TOWN COUNCIL
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.
AGENDA

WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
61 ECHO LAKE RD.
WATERTOWN, CT 06795

THIS MEETING WILL BE AN IN-PERSON MEETING AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM IN LISTEN ONLY MODE
A LINK WILL BE POSTED ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING PLEASE SEE WWW.WATERTOWNCT.ORG UNDER THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

1. Call Meeting to Order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call.

4. Public Participation.

5. Recognitions.

6. Minutes.
   a. Budget Public Hearing – April 26, 2023
   b. Regular Meeting – May 15, 2023

7. Chairman’s Report
   a. Correspondence.
      1. Letter from Laurine Gambardella appointing Cindy Blanchard as Democratic Deputy Registrar dated May 25, 2023

8. Town Manager’s Report.

9. Subcommittee Reports.

a. Discussion and possible action on revisions to the Public Participation Guidelines.

b. Consider a resolution setting the mill rate to levy taxes for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

c. Consider an appropriation from the General Fund in the amount of $12,979.33 for unemployment payments made on behalf of the Board of Education. Funds have been reimbursed by the Board of Education.

d. Consider setting a Special Town Meeting date to appropriate $3,900,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the purposes of:
   1. Purchase of 686 Main Street, Watertown, CT
   2. Main Street Sidewalk/Safety Project.
   3. Design and engineering of a master plan for Oakville and Watertown

e. Consider a resolution authorizing an appropriation of $1,913 for tax refunds.

f. Consider a resolution authorizing tax refunds.

11. Executive Session

   a. Pending Litigation – City of Waterbury of vs. Town of Watertown.


   g. Consider setting a special town meeting date to authorize an appropriation of $50,000 from the Water Capital Fund and $50,000 Sewer Capital Fund for Legal Services for the Water and Sewer Authority.

13. Adjournment
June 1, 2023

Jonathan Ramsay  
Chairman  
Watertown Town Council  
61 Echo Lake Road  
Watertown, CT 06795

VIA EMAIL TO raimo@watertownct.org AND U.S. Mail

Dear Chairman Ramsay and Members of the Town Council:

On May 18, 2023, Katherine Camara submitted via email two invoices for legal fees incurred by her and certain of her neighbors in bringing an appeal from a decision dated August 4, 2021 of the Planning and Zoning Commission. She has also raised this issue during public participation.

The law in Connecticut is clear – in the absence of a statute or an agreement between the parties that provides that a prevailing party will be entitled to attorney’s fees, such fees cannot be awarded. Here, there is no statute providing for the award of attorney’s fees, nor is there any agreement between the parties on that issue. Because there is no obligation on the part of the Town, the Town Council should not give any consideration to Ms. Camara’s request.

Please call if you have questions.

Very truly yours,

Paul R. Jessell  
Town Attorney

PRJ/mjp
May 25, 2023

Lisa Dalton
Town Clerk
Town of Watertown

Dear Ms. Dalton;

I am writing to inform you of the appointment of Cindy Blanchard as my Democratic Deputy Registrar, effective June 1, 2023 to June 1, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Laurine Gambardella
Democratic Registrar of Voters

Cynthia Blanchard
37 Booth Ave. Unit #22
Oakville, CT 06779
1. Running the Meeting
   a. The Chairman, or another Council member acting as Chairman, shall have control over the conduct of the meeting.
   b. All comments and questions from applicants, members of the public, council members and/or staff should be made through the Chair.
   c. The Chairman has discretion to stop a speaker or council member if the speaker is being repetitive or becomes confrontational.
   d. There will be a request for 5 minutes time limit per speaker, per meeting. It will be called Public Participation.
   e. The Chair reserves the right to ask any individual of the public to leave if they prove disruptive of the process.

2. Conduct of Members
   a. Council members should have themselves prepared for every meeting by making sure they have read the information provided by staff in their meeting packets.
   b. Council members should be attentive and respectful when anyone is speaking.
   c. All comments or questions by council members must be made through the chair.
   d. Cell phones should be turned off or at least silenced during the meeting. If a council member must take a phone call or a text, he should recuse himself from the room.
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2023 the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget was approved by referendum vote, and;

WHEREAS, the mill rate must be established to levy the taxes on personal property and real estate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the mill rate for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 be 36.86 due and payable on July 1, 2023 for personal property taxes and the first installment of real estate taxes due on July 1, 2023 and the second installment on real estate taxes due on January 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mill rate for motor vehicle taxes due and payable on July 1, 2023 and the supplemental motor vehicle taxes due and payable on January 1, 2024 will be set at the mill rate cap set by the State of Connecticut per State Statute 12-71(e), currently 32.46.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 5th day of June, 2023

Jonathan Ramsay, Chair
Watertown Town Council

At a regular meeting of the Watertown Town Council held on June 5, 2023 the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Councilman/Councilwoman __________________________. The motion was supported by Councilman/Councilwoman __________________________.

Motion declared adopted.

Susan King, Clerk
Watertown Town Council
May 30, 2023

To: Mark Raimo, Town Manager

From: Sue Zappone, Finance Director

Re: Appropriation Request

During this fiscal year the Department of Labor has changed the format in which Unemployment payments are paid. The Town has made payments on behalf of the Board of Education in the amount of $12,979.33. The Board of Education has reimbursed the Town and those funds have been deposited.

Therefore, I would like to request an appropriation in the amount of $12,979.33 into 010.50242.042.0000.0000.

Thank you.
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, taxpayers have applied for Tax Refunds pursuant to Section 12-129, Refund of Excess Payments; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommended that the refunds be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 12-129; and

WHEREAS, in order to refund taxpayers who have been approved for their refunds, monies must be appropriated into the budget line item to expend the funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council appropriates $1,913 to line item 010-50341-043-0102 from the General Fund for tax refunds.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 5th day of June, 2023.

__________________________________________________________________
Jonathan Ramsay, Chairman
Watertown Town Council

At a regular meeting of the Watertown Town Council held on June 5, 2023 the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Councilman/Councilwoman _________________________.
The motion was supported by Councilman/Councilwoman _________________________.

Motion declared adopted.

__________________________________________________________________
Susan King, Clerk
Watertown Town Council
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, taxpayers have made applications for property tax refunds in accordance with C.G.S. Section 12-129 Refunds of Excess Payment:

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that the refunds be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 12-1298;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the attached listing of tax refunds.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 5th day of June, 2023.

__________________________________________
Jonathan Ramsay, Chairman
Watertown Town Council

At a regular meeting of the Watertown Town Council held on June 5, 2023 the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Councilman/Councilwoman ______________________. The motion was supported by Councilman/Councilwoman ______________________.

Motion declared adopted.

__________________________________________
Susan King, Clerk
Watertown Town Council
ACTION TAKEN BY THE TOWN COUNCIL:
At a regular meeting of the Town Council held on ______ day of ____________ 2023, it was authorized to refund property taxes, interest, and fees amounting to $ ________________ to the below applicants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/State/Zip</th>
<th>Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Tax</th>
<th>Int</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>Refund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020-03-0060820</td>
<td>KRASNICKI HASHIM</td>
<td>504 SAYBROOK RD</td>
<td>HADDAM, CT 06438</td>
<td>2017/JWVAT7A926H013717</td>
<td>Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Asses</td>
<td>196.69</td>
<td>67.73</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>269.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-03-0063241</td>
<td>MICHALE MICHAEL J</td>
<td>295 DAVIS ST</td>
<td>OAKVILLE, CT 06779-2332</td>
<td>2005/JH4K816566C013416</td>
<td>Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Asses</td>
<td>104.03</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>104.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-03-0059537</td>
<td>HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST</td>
<td>ATTN PROP TAX RFD'S</td>
<td>IRVINE, CA 92612</td>
<td>2018/KMB13CA244J043064</td>
<td>Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - AC</td>
<td>648.23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>648.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-03-0059568</td>
<td>HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST</td>
<td>ATTN PROP TAX RFD'S</td>
<td>IRVINE, CA 92612</td>
<td>2018/KMB13CA47J0822609</td>
<td>Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - AC</td>
<td>380.50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>380.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-03-0059552</td>
<td>HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST</td>
<td>ATTN PROP TAX RFD'S</td>
<td>IRVINE, CA 92612</td>
<td>2019/SXYP5S3A32K0S29618</td>
<td>Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - AC</td>
<td>394.49</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>394.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-03-0066359</td>
<td>RAGONESE ALLYSON M</td>
<td>3862 LANCASTER CT A101</td>
<td>PALM HARBOR, FL 34585-4110</td>
<td>2015/3N1AD7AP8F375S557</td>
<td>Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - AC</td>
<td>15.97</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL**                                                                                                    1,839.81 | 67.73 | 5.00  | 1,912.54 |

Susan King, Clerk of the Town Council
TO: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
FROM: Jerry Lukowski, Public Works Director
DATE: May 22, 2023
RE: Fund Appropriation Request

Please add the following appropriation request to the next Town Council’s meeting agenda for their consideration to approve:

Appropriate: $100,000

Please appropriate $50,000 into line-item Legal Services 015.50334.074.0158 and $50,000 into line-item Legal Services 017.50334.075.0158.

These additional funds are needed to cover the cost of Legal Services for the Waterbury Litigation.

This appropriation has been approved by the WSA at the WSA Special Meeting on May 17, 2023.

Thank you.

JL:jm