1. 6:05 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

Present:  Pres. Morrone, Vice Pres. Aiello
Councilors Carson, Cioffi, Overton, Gagnier
T. Mgr. Kennedy, Co. Clk. Pro Tem LeBlanc

Absent:  Councilor Celico
T. Sol. Conley
T. Clk. Giordano
T. Sgt. Falcone

INVOCATION – Councilor Gagnier

SALUTE TO THE FLAG – Council President Morrone

SUSPEND TOWN COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE – RULE 11(b) CITIZENS’ COMMENTS – TO ELIMINATE THE FIRST CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

Motion by Ms. Cioffi, Seconded by Mr. Aiello, to suspend Rule 11(b) of the Town Council Rules of Procedure to eliminate the first Citizens’ Comments.  (So Voted 5 to 1 - Councilor Gagnier dissented - felt that the order of the agenda should remain as is and that the Council should allow citizens to comment; Councilor Celico absent)

2. FY2018/2019 Budget – Discussion
   a. Town Manager Presentation

   Town Manager Kennedy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FY2018/2019 Town Manager’s proposed budget and pointed out the Board of Finance’s recommended changes.  He stated that this year's budget theme is Personnel Investment and Infrastructure Investment.  He addressed budget highlights, staffing, and financial stability.  He presented an overview of the overall expenditures, and 5-year expenditure and budget trends.  He addressed the General Government budgets and explained the proposed changes.  He explained that the proposed budget combines Recreation and Town Beach to reflect a single department and addressed beach revenues for recreation and leisure.  He reviewed police pension and OPEB funding, noting a decrease due to investment returns, as well as the history of ADC vs. Town funding.  He explained a proposed financial consolidation in the Public Works budget and reasons for same.  He addressed subsidies, stating that he proposed level funding from last year, and noted the recommended changes by the Finance Board.  He reviewed the Enterprise Funds, which include the Animal Shelter, Sanitation - Transfer Station, Water and Sewer.  He addressed Restricted Programs and Capital expenditures for town and schools.  He reviewed Revenues and addressed the Grant List and Non-Tax Revenues, and the Use of Fund Balance.  He reviewed a summary
of Town and School appropriations, the tax impact, and mill rate comparison. He addressed a proposed pre-budget action, which includes the use of fund balance and year-end surplus.

3 CITIZENS COMMENTS

When addressing the Council, please state your name and address; please conduct yourself in an orderly and respectful fashion. The comments of citizens accessing this portion of our meeting are neither adopted nor endorsed by this body, but heard as requested.

a. Louis Sposato, 12 Holly Dr - re: Recommended budget changes to allow for full-time School Resource Officers and a full-time Harbor Master, re: Suggests elimination of Westerly Public Library subsidy if library continues to operate a coffee shop

COUNCILORS’ RESPONSE

Councilors responded to Citizens’ Comments regarding funding to hire a Harbor Master, the need for School Resource Officers, and the coffee shop to be located at Westerly Public Library.

Councilor Overton requested a breakdown of cost to allow for full-time School Resource Officers.

Councilor Aiello wondered if School Resource Team would be involved in developing a safety plan for schools.

Ed announced next budget meeting will be tomorrow night on general government and public safety.

4. ADJOURNMENT

7:55 P.M. Voted Unanimously to adjourn.

ATTEST: Mary L. LeBlanc, MMC
Council Clerk Pro Tem

Details of the aforesaid proceedings are available on video on the Town of Westerly website.