

MINUTES OF WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$900,000 BONDS FOR RADIO SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$900,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE AND DECLARING THE TOWN'S OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE EXPENDITURES FROM SUCH BORROWINGS

July 29, 1997

Council Chambers

275

Vice President Sandy Klebanoff called the hearing to order at 7:25 p.m.

Present were Councilors Rob Bouvier, Kevin Connors, Liz Gillette, Bernard Jacques, Sandy Klebanoff, Patrick McCabe, Madeline McKernan and Alfred Turco. President Nan Glass was absent.

Vice President Klebanoff: Mr. Feldman, does the administration have a presentation?

Mr. Feldman: Madam Mayor, the ordinance that you have before you essentially authorizes the issuance of \$900,000 in bond funds to continue the town wide radio communications upgrade. It is a project that has been funded by prior appropriations and this is again a continuation of the funding of that overall program.

Vice President Klebanoff: Thank you. Do any members of Council have questions for Mr. Feldman? If not, do we have a sign up sheet for this hearing Mrs. Wilder?

Mrs. Wilder: Yes, there is.

Vice President Klebanoff: Domenico Genduso.

Mr. Genduso: Domenico Genduso, 80 Blue Ridge Lane, West Hartford. Madam Mayor, members of the Town Council. I don't remember when it was last time that we updated the equipment, the phonic equipment at the police station. We cannot go on because a new thing, a toy goes up in the market and we change every two or three years you know and spend money, spend and spend. We have to use what we have and \$900,000 is a lot of money. When last time we had an increase it happened the same thing. They wanted a new thing. It looks like children that they watch TV, they see a new toy every week and ask their mother they want a new toy. The town cannot afford to do that. Not just the police department but all the departments.

We have to use what we have until we can't. When the equipment don't work anymore because it is too old and they cannot do the job then is the time to change not just

because they have new things in the market we have to change. \$900,000 is a lot of money and we have to start saving, not just \$900,000 even if it was \$10,000 otherwise I have three friends. They used to live in West Hartford. They don't live here anymore and I saw one yesterday who said I'm going to Rocky Hill in a condominium because I cannot afford to \$5,000 a year for a small house. It is a lot of money especially when you are retired.

A few years ago the pension didn't go up and maybe social security maybe they give you \$10 or \$12 a month increase and every year we have to pay more taxes and not just the local taxes and State taxes even though they say they are cut and the same with the federal but not everybody gets included in those tax cuts. I say please to you and the Manager to be more careful when they have those requests because money is money and it doesn't grow on trees or you don't find it on the street. You have to work hard to accumulate some reserve and then you think that you retire now and you are all set up without knowing that the politicians always increase the taxes. Thank you very much for listening.

Vice President Klebanoff: Thank you, Mr. Genduso. Is there anyone else who wishes to address the Council on the issue of the bonds? Any further questions from the Council? If not, I will adjourn the public hearing and I will turn the podium over to Mrs. McKernan for a continuation of another hearing.

The hearing adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Norma W. Cronin  
 Town Clerk/Council Clerk

BYRON WESTON  
 XEROGRAPHIC  
 TOWN RECORDS