Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Charlotte Madar, Chairman of Board of Apportionment and Taxation, called the Budget Hearing meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

*Board of Apportionment and Taxation*
Charlotte Madar, Chairman- Present
Joe Palmucci, Vice Chairman- Present
John Belden- Present
Joe Knapik-Present
Louis Dagostine-Present
John Zikaras- Present

*Board of Aldermen*
John Anglace, President- Present
Jack Finn- Present
John Papa - Present
Lynne Farrell– Present
Anthony Simonetti - Present

Chairman Charlotte Madar moved to rearrange the schedule (order of persons being called) of the April 8, 2015 Budget Hearing meeting; seconded by Vice Chairman Joe Palmucci. A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

6100 Miscellaneous

Department Requested $1,203,000; Mayor recommends $1,203,000

Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman discussed various line items in Miscellaneous Account 6100. The Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman accept recommended amount by Mayor.
6200 Capital Spending

Department Requested $7,000; Mayor recommends $7,000

The Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman accept recommended amount by Mayor.

6300 Vehicle Funds

Department Requested $0; Mayor recommends $0

Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman briefly discussed Vehicle Funds Account 6300. The Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman accept recommended amount by Mayor.

9900 Contingency Accounts

The Board of Alderman: Requested $150,000; Mayor recommends $150,000
General Fund: Requested $109,978,528; Mayor recommends $120,692,371

Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman briefly discussed Contingency Accounts 9900. The Board of Apportionment & Taxation and Board of Alderman accept recommended amount by Mayor.

6500 Outside Agency Contributions

Department Requested $360,625; Mayor recommends $341,585

- 412.80-71 (Valley Transit District): Agency requested $15,000; Mayor recommends $15,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing. Alderman Jack Finn noted that agency requested $15,000 last year and did not use funds, leaving a balance of $15,000.
- 412.80-96 (Christian Counseling): Agency requested $10,000; Mayor recommends $10,000. Jill Parkosewich, Clinical Director, briefly described the agency and where money allocated into budget is primarily used. Joe Knapik inquired on sources of funding (how much is privately funded). Kathy Bronson, Treasurer of Christian Counseling, explained funding comes primarily from insurance and donations. Chairman Madar inquired on how many people are served in a given year. Jill Parkosewich stated that it is approximately $7,000 persons, with the largest percentage coming from Shelton, Connecticut. Alderman John Papa inquired whether there is a specific group of persons who
are accommodated for services. Jill Parkosewich stated that there is no specific group; all can participate in their services. Alderman John Anglace inquired on aid from the State in regards to funding. Jill Parkosewich stated that Connecticut does not provide funding to agency.

- **414.79-02 (Liberty Center – Drug Abuse):** Agency requested $5,000; Mayor recommends $5,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-03 (Housatonic Lake Authority):** Agency requested $37,500; Mayor recommends $35,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-04 (Boys & Girls Club):** Agency requested $90,000; Mayor recommends $90,000. Shaye Roscoe, Executive Director, briefly described the agency and where money allocated into budget is primarily used. Chairman Madar inquired on daily attendance of students to the club. Shaye Roscoe stated that it was approximately 250 attendants per day, and overall membership in Shelton is about 1,200. Alderman Anthony Simonetti inquired on average charge per person. Shaye Roscoe stated that membership costs is approximately $150 per year.

- **414.79-05 (Memorial Day Parade):** Agency requested $8,000; Mayor recommends $8,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-06 (Housatonic Valley Association):** Agency requested $1,000; Mayor recommends $1,000. Elaine LaBella, Director of Land Protection, described Valley Greenway, which last year’s funding assisted in completing. She also briefly described various projects that this year’s funding from budget will be appropriated to. Lou Dagostine inquired on whether other towns along the Housatonic River contribute funds to agency. Elaine LaBella stated that there are 10 other municipalities that contribute to agency along with Shelton. Lou Dagostine also inquired on the $1,500 balance from funds allotted from last year’s budget. Elaine LaBella stated that she would check into situation as soon as possible.

- **414.79-07 (Rape Crisis Center):** Agency requested $6,000; Mayor recommends $6,000. Peggy Pisano, Director of Victim Services, briefly described the agency and its programs, as well as where money allocated into budget is primarily used. Alderman John Papa inquired on whether an increase of demand for the agency’s services has been present. Last year, the demand in Shelton had increased approximately 8%, and this year it has increased to approximately 12.7%.

- **414.79-08 (The Umbrella):** Agency requested $15,000; Mayor recommends $15,000. Susan DeLeon, Director of the Umbrella, explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used, which is for various services to help run program. Chairman Madar inquired on how many persons per year use the service. Susan Deleon stated approximately 2,000.

- **414.79-09 (Shelton Day):** Agency requested $19,500; Mayor recommends
$19,500. Al Patuzzi, Director of Shelton Day, explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used. He also explained how funds are raised, and at end of year funds are distributed in various funds, such as scholarships, and at beginning of year the agency starts with a $2,000 balance.

- **414.79-10 (Area Congregations Together):** Agency requested $20,000; Mayor recommends $20,000. Kate Pipa, Developmental Officer of Spooner House, explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used. Chairman Madar stated that allocated funds have not been received yet. Kate Pipa stated that request has been put in.

- **414.79-11 (Regional Mental Health Board):** Agency requested $2,125; Mayor recommends $2,125. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-12 (Derby Historical Society):** Agency requested $6,400; Mayor recommends $6,400. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-13 (Valley Council of Governments):** Agency requested $21,160; Mayor recommends $21,160. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-15 (Shelton Historical Society):** Agency requested $20,000; Mayor recommends $20,000. Martha Coughlin explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used.

- **414.79-16 (Friends of Animal Shelter):** Agency requested $1,200; Mayor recommends $1,200. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.79-18 (Valley Substance Abuse):** Agency requested $7,500; Mayor recommends $7,500. Pam Mautte, Director of Greater Valley Substance Abuse, explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used, as well as how program works.

- **414.81-24 (Housatonic Scout Council):** Agency requested $18,000; Mayor recommends $18,000. Council Representative explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used. Lou Dagostine inquired on the venturing program, which is a program for 14-20 year old similar to exploring program.

- **414.81-25 (Barnum Festival Parade):** Agency requested $2,500; Mayor recommends $2,500. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-28 (St. Vincent DePaul Society):** Agency requested $10,000; Mayor recommends $10,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-29 (Southwest Conservation District):** Agency requested $1,500; Mayor recommends $1,500. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-30 (Shelton Girl Scouts):** Agency requested $5,000; Mayor recommends $5,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.8131 (Long Hill Cemetery Association):** Agency requested $3,540; Mayor recommends $0. Section was covered by Shelton Historical Society Representative.

- **414.81-32 (Junior Achievement):** Agency requested $4,000; Mayor recommends $4,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-33 (American Red Cross):** Agency requested $5,000; Mayor
recommends $5,000. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-34 (OldeRipton Garden Club):** Agency requested $1,200; Mayor recommends $1,200. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-35 (Housatonic River Estuary):** Agency requested $500; Mayor recommends $500. No representative from agency present for budget hearing.

- **414.81-36 (Valley Shakespeare Festival):** Agency requested $2,000; Mayor recommends $0. Cheryl O’Brien explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used, as well as described what agency does. $2,000 balance remained in the budget from last year, which was not received by agency. Alderman John Papa requested to return the $2,000 into next year budget for the agency, Chairman Madar voted to do the same.

- **414.79-01 (Team):** Agency requested $20,000; Mayor recommends $20,000. Diane Stroman, Executive Vice President of Team, Inc., explained where money allocated into budget is primarily used, as well as described what agency does. Alderman John Papa inquired on how much funding comes from the State of Connecticut. Diane Stroman stated that it is approximately $160,000.

### 3500 Public Works Director

Department Requested $52,180; Mayor recommends $52,180

John Zikaras inquired with Paul DiMauro on the return of funds for line item 711.11-01 (Mileage) in last year’s budget, and whether appropriation could be removed all together. Paul DiMauro stated that he was using City vehicle last year and it is a good possibility that will not be the case this year and the funds in that line item will probably be used.

### 3200 Highways & Bridges

Department Requested $3,755,277; Mayor recommends $3,559,780

Chairman Madar inquired on line item 712.10-02 (Part Time Employees). The department requested $379,497; Mayor recommends $250,000. Paul DiMauro explained that department will be cutting back on part-time employees and focusing more on filling full-time positions. Chairman Madar also inquired on line item 712.40-01 (Gasoline/Diesel). The department requested $440,000; Mayor recommends $420,000. Paul DiMauro stated that as long as gas prices do not fluctuate drastically, department should be OK with cut. Chairman Madar also inquired on line item 712.65-08 (Building Maintenance). The department requested $62,000; Mayor recommends $8,000. Paul DiMauro explained that funding was originally including concrete floor replacement, but he believes Mayor may take that from different line item. Chairman Madar also inquired on line item 712.60-09 (Drainage Improvement). The department requested $60,000; Mayor recommends $50,000. The department is OK with cut. Joe Knapik inquired on why a substantial amount of money was being returned last year. Paul DiMauro
explained that this was due to situations with payroll and staff was never employed at full capacity. Also, issue could have been due to Disposal Fee account. Alderman Jack Finn referred to City Audit log and gave specifics to Paul DiMauro on funds returned last fiscal year. Paul DiMauro will get copy of City Audit and come up with reasoning to fund returns at later time. Lou Dagostine inquired on quantity of full-time employees in Highways and Bridges Department due to significant increase in line item 712.10-01 (Regular Payroll), in comparison to last year. Paul DiMauro stated that he did not have employee breakdown on hand and he will look into it and contact Chairman Madar on results. Lou Dagostine also inquired on line item 712.10-07 (Overtime Pay) and whether it covers plow drivers on weekends. It comes into question because there is a significant balance from last year and snow accumulation was significantly higher in comparison to normal accumulation. Paul DiMauro explained that snow removal is also sub-contracted and use of City’s own manpower was maximized. Subcontractors are paid out of line item 712.30-27 (Rental/Contract Services). Lou Dagostine also inquired on line item 712.40-25 (Cement, Lumber, & Pipe). He stated that a representative informed him that requested amount appeared to be low, and is asking if it will be sufficient. Paul DiMauro stated that it should be sufficient due to a portion of these expenses are being paid through a third-party.

3300 Road Repairs

Department Requested $35,000; Mayor recommends $35,000

Lou Dagostine inquired on line item 712.65-04 (Road Maintenance). He asked if repair of potholes comes out of that account. Paul DiMauro answered “yes”. Lou Dagostine stated that not much money was spent from account last year and City did have many issues with potholes due to the in climate weather. Paul DiMauro stated that many areas that were greatly affected will be large repairs, which will be funded by issuance of bonds.

The meeting adjourned approximately 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Twigg
Clerk