

The following is an answer to the recent letter printed in the West Hartford Press and addressed to West Hartford Residents titled, "This budget season's a time to get practical, a time for action". The letter was signed by two council members.

"Who has not been Practical and failed to Act in Time"?

Council member Hall wrote a letter to the editor in another publication some months ago mentioning the many millions of dollars that are currently under funded in the town's pension and benefit programs. No action has been taken to bring it to the Council attention. However, she along with her fellow party members voted to adopt last year's budget for what was described as "bipartisan support". Where was last year's action?" Things do not happen, people make things happen." A vote against last year's budget and the reasons why they opposed that budget is what they failed to do.

Since the adoption of last year's budget, we have not seen any evidence of the minority council members introducing any resolution requesting the administration to hold the line on expenses in this year's proposed budget. No resolutions have been introduced concerning the under-funded pension and benefits. Under Council rules, resolutions can be made and seconded then discussed and perhaps voted down, but they failed to take any action and now again they are making excuses of why the town has financial problems and expects voters to accept their excuses. It should be noted that the writers of this letter did mention that the majority party's failure to restrain any growth in our taxes nor address any of the town's financial liabilities. Now the question is will they vote "no" to any budget that calls for any tax increase this year?

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