

Robert J. Pask

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL ~~2019~~ JUL 22 A 8: 50

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TOWN CLERK
EAST HARTFORD

JULY 16, 2019

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Linda A. Russo, Majority Leader Ram Aberasturia, Councillors Marc Weinberg, Patricia Harmon and Caroline Torres

ABSENT Minority Leader Esther Clarke, Councillors Joseph Carlson, Shelby Brown

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:45 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.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **amend** the agenda as follows:

under New Business, add 8.H. "Recommendation from Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee re: Columbus Street Extension".

Motion carried 6/0.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

Beautification Commission – June 2019 Awards

Pat Sirois, Beautification Commission Chair, announced the recipients of the June awards for outstanding residential landscaping: the Rodriguez Family, 104 Hills Street and the Nagle Family, 108 Britt Road. Since the owners could not be present tonight, Chair Kehoe suggested that they be recognized at the August 6th meeting.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Leclerc updated the Council on the following issues: (1) the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation will begin the mill and overlay of the Silver Lane Corridor this week; (2) bids for the demolition of the Showcase Cinemas are due tomorrow, July 17th; (3) the owners rep has been selected for the new Senior Center project and the specifications will be presented to the Public Building Commission sometime in August;

(4) the RFP for Tastebuds has gone out and the response deadline is July 18th; and (5) the East Hartford Police Department received confirmation that they will attend the CALEA Conference in November, which is one of the last steps toward their prestigious certification.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting.
Motion carried 5/0. **Abstain:** Torres

NEW BUSINESS

Tentative Agreement: Teamsters' Local 671 – Telecommunicators

Approval of Agreement

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the tentative agreement for a successor collective bargaining agreement between the Town of East Hartford and the Teamsters Local 671 Union – which was ratified by the bargaining unit members on July 3, 2019 and is effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.
Motion carried 6/0.

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

Contingency Transfer

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **transfer** \$25,180 from Account # G9600-60201, Contingency Reserve – Contract Negotiations, to Account # G5400-60110, Public Safety – Communications Personnel Services; such transfer to provide a source of funds for the recently settled Telecommunicators Contract.
Motion carried 6/0.

2020-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement: East Hartford Educational Administrative and Supervisory Unit

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the 2020-2023 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the

East Hartford Board of Education and the East Hartford Educational Administrative and Supervisory Unit – ratified by the Union on June 18, 2019 and approved by the Board of Education on July 10, 2019 – as attached to a letter dated July 10, 2019 from Christopher Wethje, Human Resources Director, East Hartford Public Schools, to Robert Pasek, Town Clerk.

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **TABLE** this item until the next Town Council meeting, which will be August 6, 2019.
Motion carried 6/0.

Brewer Street Reconstruction Project

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to **adopt** the following resolution:

Connecticut DOT Projects 42-318 & L042-0001
Brewer Street Reconstruction
Main Street (State Route 517) to 200' east of Jefferson Lane
Approximately 3,188 LF of complete road reconstruction.

WHEREAS the Town of East Hartford has published display advertisements, issued a press release to local news agencies, and mailed a formal letter to both abutting property owners and a number of officials and agencies, announcing the proposed STP Urban Transportation project known as Brewer Street Reconstruction Project #42-318 and Local Transportation Capital Improvements Program (LOTICIP) Project L042-0001; and

WHEREAS a public informational meeting was held on Thursday, June 13, 2019 at the Welling Conference Room, East Hartford Town Hall, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, CT from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at which meeting residents had an opportunity to voice their concerns as well as within a fourteen (14) day period subsequent to the meeting for additional written comments; and

WHEREAS the Capitol Region Council of Governments has selected this project as a regional priority and has agreed to utilize federal funds for right-of-way, preliminary engineering and construction activities; and

WHEREAS the STP Urban project is located on a municipally owned road, preliminary engineering and construction will be performed by the Town of East Hartford or its consultant(s), and right-of-way will be performed by the Connecticut Department of Transportation each utilizing 80% Federal funds, 10% state funds and 10% local funds for all phases, with the Town of East Hartford contributing additional non-participating costs; and

WHEREAS the LOTICIP project is located on a municipally owned road, preliminary engineering and construction will be performed by the Town of East Hartford or its consultant(s), and right-of-way will be performed by the Connecticut Department of Transportation utilizing 100% local funds for design and 100% state funds for right-of-way and construction; and

WHEREAS the Town Council has considered the concerns of the residents from the public informational meeting and the subsequent fourteen (14) day comment period and finds that the proposed Brewer Street Reconstruction project is in the best interest of the Town of East Hartford, and will promote the health, safety and general welfare of its residents and provide for convenience and safety of the motoring public.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the East Hartford Town Council, based on the above information, and by virtue of this resolution, hereby fully supports the advancement of the proposed project through final design and construction.

On call of the vote, motion carried 6/0.

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving: 2019 Civic Engagement Grant

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Census, as required by the United States Constitution, is vital to our communities in determining how and where state and federal dollars are distributed and how congressional seats are apportioned; and

WHEREAS several census tracts in the Town of East Hartford and in Greater Hartford as a whole have historically suffered from an undercount of vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has made funding available to increase Census 2020 awareness among hard to count residents in the Greater Hartford region through Get Out the Count (GOTC) outreach and other efforts.

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 Hartford Foundation for Public Giving as they pertain to this Civic Engagement Project grant.

On call of the vote, motion carried 6/0.

U.S. Attorney's Office: Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the United States Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut has made grant funds available through the Project Safe Neighborhoods Program; and

WHEREAS this program is designed to fund innovative projects to reduce gun and gang-related violence; and

WHEREAS the Adventure Plus Program was developed to improve the relationship between the police and the youth of East Hartford.

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 United States Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut as they pertain to this Project Safe Neighborhoods grant.

On call of the vote, motion carried 6/0.

State Department of Education: Youth Service Bureau Grant

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
 seconded by Marc Weinberg
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Connecticut Department of Children and Families has made available funding through the Youth Service Bureau Grant Program; and

WHEREAS the purpose of this program is to assist municipalities (or private agencies serving youth which are designated to act as agents for such municipalities), in establishing, maintaining or expanding such Youth Service Bureaus.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of this municipality a grant application to the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families for a "Youth Service Bureau Grant" and to file any amendments or reports as may be required to successfully complete the terms of the grant contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that That Marcia A. Leclerc is currently serving as Mayor of the Town of East Hartford. Her current term of office began on November 13, 2017 and will continue until November 11, 2019. As the Mayor, Marcia A. Leclerc serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of East Hartford, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of East Hartford.

On call of the vote, motion carried 6/0.

Summerfield Summer Bash

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Summerfield Summer Bash" as submitted by Angela Elder, Property Manager, Summerfield Townhouses, to hold a summer bash event on Tuesday, July 23rd from Noon to 4PM at the Summerfield Townhouses, 66 Plain Drive. The event will include bounces houses, a food truck and a DJ providing music from Noon to 4PM; 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 6/0.

Believe 208 Run for the Finest and Bravest

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Believe 208 Run for the Finest and Bravest", submitted by Kathryn Kleis, Race Director for CABLE, INC., to hold a 5K run in memory of East Hartford Police Officer Paul Buchanan on Sunday, September 29th from 8AM to 9:30AM beginning at the Knights of Columbus, 1831 Main Street, East Hartford and into South Windsor, northbound on Main Street and return southbound on Main Street, with music and food at this event; 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; and to **waive** the associated permit fee due to the town under the provisions of §5-6 (a) of the Code of Ordinances as this event is to increase awareness of the challenges that face all first responders.
Motion carried 6/0.

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Caroline Torres
that the East Hartford Town Council (1) discuss and vote at its September 3, 2019 meeting, to be held at 7:30p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut, on whether to discontinue the road known as Columbus Circle Extension a.k.a. Columbus Street Extension; and (2) set September 3, 2019 at 7:00p.m., in the Town Council Chambers, 740 Main Street, Est Hartford, Connecticut for the public hearing under Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-163e, on the possible sale of Columbus Circle Extension a.k.a. Columbus Street Extension, to the Housing Authority of the Town of East Hartford, for the sum of \$5,000 plus a right of first refusal on 546 Burnside Avenue, East Hartford, Connecticut, as set forth in a July 5, 2019 letter from the Housing Authority of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut to the Town's Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee.
Motion carried 6/0.

None

Pending Property Damage Claim of The Connecticut Light & Power Company, D.B.A. Eversource Energy

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Marc Weinberg
to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to fully and finally
settle the pending property damage claim of Tyler Devaux for a total sum
of \$6,190.62.
Motion carried 6/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Richard Bates, 103 Timber Trail, addressed the Council on (1) speeding traffic on his street; (2) violations of the use of handicapped parking spaces; (3) asked that Legion Drive be included in the road repair program due to the poor condition of the road; and (4) the exceptional education that both of his children received when they attended East Hartford schools; Mr. Bates credits the East Hartford School system for the reason that they are doing so well.

Vice Chair Linda Russo thanked Richard Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel, for his hard work on the Columbus Street Extension issue.

Councillor Marc Weinberg recognized the Council Clerk's birthday on July 28th (she stated it was her 39th...again).

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Pat Harmon
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **adjourn** (9:32 p.m.).
 Motion carried 6/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be August 6th.

Attest 
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK