

To: Representative Town Meeting

From: RTM Finance Committee, RTM Public Protection Committee, and RTM Employee Compensation Committee.

Date: May 29, 2014

RE: To discuss and vote to recommend to the full RTM on the tentative agreement between the Town of Westport and Local 1081 International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO labor contract July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2017.

In attendance: Finance Committee- Allen Bomes, Seth Braunstien, and Kate Kirby

Employee Compensation Committee: Lewis Mall Chair, Peter Gold, Jay Keenan, Kate Kirby, Peter Knight, and Jimmy Izzo.

Public Protection Committee: Jimmy Izzo Chair, Lou Mall, Stephen Rubin, Hope Feller, Kristin Hamlin, and Seth Braunstein.

Also in attendance: Jim Marpe First Selectman, Helen Garten Selectman, Ralph Chetcuti Human Resources, Gary Conrad Finance Director, Andrew Kingsbury Fire Chief, Floyd Dugas Attorney for town.

The Committees met on Wednesday June 28, 2014. After presentations by both attorney Floyd Dugas for the town of Westport, and Finance Director Gary Conrad, members of all 3 committees joined in with questions concerning the contract between the Town of Westport and Local 1081. Attorney Dugas mentioned that the negotiating teams met 14 times in an effort to reach a deal. General wage increases are inline with those of other towns who have recently negotiated new fire contracts. One of the key savings for the town in the contract is the switch in healthcare insurance from a PPO plan to an HSA plan. This switchover in medical plans will help also reduce our OPEB obligations. Another key provision is minimum manning staying at 14 per shift rather than increasing to 15. This will save the town on overtime compensation. In the end the cost increase over the duration of the contract as a percentage of payroll will be 4.24%. The documents in the RTM packet provided by Gary Conrad goes into detail on costs and savings of the entire contract.

Finance voted 3-0-1 (Alan Bomes abstaining) Both Employee Compensation and Public Protection Committees voted 6-0 to recommend approval of the contract to the full RTM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jimmy Izzo, Chair RTM Public Protection Committee