

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr., Majority Leader
Barbara-Ann Rossi, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Linda A.
Russo, Ram Aberasturia, Patricia Harmon and Anita D. Morrison

ABSENT Councillor Marc I. Weinberg

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 announced the following: (1) the Councillors are invited to the signing of the Connecticut Aerospace Reinvestment Act to be held at the Pratt and Whitney hanger on Wednesday, September 3rd; (2) Vice President Biden's visit to Goodwin College included a discussion of the future of advanced manufacturing; (3) the 3rd tier of the NEAT initiative is making sure that the 62 convenience stores in East Hartford are in compliance with the town's fire, zoning and health regulations; (4) on September 28th, the Believe 208 Run – honoring the life of Officer Paul Buchanan – will be held and the Mayor urged all to support this event; (5) the 28th Annual Senior Picnic will be held on September 16th; (6) the Parks and Recreation department's Fall Program is underway; and (7) on September 13th the Library will hold a sign-up session for residents to receive library cards at the Town Green.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 19, 2014 Executive Session

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Esther Clarke
to **approve** the minutes of the August 19, 2014 Executive Session.
Motion carried 8/0.

August 19, 2014 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the August 19, 2014 Regular Meeting.
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Bill Horan
to take the following item under New Business, out of order:
8. A. "Emergency Management Performance Grant Program", to
accommodate those present.
Motion carried 8/0.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Management Performance Grant Program

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) has awarded the Town a grant in the amount of \$25,646.50 through the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program,

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut, may enter into with and deliver to the CT DEMHS any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate pertaining to an "Emergency Management Performance Grant" for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that Marcia A. Leclerc, as Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, Connecticut, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of East Hartford and to do and perform all acts and things which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

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

At this point, the Council returned to the order of the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

East Hartford Housing Authority (EHHA) Update

Debra Bouchard, Executive Director of the EHHA, and Joe Regan, Finance Director of the EHHA, summarized the accomplishments of the EHHA over the past year. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has a standardized rating system that is used to monitor the nation's Housing Authorities. The rating system follows the processes by which an Authority handles management, inspections, capital funds programs and financials. EHHA has attained high performer status with a score of 94 – and the EHHA is hopeful that they will also attain high performer status for their Section 8 program.

While King Court has sold, the proceeds are still in escrow until the Modified Moderate Rental Assistance Agreement is signed by all parties. The town and the state will each receive \$1,122,000. EHHA has settled most of their debts, but \$500,000 that was used from the Section 8 account for federal Housing programs must still be returned to the Section 8 program.

Billy Casper Golf Update: East Hartford Golf Course

Tim Bockus, Director of Public Works, stated that the town is still actively working on various projects around the clubhouse, the maintenance building and the residence that is on the Course grounds. Additionally the town is still pursuing the water diversion issue and should have a better understanding of what will be needed to finalize this issue by the end of the year.

Ryan Phelps, Regional Director of Operations for BCG, and Ciaran Carr, Regional Manager for BCG, presented the Council with a very positive outlook on the EH Golf Course. Rounds and revenue are up and the restaurant is doing well. Mr. Phelps stressed the importance of the technology BCG uses to market the facility along with advertising, customer data gathering and service.

The Chair suggested another update after the end of year figures are in.

Responses to Questions Asked of Administration

Mayor's Vehicle

Chair Kehoe reiterated to the Council that section 2.4 in the East Hartford Code of Ordinances provides "...an automobile for the use of the Mayor during his term of office." Mayor Leclerc opted to use an EHPD procured vehicle that will eventually be returned to the EHPD for rotation into the fleet. The town also purchased ten cruisers for the EHPD.

Resignation of Gay Lowell from the Fine Arts Commission

The Chair announced that Ms. Gay Suzanne Lowell has resigned from the Fine Arts Commission and thanked her for her dedication and commitment to the community.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

None

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

None

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Mayor Leclerc recognized the efforts of Ted Fravel, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Tim Bockus, Director of Public Works, for working closely with BCG to make the East Hartford Golf Club a success.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
seconded by Bill Horan
to **adjourn** (9:15 p.m.).
Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be on September 16th.

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK