

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL
HICKS MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
6th FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM
MARCH 12, 2015**

Present: Jack Scavone, Chairman
George Baker, Vice-Chair
William Eccles
Richard Field
Jan Rubino
Benjamin Stanford
Paul Krasusky

Also Present: Steven Werbner, Town Manager
Michael Wilkinson, Director of Administrative Services
Michele Manas, Collector of Revenue
Sheila Bailey, Town Clerk
Jason Lawrence, Assessor
Lisa Hancock, Director of Finance and Records
Clem Langlois, Public Works Director

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

Town Manager, Steve Werbner began the discussion of his proposed operating budget indicating that revenues were slightly up by \$62,232. Grand List growth is -3.51% with this being a revaluation year. Overall expenditure increases is 1.91% for Town, 2.98% for BOE. A list of Tolland measures were compared to State averages including equalized mill rate and total expenditures. It was stated that Tolland has much lower expenditures when compared to State of CT peer Towns. The Governor's budget was discussed including that the 100% cost of resident trooper services is being charged to the Town and a new solid waste fee. Future Expenditure Considerations were reviewed including, but not limited to: snow and ice account (\$50,000-\$100,000); more staffing for Animal Control, Highway and Library; and additional funds for the CIP. A list of proposed expenditure Drivers is reviewed including, but not limited to: insurances of \$6,277; Salaries of \$264,504; Utilities of \$61,478; street sweeping at \$26,000 and Revaluation at \$20,000 (1/5 cost). Mill rate impact and tax impact was discussed. New mill rate is 33.36 up 2.31 mills.

Steve Werbner discussed Finance, Public Works and Refuse and Recycling.

Finance was reviewed including the areas of Revenue Collection, Town Clerk, Assessment and Accounting. Assessor Jason Lawrence stated there were only 60 assessment appeals or less than 1%.

Public Works was reviewed including the areas of Parks, Streets and Roads, Paving and Capital Equipment.

Refuse was reviewed including the areas of Recycling and Bulky Waste. One item discussed was how to get BOE involved to increase recycling in Town.

Jack Scavone, Richard Field, Paul Krasusky, William Eccles, Jan Rubino, Benjamin Stanford and George Baker had questions during the presentation on various topics including cost of state Troopers, animal control; Library project; printers; bulky waste; and public works, among other questions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Wilkinson
Director of Administrative Services