

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, March 9, 2015
Council Chambers – 7:30 p.m.

Sydney T. Schulman, Mayor
Joan Gamble, Deputy Mayor
Patrick A. DeLorenzo Wayne Hypolite
Joseph P. Merritt Joel J. Neuwirth
E. Leon Rivers Derrick A. Seldon
Joseph Washington

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Announcements and Presentations
 - A. Briefing Regarding Seabury Facility Expansion
- IV. Citizens' Statements and Petitions
Statements by members of the public may be oral or written and shall start with the speaker's name and address and shall continue for no longer than five (5) minutes, unless permitted by the Mayor or councilor presiding.
- V. Report from Council Subcommittees
 - A. Community Services – Councilor Derrick Seldon
 - B. Administration & Education – Councilor Leon Rivers
 - C. Golf – Councilor Leon Rivers
 - D. Public Safety – Councilor Joe Washington
 - E. Committee on Committees – Councilor Joe Washington
 - F. Finance – Councilor Wayne Hypolite
 - G. Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble
- VI. Council Business
 - Old Business:
 - FY 14/15-19: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution – Town of Bloomfield Affirmative Action Plan
 - New Business:
 - FY 14/15-46: Consider and Take Action Regarding Capital Non-Recurring Expenditures (CNRE) Fund Transfers
 - FY 14/15-47: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution – Transfers
 - FY 14/15-48: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission

FY 14/15-49: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointment to the Commission on Aging

FY 14/15-50: Consider and Take Action regarding Appointments to the Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC)

FY 14/15-51: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointment the Bloomfield Housing Authority

- VII. Report from Mayor and Town Manager
- VIII. Approval of Minutes
 - A. February 23, 2015
 - B. February 17, 2015 (Special Meeting)
- IX. Council Comments
- X. Executive Sessions
 - A. Discussion Concerning Possible Acquisition of Real Estate (with the Town Council, Town Attorney, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager, Director of Planning & Development, Mike Goman (Goman & York), Economic Development Commission members (Michelle Bononi, Fred Hesketh, and Jerry Katrichis)
 - B. Discussion Concerning Pending Claims and Litigation (with the Town Council, Town Attorney, Town Manager and Assistant to the Town Manager)
- XI. Adjournment

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: March 6, 2015
RE: FY 14/15-19: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION – TOWN OF
BLOOMFIELD AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

Please see the letter from Director of Human Resources Cindy Coville regarding the Town of Bloomfield Affirmative Action Plan.

The major emphasis of the Affirmative Action Plan is to take affirmative steps to diversify our workforce and ensure all persons every opportunity to compete for jobs.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Town of Bloomfield to be fair and impartial in all its relations with its employees and applicants in regard to protected groups under equal employment opportunity laws; and

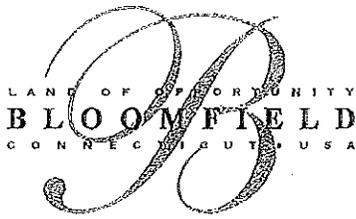
WHEREAS, The Town of Bloomfield has established a policy of affirmatively promoting equal employment opportunities and has prepared for this purpose the Affirmative Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the major emphasis of this Affirmative Action Plan is to take affirmative steps to diversify our workforce and ensure all persons every opportunity to compete for jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Bloomfield commit the entire Town organization to support in an affirmative manner the policy of equal employment opportunity; and

Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved that:

The Affirmative Action Plan be adopted by the Bloomfield Town Council.



*Department of
Human Resources*
TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD
800 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE
BLOOMFIELD
CONNECTICUT 06002
TEL 860-768-3544
FAX 860-768-3505
WWW.BLOOMFIELDCT.ORG

January 22, 2015

Mr. Phillip K. Schenck, Jr.
Town Manager
Town of Bloomfield
800 Bloomfield Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

RE: Town of Bloomfield's Revised Affirmative Action Plan

Dear Phil,

Attached is the revised Affirmative Action Plan for the Town of Bloomfield for presentation to the Town Council members in the regularly scheduled meeting to be held on January 26, 2015.

The Plan was presented to the Town Council members on November 10, 2014 and was referred to the Subcommittee on Administration and Education. We met with the Subcommittee on December 1, 2014 and on January 5, 2015. At the request of the subcommittee members, the Plan was revised to include the demographics of the Town of Bloomfield in the availability analysis. Based on this revision, new hiring goals by EEO Category were established.

Sincerely,

Cindy Coville
Human Resources Director

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Town of Bloomfield to be fair and impartial in all its relations with its employees and applicants in regard to protected groups under equal employment opportunity laws; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Bloomfield has established a policy of affirmatively promoting equal employment opportunities and has prepared for this purpose the Affirmative Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the major emphasis of this Affirmative Action Plan is to take affirmative steps to diversify our workforce and ensure all persons every opportunity to compete for jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Bloomfield commit the entire Town organization to support in an affirmative manner the policy of equal employment opportunity; and

Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved that:

The Affirmative Action Plan be adopted by the Bloomfield Town Council.

TO: Town Councilors
 FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
 DATE: March 6, 2015
 RE: FY 14/15-46: CAPITAL NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES
 (CNRE) FUND TRANSFERS

Please review the attached memorandum dated March 3rd from Leisure Services Director, David Melesko regarding CNRE fund transfer of \$57,801 to assist with the Lisa Lane Farm Greenhouse and service connections.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

RESOLVED, That the Bloomfield Town Council authorizes the transfer of \$57,801 from the unencumbered balance from the previously approved capital improvement project "Open Space Acquisition" #11731900 in the Town's Capital Non-Recurring Fund to a new project "Lisa Lane Farm Improvements" as outlined below per the attached memorandum from the Director of Leisure Services dated March 3, 2015:

From:	Amount	To:	Amount
Open Space Acquisition	\$57,801		
		Lisa Lane Farm Improvements	\$57,801
Total	\$57,801	Total	\$57,801

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: PHILIP SCHENCK, TOWN MANAGER
FROM: DAVID MELESKO, DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES
SUBJECT: CAPITAL NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURES (CNRE) FUND TRANSFER
DATE: MARCH 3, 2015

The Town Council, upon the recommendation of the Town Manager, can transfer unexpended appropriations from previously approved capital improvements projects in the CNRE Fund to those projects, either new or existing, that requires additional funding at any time during the fiscal period. Unexpended balances occur when projects are either completed, not going forward or other sources of funding become available.

The transfer outlined in the attached resolution totals \$57,801. This amount is derived from the Open Space Acquisition Capital Project with a current balance of \$186,912, resulting in a new balance of \$129,111 and will be used to finance one project as follows:

LISA LANE FARM GREENHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS & SERVICE CONNECTIONS: \$126,000

This transfer request consists of the installation of a 2-Inch Water Service from MDC Main at the West Side of Packard Street, Electricity Service providing 400-Amp, 3-Phase Service to Operations Building, replacement of the existing greenhouse with a 30 ft. X 72 ft. gable greenhouse with polycarbonate skin including fans, and operations building removing two attached sheds and roof replacement (11.2 Squares, 30-Yr Shingles), sheathing and gutters. A matching grant application up to \$49,999 to the Department of Agriculture 2014 Agriculture Viability Grants Program (AVGP) has been submitted and if awarded, the town will be reimbursed by the amount of \$49,999. With the anticipation of the AVGP being awarded to the town, the town will be responsible for the remaining \$76,001 minus town matching in-kind costs of \$18,200 for a total request of \$57,801.

The town has been working with members of the Wintonbury Land Trust, Uconn Extension, DEEP, BHS Harris AgriScience & Technology Center, and Leasing Farmer, Desmond Samuda to develop and implement a three year Capital Program to finalize the Lisa Lane Farm acquisition and improvements.

RESOLVED, That the Bloomfield Town Council authorizes the transfer of \$57,801 from the unencumbered balance from the previously approved capital improvement project "Open Space Acquisition" #11731900 in the Town's Capital Non-Recurring Fund to a new project "Lisa Lane Farm Improvements" as outlined below per the attached memorandum from the Director of Leisure Services dated March 3, 2015:

From:	Amount	To:	Amount
Open Space Acquisition	\$57,801		
		Lisa Lane Farm Improvements	\$57,801
Total	\$57,801	Total	\$57,801

TO: Town Councilors
 FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
 DATE: March 6, 2015
 RE: FY 14/15-47: TRANSFER RESOLUTION

At the Finance Subcommittee meeting on February 17th, it was discussed that a transfer of \$125,000 to the Public Works department due to the increased expenses (fuel/equipment parts/road materials and overtime) due to the extreme winter weather we have been experiencing.

Also discussed at the Finance Subcommittee meeting were smaller transfers as outlined in Bill Hogan's memorandum dated March 2nd.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: In accordance with Section 908 of the Town of Bloomfield Charter, the below transfer of appropriations be approved effective *on or after April 1, 2015*:

The amounts below are free from encumbrances in the 2014-15 General Fund budget:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT/FUNCTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1-950	Town Council Contingency	150,000
1-910	Fixed Costs: Heart & Hypertension	60,000
1-905	Insurances/Bonds	5,000
	TOTAL	215,000

The above amounts are to be transferred to the following departments in the 2014-15 General Fund budget:

<u>TO</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT/FUNCTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1-401	Public Works	125,000
1-145	Human Resources	8,000
1-970	Debt Service Interest	65,000
1-721	Social Services	7,000
1-950	Town Manager Contingency	10,000
	TOTAL	215,000

Department of Finance
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

To: Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager
From: William J. Hogan, Director of Finance
Date: March 2, 2015
Re: 2014-15 Transfer Resolution March 9th Meeting for action

As reported in the January financial update and discussed at the February 17th meeting of the Finance sub-committee, transfers primarily to the Public Works department (\$125,000) will be required as provided for in Section 908 of the Town Charter.

This transfer is necessary due to the increased expenses in the Public Works Department for fuel, equipment parts, road materials and overtime because of the extreme winter weather we have experienced and to provide sufficient funding for Town-wide Spring cleanup. Also discussed at the Finance Sub-Committee meeting are other smaller transfers outlined below:

- \$7,000 to the Social Services budget for the loss of a grant for the Judicial Review Board.
- \$65,000 to Debt Service for interest from the October 31st, 2014 sale.
- \$8,000 to the Human Resources Department for consulting services for the Town's Affirmative Action Plan.
- \$10,000 to the Town Manager Contingency to restore funding to that account for expenses made earlier in the year.

A review of other Town operating departments indicate that sufficient balances exist and are not projected to require any additional funding at this time.

After the transfer, a balance of \$50,000 would remain in the Town-wide Contingency account which had an original budget of \$200,000. Also financing the transfers are savings of \$60,000 in the heart and hypertension account due to less than estimated settlements and \$5,000 from the Insurance/Bonds budget. The total adopted 2014-15 budget of \$81,984,969 remains the same.

A Town Council resolution with a transfer effective date on or after April 1st for action at their March 9th, meeting is attached.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: In accordance with Section 908 of the Town of Bloomfield Charter, the below transfer of appropriations be approved effective on or after April 1, 2015:

The amounts below are free from encumbrances in the 2014-15 General Fund budget:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT/FUNCTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
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<u>TO</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT/FUNCTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1-401	Public Works	125,000
1-145	Human Resources	8,000
1-970	Debt Service Interest	65,000
1-721	Social Services	7,000
1-950	Town Manager Contingency	10,000
	TOTAL	215,000

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: March 6, 2015
RE: FY 14/15-48 – APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKS AND
RECREATION COMMISSION

The Committee on Committees met on Wednesday, March 4th at which time it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to recommend Gail Nolan and Marc Jordan DeSousa to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term ending November 2015.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to appoint Gail Nolan and Marc Jordan DeSousa to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term ending November 2015.

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: March 6, 2015
RE: FY 14/15-49 – APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMISSION ON AGING

The Committee on Committees met on Wednesday, March 4th at which time it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to recommend Charlotte J. Gregg to the Commission on Aging with a term ending November 2017.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to appoint Charlotte J. Gregg to the Commission on Aging with a term ending November 2017.

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: March 6, 2015
RE: FY 14/15-50 – APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION,
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (CEEC)

The Committee on Committees met on Wednesday, March 4th at which time it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to recommend Wesley David Hager and Vanessa Spence to the Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) with a term ending November 2015.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to appoint Wesley David Hager and Vanessa Spence to the Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) with a term ending November 2015.

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: March 6, 2015
RE: FY 14/15-51 – APPOINTMENT TO THE BLOOMFIELD HOUSING
AUTHORITY

The Committee on Committees met on Wednesday, March 4th at which time it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to recommend Harriette Howard to the Bloomfield Housing Authority with a term ending June 30, 2017.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to appoint Harriette Howard to the Bloomfield Housing Authority with a term ending June 30, 2017.

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Schulman (via phone), Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors, Joseph Washington, Joseph Merritt, Joel Neuwirth, Patrick DeLorenzo, Derrick Seldon and Leon Rivers.

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent was: Councilor Wayne Hypolite

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Performance by Global Experience Magnet School (Black History Month)

Mr. Sabin Loveland, Principal of Global Experience Magnet School and three students, Jada Gonzalez, Kelly McKearn and Jarvis Lawrence presented information from a global perspective for Black History Month.

Black History Month Proclamation

Deputy Mayor Gamble read and presented GEMS with a Black History Proclamation emphasizing the milestone achievements, contributions and efforts of African Americans in this country and beyond.

CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS

1. **Dale Bertoldi**, President of the Wintonbury Land Trust presented the Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Award for Outstanding Group to the Council for public display in Town Hall.
2. **Shasona Cassells, 22 Cadwell Road**, introduced Mr. Stephen Mitchell, Board of Trustees member of the East Coast Greenway. Ms. Cassells is a Bloomfield resident and expressed her strong advocacy in support of the greenway as well as Bloomfield becoming a bike friendly community.
3. **Stephen Mitchell**, Board of Trustees member for the East Coast Greenway presented the Council with a letter of support in making Bloomfield bike friendly. In conjunction with the efforts of the mission of the East Coast Greenway, Mr. Mitchell stated the importance of a walkable and safer community.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Services – The next subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Administration & Education – The next subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Committee on Committees – This subcommittee will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Golf – Councilor Rivers will give a brief updated report of this subcommittee at the next scheduled Council meeting.

Land Use & Economic Development – This subcommittee will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

FY 14/15-44: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution – Adopting 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Town of Bloomfield Resolution Adopting
2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

WHEREAS, the Town of Bloomfield Town Council recognizes the threats that natural hazards pose to people and property with the Town of Bloomfield; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bloomfield in collaboration with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan known as the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update has identified mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from the impacts of future natural hazards and disasters that affect the Town of Bloomfield and the region; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held between March 15, 2012 and October 2, 2013, regarding the development and review of the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency/Department of Homeland Security has approved the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update, on condition of local adoption, enabling the Town of Bloomfield to apply for Hazard Mitigation grant funding; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the Town of Bloomfield Town Council/Board demonstrates their commitment to achieving the hazard mitigation goals outlined in the Town of Bloomfield's section of the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Bloomfield Town Council hereby adopts the 2014-2019 Capitol Region Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

Councilor Neuwirth inquired about a contingency plan for recommendations. Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated no financial management or obligations of the town.

Councilor Merritt expressed concern about flood management for many years. He also requested executing this plan into actual action instead of conceptual discussions.

FY 14/15-45: Consider and Take Action Regarding Partial Funding For Hawk Hill Easement/Purchase

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Bloomfield Town Council on February 13, 2012, passed a resolution in support of the Wintonbury Land Trust's application for a grant under the Federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program to obtain a conservation easement on the 45-acre Hawk Hill Farm, adjacent to Bloomfield's LaSalette Park; and

WHEREAS, the Wintonbury Land Trust seeks to receive additional grant funds through the State Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program to either purchase the title or the development rights to Hawk Hill Farm

BE IT RESOLVED:

The Bloomfield Town Council supports the submission of an application by the Wintonbury Land Trust for a grant under the DEEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program to purchase or acquire the development rights to the 45-acre Hawk Hill Farm, adjacent to Bloomfield's LaSalette Park.

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about approved grant funds from NCRS. The grant has not been received by the town as of yet. The NCRS is awaiting Council approval for partial funding commitment to release funds.

Mr. David Melesko, Director of Leisure Services advocate in support of this project.

Ms. Vicki Reski, member of the Wintonbury Land Trust thanked the Council for their continued support over the past three years.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., reminded Councilors of the upcoming budget season, which will begin on March 10, 2015.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. also indicated that the snow budget has exceeded the projected estimation. A 4th quarter transfer request will be submitted to balance accounts.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo encouraged all residents to donate to the fuel and food banks.

Councilor Merritt expressed his excitement and advocacy for making Bloomfield a bike friendly community.

Councilor Washington wished several town residents a speedy recovery during their brief illness.

Councilor Seldon invited the Council and residents to celebrate the Urban League of Greater Hartford 50th Anniversary on February 25, 2015 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The exhibit will honor the legendary William “Bill” Brown who was the first Executive Director of the Greater Hartford chapter.

Mayor Schulman, Councilors Seldon and Washington expressed their deepest condolences to Sharron Howe in the loss of her beloved husband. Mayor Schulman also expressed sympathy to the family of Mr. Florencio Morales, longtime resident of Bloomfield in the Pershing Park area in town.

Mayor Schulman commended the Town Manager Schenck, Police Chief Paul Hammick and Camilla Jones, Director of Social & Youth Services for their quick response in assisting a disabled resident with heating issues.

Deputy Mayor Gamble recommended to all residents to examine the contributions of African Americans to this country during Black History month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:30 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Seldon to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Regarding Acquisition of Land with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager, Jose Giner, Director of Planning and Michael Goman, Consultant – Goman & York.

At 9:37 p.m., it was moved by Councilor DeLorenzo to exit Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Mayor Schulman and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:38p.m.

DRAFT

February 23, 2015

Bloomfield Town Council,

Thank you for everything you have done to ramp up the effort for Bloomfield to become a more walkable and safer community in which to ride a bicycle.

There has been a great deal of planning for the East Coast Greenway (ECG) to come to and through town. Feasibility studies and Engineering studies are good, and I understand there is a one mile section that is soon to be completed. Jonathan Thiesse, and Jeff Shea (Bloomfield & Simsbury Town Engineers) have been working together to make sure that the Greenway will match up and the project will happen in a logical sequence.

Long story short - one of the biggest mistakes of ConnDOT was a project that happened after the Flood of 1955 in Bloomfield. The intersection of CT State Routes 189 & 187 was a design from an era where there was zero regard for bicycle or pedestrian traffic. Last July 17th, Paul Hughes lost his life last year at this section of roadway. Truth be told, this is a very dangerous section and a difficult situation - because there is no practical alternative.

The ECG will connect our two towns in many ways. The time for this is NOW! Governor Malloy said in his inaugural speech a few weeks ago that his emphasis is going to be on "Transportation," and he included walkways and bike paths in his plan. I have also spent an afternoon with Commissioner Redeker, and his focus is clearly completing East Coast Greenway.

Pursuant to this wonderful endeavor, Bloomfield should consider becoming a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC). Back in 2009, Mary Glassman said "Simsbury should be a Bicycle Friendly Community." To be honest with you, no one really knew what the heck that meant?

The best explanation is to go to the League of American Bicyclist website and see what it is all about. bikeleague.org

Since Simsbury became a Bronze Level BFC, South Windsor, West Hartford, New Britain, Farmington, and New Haven have followed suit.

To conclude, yes it is wonderful to live in a community that is wonderful and Bicycle Friendly However, let's talk numbers. As a Board of Trustees Member of the ECG, I have seen the recent studies concerning the Dollars these completed trails are responsible for. There are 252 Million Reasons in New York (Erie Canal Trail). See PTNY.org Economic Impact of the Erie Canal Trail

There are too many reasons why Bloomfield needs to put this on top of the Infrastructure Improvements list. Bottom line, the faster this gets done, the sooner Bloomfield will reap the benefits.

Sincerely,

Steven Mitchell

East Coast Greenway
Board of Trustees

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a special meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Schulman (via phone), Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Wayne Hypolite, Joseph Washington (entered at 6:40 p.m.), Joseph Merritt, Joel Neuwirth, Patrick DeLorenzo and Leon Rivers.

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager, Attorney Marc Needelman and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent was: Councilor Derrick Seldon

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Deputy Mayor Gamble reminded residents to be pleasant and respectful when contacting Town Hall regarding mailboxes and snow plowed driveways during this winter season.

Certificate of Recognition to Deringer Ney

Deputy Mayor Gamble presented a recognition certificate to Mr. David Barnum, Chief Operating Officer/President and Mr. Jim Cummings, Vice President of Operations for Deringer Ney. Deringer Ney has been in Bloomfield since 1956, as the market leader for manufacturing electrical contact parts and assemblies. They hire local talent of a diverse workforce and provide quality products worldwide.

CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS

1. **Jane Low, 20 Prospect Street**, continue to advocate for increased staffing at the Department of Public Works. Mrs. Low mentioned the additional responsibilities of existing staff regarding the maintenance for the adopted Master Parks Plan.
2. **Mary Murray, 14 Maple Avenue**, commended the Department of Public Works for a job well done snow plowing the streets and public places during this winter season.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Administration & Education – Councilor Rivers mentioned that the subcommittee will continue to work diligently with the consultant and town administration regarding the Affirmative Action Plan and its updated presentation to the full Council.

Committee on Committees – There will be a special meeting held in the near future for this subcommittee.

Golf – The next subcommittee will be held on Monday, February 23, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Land Use & Economic Development – This report was deferred to Council business agenda items for further discussion and review.

Public Safety – Councilor Washington read a detailed report of the last meeting held on January 12, 2015. The regular meeting scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2015 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Finance – Councilor Hypolite gave a brief synopsis of the last meeting held on February 17, 2015. In summary, the committee discussed the June 30, 2014 Audit, which was founded as an unqualified and clean report. The January 2015 Financial Review presented well in revenues and expenditures. There will be a request to transfer funds to the Department of Public Works for the snow budget to cover expenses and overtime costs. Overall, the town is well balanced fiscally going into the FY 2015/2016 budget process.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

FY 14/15-40: Consider and Take Action Regarding Bloomfield Board of Education and Bloomfield Administrators Association Contract

Mr. Bill Joslyn, Human Resources Specialist stated that the Bloomfield Board of Education reached a tentative agreement with the Bloomfield Administrators Association (BAA). Mr. Paul Guzzo, President of the BAA was very instrumental in successful negotiations of this contract.

The agreement consists of a three year contract beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 with a reopener on health insurance in year three.

The following information list below outlines the details of this contract:

Tax Shelter Annuity

Year 1 - \$1000-\$2000 per Administrator (depending on years of service) - .6% of total salary
Year 2 - \$1250-\$2250 per Administrator (depending on years of service) - .8% of total salary
Year 3 - \$1500-\$2500 per Administrator (depending on years of service) – 1.2% of total salary

General Wage Increase

Year 1 – 2.1% increase
Year 2 – 1.7% increase
Year 3 – 1.5% increase

Group Long-term Disability Plan Insurance – Increased the monthly maximum benefit from \$2000 per month to \$4000 per month.

Health Savings Account Employee Share

Year 1 – no change 12%
Year 2 – 1% increase to 13%
Year 3 – 1% increase to 14%

Language Clarifications

Article VI Reduction in Force and Termination

Article IX Sec 14.4 – Administrator Assignments

It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor Rivers and voted unanimously to approve the contract between the Bloomfield Board of Education and the Bloomfield Administrators Association.

Mayor Schulman stated that the contract is fiscally prudent and is in favor to reward performance increases. He also inquired if this contract was consistent with other town agreements signed. Mr. Joselin stated that the contract is consistent with Teachers and Administrators Union statewide.

Councilor Neuwirth inquired about the salary of the Bloomfield High School principal and its comparison to student enrollment as well as any increases in staff at the Administration level.

Councilor Hypolite inquired the general standard for salary of Bloomfield Administrators compared to statewide projections. Bloomfield has been placed in the upper middle of the salary index.

FY 14/15-41: Presentation and Discussion Concerning Bloomfield Town Green Revitalization Project and Branding

Ms. Stephanie White of Fuss & O'Neil and Mr. Jonathan Thiesse, Town Engineer presented the conceptual plan for the Bloomfield Town Green Revitalization Project and Branding.

Ms. White stated that the current set up of the town green has decreased user ship, visibility issues and the space is not maximizing its potential. The new uses for the town green include shaded areas with trees, gazebo, lunch carts, maximize open space, ornamental plantings and decorative fencing.

Councilor Hypolite inquired about the connectivity to Filley Park and estimations regarding increased user ship with timeframes.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that the revitalization of the town green would increase concert venues from 8 to 10 during the summer months. Vendor stakeholders also have increased business and interest during this time. In addition, increased vehicular and pedestrian activity in the area.

Mayor Schulman stated that developing a concept and brand for Bloomfield is critically important.

Mr. Jerry Long, 17 Avery Road, member of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) spoke regarding the branding for the town. The EDC met with consultants Goman & York on January 13, 2015 to discuss branding options for the town. The unanimous consensus of the EDC was decided to rename the center of town to "Downtown Bloomfield".

Councilor Neuwirth suggested referring this item to the Land Use & Economic Development subcommittee for further discussion and review.

Deputy Mayor Gamble stated that the Council is in full agreement of the conceptual plan for revitalizing the town green.

FY 14/15-42: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Refunds

It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to approve tax refunds in accordance with Section 12 of the Connecticut General Statutes. (See Attached)

FY 14/15-43: Consider and Take Action Regarding January Monthly Financial Report 2015/2015

There were no specific questions or concerns regarding this report.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr. reported the following updates:

- There will be an updated report at the next scheduled Council meeting on the progress with the Valco site on Cottage Grove Road.
- The town remains active in the request for the demolition permit for the property located at Mountain Avenue and Maple Street. There is a possibility that remedial work needs to be completed at the property.
- The town has submitted several grant applications for improvement of structures at Lisa Lane as well as the barns at Filley House on Mountain Avenue.

- On February 23, 2015, the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) will possibly vote on a resolution for permit for plans at the proposed streetscape project at Filley Park.
- The town also submitted an application for \$500,000 to the State Bond Commission for streetscape work on lower Blue Hills Avenue.
- All budget meetings with department heads have been completed. On March 10, 2015, the discussions regarding the FY 2015/2016 budget season will begin with the Town Manager's review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Hypolite to approve the minutes of January 12, 2015.

**VOTE: AYE: W. Hypolite, S. Schulman, J. Gamble, L. Rivers, J. Washington, J. Merritt, P. DeLorenzo, J. Neuwirth
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None**

The motion passes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo commended the Department of Public Works for a job well done with snow removal across town. He also expressed his excitement with the upcoming plans for the town green and Filley Park.

Councilor Hypolite also thanked the Department of Public Works for an outstanding job. He also welcomed back Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager from bereavement.

Councilor Rivers thanked the Department of Public Works for their continued efforts in maintaining the town roadways to ensure safety to all residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:15 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and

voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session B. – Discussion Regarding Pending Acquisition of Land with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager and Town Attorney.

At 8:43 p.m., the Council exited Executive Session B.

At 8:44 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Neuwirth to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Pending claims and Litigation

At 8:46 p.m., Council exited Executive Session A.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:47p.m.

DRAFT