

*Mayor J. Leclerc*

2019 MAR 25 A 9:02  
TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MARCH 19, 2019

**PRESENT** Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Linda A. Russo, Majority Leader Ram Aberasturia, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc Weinberg, Shelby J. Brown, and Caroline Torres

**ABSENT** Councillors Joseph R. Carlson and Patricia Harmon

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:30 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.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Leclerc commented on the following: (1) lunch with the Mayor for March was cancelled but will resume April 25<sup>th</sup>; (2) the plans for Wickham Library are ready to go and the Public Building Commission will meet to review those plans; (3) the technology component for the Senior Center has been finalized with the Consultant and Roberta Pratt, the town's IT Director; (4) the town met with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving regarding the 2020 U.S. Census. Amy Pelletier, Director of East Hartford Connects – CTWorking Cities, will be very involved in the census for the town; (5) the renovations for the East Hartford Golf Course restaurant have begun; and (6) the Mayor will be speaking at the Hartford Club tomorrow morning on development opportunities in East Hartford.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 27, 2019 Budget Workshop/InspcPermits/BoE/IT

**MOTION** By Ram Aberasturia  
seconded by Marc Weinberg  
to **approve** the minutes of the February 27, 2019 Budget Workshop.  
Motion carried 5/0. **Abstain:** Clarke, Torres

March 2, 2019 Budget Workshop/Various Departments

**MOTION** By Ram Aberasturia  
seconded by Marc Weinberg  
to **approve** the minutes of the March 2, 2019 Budget Workshop.  
Motion carried 6/0. **Abstain:** Torres

March 4, 2019 Budget Workshop/HealthSS/Parks/PublicWorks

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **approve** the minutes of the March 4, 2019 Budget Workshop.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

March 5, 2019 Executive Session

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **approve** the minutes of the March 5, 2019 Executive Session.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

March 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **approve** the minutes of the March 5, 2019 Regular Meeting.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

March 6, 2019 Public Hearing/Budget

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **approve** the minutes of the March 6, 2019 Public Hearing/Budget.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

March 12, 2019 Special Meeting/Budget

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **approve** the minutes of the March 12, 2019 Special Meeting/Budget.  
                  Motion carried 6/0. **Abstain:** Clarke

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Presentation by CT Department of Transportation: East Hartford Projects

The Chair stated that this update from the Department of Transportation involves the reconstruction of bridges on Route 2 and I-84 to the Founders Bridge and the road closures and detours that will affect East Hartford. He introduced Gregory Kozma, Project Engineer for the Connecticut DOT, who indicated that the DOT has employed a Design-Build Approach for this project. This concept allows the DOT engineer to work directly for and with the contractor to design the project. This approach promotes innovation and

reduces project costs. The contractor for this project is Middlesex Corporation, Lochner who is responsible for the design and construction of the following projects:

- Route 2 WB & Governor Street to Founders Bridge over I-84 EB. The duration of this project is March 2019 through September 2019, scheduled to close May 2, 2019 through July 2019.
- I-84 WB Exit 54 over I-84EB. The duration of this project is March 2019 through November 2019.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Historic Document Preservation Grant

MOTION        By Marc Weinberg  
                     seconded by Caroline Torres  
                     to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS The Public Records Administration of the Connecticut State Library offers a non-competitive grant each year to the Town Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS the grant for the fiscal year of 2020, is in the amount of \$7,500.00; and

WHEREAS said grant supports the preservation of Historic Documents in the Town Clerk's Office.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is authorized to 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 Connecticut State Library Public Records Administrator as they pertain to this Historic Documents Preservation grant.

On call of the vote, motion carried 7/0.

### EPA Application: 2018 Diesel Emission Reduction Act Grant

MOTION        By Shelby Brown  
                     seconded by Ram Aberasturia  
                     to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has made grant funds available for diesel emissions reduction projects through the federal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS the program will provide partial funding for the replacement of older vehicles or non-road equipment that will result in significant reductions in diesel emissions.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is authorized to make application to, and execute and approve on behalf of this corporation, any and all documents, contracts, and amendments as may be required by EPA as they pertain to this federal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program grant.

On call of the vote, motion carried 7/0.

Wickham Library: Installation of High-speed Internet Fiber for CT Education Network

MOTION        By Linda Russo  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  that the East Hartford Town Council hereby **authorizes** Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc to enter into a Network Access Service Agreement with the State of Connecticut Education Network to provide internet service, and necessary fiber construction and equipment related thereto, in connection with the Wickham Library project.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

*A copy of the Network Access Service Agreement follows these minutes.*

Appointment of Sunilda Caminero to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities

MOTION        By Marc Weinberg  
                  seconded by Linda Russo  
                  to **approve** the appointment of Sunilda Caminero, 107 Cambridge Drive, to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities, as a full member; whose term expires December 2019.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Esther Clarke asked for an update on the Showcase Cinema project. *Mayor Leclerc indicated that there was some interest conveyed to CRDA from developers. She also said it is her understanding that the building will be demolished this summer.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Petsmart, Inc. v. Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-18- 6045796-S; Personal Property located at 5 Main Street

MOTION        By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to settle the pending assessment tax appeal known as Petsmart, In v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHB-CV-18-6045796-S, involving personal property located at 5 Main Street as follows:

1. For Grand List Year of 2014, from the assessment of \$760,100 to the assessment of \$322, 590, which shall generate a reduction of \$20,064.20 in property taxes.

2. For Grand List Year of 2015, from the assessment of \$621,200 to the assessment of \$270,290, which shall generate a reduction of \$16,092.73 in property taxes.
3. For Grand List Year of 2016, from the assessment of \$482,910 to the assessment of \$219,720, which shall generate a reduction of \$12,383.09 in property taxes.
4. For Grand List Year of 2017, from the assessment of \$515,240 to the assessment of \$252,050, which shall generate a reduction of \$12,543.64 in property taxes.
5. For Grand List Year of 2018, from the assessment of \$533,510 to the assessment of \$270,320, which shall generate a reduction of \$12,925.26 in property taxes.

Motion carried 7/0.

Automobile Liability Claim of Avis McKenzie

MOTION      By Ram Aberasturia  
                  seconded by Marc Weinberg  
                  to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to fully and finally  
                  settle the pending automobile liability claim of Avis McKenzie for a total  
                  sum of \$28,000.00.  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION      By Esther Clarke  
                  seconded by Linda Russo  
                  to **adjourn** (8:30 p.m.).  
                  Motion carried 7/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Attest Angela M. Attenello  
                  Angela M. Attenello  
                  TOWN COUNCIL CLERK