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EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL 2021 JAN 11 P 1:57

MICROSOFT "TEAMS"

TOWN CLERK
EAST HARTFORD

JANUARY 5, 2021

PRESENT

Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr., Majority Leader Sebrina

Wilson, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Connor Martin, Angela

Parkinson, Awet Tsegai, Patricia Harmon and John Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:32p.m. The Chair explained that tonight's meeting is totally virtual – all of the Councillors and the attendees are present through the Microsoft platform of "Teams". He then invited the Council to join him in the pledge of allegiance.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 15, 2020 Executive Session

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Conner Martin

to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 Executive Session.

Motion carried 9/0.

December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Awet Tsegai

to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Motion carried 9/0.

December 21, 2020 Special Meeting/Tax Deferment Extension

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Angie Parkinson

to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2020 Special Meeting.

Motion carried 9/0.

NEW BUSINESS

TD Green Space Grant Program

MOTION

By Conner Martin

seconded by Esther Clarke

to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Arbor Day Foundation and TD Bank have made grant funding available for the planting of trees and the strategic development and enhancement of green spaces and natural areas; and

WHEREAS the Town wishes to revitalize Bicentennial Square through the planting of memorial trees and the replacement of benches and other items to honor East Hartford residents who have fallen in the line of duty.

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 Arbor Day Foundation as they pertain to this TD Green Space grant.

On call of the vote, motion carried 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Angie Parkinson inquired on the progress of the new Senior Center. Mayor Leclerc reported that the senior center is currently under budget, last minute items such as furniture and plantings remain. A grand opening is expected sometime in 2021.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Mayor Leclerc commented on the following: (1) noted that vaccines for Covid-19 had been distributed to about 20% of firefighters who are the first responders in East Hartford. Unfortunately police are not considered first responders but the Administration is looking at ways in which we can have the police vaccinated; (2) the Town received \$811,000 from the state through the CARES federal funding which will offset increased pandemic costs associated with testing, FMLA paid leave and other expenses; and (3) Frank Collins, long time Economic Development Commission member, Rotarian and Chamber of Commerce member, has passed away. The Mayor noted his incredible decades of service to the town.

<u>Chair Kehoe</u> and <u>Councillors Clarke and Martin</u> noted their positive interactions with Frank and his commitment to the community. The Chair called for a moment of silence to honor the passing of Frank Collins.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

MOTION

By Esther Clarke seconded by Don Bell to **adjourn** (8:22 p.m.). Motion carried 9/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be January 19th.

Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK