

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

*Robert J. Black*

2022 FEB -7 AM 10:55

TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD

PRESENT  
IN CHAMBERS

Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr., Majority Leader Sebrina Wilson, Minority Leader John Morrison, Councillors Angela Parkinson (via Teams), Awet Tsegai, Travis Simpson and Harry O. Amadasun, Jr.

ABSENT

Councillor Thomas Rup

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Chair stated that this meeting was also available to the public through the "Teams" platform.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Walsh shared (1) that the town recently has hired 5 new employees to fill vacancies. (2) The Memorial Day Event is scheduled for May 30, 2022 at 10 a.m. (3) The Brian Aselton Snow Dash has been postponed to February 6, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. (4) The Town is offering free Rapid Covid-19 Tests through Express Diagnostics every Wednesday from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at St. Isaac Jogues Church (1 Community Street). (5) Free at-home Covid-19 tests can be ordered and shipped via the USPS, 1 order per residential address. (6) Positive Cases have declined down to 252 for the past week. (7) The East Hartford Public Library will host "Resilience 2," a new exhibit by local artist Georges Annan-Kingsley through March 3. (8) Student artwork is currently on display at Raymond Library in the Children's section (9) A "Living Room Conversation" on Race and Ethnicity will be held at the East Hartford Library on various dates in February. (10) East Hartford currently has the second highest diversity index in Connecticut according to Propel East Hartford and the East Hartford Black Caucus, and (11) Town Offices will be closed February 11 in observance of Lincoln's Birthday.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 18, 2022 Regular Meeting

MOTION

By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Awet Tsegai  
to **approve** the minutes of the January 18, 2022 Regular Meeting.  
Motion carried 8/0.

### January 25, 2022 Special Meeting

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Harry Amadasun  
to **approve** the minutes of the January 25, 2022 Special Meeting.  
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Harry Amadasun  
seconded by John Morrison  
to **amend** the previous motion to reflect that Councillor Harry Amadasun  
was present at January 25, 2022 Special Meeting.  
On Call of the Chair, the amended motion carried 8/0.

### COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

#### Seagrave Pumper Disposal

Chair Kehoe shared that a notification of intent by the Mayor's Administration was received that detailed the disposing of a 2004 Seagrave Pumper fire engine as it is no longer suitable for Town use nor road-worthy. It will most likely be put up for sale or auction.

### OLD BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Adoption of Resolution to clarify Mayor Walsh's authority to execute Town agreements.

MOTION By Don Bell  
seconded by John Morrison  
  
to **adopt** the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Town Charter the Town Council periodically authorizes the Mayor to execute and enter into agreements, grant applications and other documents on behalf of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, such authorizations frequently name the Mayor in office at the time of the authorization; and

**WHEREAS**, there are outstanding motions and resolutions authorizing Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc to execute and enter into specific agreements, grant applications and documents ("Documents") on behalf of the Town ("Outstanding Authorizations"); and

**WHEREAS**, some of these Documents were not ready for execution prior to the end of Mayor Leclerc's term of office; and



TO		
Account Number	Name	Amount
G5203-60110	Permanent Services – Police	\$186,548
G5203-60141	Overtime - Police	\$39,560
TOTAL		<u>\$226,108</u>

Motion Carried 8/0.

Recommendation from Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee: Congress Street

Sale of Property- 1 Foot Strip

MOTION By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by Don Bell

to **waive** the appraisal requirement set forth in Town Ordinances 10-19(c) with respect to the sale of an approximately one foot strip of land along Congress Street shown as "N/F TOWN OF EAST HARTFORD See Volume 574, page 247 (parcel 2) 1' + WIDE RESERVED STRIP ALONG CONGRESS STREET (320'Long) (314.24 Calculated)" on the attached map entitled "PLAN SHOWING ROADWAY DISCONTINUANCE OF CONGRESS STREET IN EAST HARTFORD CONNECTICUT APRIL 30, 2021, BSC GROUP", which map will be filed in the East Hartford Town Clerk's Office (the "Property"), the same being in the best interests of the Town given the fact that it is a diminutive parcel; and (ii) approve the sale of the Property by Quit Claim Deed, for the sum of \$20,000, to Governor Street Partners LLC.

Motion Carried 8/0.

Setting of Hearing Date- Discontinuance of Congress Street as a Town Highway

MOTION By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by Don Bell

to **set** March 15th, at 7:30 pm, in the Town Council Chambers, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut, during the regular Town Council meeting, as the date, time, and place to discuss and vote on whether Congress Street, as shown on a map entitled "PLAN SHOWING ROADWAY DISCONTINUANCE OF CONGRESS STREET IN EAST HARTFORD CONNECTICUT APRIL 30, 2021, BSC GROUP", which map will be filed in the East Hartford Town Clerk's Office, should be discontinued as a Town Road pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 13a-49.

Motion Carried 8/0.

Sale of 550-560 Burnside Avenue

MOTION By Angie Parkinson

seconded by Don Bell

Move, that after holding a public hearing as required under Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-163 (e), the East Hartford Town Council **rescind** the motion of October 19, 2021 with respect to the sale of 550-560 Burnside Avenue by the East Hartford Redevelopment Agency to Habitat for Humanity of North Central Connecticut, Inc. (f/k/a Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc.) ("Habitat") and hereby approves the sale of 550-560 Burnside Avenue by the East Hartford Redevelopment Agency to Habitat pursuant to the general terms and conditions of the attached purchase and sales agreement, as the same may be modified, as deemed reasonable and necessary by the Office of the Corporation Counsel, for the sum of \$100,000, said sales price being contingent on verification by the Town Administration that Habitat has plans in place to establish and fund an adequate reserve for improvements and repairs to common elements in Habitat's proposed common interest ownership development.

Motion Carried 8/0.

*A copy of the public offering statement, declaration and sales contract will follow these minutes.*

#### Board and Commission Appointments

MOTION By Harry Amadasun, Jr.  
seconded by Don Bell  
to **approve** the following appointments:

**Board of Assessment and Appeals (3-year term):**

Adam Gagnon	35 Overbrook Dr	12/23
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**Commission on Culture and Fine Arts (5-year term):**

Thomas Lumpkin	1325 Burnside Ave	12/24
Tamara Churcho	43 Bantle Road	12/23

**Economic Development Commission (3-year term):**

Erwin Hurst	118 Oxford Drive	12/22
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Motion Carried 8/0.

#### Reallocation of ARPA Funding

MOTION By Harry Amadasun, Jr.  
seconded by Awet Tsegai

to **adopt** the following resolution:

**WHEREAS;** the U.S. Department of the Treasury has allocated \$24,561,068 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the Town of East Hartford; and

**WHEREAS;** the funds are to be expended on projects and government services related to preventing, preparing for and responding to conditions created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS;** the Town wishes to revise the project allocations previously approved by the East Hartford Town Council,

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED;** that Town Council resolutions concerning the appropriation and release of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds passed on August 17, 2021; October 5, 2021; and October 19, 2021 are hereby rescinded, and;

**AND LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED;** that the Town Council approves and adopts the following appropriation of ARPA funds:

1. Renovation of North End Community Center	\$ 1,865,000
2. COVID Other Public Health Services	\$ 200,000
3. Meal Program Senior Center	\$ 800,000
4. Expansion of the Community Garden and Greenhouse	\$ 75,000
5. Digital Inclusion Project Manager	\$ 100,000
6. East Hartford Connects: Services	\$ 800,000
7. East Hartford Connects: Summer Youth Employment	\$ 800,000
8. Interval House	\$ 100,000
9. East Hartford Interfaith Ministries	\$ 100,000
10. Support for the Arts in East Hartford	\$ 200,000
11. Renovation & ADA Accessibility – Wickham Library	\$ 3,500,000
12. Creation of Police and Youth Services Violence Prevention Program	\$ 250,000
13. Police and Social Worker Response Pilot	\$ 250,000
14. Goodwin U Storm Water Management Repair and Replace	\$ 900,000
15. Technology Upgrades	\$ 500,000
16. Administrative Expenses	\$ 219,017
17. Expansion of Staff for Senior Center Programs & Services & Part-time Staff	\$ 200,000
18. Public Safety Garage	\$ 1,422,051
19. Repairs Historic Buildings	\$ 1,500,000
20. Town Hall Improvements	\$ 1,500,000
21. Town Hall HVAC Replacement	\$ 3,500,000
22. McAuliffe Railroad Crossing	\$ 500,000
23. COVID-19 Response Retroactive Pay: East Hartford Police Officers' Association	\$ 125,000
24. COVID-19 Response Retroactive Pay: Local 1174, Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO	\$ 210,000

Specific expenditures under the following appropriations are subject to Town Council review and approval:

25. Other Nonprofits	\$ 500,000
26. Investment in Local Development	\$ 4,445,000
	\$24,561,068

**AND LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED;** that Michael P. Walsh, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is authorized to application to, and execute and approve on behalf of this corporation, any and all documents, contracts, and amendments as may be required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury as they pertain to this ARPA grant.

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

Connecticut Department of Education ARPA Grant Application for Youth Services Program

MOTION      By Harry Amadasun, Jr.  
seconded by Travis Simpson

to **adopt** the following resolution:

**WHEREAS;** the East Hartford Youth Services Department was allocated a state Department of Education American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant of \$200,000 in the Connecticut State Budget for FY 2022 and FY 2023, and

**WHEREAS;** the Town wishes to use these funds for the development of an East Hartford Youth Center,

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED;** that Michael P. Walsh, 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 state Department of Education as they pertain to this state ARPA grant.

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

Amusement Permits

MOTION      By Awet Tsegai  
seconded by Travis Simpson  
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "RiMaConn Relay" as submitted by Josh Miller, Vice President and Race Director, for the Hartford Marathon Foundation, to conduct a team relay event to complete a 95 mile trek from Lincoln, Rhode Island to Hartford, Connecticut using the East Coast Greenway on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 from 5:00pm to 9:30pm; 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 8/0.

MOTION By Awet Tsegai  
seconded by John Morrison  
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit entitled "Eversource Hartford Marathon – 2022" submitted by Josh Miller, Vice President and Race Director for the Hartford Marathon Foundation to conduct a marathon, road races and outdoor musical entertainment with volunteers and several thousand spectators and runners on Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 7:30AM to 1:30PM, with music between the hours of 9AM and 1:30PM, 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 8/0.

Referral to Ordinance Subcommittee- Revision regarding Food Truck Operation

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by John Morrison  
to **refer** revised ordinances 8-14, 8-24 and Chapter 12: Food and Food Establishments, concerning Food Truck operation in the Town to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion carried 8/0.

Referral to Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee- 1437-1439 Main Street

MOTION By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by John Morrison  
to **refer** 1437-1439 Main Street to the Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Subcommittee for possible disposition to the abutting property owner at 1429-1431 Main Street.

Motion carried 8/0.

Willow Brook Pond Easement Subordination: Council Acting as Committee of the Whole

MOTION By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by Travis Simpson

Move: That the Town Council, acting as a Committee of the Whole for the Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee, **authorize** Mayor Michael P. Walsh to execute a "Certification of Agreement to Subordinate an Interest to an Environmental Land Use Restriction" and "Subordination," in the general form attached hereto, with such non-material changes as the Office of Corporation Counsel deems necessary and appropriate, through which the Town will subordinate (i) a certain easement granted by Joseph J. Peltz and J. H. Tichenor to the Town dated April 3, 1951 and recorded April 18, 1951 in Volume 173, Page 509 of the East Hartford Land Records; and (ii) a certain easement granted by Stone and Goldberg



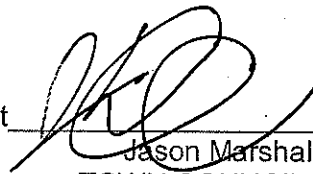
Motion carried 8/0.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION      By John Morrison  
                 seconded by Don Bell  
                 to **adjourn** 9:07.  
                 Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next scheduled meeting of the Town Council would be February 15, 2022.

Attest



Jason Marshall  
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK