

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JULY 15, 2014

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Majority Leader Barbara-Ann Rossi, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc I. Weinberg, Linda A. Russo, Ram Aberasturia, Patricia Harmon and Anita D. Morrison

ABSENT Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. The Chair announced the exit locations in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §29-381, after which the Council joined him in the pledge of allegiance.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

Beautification Awards – June 2014:

Patricia Sirois, Chair of the town's Beautification Commission, presented the award for residential landscaping to the Johns Family, 179 Harvest Lane and the Keena Family, 180 Harvest Lane. Both families thanked the Commission and the Council for the award and expressed their dedication to living in East Hartford.

The Community Pride award was presented to Goodwin College, specifically for their new dental lab at 403 Main Street, but also for all of their buildings throughout East Hartford.

The Council thanked all recipients for making East Hartford a prettier place to live.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Susan Kniep, 50 Olde Roberts Street, (1) asked for the cost to the taxpayers of the collective bargaining agreement between the town and Local 1174; (2) suggested that the administration freeze wages due to the financial condition of the town; (3) is against the sale of tax liens; and (4) inquired on the anticipated cost of the proposed road bond.

Mayor Leclerc reported the following: (1) CCAT partnered with the East Hartford Chamber of Commerce to offer energy efficiency in businesses; (2) more electric-car charging stations will be added as the need arises; (3) the renovation to the town hall parking lot is near completion, with the latest addition of plants/trees courtesy of Goodwin College; (4) the Sounds of Summer concert series has had a great response; (5) Parks and Recreation is holding their special evening splash event; (6) the town will roll out their new website in a few days; (7) the East Hartford Golf Club and Restaurant is progressing

nically; (8) the kiosk project has been selected; (9) the Farmers' Market started last Thursday which is held on the Town Green; and (10) the renovations to the Raymond Library are moving along and the completion date of March 2015 is on target.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 17, 2014 Executive Session

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the June 17, 2014 Executive Session.
Motion carried 8/0.

June 17, 2014 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the minutes of the June 17, 2014 Regular Meeting.
Motion carried 8/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

General Obligation Bonds – TD Bank

Chair Kehoe reported that the Council received a memo from Mike Walsh, Finance Director, on the completed sale of \$19.1M in voter-authorized bonds to TD Bank.

NEW BUSINESS

The Town of East Hartford and Local 1174, Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Santiago Malave, Human Resources Director, summarized the changes made to the existing contract, and Mike Walsh, Finance Director, summarized the financial impact of the new contract.

Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the collective bargaining agreement as ratified by the bargain unit members on June 9, 2014 between the Town of East Hartford and Local 1174, Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO which agreement is effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017 and is outlined in and attached to a memo from Mayor Marcia Leclerc to Town Council Chair Richard Kehoe dated June 10, 2014.
Motion carried 8/0.

Once fully executed, a copy of this contract will follow these minutes.

Contingency Transfer re: Local 1174 Contract Settlement

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Anita Morrison
to **transfer** funds in the amount of \$135,759 from account
#G9600-60201 Contingency Reserve-Contract Negotiations to the
following accounts:

#G7300-60110 Highway - Permanent Services	\$58,000
#G7400-60110 Waste – Permanent Services	\$26,000
#G7700-60110 Fleet – Permanent Services	\$15,000
#G7800-60110 Building – Permanent Services	\$ 6,000
#G8200-60110 Parks – Permanent Services	\$30,759

which transfers total \$135,759 and will cover the settlement costs
associated with the Local 1174 contract retroactive for the fiscal years
ending June 30,2013 and June 30, 2014.
Motion carried 8/0.

Energy Performance Contract III – Ameresco, Inc.

Presentation

James Daylor, Account Executive from Ameresco, Inc., gave a Power Point presentation
of an overview of the street lighting upgrades and generator enhancements proposed in
this \$4.2M project.

Energy Performance Resolution/Municipal Tax-exempt Lease Purchase Financing
Resolution

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Esther Clarke
to **table** this issue pending further information.
Motion carried 8/0.

Reallocation of LoCIP Funds re: EHHS Tennis Courts

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Town of East Hartford currently has a total of \$44,602.29 in Local Capital Improvement
Program (LoCIP) funds earmarked to two completed projects; and

WHEREAS the Town desires to reprogram these funds for the repair of the Tennis Courts at East Hartford
High School.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED; that Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is
authorized to amend the Town Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the purpose of transferring \$11,730.29
from the Fire House #6 Window and Door Replacement Project (CIP #2013-215) and \$32,872.00 from the
Roof Replacement at Drennan and Lord Pools Project (CIP #2014-302) to the Replacement of Tennis Court

Surfaces at East Hartford High School Project (CIP #2014-301) and make application to, and execute and approve on behalf of this corporation, any and all documents, contracts, and amendments as may be required by the state Office of Policy and Management as they pertain to these projects and the state Local Capital Improvement Program.

On call of the vote, motion carried 8/0.

Approval of Sale of Individual Tax Liens

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **approve** the sale of tax liens as listed on the report attached to a memorandum dated June 27, 2014 from Finance Director Michael Walsh to Mayor Marcia Leclerc which lists and enumerates 44 properties, along with the amount of the tax lien for each property and the high bid for each property resulting from the request for proposal relevant to the tax lien sale and to **award** the high bid for the 44 properties which collectively totals \$613,830.39 as follows:

- ❖ Woods Cove III, LLC – 3 bids totaling \$41,295.07; and
- ❖ Empire VI CT Portfolio, LLC – 40 bids totaling \$629,013.22; and
- ❖ VMFTL1, LLC – 1 bid totaling \$5,962.81

Motion carried 8/0.

Refund of Taxes

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
 seconded by Barbara Rossi
 to **refund** taxes in the amount of \$86,997.22 pursuant to Section 12-129 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
 Motion carried 8/0.

Bill	Name	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Over Paid
2011-01-0002910	COMMERCE CENTER ASSOC. INC	341 EAST RIVER DR	-38,330.44
2012-01-0002910	COMMERCE CENTER ASSOC. INC	341 EAST RIVER DR	-39,324.74
2012-01-0002328	TEN BEACH STREET LLC	31 HIGH ST 10208	-3,153.62
2012-01-0015777	ZELIGZON RAFAEL	430 BURNSIDE AVE	-1,815.15
2012-03-0054984	CAB EAST LLC	2011/3FAHP0HA1BR283576	-262.74
2012-03-0054988	CAB EAST LLC	2010/2FMDK4JC6ABB61234	-181.74
2012-03-0054992	CAB EAST LLC	2011/1FMHK8D87BGA52775	-657.36
2012-03-0058509	DAIMLER TRUST	2009/WDDGF81X99R081764	-724.22
2012-03-0075407	NISSAN INFINITI LT	2010/1N4AL2AP9AN482898	-245.40
2012-03-0077737	PETERSON D L TRUST	2009/1GBHG31C891180798	-435.84

2012-03-0081515	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL INC	2006/4V4NC9TG46N414778	-268.1
2012-03-0081516	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL INC	2006/4V4NC9TG66N414779	-268.1
2012-03-0081533	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL INC	2009/JALC4W16397001637	-593.53
2012-03-0081543	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL INC	2011/1HTMKAAL9BH368582	-390.22
2012-03-0087035	VESKO JASON J	2012/1C4AJWAG6CL186064	-258.62
2012-04-0082421	EAN HOLDINGS LLC	2013/1C3CDZAB8DN593920	-87.4
		TOTAL REFUNDS	-86,997.22

Setting a Public Hearing Date of August 5, 2014 @ 7PM in Town Council Chambers re: Appropriation of \$15,000,000 for The Planning, Design, Construction & Reconstruction of Town Roads and Parking Lots

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Linda Russo
to **set** a public hearing date of Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at 7PM in Town Council Chambers to hear public comment on the following proposed bond issue:

The Appropriation of \$15,000,000 for the Planning, Design, Construction and Reconstruction of Town Roads and Parking Lots, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$15,000,000 in Bonds of the Town to Meet Said Appropriation and Pending the Issuance Thereof the Making of Temporary Borrowings for Such Purpose

Motion carried 8/0.

Appointments to Patriotic Commission

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **approve** the appointment of Robert Falkevitz to the Patriotic Commission, whose term shall expire December 2015.
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Esther Clarke
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the appointment of Timothy Siggia to the Patriotic Commission, whose term shall expire December 2016.
Motion carried 8/0.

Referral to Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee: 1855 and 1859 Main Street

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **refer** to the Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee the possibility of the town accepting ownership of two parcels of land located at 1855 and 1859 Main Street in exchange for relief of any

delinquent taxes on those properties, with instructions to investigate the issue and report back to the Town Council with its recommendation, if any.

Motion carried 8/0.

Referral to Ordinance Committee re: PA No. 14-124

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Linda Russo
to **refer** to the Ordinance Committee a review of East Hartford's Code of Ordinances Chapter 10, Article 5, entitled "Property Tax Exemptions" with respect to the recently passed State of Connecticut Public Act 14-124 entitled "An Act Concerning Property Tax Relief on Certain Real Property Held in Trust", with instructions to see if the need exists to revise the ordinance to take into account this statutory change and report back to the Town Council with its recommendations, if any.
Motion carried 8/0.

Gengras Harley-Davidson Fall Open House

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application submitted by Hannah Gavin, Events Coordinator, on behalf of Gengras Motor Cars, Inc. to conduct a Fall Open House featuring two motorcycle stunt shows each day, music, food, sales and vendors at 221 Governor Street on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 9AM to 5PM, with music from 9AM to 5PM, and on Sunday, September 21, 2014 from 10AM to 3PM, with music from 10AM to 3PM; subject to compliance with adopted codes and regulations of the State of Connecticut, the Town of East Hartford, and any other stipulations required by the Town of East Hartford or its agencies.
Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Esther Clarke (1) noted that at the swim program for the special needs children held at the Anna Norris School, the temporary stairs in the pool are not working properly. *The Mayor stated that the program is going well and that all equipment is working properly.* (2) heard that some of the children who illegally crossed the border may be coming to East Hartford and asked what policies are in place to handle this situation. *The Mayor reported that, to her knowledge, she has not heard of any such possibility.*

Pat Harmon reported that the traffic light at the intersection of Brewer and Forbes Street does not stay green long enough for Brewer Street traffic; and (2) the tree belts that were recently re-landscaped in the Janet Drive/Barbara Drive neighborhood are growing weeds. *Tim Bockus, Public Works Director, said (1) he would review the "trip meter" on the traffic light; and (2) that the tree belt project is not fully completed yet, due to summer weather conditions, and the contractor will not be paid until work is satisfactorily completed.*

Barbara Rossi thanked the Public Works department for the road and pothole repairs in the south end of East Hartford.

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Brookside Commons v Town of East Hartford

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **accept** Corporation Counsel's recommendation to settle the pending real property tax appeal known as Brookside Commons Limited Partnership v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-12-6016052S, involving 23 Main Street and 43-51 High Street from a fair market value of \$11,875,000 to a fair market value of \$11,000,000, resulting in a tax decrease of \$15,485.40 and \$10,738.46 for a total of \$26,223.86.
Motion carried 8/0.

TE Realty Enterprises v Town of East Hartford

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Linda Russo
to **accept** Corporation Counsel's recommendation to settle the pending real property tax appeal known as TE Realty Enterprises LLC v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-13-6020777S, involving 672 Tolland Street, from a fair market value of \$510,940 to a fair market value of \$470,000, resulting in a tax decrease of \$1,258.10.
Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **adjourn** (10:40 p.m.).
Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be on August 5th.

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK