



MINUTES
ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
September 7, 2023
7:00 PM - Council Chambers
<https://youtube.com/live/t32JJDawyqQ>

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Matthew Despard, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Michael Ludwick, Cynthia Mangini, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar, John Santanella, Lori Unghire

Absent: None. Councilor Despard attended remotely and Councilor Unghire arrived at 7:25 pm.

2. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

- Announced

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment(s)–Town Council Appointed

1. **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee** - A Vacancy Exists for an Alternate Position. The Recommendation is Maureen Haynes (R) Until 8/31/2026.

NOMINATION #6690 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

2. **Historic District Commission** - The Term of Office of Linda Fallon (R) Expired 8/31/2023. Reappointment Will be Until 8/31/2028.

NOMINATION #6691 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

3. **Loan Review Committee** - A Vacancy Exists for an Alternate Member. The Recommendation is Suzanne Angers (R) Until 12/31/2024.

NOMINATION #6692 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

4. **Senior Tax Relief Committee** - The Term of Office of Michael Arnone, Jr. (U) Expired 7/5/2023. Reappointment Would Be for a Term of 1 Year.

NOMINATION #6693 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

5. **Senior Tax Relief Committee** - The Term of Office of David Goyette (D) Expired 7/5/2023. Reappointment Would Be for a Term of 1 Year.

NOMINATION #6694 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

6. **Senior Tax Relief Committee** - The Term of Office of Marlene Hoginski (R) Expired 7/5/2023. Reappointment Would Be for a Term of 1 Year.

NOMINATION #6695 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

7. **Senior Tax Relief Committee** - The Term of Office of Kathleen Tallarita (D) Expired 7/5/2023. Reappointment Would Be for a Term of 1 Year.

NOMINATION #6696 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

8. **Senior Tax Relief Committee** - The Term of Office of George Young, Jr. (U) Expired 7/5/2023. Reappointment Would Be for a Term of 1 Year.

NOMINATION #6697 by: Robert Cressotti Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain: None. The Chair declared the appointment adopted.

B. Resolution Concerning the Temporary Residential Permit Parking program on Francis Ave., Highland Park, Pequot Ave., and Nonotuck St.

RESOLUTION #6698 by: Gina Cekala, seconded: Ken Nelson Jr.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council does hereby renew the temporary parking ban on Francis Avenue, Highland Park, Pequot Avenue, and Nonotuck Street established by Town Council Resolution No. 6411 on November 14, 2022 and subsequently renewed on March 20, 2023 and July 17, 2023.

AMENDMENT #1 by: Michael Ludwick, seconded: Nick Hopkins to amend the Resolution to include the words "for a period of 90 days."

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** failed. Yes: Nick Hopkins, Michael Ludwick No: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Marie Pyznar, Robert Cressotti Abstain: None.

AMENDMENT #2 by: Ken Nelson Jr., seconded: Marie Pyznar to amend the Resolution to specify " Francis Avenue only."

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #2** failed. Yes: Nick Hopkins, Ken Nelson Jr., Marie Pyznar No: John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti Abstain: None.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #6698** failed. Yes: Nick Hopkins No: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Lori Unghire, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti Abstain None.

C. Resolution Concerning Revisions to the Open Space Assessment Ordinance and to Set a Public Hearing

RESOLUTION #6699 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Ken Nelson Jr.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby schedule a Public Hearing to consider revisions to the Open Space Assessment Ordinance to be held on September 18, 2023 at 5:45 PM in the Council Chambers of the Enfield Town Hall which is located at 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT 06082 in order to receive public comment.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #6699** adopted. Yes: Ken Nelson Jr., John Santanella, Cynthia Mangini, Lori Unghire, Matthew Despard, Gina Cekala, Douglas Finger, Nick Hopkins, Marie Pyznar, Michael Ludwick, Robert Cressotti No: None Abstain None.

Councilor Nelson raised a concern about the last resolution stating that leadership discussed a thirty-day extension because the resolution was not complete and it may still be altered. The deadline for applications is October 15th and the application start date was on September 1, removing thirty days from people who were told they are ineligible at the moment. Mayor Cressotti clarified that they agreed to extend it until November 30.

Town Manager Zoppo-Sassu stated that there have been no rejected applications. The application process began on September 1. It is believed that they will continue to receive inquiries as well as filed applications and will concurrently make the language more user-friendly and add the fifty percent for future assessments on vacant and unimproved excess acreage at the same time. There would be an opportunity for the Assessor to extend the deadline by thirty days and they would continue to refine the process. To further clarify, it is

a state form, so any suggestions given to simplify or modify the form are unable to be made. Certain boxes on the form are being pre-filled or checked to simplify the process in regard to changes or updates made by the Agricultural and Conservation Commissions. The revision and continual refinement of the ordinance, along with the current open application process, can happen at the same time without anyone suffering any penalties.

Councilor Nelson confirmed Ms. Zoppo-Sassu's statement about the public having until November 30 to file the paperwork. Ms. Zoppo-Sassu added that the Agricultural and Conservation Commissions would send a letter of support as well as offer a workshop in mid-October for anyone needing assistance completing their paperwork or who wants additional information giving ample opportunities and resources. Anyone who was ineligible in the past will be contacted.

4. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION #6700 by: Ken Nelson Jr., seconded: Cynthia Mangini to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6700** adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Lindsay Petrucci, Assistant Town Clerk
Secretary of the Council