

*Robert J. Clarke*

2021 MAR -8 A 9:44

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER/MICROSOFT "TEAMS" TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD  
EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

MARCH 3, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING/BUDGET

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Councillors Connor Martin and Awet Tsegai  
PRSENT Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr., Majority Leader Sebrina Wilson, Minority Leader  
Via Teams Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Angela Parkinson and Patricia Harmon  
ABSENT Councillor John Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. He announced that this is a hybrid meeting – a mix of Councillors attending in person and virtually. He then invited the Council to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair gave a brief overview of the Mayor's recommended FY2021-2022 budget which totals \$201,073,106. The budget reflects a 2.1% increase in expenses. The Board of Education's share of the budget is \$94M. The Mayor's budget contains 3 new positions – one in Public Works, one in Finance and one in Information Technology. All services to East Hartford residents are maintained in this budget. The recommended mill rate to support this budget will be 49.35 for Real Estate and Personal Property; the motor vehicle mill rate remains 45.00. Accordingly, in total, the average taxpayer who owns a home at a fair market value of \$163,000 and has two vehicles will see a total reduction of taxes of about \$200 for the year.

The following citizens came forward to speak:

Joseph Bernabucci, president of the East Hartford Education Association (Teachers' union), came forward to ask the Council to add funds to the budget to keep the one teacher who could be let go stay as a teacher in the East Hartford School system.

Michael Walsh, 79 Fitzgerald Drive, the former Finance Director for East Hartford, supports the Mayor's recommended budget. He was pleased that the Council identified the \$4.5M in funds which is a one-time revenue increase from the state of Connecticut. Mr. Walsh would like to use any funds that are available for development within the town.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke  
seconded by Don Bell  
to **adjourn** (7:23 p.m.).  
Motion carried 8/0.

Attest

*Angela M. Attenello*  
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Town Council Clerk