

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JULY 12, 2016

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr., Majority Leader
Linda A. Russo, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc I.
Weinberg, Joseph R. Carlson, Patricia Harmon and Michael G. Kurker

ABSENT Councillor Ram Aberasturia

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:33 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.

The Chair called for a moment of silence to recognize the lives of two people who had given so much of themselves to East Hartford: Arthur O'Brien, former Chair of the East Hartford Housing Authority, and Judi Shanahan, Democratic Registrar of Voters. They will be sorely missed.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

Beautification Commission's June 2016 Awards:

Pat Sirois, Chair of the Beautification Commission, presented June's awards for residential landscaping to the Volarat Family, 1278 Forbes Street, and for business landscaping to McDonald's, 1261 Burnside Avenue.

The Council joined Ms. Sirois in thanking the recipients for making East Hartford a prettier place to live.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Susan Kniep, 44-46 and 50 Olde Roberts Street, (1) asked that the Council not approve the EHEASU contract due to the uncertain financial future of the town and the state; (2) read the minority statistics for each school of the East Hartford Public School system; and (3) is against the CTDA resolution that could go forward as a bond referendum.

Just after the Mayor sat at the dais, Chair Kehoe temporarily left the Chamber and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Horan.

Mayor Leclerc (1) announced that the town is the recipient of a \$12M bond issue from the state for the development of Rentschler Field; (2) thanked the Council for approving the recent budget which contains a Community Resource officer; (3) made the decision to withdraw from Riverfest as the Chief Executive Officer of the town; (4) supports the Beautification Commission awards; (5) thanked Kathleen Salemi for her work on the

Planning and Zoning Commission; and (6) supports the bond referenda resolutions on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 21, 2016 Executive Session

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Marc Weinberg
 to **approve** the minutes of the June 21, 2016 Executive Session.
 Motion carried 6/0. **Abstain**: Harmon (Kehoe out of Chamber)

June 21, 2016 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Joe Carlson
 to **approve** the minutes of the June 21, 2016 Regular Meeting.
 Motion carried 6/0. **Abstain**: Harmon (Kehoe out of Chamber)

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Resignations: Thomas Ogar and Kathleen Salemi

Vice Chair Horan announced the resignation of Thomas Ogar from both the Personnel Appeals Board and as a Justice of the Peace. He also announced the resignation of Kathleen Salemi from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Nate Quesnel, Superintendent of Schools, Bryan Hall, Chair of the Board of Education and Paul Mainuli, Business Manager for the East Hartford Public Schools each gave a brief synopsis of the EHEASU contract.

At this point, Chair Kehoe returned to the Chamber and presided over the meeting.

2017-2020 Collective Bargaining Agreement: East Hartford Board of Education and East Hartford Education Administrative and Supervisory Unit

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Marc Weinberg
 to **approve** the 2017-2020 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the East Hartford Board of Education and the East Hartford Education Administrative and Supervisory Unit – ratified by the Union on June 17, 2016 and approved by the Board of Education on June 20, 2016 – as attached to a letter dated June 21, 2016 from Christopher Wethje, Director of Human Resources for East Hartford Public Schools to Robert Pasek, Town Clerk.
 Motion carried 8/0.

A copy of the contract follows these minutes.

Proposed Bond Referenda:

Flood Protection System

Tim Bockus, Public Works Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the progress the town has made regarding the Flood Protection System Rehabilitation Project. This next phase of the project will continue to address structural deficiencies necessary to ensure that the System meets the US Army Corps of Engineer's requirements associated with seepage and stability.

MOTION By Bill Horan
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **set** a Public Hearing Date of August 2, 2016 @ 7PM in Council
 Chambers to hear public comment on a Resolution Appropriating
 \$8,000,000 for Corrective Action to be Taken on the Town's Flood Control
 System and Authorizing the Issuance of \$8,000,000 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.

Road Improvement Program

Tim Bockus, Public Works Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the construction proposed during the next phase of the Road Improvement Program. To date, approximately 39% of the town's local 150 mile roadway network has been resurfaced and nearly 140 miles of roadway has received additional minor maintenance in the form of patching and sealing. This current proposal will continue the work of the previous phases with additional emphasis on resurfacing residential roadways.

MOTION By Joe Carlson
 seconded by Marc Weinberg
 to **set** a public hearing date of Tuesday August 2, 2016 @ 7PM in
 Council Chambers to hear public comment on a Resolution
 Appropriating \$15,000,000 for the Planning, Design, Construction and
 Reconstruction of Town Roads and Parking Lots and Authorizing the
 Issuance of \$15,000,000 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.

Senior/Multi-purpose Center

Christopher Williams and Kyle Baron from Christopher Williams Architects LLC gave a PowerPoint presentation on designs for the proposed renovations to the existing senior center at McCartin School. These renovations could be paid for with the proposed \$5Million bond and the private funds that have been raised and are anticipated to be raised in the future.

MOTION By Joe Carlson
 seconded by Linda Russo

to **set** a public hearing date of Tuesday August 2, 2016 @ 7PM in Council Chambers to hear public comment on a Resolution Appropriating \$5,000,000 for the Planning, Design, Acquisition, Construction and/or Renovation of a Senior Center/Multi-purpose Facility and Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,000,000 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.

Connecticut City & Town Development Act

Attorney David Panico, Robinson & Cole, the town's Bond Counsel, presented a PowerPoint on the Connecticut City and Town Development Act and the timeline for the bond approval process.

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Esther Clarke
to **set** a public hearing date of Tuesday August 2, 2016 @ 7PM in Council Chambers to hear public comment on a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut Adopting the Connecticut City and Town Development Act and Authorizing the Town To Undertake Silver Lane and South Meadows Economic Development Programs and Projects Authorized Under the Act. Motion carried 8/0.

Recommendation from Personnel & Pensions Subcommittee re: Research Analyst – Police Department

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Mike Kurker
to **approve** the new job description entitled Research Analyst for the Police Department as outlined in a memo dated June 22, 2016 from Marcia Leclerc, Mayor to Richard Kehoe, Town Council Chair and recommended by the Personnel and Pensions Subcommittee at their June 22, 2016 meeting. Motion carried 8/0.

Referral to Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee re: 1083 Burnside Avenue

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Linda Russo
to **refer** to the Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee the issue of attaining an easement at 1083 Burnside Avenue which is needed to maintain an existing town-owned guard rail, with instructions to investigate the matter and report back to the Town Council with its recommendation if any. Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **refer** to the Fees Committee (1) the lease renewal and lease fee for
“East Hartford Community Television” for three rooms at Town Hall; and
(2) the possible \$1 fee charge for tri- fold town maps sold to the public
through the Town Clerk’s Office, with instructions to review the issues and
report back to the Town Council with its recommendations, if any.
Motion carried 8/0.

None

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Marc Weinberg
to **accept** Corporation Counsel's recommendation to settle the
pending claim known as Michael Larbi v East Hartford Public Library,
CHRO No. 1640253, for the total sum of \$500.00 (less any outstanding
library fees).
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Esther Clarke
seconded by Bill Horan
to **adjourn** (10:20 p.m.).
Motion carried 8/0.

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK