the OSW bonding request. Members commented that many changes and corrections specified in the initial review had not been done, but new content had appeared in places. Condon noted that a decision to build a new OSW station had implications for the other 4 stations' future, and that while the Chair had added photos and undated estimates for the other stations, the committee had not discussed or agreed on an infrastructure plan. Driscoll questioned the push, when we finally had—but had not discussed—updated response times and had agreed to working on a fleet management section. Muckle stated that we had spent long enough and the report needed to get out. Committee voted to authorize Chair to present to RTM in August.

Sep 10, 2025: Extra meeting to consider "housekeeping" and other amendments Chair had done after the RTM presentation was delayed. Members asked for date and title corrections requested and approved in March, and specified a handful of new changes [specified in minutes] before authorizing Chair to present the second version of Draft #3.

Submitted by Susan Driscoll, FSRSC Secretary

March 6, 2025 update

DELIVERABLES

	Requested Information	Requested	Status/Date Rec'd
	Current roster of WFD paid/volunteer, with their certifications	Mar 2025	
	5-year fleet management plan	Mar 2025	
	Last ISO rating report	Mar 2025	
	WAS response data by district	Jan 2023	
	Phasing of staffing growth projections by firehouse, by year	Dec 2022	<i>Being compiled</i>
	5- or 10-year Emergency Mgmt staffing plan	Dec 2022	<i>Working with union on schedules</i>
	Data on impact of development in past 12 months on Dispatch call volume	Dec 2022	<i>Being compiled</i>
	Fire companies' bylaws	Nov 2022	
	Response times from staffed firehouses to incidents in each district	Jul 2022	<i>Partial/data being extrapolated</i>
✓	Home/business development growth projections	Jul 2022	<i>Aug 2022 (Planning Dept info)</i>
✓	Current housing/census/demographics data	Jul 2022	<i>Aug 2022</i>
	Response times and call type/location stats	Jul 2022	<i>Jan/Feb 2023; coming later—new system will have updated info with who/how many responded</i>
✓	FY22 volunteer incentive analysis	Apr 2022	<i>RTM PP&S Committee revising program</i>
✓	Fire Services Org chart	Apr 2022	<i>May 2022</i>
✓	OSW Engineering Report	Apr 2022	<i>Nov 2022</i>



4,5

**Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee of the RTM
COMMITTEE REPORT**

VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION ORDINANCE CONSIDERATION, RTC 08/04/25

August 20, 2025 Meeting:

Assessor Paige Walton presented background on Public Act No. 25-168, which allows municipalities to extend tax exemptions to veterans deemed Totally Disabled Individually Unemployable (TDIU) and to Gold Star Families. The committee discussed the impact, estimated at \$30,000, and reviewed draft ordinances to incorporate these exemptions into the Waterford Code of Ordinances. Town Attorney Avena recommended creating two new sections: 3.12.145 for TDIU veterans and 3.12.182 for Gold Star Families. A motion was passed unanimously to move Draft 1 of both ordinances to a Public Hearing scheduled for September 3, 2025.

September 3, 2025 Public Hearing & Special Meeting:

Assessor Paige Walton summarized the proposed amendments to Sections 3.12.145 and 3.12.186. Resident Jeffrey Craddoc spoke in support of the ordinance. The public hearing was closed at 6:08 PM.

During the special meeting, the committee approved minutes from the August 20 meeting with corrections. A motion was passed unanimously to report the issue out of committee and recommend that the RTM approve the proposed ordinances to extend the maximum exemption to eligible veterans and surviving spouses.

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.

Submitted by,

Harry Colonis, Chair – Finance, Wage & Personnel Committee

encl: Draft Ordinances 3.12.145 and 3.12.186 (Red Line and Clean Version)

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
SEP 10 P 1:20

FIFTEEN ROPE PERRY ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385-2886



PHONE: 860-442-0553
www.waterfordct.org

6B

July 31, 2025

RE: New Veteran's Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans

Dear Mr. Goldstein:

As Moderator of the RTM, please find attached a memo from Paige Walton regarding a new benefit for 100% disabled veterans in Waterford for a real estate tax exemption. I support this additional exemption on behalf of the eligible veterans who have served our country with honor and distinction. In order for this exemption to be offered to our disabled veterans, it is necessary to move quickly to have the benefit available for the next tax year commencing October 1, 2025.

Please refer this matter to the appropriate standing committee of the RTM and have the standing committee work closely with the Town Attorneys to effectuate the ordinance changes necessary by October 1, 2025.

Your assistance and cooperation are appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Robert J. Brule

Attachment

cc: Paige Walton, Tax Assessor
David Campo, Town Clerk
Nicholas Kepple, Town Attorney
Robert Avena, Town Attorney

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2025 JUL 31 P 3:35
ATTEST:
TOWN CLERK

3.12.145 – Exemptions for veterans with TDIU determinationRECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes §12-81 (19), (20), (21), (83), and in accordance with as amended by Public Act No. 25-168, any Waterford resident who has served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force or Space Force of the United States and has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected total disability based on individual unemployability (TDIU) shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax on either of the following:

1. The fractional share of a dwelling, including a condominium as defined in C.G.S. § 47-68a, a unit in a common interest community as defined in C.G.S. §47-202, and a mobile manufactured home as defined in C.G.S. §12-63a, that (a) belongs to or is held in trust for such resident, or is possessed by such a resident as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. §12-48, and (b) is occupied by such resident as the resident's primary residence, or
2. Lacking such a residence, one motor vehicle that belongs to or is held in trust for such resident and is garaged in this state.

As used in this subsection, "dwelling" does not include any portion of the unit or structure used by such resident for commercial purposes or from which such resident derives any rental income.

If such resident lacks such dwelling or motor vehicle in such resident's name, the dwelling or motor vehicle, as applicable, belonging to or held in trust for such resident's spouse, or possessed by such resident's spouse as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. §12-48, who is domiciled with such resident, shall be so exempt.

When any resident entitled to an exemption under the provisions of this section has died, the dwelling or motor vehicle, as applicable, belonging to or held in trust for such deceased resident's surviving spouse, or possessed by such deceased resident's surviving spouse as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. § 12-48, while such spouse remains a widow or widower, or belonging to or held in trust for such deceased resident's minor children during their minority, or both, while they are residents of this state, shall be so exempt as that to which such resident was or would have been entitled at the time of such resident's death.

A. Application for dwelling exemption.

1. No individual shall receive any exemption under this section until such individual has complied with C.G.S. § 12-95 and has submitted proof of such individual's determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to the Waterford assessor.
2. If there is no change to an individual's TDIU determination, such proof shall not be required for any assessment year following that for which the exemption under this section is granted initially. If the United States Department of Veterans Affairs modifies an individual's determination to other than a service-connected total disability based on individual unemployability, such modification shall be deemed a waiver of the right to the exemption under this section. Any such individual whose determination was modified to other than a service-connected TDIU may seek an exemption under subdivision (20) or (83) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, as applicable.

B. Retroactive abatement or refund.

1. Any individual who has been unable to submit evidence of TDIU determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in the manner required by this section, or who has failed to submit such evidence as provided in C.G.S. §12-95 may, when such individual obtains such evidence, make application to the tax collector not later than one year after such individual obtains such proof or not later than one year after the expiration of the time limited in C.G.S. § 12-95, as the case may be, for abatement in case the tax has not been paid, or for refund in case all or part of the tax has been paid. Such abatement or refund may

be granted retroactively to include the assessment day next succeeding the date as of which such individual was entitled to TDIU determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, but in no case shall any abatement or refund be made for a period greater than three years.

2. The tax collector shall refer such application, with the tax collector's recommendations thereon, to the board of selectmen and shall certify to the amount of abatement or refund to which the applicant is entitled. Upon receipt of such application and certification, the board of selectmen shall issue a certificate of abatement if the tax has not been paid or, in case all or part of the tax has been paid, draw an order upon the treasurer in favor of such applicant for refund of such amount, without interest. Any action so taken by the board of selectmen shall be a matter of record and the tax collector shall be notified in writing of such action.

C. Limit to exemption.

1. No individual entitled to the exemption under one or more subdivisions of C.G.S. § 12-81 (19), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) shall receive more than one exemption.
2. No applicant may receive more than one additional municipal property tax exemption for veterans or their family members under C.G.S. §12-81 (f) and (g).]

(RTM xx/xx/25)

3.12.145 – Exemptions for veterans with TDIU determination

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes §12-81 (19), (20), (21), (83), as amended by Public Act No. 25-168, any Waterford resident who has served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force or Space Force of the United States and has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected total disability based on individual unemployability (TDIU) shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax on either of the following:

1. The fractional share of a dwelling, including a condominium as defined in C.G.S. § 47-68a, a unit in a common interest community as defined in C.G.S. §47-202, and a mobile manufactured home as defined in C.G.S. §12-63a, that (a) belongs to or is held in trust for such resident, or is possessed by such a resident as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. §12-48, and (b) is occupied by such resident as the resident's primary residence, or
2. Lacking such a residence, one motor vehicle that belongs to or is held in trust for such resident and is garaged in this state.

As used in this subsection, "dwelling" does not include any portion of the unit or structure used by such resident for commercial purposes or from which such resident derives any rental income.

If such resident lacks such dwelling or motor vehicle in such resident's name, the dwelling or motor vehicle, as applicable, belonging to or held in trust for such resident's spouse, or possessed by such resident's spouse as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. §12-48, who is domiciled with such resident, shall be so exempt.

When any resident entitled to an exemption under the provisions of this section has died, the dwelling or motor vehicle, as applicable, belonging to or held in trust for such deceased resident's surviving spouse, or possessed by such deceased resident's surviving spouse as a tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. § 12-48, while such spouse remains a widow or widower, or belonging to or held in trust for such deceased resident's minor children during their minority, or both, while they are residents of this state, shall be so exempt as that to which such resident was or would have been entitled at the time of such resident's death.

A. Application for dwelling exemption.

1. No individual shall receive any exemption under this section until such individual has complied with C.G.S. § 12-95 and has submitted proof of such individual's determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to the Waterford assessor.
2. If there is no change to an individual's TDIU determination, such proof shall not be required for any assessment year following that for which the exemption under this section is granted initially. If the United States Department of Veterans Affairs modifies an individual's determination to other than a service-connected total disability based on individual unemployability, such modification shall be deemed a waiver of the right to the exemption under this section. Any such individual whose determination was modified to other than a service-connected TDIU may seek an exemption under subdivision (20) or (83) of section 12-81 of the general statutes, as applicable.

B. Retroactive abatement or refund.

1. Any individual who has been unable to submit evidence of TDIU determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in the manner required by this section, or who has failed to submit such evidence as provided in C.G.S. §12-95 may, when such individual obtains such evidence, make application to the tax collector not later than one year after such individual obtains such proof or not later than one year after the expiration of the time limited in C.G.S. § 12-95, as the case may be, for abatement in case the tax has not been paid, or for refund in case all or part of the tax has been paid. Such abatement or refund may

be granted retroactively to include the assessment day next succeeding the date as of which such individual was entitled to TDIU determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, but in no case shall any abatement or refund be made for a period greater than three years.

2. The tax collector shall refer such application, with the tax collector's recommendations thereon, to the board of selectmen and shall certify to the amount of abatement or refund to which the applicant is entitled. Upon receipt of such application and certification, the board of selectmen shall issue a certificate of abatement if the tax has not been paid or, in case all or part of the tax has been paid, draw an order upon the treasurer in favor of such applicant for refund of such amount, without interest. Any action so taken by the board of selectmen shall be a matter of record and the tax collector shall be notified in writing of such action.

C. *Limit to exemption.*

1. No individual entitled to the exemption under one or more subdivisions of C.G.S. § 12-81 (19), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) shall receive more than one exemption.
2. No applicant may receive more than one additional municipal property tax exemption for veterans or their family members under C.G.S. §12-81 (f) and (g).]

(RTM xx/xx/25)

3.12.182 – Alternate exemption for dwelling or motor vehicle of veterans' surviving spouses

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes §§ 12-81 (19), (20), (21), (83), and in accordance with as amended by Public Act No. 25-168, any surviving spouse who is a resident of the Town of Waterford, while such person remains a widow or widower of a person who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed forces, as defined in C.G.S. § 27-103, shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax on either of the following:

- A. 1. The fractional share of a dwelling, including a condominium, as defined in C.G.S. §47-68a, a unit in a common interest community, as defined in C.G.S. §47-202, and a mobile manufactured home, as defined in C.G.S. 12-63a, that (1) belongs to or is held in trust for such surviving spouse, or that is possessed by such a surviving spouse as a tenant for life or a tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. 12-48, and (2) that is occupied by such surviving spouse as the surviving spouse's primary residence, or
- B. 2. Lacking such residence, one motor vehicle that belongs to or is held in trust for such surviving spouse and is garaged in this state.

As used in this subsection, "dwelling" does not include any portion of the unit or structure used by such surviving spouse for commercial purposes or from which such surviving spouse derives any rental income.

No surviving spouse entitled to the exemption under this section and under one or more of subdivisions (19), (20), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) of section 12-81 and section 12-81ii of the General Statutes, shall receive more than one exemption.

GA. Application for dwelling exemption.

- 1. Any such surviving spouse submitting a claim for such exemption shall: (1) notify the town clerk; and (2) file an application on a form prepared for such purpose by the assessor, not later than the October 1 assessment date with respect to which such exemption is claimed.
- 2. Each such person claiming this exemption shall provide the assessor two notarized affidavits of disinterested persons showing that: (1) the deceased person was performing such active military duty, that such deceased person was killed in action while performing such duties; and (2) the relationship of such deceased person to such surviving spouse. Such surviving spouse may further be required by the assessor to be examined under oath concerning such facts. Such town clerk shall record each such affidavit in full and shall list the name of such surviving spouse claimant, and such service shall be performed without remuneration. No assessor, board of assessment appeals or other official shall allow any such claim for exemption unless evidence as herein specified has been filed in the office of such town clerk.
- 3. Once such application for the exemption is received and approved for the first time, such applicant shall be subsequently required to file on a biennial basis.
- 4. The assessor shall annually make a certified list of the recipients of this exemption and file such list with the town clerk which shall be prima facie evidence that such surviving spouses whose names appear thereon are entitled to such exemptions long as they continue to reside in the Town of Waterford.

DB. Limit to exemption. No individual entitled to the dwelling exemption under one or more subdivisions of C.G.S. §§ 12-81 (19), (20), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) shall receive more than one exemption. No applicant may receive more than one additional municipal property tax exemption for veterans or their family members under C.G.S. §§ 12-81(f) and (g).

EC. General provisions. Any such surviving spouse who has submitted an application and been approved in any year for the exemption provided in this section shall, in the year immediately following approval, be presumed to be qualified for such exemption. During the year immediately following such approval, the assessor shall notify, in writing, surviving spouses presumed to be qualified pursuant to this subsection. Said ordinance shall become effective fifteen days after upon passage and shall commence with the October 1, 2025, Grand List.]

3.12.182 – Alternate exemption for dwelling or motor vehicle of veterans' surviving spouses

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes §§ 12-81 (19), (20), (21), (83), as amended by Public Act No. 25-168, any surviving spouse who is a resident of the Town of Waterford, while such person remains a widow or widower of a person who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed forces, as defined in C.G.S. § 27-103, shall be entitled to an exemption from property tax on either of the following:

1. The fractional share of a dwelling, including a condominium, as defined in C.G.S. §47-68a, a unit in a common interest community, as defined in C.G.S. §47-202, and a mobile manufactured home, as defined in C.G.S. 12-63a, that (1) belongs to or is held in trust for such surviving spouse, or that is possessed by such a surviving spouse as a tenant for life or a tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under C.G.S. 12-48, and (2) that is occupied by such surviving spouse as the surviving spouse's primary residence, or
2. Lacking such residence, one motor vehicle that belongs to or is held in trust for such surviving spouse and is garaged in this state.

As used in this subsection, "dwelling" does not include any portion of the unit or structure used by such surviving spouse for commercial purposes or from which such surviving spouse derives any rental income.

No surviving spouse entitled to the exemption under this section and under one or more of subdivisions (19), (20), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) of section 12-81 and section 12-81j of the General Statutes, shall receive more than one exemption.

A. Application for dwelling exemption.

1. Any such surviving spouse submitting a claim for such exemption shall: (1) notify the town clerk; and (2) file an application on a form prepared for such purpose by the assessor, not later than the October 1 assessment date with respect to which such exemption is claimed.
2. Each such person claiming this exemption shall provide the assessor two notarized affidavits of disinterested persons showing that: (1) the deceased person was performing such active military duty, that such deceased person was killed in action while performing such duties; and (2) the relationship of such deceased person to such surviving spouse. Such surviving spouse may further be required by the assessor to be examined under oath concerning such facts. Such town clerk shall record each such affidavit in full and shall list the name of such surviving spouse claimant, and such service shall be performed without remuneration. No assessor, board of assessment appeals or other official shall allow any such claim for exemption unless evidence as herein specified has been filed in the office of such town clerk.
3. Once such application for the exemption is received and approved for the first time, such applicant shall be subsequently required to file on a biennial basis.
4. The assessor shall annually make a certified list of the recipients of this exemption and file such list with the town clerk which shall be prima facie evidence that such surviving spouses whose names appear thereon are entitled to such exemptions long as they continue to reside in the Town of Waterford.

B. Limit to exemption. No individual entitled to the dwelling exemption under one or more subdivisions of C.G.S. §§ 12-81 (19), (20), (22), (23), (25), (26) and (83) shall receive more than one exemption. No applicant may receive more than one additional municipal property tax exemption for veterans or their family members under C.G.S. §§ 12-81(f) and (g).

C. General provisions. Any such surviving spouse who has submitted an application and been approved in any year for the exemption provided in this section shall, in the year immediately following approval, be presumed to be qualified for such exemption. During the year immediately following such approval, the assessor shall notify, in writing, surviving spouses presumed to be qualified pursuant to this subsection. Said ordinance shall become effective upon passage and shall commence with the October 1, 2025, Grand List.]

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

2025 SEP 24 A 10:58

ATTEST *David L. Lewis*
TOWN CLERK

RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$3,600,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE TOWN'S
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

RESOLVED,

Section 1. That the Town of Waterford (the "Town") appropriate \$3,600,000 for upgrades to the Town's communications system to provide portable radio coverage within the Town's jurisdictional area for public safety and public service users and enhance interoperability between other local, State and federal agencies (the "Project"). The appropriation may be expended on renovation and installation costs, engineering, design and professional fees, radios, materials, equipment, purchase costs, legal fees, financing costs, interest expense on temporary borrowings, and other costs related to the Project. The appropriation shall include any federal, state or other grants-in-aid received for the Project. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the Project. The Board of Selectmen may reduce or modify the scope of the Project and the entire appropriation may be expended on the Project as so reduced or modified.

Section 2. That the Town finance the Project by issuing the Town's bonds, notes or other obligations in an amount not to exceed \$3,600,000, which bonds, notes or other obligations shall be issued pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The bonds, notes or other obligations may be sold as a single issue or consolidated with any other authorized issues of bonds, notes or other obligations of the Town. The Director of Finance shall keep a record of the bonds, notes or other obligations. The bonds, notes or other obligations shall bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof. The bonds, notes or other obligations shall each recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been fully complied with, that such bond, note or other obligation is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The First Selectman and Director of Finance are hereby authorized to determine the amount, date, interest rates, maturities, form and other details of the bonds or notes; to designate a bank or trust company to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to designate the persons to sign such bonds or notes by their manual or facsimile signatures in the name or on behalf of the Town; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes.

Section 3. That the Town is authorized to issue temporary notes in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds, notes or other obligations. The temporary notes shall be issued with maturity dates in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The temporary notes shall each recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been fully complied with, that such note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The First Selectman and Director of Finance are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, form, and other details of the notes; to sell the notes at public or private sale; to designate the persons to execute and deliver the notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the notes. The net interest cost on such notes, including renewals thereof, and the expense of preparing, issuing, and marketing such notes, to the extent paid from the proceeds from the issuance of bonds, notes or other obligations, shall be included as a cost of the appropriation.

Section 4. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that the project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that 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 for the Project; that the First Selectman and Director of Finance are authorized to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and agreements as they deem necessary or advisable in order to ensure and maintain the continued exemption from Federal income taxation of interest on the bonds, notes or temporary notes 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; and that the First Selectman and Director of Finance are authorized to make representations and agreements for the benefit of the holders of the bonds, notes or temporary notes to provide secondary market disclosure information and to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town an agreement to provide such information with such terms and conditions as they, with the advice of bond counsel, deem necessary and appropriate.

Section 5. That the First Selectman is authorized to apply for and accept grants for the Project, to execute grant agreements for the Project, and to file such documents as may be required to obtain grants for the costs of financing the Project.

Section 6. That the First Selectman, the Director of Finance and other proper officers of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the Project and to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to finance the aforesaid appropriation.