Robert J. Cook

# EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL 2020 JAN 27 A 8: 38

#### TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TOWN CLERK EAST HARTFORD

JANUARY 21, 2020

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 7:35p.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.

#### **RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS**

#### Former Town Councillor Caroline Torres

MOTION

By Esther Clarke

seconded by Pat Harmon

to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas Caroline Torres was elected to the East Hartford Town Council in November 2017; and

Whereas Caroline served on the Public Building Commission, the Town Council's Personnel and Pensions, Budget, and Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committees, and served as a liaison to the Board of Education: and

Whereas her concerns have always been for the welfare and well-being of all the citizens of East Hartford, and

Whereas the sincerity, honesty and dedication that Caroline has demonstrated deserves the highest degree of appreciation and recognition that the East Hartford Town Council can bestow on an individual.

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Town Council, the governing body of the Town of East Hartford, along with Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc, does hereby express the community's appreciation for this faithful service and the highest honor it can bestow to:

#### Caroline Torres

Motion carried 9/0.

Mayor Leclerc, along with Linda Russo, Ram Aberasturia, Shelby Brown, Joe Carlson and Marc Weinberg – Councillors from the 2017-2019 term, paid tribute to Caroline Torres' dedication and commitment to East Hartford. Caroline thanked all for their support and said she plans to stay involved in the community.

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

Susan Kniep, 50 Olde Roberts Street, (1) welcomed the newly elected Councillors; (2) suggested that the state legislators better communicate with the Council what they are working on at the state level that will benefit East Hartford; (3) said that the Mayor and Chair Kehoe should call a meeting with the East Harford Police Department to discuss an article that ranked East Harford in the top ten dangerous cities in Connecticut; and (3) stated that, in the future, she will send copies of the articles she writes for different publications to the Town Council, along with the facts to support her statements.

Mayor Leclerc commented on the following: (1) disputes the ranking of East Hartford as one of the top ten dangerous cities in Connecticut, stating that crime statistics have declined steadily over the years; (2) an article published in the East Harford Gazette erroneously reported contamination at the demolition site of the Showcase Cinemas; (3) the reallocation of LoCIP funds and the Supplemental Budget Appropriation for the Senior Center are important agenda items that the Council will vote on tonight; (4) the Town Clerk's Office will waive the town's fee for a marriage license on Valentine's Day; (5) the EHPD will host a special "Coffee with a Cop" on Valentine's Day at the Dunkin Donuts on 639 Main Street from 8AM to 10AM; and (6) Parks & Recreation is now accepting applications for summer employment.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### January 7, 2020 Executive Session

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Pat Harmon

to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 Executive Session.

Motion carried 9/0.

#### January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Pat Harmon

to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Motion carried 9/0.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

#### Black Heritage Month

<u>Chair Kehoe</u> announced that the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts is sponsoring the production of "Birthed Out of Africa", which depicts life in Africa to slavery in America through dance, poetry, musical numbers and oral presentations. This production will help increase the awareness of African American contributions to the history of America. It will be held on February 29<sup>th</sup> at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center.

<u>Vice Chair Don Bell</u> thanked the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts for their sponsorship of this production given the diverse community that East Hartford is. He also

commented on the length of time it took to obtain federal approval of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day which was celebrated yesterday. The Vice Chair attested to the impact that Dr. King – and all who were involved in the civil rights struggle – had on his life.

#### OPEB Contribution for FY2019 re: §10-52 (b) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances

Chair Kehoe explained that in 2008, the Council established the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) ordinance, which serves to address the long-term liabilities of the town by establishing a trust fund to save for future retiree health benefit costs. Funds are provided each fiscal year in the budget. In addition, any amount in the town's Fund Balance that is over 10% of the current fiscal year's budget is automatically transferred to the trust fund. This fiscal year \$2,727,700 has been transferred to the OPEB Trust Fund.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Presentation on the Amendment to the Town's Plan of Conservation & Development

Town Planner <u>Jeffrey Cormier</u> provided a PowerPoint presentation for the Council which gave an overview of the existing Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) – last updated in 2014 – and the proposed amendment to that plan. The POCD currently has three special study areas: (1) Founders Plaza, (2) South Main Street College District, a.k.a. Goodwin College area, and (3) Rentschler Field. The proposed amendment, which was referred by the Planning and Zoning Commission, is to add an additional special study area for the Silver Lane Corridor. It was the consensus of the Planning and Zoning Commission that adding this special study area was essential to the growth of East Hartford, given the amount of work that has been done in the Silver Lane Corridor.

#### Plan of Conservation & Development

#### MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Connor Martin

to endorse the following proposed change to the Town's 2014 Plan of Conservation & Development, as outlined and attached to a memo dated January 15, 2020 from Town Planner Jeffrey Cormier to Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc: to add an additional "Special Study Area" section for the Silver Lane Corridor by incorporating Chapters 1, 2, 7 and 8 from the Silver Lane Revitalization Plan into the Plan of Conservation & Development, which would focus on the rezoning of the Corridor to reflect desired future uses of the land and spur economic development.

Motion carried 9/0.

#### 2019-2020 LoCIP Projects

MOTION

By Awet Tsegai

seconded by Connor Martin to adopt the following resolution:

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 as may be required by the

State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management to secure Local Capital Improvement Program funds (LoCIP) in the amount of \$1,220,000.00 for the following projects:

East Hartford Senior Center Renovation

\$1,200,000.00

Wickham Library Renovation Phase III

\$ 20,000.00

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

At this point, <u>Eileen Buckheit</u>, Development Director and <u>Michael MacDonald</u>, Director of Project Development for Downes Construction Company, the Project Manager for the Senior Center, provided the Council with a PowerPoint presentation on the design update for the Senior Center and the cost to complete this project. <u>Linda Trzetziak</u>, Finance Director, reviewed the revenue sources for the Senior Center and answered questions from the Council.

#### Supplemental Budget Appropriation – Senior Center

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Connor Martin to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION AND A FUND BALANCE TRANSFER TO PROVIDE A FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE SENIOR CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford approved Capital Improvement Plan Item 2017-105, New Senior Center construction/renovation in the amount of \$5 million, and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford purchased the former Blessed Sacrament Church and intends to renovate the building to operate as the East Hartford Senior Center, and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is budgeted at \$9,900,000, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the aforementioned, it is necessary for the Town of East Hartford to provide funding in order to execute contracts and to begin construction in fiscal year 2019-20.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Hartford Town Council does hereby approve this Supplemental Budget Appropriation of funds in the amount of \$850,000 from the Town's Undesignated Fund Balance to Public Works Construction/Renovation for the purpose of funding the renovations and does hereby amend the current 2019-20 fiscal year Operating Budget to reflect the attached Supplemental Revenue Appropriation and Expenditure Appropriation.

G0320-55900

Fund Balance Appropriation

\$850,000

G7800-64504

Public Works Construction/Renovation

\$850,000

Funds certified as unobligated and available.

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

# Setting a Public Hearing Date of February 4, 2020 @ 7:15pm in Council Chambers re: Sale of 1450 Main Street

MOTION

By Angie Parkinson seconded by Don Bell

that the East Hartford Town Council, in accordance with Section 7-163e of the Connecticut General Statutes, **set** a public hearing date of Tuesday, February 4, 2020 @ 7:15P.M. in Council Chambers to hear public comment on the possible sale of 1450 Main Street. Motion carried 9/0.

# Referral to the Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee re: 1241 R Burnside Avenue

MOTION

By Angie Parkinson

seconded by Connor Martin

to **refer** to the Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee the possible acquisition of 1241 R Burnside Avenue, a 1 ½ acre parcel of land which contains wetlands and wildlife habitat and which the current property owner would donate to the Town, with instructions to investigate the issue and report back to the Town Council with its recommendations, if any. Motion carried 9/0.

#### Recommendation from the Fees Committee re: Cemetery Services Fees

MOTION

By Connor Martin

seconded by Pat Harmon

to approve (1) the increases in the cemetery services fees charged by the Town as presented by the Administration at the January 14, 2020 Fees Committee meeting and as outlined in a report from Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc, dated January 10, 2020, to become effective March 1, 2020; and (2) a 2% increase of such fees effective March 1, 2021 and annually

thereafter.

Motion carried 9/0.

The schedule of fees referenced in the motion above follows these minutes.

#### Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions

**MOTION** 

By Esther Clarke

seconded by John Morrison

to approve the following appointments and reappointments:

**Beautification Commission** 

Mary Mourey

785 Burnham Street term expires: December 2022

Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities

Joseph Garabedian 39 Forest Street term expires: December 2021

Commission on Aging

Anita Morrison 34 Jonathan Lane

term expires: December 2022

Motion carried 9/0.

# Refund of Taxes

**MOTION** 

By Connor Martin

seconded by Don Bell to **refund** taxes in the amount of \$22,446.68 pursuant to Section 12-129 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Motion carried 9/0.

Bill	Name	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Int Paid	Over Paid
2018-01-0000171	ABBOTT BARBARA S	32 MIDDLE DR		-12.46
2018-03-0050701	ALBINO JOSE A	2003/KMHDN45D83U562355		-74.25
2018-03-0051765	ARI FLEET LT OR	2013/NM0LS7DNXDT144825		-167.13
2018-03-0051773	ARI FLEET LT OR	2013/NM0LS7DN4DT144092		-167.13
2018-03-0051785	ARI FLEET LT OR	2012/NM0LS7DN5CT109365		-112.95
2018-03-0051790	ARI FLEET LT OR	2013/NM0LS7DN9DT144816		-167.13
2018-03-0054152	BRANTLEY MATTHEW	1991/1FTEX14H8MKA72792		-11.25
2018-03-0055015	CAB EAST LLC	2016/1FM5K8GT9GGC68525		-171.48
2018-03-0055022	CAB EAST LLC	2016/3FA6P0T98GR309604		-231.93
2018-03-0055019	CAB EAST LLC	2016/1FM5K8FH3GGC52348		-75.46
2017-03-0056430	CCAP AUTO LEASE	2015/3C4PDDGG4FT720975		-309.15
2017-01-0011665	COLON WILFREDO .	235 EAST RIVER DR 1203		-3,657.43
2016-03-0058844	DAIMLER TRUST	2014/WDDSJ4EB0EN039470		-547.84
2016-09-0058844	DAIMLER TRUST	2014/WDDSJ4EB0EN039470		-119.84
2017-03-0058982	DAIMLER TRUST	2014/WDDSJ4EB0EN039470	•	-684.46
2018-03-0059126	DEALBA JESSICA I	2004/JH4CL96804C021942	-10.94	-145.80
2018-03-0059125	DEALBA JESSICA I	2007/1N4AL21E27C176600		-156.41
2018-04-0082123	DIAZ JOSE E	2019/1MDAPAR17KA669061		-7.43
2018-03-0060196	DONLEN TRUST	2017/1GCWGAFF3H1275648		-252.06
2017-03-0061365	EAN HOLDINGS LLC	2016/1N4AL3AP4GN360996		-201.34
2017-03-0061240	EAN HOLDINGS LLC	2017/JN8CS1MW9HM414429		-484.70
2017-03-0061333	EAN HOLDINGS LLC	2017/JN8AT2MV5HW023610		-420.79
2017-03-0061351	EAN HOLDINGS LLC	2016/1N4AL3AP3GC225519		-40.10
2017-03-0062016	EUGENE DAVID	2000/JH4KA9650YC016396		-121.50
2017-03-0062017	EUGENE DAVID	2004/JH4KA96644C004416		-156.15
2018-03-0061639	EUGENE DAVID	2004/JH4KA96644C004416		-126.90
2018-03-0061640	EUGENE DAVID	2000/JH4KA9650YC016396		-98.55
2049 02 000000	FINANCIAL SER VEH	DOLETE WIZDOCTOPODAGO		004.00
2018-03-0062206	TRUST	2015/5UXKR0C52F0P10918		-331.02
2017-04-0082956	FRANCIS HOWARD B	2017/1N4AL3AP7HC474519		-12.17
2017-03-0063952	GARNER HELEN	2013/JTEBU5JR9D5135487	-12.82	-854.56

2018-03-0063550 2014-04-0083356	GARNER HELEN GISCOMBE JEFFERY.	2013/JTEBU5JR9D5135487 2001/YV1VS29531F651500		-395.33 -41.67
2014-04-0003330	GISCONIDE JEFFERT	2001/1710529551F051500		-41.07
2018-03-0066569	HONDA LEASE TRUST	2015/19XFB2F52FE293502		-263.25
2018-03-0066570	HONDA LEASE TRUST	2015/19UUB2F53FA007992		-474.85
2018-03-0066707	HONDA LEASE TRUST	2016/5J6RM4H57GL053705		-379.35
2018-03-0067103	HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST HYUNDAI LEASE	2015/5XXGM4A78FG473271		-98.64
2018-03-0067138	TITLING TRUST	2015/5XXGR4A69FG387623		-283.05
2015-04-0084945	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA JP MORGAN CHASE	2016/JM3KE4DY4G0758670		-190.81
2016-03-0068723	BANK NA	2016/JM3KE4DY4G0758670		-619.84
2016-09-0068723	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA JP MORGAN CHASE	2016/JM3KE4DY4G0758670		-135.59
2017-03-0068835	BANK NA	2016/JM3KE4DY4G0758670		-792.90
2018-03-0068402	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA JP MORGAN CHASE	2016/JF1VA1J66G9822308		-505.44
2018-03-0068427	BANK NA	2016/JM3KE4DY4G0758670		-685.36
2018-03-0068690	KEARNS DEBRA A	2008/1N4AL21E68C238842		-115.06
2018-03-0072873	MCGHEE MICHAEL	2009/1GYFK23239R122075		-221.84
2017-03-0074753	MORALES HECTOR F	2017/5NPE34AF0HH526263	-27.54	-612.00
2018-03-0075593	NISSAN INFINITI LT,	2015/1N4AL3AP9FC578636		-230.85
2017-03-0077019	ORTIZ LOURDES	2007/JM3ER29L670139992		-182.56
2018-03-0076673	OWENS SHANA E	2004/1HGCM56364A012963		-140.85
2018-04-0086385	OWENS SHANA E	2006/ 1N4AL11D16N423948		-29.70
2018-03-0077160	PATIL UTKARSH K	2012/1HGCS1B37CA019830		-321.75
2018-03-0077982	PHILLIPS JOEANN L	2010/2T1BU4EE6AC242565		-33.52
	RIOS-MOSCOSO			
2018-03-0079764	MARIA E	2000/1HGEJ8144YL099503		-24.97
2018-03-0072667	RIVAL BONNIE	1999/1G2WR1213XF238254		-82.93
2017-03-0082364	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL LT RYDER TRUCK	2012/1FVACWDT9CDBH0456		-300.28
2017-03-0082368	RENTAL LT	2012/1FVACWDT8CDBH5258		-150.60
2017-03-0082372	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL LT	2012/1FDSE3FL2CDA16092	•	-132.85
2018-03-0081740	SALAMAN MARIAH R	2005/3FAHP31N35R146139		-91.82
2018-03-0081908	SANCHEZ JADIRA	2001/4T1BG22K81U077512		-63.76
2018-03-0083011	SHELDON NICOLE R	2006/JTEEP21A160137389		-18.00
2017-04-0087849		2018/4T1B11HK7JU594352	-17.01	-378.00

2018-03-0083186	SIERRA ENRIQUE	2018/4T1B11HK7JU594352	-330.30
2017-03-0086598 2017-04-0088523	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST TOYOTA LEASE TRUST TOYOTA LEASE	2014/JTKJF5C7XE3083363 2018/5TDJZRFH1JS815852	-282.46 -819.41
2018-03-0085755	TRUST	2018/5TDJZRFH1JS815852	-1,129.50
2018-03-0086562	USMAN ADAM	KMHDU46D19U691533	-148.58
2017-03-0079613	VELASQUEZ LUIS	2017/IHGFA16547L028619	-223.58
2017-03-0079614	VELASQUEZ LUIS	2005/2HGES16545H613378	-186.2
2018-03-0078959	VELASQUEZ LUIS	2005/2HGES16545H613378	-143.71
2018-03-0087641	VW CREDIT LEASING	2016/3VW267AJ5GM254895	-150.12
2018-03-0087651	VW CREDIT LEASING	2017/WVGSV7AX0HW503059	-54.30
2018-03-0087660	VW CREDIT LEASING	2016/3VW4T7AJ0GM321484	-279.90
2018-03-0087665	VW CREDIT LEASING	2016/3VW267AJ9GM273823	-180.00
2018-03-0087999	WATSON NATASHA D	2005/4S4BP61C857374544	-147.33
2017-04-0089088	WHEELS LT	2018/JF2SJAGC5JH477071 _	-386.19
		SUBTOTAL	-68.31 \$(22,378.37)
		TOTAL	\$ (22,446.68)

# OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION None

#### COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Pending Assessment (Tax) Appeal Known as Islamic Institute Of Ahl'Albait V. Town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHB-CV-19-6054842-S, 994 Tolland Street

#### MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson

seconded by Awet Tsegai

to accept the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to settle the pending assessment (tax) appeal known as Islamic Institute of Ahl' Albait v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHB-CV-19-6054842-S, involving real property located at 994 Tolland Street, for the Grand List Year of 2017, for a total sum of \$5,000.00, paid in twelve equal monthly installments of \$416.67 commencing on February 1, 2020, in satisfaction of the outstanding principal and interest of \$8,337.38.

Motion carried 9/0.

#### OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Marc Weinberg, 68 Silver Lane, wished Esther Clarke a Happy Birthday.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** 

By Esther Clarke

seconded by Don Bell to **adjourn** (9:45 p.m.). Motion carried 9/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be February 4th.

Attest

Ängela M. Attenello TOWN COUNCIL CLERK

# Town of East Hartford Cemetery Fee Increase Analysis Prepared as of January 10, 2020

	Current		Proposed		
Burial Plots	Fee			Fee	
Traditional	\$	750	\$	1,100	
Cremation	\$	200	\$	500	
Infant	\$	200	\$	250	
Veteran	\$	-	\$	500	
Veteran Spouse	\$	-	\$	1,100	
Indigent	\$	-	\$		

#### Total

Grave Openings	Current Fee		Proposed Fee	
Resident	\$	750	\$	1,000
Non-resident	\$	1,200	\$	1,500
Cremation	\$	200	\$	500
Veteran .	\$	750	\$	1,000
Veteran Spouse	\$	750	\$	1,000
Overtime - Cremation	\$	420	\$	550
Overtime - Traditional	\$	420	\$	550
Overtime-Veteran	\$	420	\$	550
Add'l overtime*	\$	-	\$	200
Infant	\$	200	\$	550
Indigent	\$	200	\$	550
Disinterment - Cremation	\$	750	\$	1,000
Disinterment - Traditional	\$	750	\$	2,000

#### Total

	Current Fees Fee		Proposed	
Misc. Fees			F	Fee
Filing Fee	\$	-	\$	45
Monument Application	\$		\$	50

#### Total

Total Revenue/Revenue Increase

# \*\*Overtime Applies as follows:

Weekdays after 2:30pm addtn'l \$200 per Saturday out by 12:30pm \$550 Saturday after 12:30pm \$550 plus