



MINUTES
REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
Regular Meeting
April 7, 2025

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2025 APR -9 | P 3:45
ATTEST: *David L. Campo*
TOWN CLERK

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrach Augmon-Bossa, Michael Bono, Mark Campo (Speaker Phone), 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, Kayla Mullen, Kathleen Mullen Kohl, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue

ABSENT: Jennifer Bracciale, Erica Casper, Theodore Olynciw

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

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Richard Muckle, Selectman Greg Attanasio, Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk David L. Campo; Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple; Director of Finance Kim Allen.

AGENDA ITEM C – February 3, 2025 Minutes

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2025 Meeting of the RTM..

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received: American Rescue Plan Report from Finance Director Kim Allen; Board of Education Quarterly Report; request from Waterford Little League to explore the creation of a revenue fund to offset maintenance; recommendations for Utility and Senior Citizens' Commission appointments; letter from resident, Teresa Wilensky, in support of Item 5; a letter from Robert Tuneski, Chair of the Oswegatchie Fire Station Building Committee, in regard to the cost of a third bay at the Oswegatchie Fire Station; Updates from the Planning and Zoning Commission; Copies of existing contracts from private organizations from First Selectman Robert Brule. Copies of correspondence can be obtained through the office of the Town Clerk.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following residents spoke in favor of maintaining the morning lap swim program at Waterford High

School: Robert Kyne, Jr., Ph.D. (See Attachment), 18 Dimmock Rd, Waterford; Peter Colonis, 15 Baldwin Dr, Waterford; Alan Briggs, 16 Quaker Ln, Quaker Hill; Laura Luna, 3 Winthrop Ct, Waterford; Frank Burchell, 21 Jordan Terrace, Waterford.

The following residents spoke in favor of Item 3, Library HVAC Upgrade: Laurie Wolfley, 15 Anita Ave, Waterford, who also noted the importance of addressing the HVAC on the lower level; Courtney Engel, 21 Westwood Ave, Waterford, who also noted that the late start time for RTM Meetings do not allow some residents to attend due to family obligations.

Resident and Tax Collector Alan Wilensky, 10 Melanie Dr, Waterford, spoke in favor of Item 5.

Resident and Waterford Little League President Brianna Hogarty spoke in favor of the the creation of a revenue fund to offset maintenance costs at the Little League fields.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Verbal reports as to status and future meeting dates were given by RTM Standing Committee Chairs.

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley to accept the reports.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

APPOINTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

Oswegatchie Fire Station Building Committee appointee report from Ted Olynciw. (See Attachment) Fire Services Review Special Committee Member Tim Condon noted that the committee was active and moving forward.

CALL ITEM 1 – Senior Citizens Commission Appointments

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas', seconded by Keatley, to consider and act on three appointments to the Senior Citizen Commission. (Term 04/07/2025 – 04/03/2028)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

NOMINATION by Steward-Gelinas to reappoint Richard Beany, 33 Greentree Dr, to the Senior Citizens Commission.

NOMINATION by Steward-Gelinas to reappoint Joyce Vlaun, 12 Wallace St, to the Senior Citizens Commission.

NOMINATION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to appoint Cathy Gonyo, 35 Pepperbox Rd, to the Senior Citizens Commission.

NOMINATION by Driscoll to reappoint Thomas Kennedy Jr, 105 Boston Post Rd, to the Senior Citizens Commission.

VOTING IN FAVOR of RICHARD BEANEY: Bono, M. Campo, Childs, Colonis, Condon, Dembek, Fioravanti, Goldstein, Gonzalez, Healy, Jessuck, Keatley, Khan, MacKenzie, Monahan, Moreshead, Mullen, Mullen Kohl, Seward-Gelinas, Sugrue

VOTING AGAINST: Augmon-Bossa, Driscoll

ABSTAINED: Greene

RICHARD BEANEY APPOINTED: 20-2-1

VOTING IN FAVOR of JOYCE VLAUN: Augmon-Bossa, Bono, M. Campo, Childs, Condon, Dembek, Driscoll, Fioravanti, Goldstein, Gonzalez, Greene, Healy, Jessuck, Keatley, Khan, MacKenzie, Monahan, Moreshead, Mullen, Mullen Kohl, Steward-Gelinas, Sugrue

VOTING AGAINST: Colonis

JOYCE VLAUN APPOINTED: 22-1-0

VOTING IN FAVOR of CATHY GONYO: Bono, M. Campo, Colonis, Condon, Dembek, Goldstein, Healy, Jessuck, Keatley, MacKenzie, Monahan, Moreshead, Steward-Gelinas, Sugrue
VOTING AGAINST: Childs, Driscoll, Fioravanti, Gonzalez, Greene, Khan, Mullen, Mullen Kohl
CATHY GONYO APPOINTED: 14-8-0

No additional votes taken since all three seats were filled.

CALL ITEM 2 – Seniors Citizens' Commission Appointment

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Colonis, to consider and act on an appointment to the Senior Citizen Commission due to the resignation of Kent Ward. (Term 04/01/2024 – 04/05/2027)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

NOMINATION by Keatley, seconded by Condon, to appoint Marilyn Lusher, 6 Williamsburg Dr, to the Senior Citizens' Commission.

NOMINATION by Driscoll, seconded by Childs, to appoint Thomas Kennedy Jr., 12 Wallace St, to the Senior Citizens' Commission.

VOTING IN FAVOR of MARILYN LUSHER: Bono, M. Campo, Colonis, Condon, Dembek, Goldstein, Healy, Jessuck, Keatley, MacKenzie, Monahan, Moreshead, Steward-Gelinas, Sugrue

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

MARILYN LUSHER APPOINTED: 14-9-0

No additional votes taken since the seat was filled.

RTM Member M. Campo left

CALL ITEM 3 – Library HVAC Upgrade

PRESENTATION: Director of Public Works Gary Schneider , Library Director Christine Johnson

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to approve a recommendation from the Board of Finance for an additional appropriation of **\$505,078** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund to Line# 20536-57848 (Library HVAC Upgrade)** to upgrade the Waterford Public Library HVAC system.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to designate the above motion as emergency legislation in order to have the HVAC replacement project started by the end of the summer.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 4: ROV Primary Expenses

PRESENTATION: Registrars of Voters Bigi Ebbin & Patti Waters

MOTION by Driscoll, seconded by Steward-Gelinas, to approve recommendation from the Board of Finance for an additional appropriation of **\$10,272** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund to Line# 10102-51320 (\$8,924)** and **Line# 10102-51920 (\$1,348)** to cover expenses incurred in the August 13, 2024 Primary that aren't covered in the yearly budget.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 5 – Salaries of Elected Officials

PRESENTATION: Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee Chair Harry Colonis

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to approve a recommendation from the Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee of the RTM to annually increase elected official salaries by the percentage approved for non-union management effective July 1, 2025 to align salary increases.

Discussion ensued about possible conflicts with the State of Connecticut Constitution. (See Attachment)

MOTION by Condon, seconded by Steward-Gelinas to table until the June meeting of the RTM.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 6 – Utility Commission Appointments

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to consider and act on three appointments to the Utility Commission. (Term 04/01/2025 – 03/31/2029)

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

NOMINATION by Driscoll, seconded by Gonzalez, to reappoint Raymond Valentini, 139 Old Colchester Rd, to the Utility Commission.

NOMINATION by Steward Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to reappoint Rodney Pinkham, 54 Rope Ferry Rd, to the Utility Commission.

NOMINATION by Steward Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to reappoint Thomas Dembek, 56 Goshen Rd, to the Utility Commission.

VOTING IN FAVOR of all three: 21-0-1 (Dembek abstained)

NEW BUSINESS:

Moderator Paul Goldstein notified the body that information provided by First Selectman Robert Brule in regard to Waterford ordinance 3.04.070 as requested by RTM member Susan Driscoll would be scanned and sent out to members for review and for possible referral in June.

The body discussed the letter submitted by Waterford Little League President Brianna Hogarty. (See Attachment)

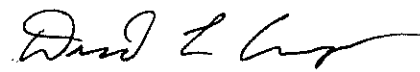
MOTION by Condon, seconded by Steward-Gelinas, to refer the matter "Creation of a Special Revenue Fund" to the Public Health, Recreation & Environment Standing Committee of the RTM.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to adjourn at 8:20 P.M.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



David L. Campo, CCTC
Waterford Town Clerk

MEMORANDUM

From: Robert E. Kyne, Jr., Ph.D.

18 Dimmock Road, Waterford, CT 06385

(860) 460-0513 | rekyne@gmail.com

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

2025 APR -8 | A 9:26

ATTEST: 
TOWN CLERK

To: Representative Town Meeting | Town of Waterford | April 7, 2025

Re: Elimination of morning lap swim from FY26 Recreation & Parks budget

Moderator Goldstein, Majority Leader Steward-Gelinas, Minority Leader Driscoll, Clerk Campo & Members of the RTM:

While the FY26 budget from the Recreation & Parks Department is not on this evening's agenda, I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight an issue that has been working its way through various town boards & commissions over the last month: Specifically, the elimination of morning lap swim from the FY26 Parks budget in its current form, which you will vote on next month. Due to fiscal constraints morning lap swim had rather suddenly been slated for cancellation in March, however a strong contingent of patrons and life guards presented themselves at the March 5th, 2025 Board of Finance meeting to speak in support of this long-standing programming—with an offer of partnership in identifying a win-win funding scenario for the dedicated patrons and the town.

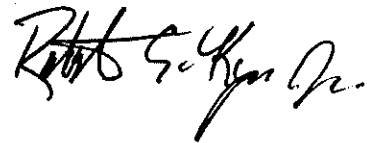
Since that BoF meeting, I have been very gratified for the engagement of the town at every level. Parks Director McNamara and his staff, in coordination with various offices in Town Hall, was able to adjust hours and staffing at the pool such that morning lap swim could continue through the end of FY25 while a longer-term solution is identified. We had a strong showing at the March 25th Recreation & Parks Commission meeting as well, which led to further productive discussions with Director McNamara and Mr. Cieplik. I attended the March 31st RTM special meeting where I learned that, whether it is through motor vehicle taxes or an increase in the mill rate, our taxes in town will go up—the national and local fiscal environment is getting tighter in the immediate term, that much is certain. Of note, ours is the only town-owned pool in eastern Connecticut that does not charge an annual or monthly membership fee to all users (open swim, lap swim, water aerobics etc), and we have enjoyed this privilege and benefit for 40 years now, since the pool was built. Happily, Town Clerk Campo, upon reviewing the town ordinances and conferring with his colleagues at the BoE, was able to determine that there is no prohibition on charging pool patrons for access, which provides a potential path forward for all involved.

MEMORANDUM

Over the next several weeks, this group of taxpayers will work with the Parks Department to identify a FY26 funding proposal to keep morning lap swim going which will include a user fee. This will allow all patrons of the pool to chip in and ensure we are getting the most out of our beautiful aquatic facility, while minimizing the burden on the taxpayers at large. The Town and patrons are extremely fortunate to have dedicated lifeguards who show up well before dawn five days a week in support of this programming—there would be no morning swim without them. As this updated cost structure and funding proposal is not in the budget as approved by the Board of Finance for your review next month, the Parks Department will need to bring a special funding request forward to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. Should we be successful at those levels, and the funding request to keep morning lap swim afloat comes before this RTM, my hope is that you will vote in favor of what our industrious morning lap swim patrons consider to be a vital town offering.

I wanted to bring this to your attention this evening so that, over the next month leading up to the departmental budget reviews and approvals by the RTM, should you have any questions or concerns, we could discuss them in advance. It has thus far been an outstanding experience working with the town on this issue, I hope to see a funding request come before you for consideration prior to July 1st to keep us in the pool without interruption. Most mornings during the week, you can find me at the pool from 5:15-6:15 AM. Otherwise, feel free to reach out to me at my email or phone listed at the top of this memo. Included in this packet for your review and consideration are the minutes from the BoF meeting held on March 5th, as well as the memo I presented to the Recreation & Parks Commission on March 25th. Thank you for your time this evening.

Best Regards,



Attachments:

- 1) Board of Finance Meeting Minutes, March 5, 2025
- 2) Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting Memo from R.E. Kyne, Jr., March 25, 2025
 - a. Official minutes not posted as of April 6, 2025

APPOINTEE REPORT – OSWEGATCHIE FIRE HOUSE

DATED April 2, 2025

- 1. The Building Committee reaffirmed its decision that the proposed new Oswegatchie Fire House will have 3 drive-thru bays during its meeting on March 4th.**
- 2. The Building Committee decided to reimburse Oswegatchie Volunteer Fire Company the amount of \$2,500 for their legal expenses in transferring the fire house property to the Town.**
- 3. The Architects plans were approved by the Conservation and Design Review Commissions as well from Planning & Zoning in March.**
- 4. The Committee decided to provide the RTM with the actual cost of the project by competitive bidding versus the Project Manager's budget when it applies for bonding this project.**

Total spend as of 4/1/ 25 -\$301,453

Ted Olynciw, RTM Rep. to the Building Committee

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2025 APR -4 P 3:06
ATTEST: *[Signature]*
TOWN CLERK

Amendments to the Constitution

Article XIX

Adopted Nov 24, 1982

Except as provided in this section, neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state shall pay or grant to any elected official of the state or any political subdivision of the state, any compensation greater than the amount of compensation set at the beginning of such official's term of office for the office which such official holds or increase the pay or compensation of any public contractor above the amount specified in the contract. The provisions of this section shall not apply to elected officials in towns in which the legislative body is the town meeting. The compensation of an elected official of a political subdivision of the state whose term of office is four years or more may be increased once after such official has completed two years of his term by the legislative body of such political subdivision. The term "compensation" means, with respect to an elected official, such official's salary, exclusive of reimbursement for necessary expenses or any other benefit to which his office would entitle him.

[emphasis added]

[https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/Content/constitutions/Constitution State CT.pdf](https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/Content/constitutions/Constitution%20State%20CT.pdf)

Recent History of Waterford Elected Officials' Salary Increases

Elected Official	Date of Election	Term Starts*	Term Ends	Raise Allowed** On/After	Increases*** during term (effective dates)
BoS/Tax Collector	Nov 5, 2019	Nov 19, 2019	Nov 6, 2023	Nov 19, 2021	July 1, 2020/21/22/23
BoS/Tax Collector	Nov 7, 2023	Nov 21, 2023	Nov 15, 2027	Nov 21, 2025	July 1, 2024
Treasurer/Town Clerk	Nov 5, 2019	Jan 6, 2020	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 6, 2022	July 1, 2020/21/22/23
Treasurer/Town Clerk	Nov 7, 2023	Jan 1, 2024	Jan 2, 2028	Jan 1, 2026	July 1, 2024
Registrars	Nov 3, 2020	Jan 6, 2021	Jan 7, 2025	Jan 6, 2023	July 1, 21/22/23/24 [also stipend + base increase 1/1/23; EV base increase 1/1/24]
Registrars	Nov 5, 2024	Jan 8, 2025	Jan 2, 2029	Jan 8, 2027	

* CT General Statutes Chapter 146 Sec. 9-189a

BoS/Tax Collector: term starts by 2nd Tuesday following election

Treasurer/Town Clerk: term starts on first Monday of Jan following election

Registrars: term starts on Wed after first Mon following election

** after serving two years of term

*** Various % increases to base salary

https://www.cga.ct.gov/2019/pub/chap_146.htm
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

2025 APR -9 P 3:53

ATTEST:


TOWN CLERK



March 13, 2025

Moderator of RTM

c/o David Campo, Town Clerk

Waterford Little League (WLL) has maintained two complexes, our main complex on Gardiners Wood Rd (South) and a second complex adjacent to Quaker Hill Elementary School (North), for the past several decades. In total, our league volunteers maintain seven fields, as well as concession stands, press boxes, dugouts, bathrooms and numerous other structures all while paying for all utilities associated with both complexes.

WLL simply does not have enough volunteers, funding or resources to continue to maintain both complexes. We have explored many options including town assistance and outsourcing all maintenance at our North complex, both of which are not feasible.

The Town of Waterford Park and Rec Department currently makes fields at the North complex available for rent for a fee to teams/groups outside of WLL. The WLL board respectfully requests that the RTM explore a special revenue fund in which money generated by rental income for use of North fields be made available to WLL to offset the cost of maintaining the complex.

Sincerely,

Brianna Hogarty

Brianna Hogarty

President

president@wllct.org

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2025 MAR 17 1 P 12:48
ATTEST: *Brian J. Campo*
TOWN CLERK