

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
TOLLAND TOWN COUNCIL  
HICKS MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER  
6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR COUNCIL ROOM  
MARCH 12, 2014**

**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  
Meg Devito, Town Clerk  
Jason Lawrence, Assessor  
Lisa Hancock, Director of Finance and Records  
Clem Langlois, Public Works Director

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm.

Town Manager, Steve Werbner began the discussion of his proposed operating budget indicating that revenues were slightly up. Total net revenue decrease is \$135,778. Grand List growth is 0.39% or \$154,671. Overall expenditure increases is 3.11% for Town, 3.44% 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. A list of proposed Grand List Growth Measures were discussed including Fridays morning inspections the Building Official and a one-year pilot program to decrease calculation used to set construction values by 10%. Expenditure revisions were reviewed including, but not limited to: eliminating contractual sweeping (\$23,000); extend solid waste contract four years savings \$40,000 over four years; Perform Revaluation in house for a \$60,000 savings; transfer one State Trooper to BOE for resource officer cost is \$110,108 for BOE and \$27,526. A list of proposed expenditure Drivers is reviewed including, but not limited to: insurances of \$105,320; Salaries of \$103,633; Fuel of \$75,000 and Fire/Ambulance of \$65,918. Mill rate impact and tax impact was discussed. New mill rate is 31.05 up 0.86 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. Various accomplishments, goals and needs were reviewed for all departments.

Public Works was reviewed including the areas of Parks, Streets and Roads, Paving and Capital Equipment. Various projects, accomplishments, goals and needs were reviewed for all areas.

Refuse was reviewed including the areas of Recycling and Bulky Waste. Various accomplishments, goals and needs were reviewed for all areas. One item not in the budget but discussed by the Town Manager was the elimination of the 6 times a year curbside bulky waste program in favor a \$32 charge per pick-up (12 months a year) that would be paid by the resident to the vendor (WWP). Richard Field said we would not be in favor of that.

Jack Scavone, Richard Field, Paul Krasusky, William Eccles, Jan Rubino, Benjamin Stanford and George Baker had questions during the presentation on various topics including taxes for commercial properties, Ordinance 60; online tax payments; bulky waste; and public works, among other questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Wilkinson  
Director of Administrative Services