

*Robert J. Beck*

MICROSOFT "TEAMS"

2021 APR -5 A 9:06

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD

MARCH 30, 2021

PRESENT Rich Kehoe, Chair; Councillors Sebrina Wilson and Esther Clarke  
Via "Teams"

ALSO Marcia Leclerc, Mayor  
PRESENT Rich Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel  
Via "Teams" Mary Mourey, Republican Registrar of Voters  
Steve Watkins, Democratic Registrar of Voters

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 27, 2021

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Esther Clarke  
to **approve** the January 27, 2021 meeting minutes.  
Motion carried 3/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

None

OLD BUSINESS

Italian and Native American Heritage Day: Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day Ordinance

The Chair explained that at the Ordinance Committee's January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, there was discussion on the draft of the ordinance and the interest by the Commission on Culture and Fine Arts to conduct programming for the recognition of the contributions of both immigrants as well as indigenous people to the community of East Hartford specifically, and the United States, more broadly. There was strong support overall for making this change to be reflective of the trends that we are seeing across Connecticut and, indeed, across the nation.

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Esther Clarke

Motion carried 3/0.

to send the January 31<sup>st</sup> draft of the Mayor's Salary Ordinance to the Town Council for the purposes of setting a public hearing date.  
Motion carried 2/1. **Nay:** Clarke

**MAYOR'S SALARY**  
**(January 31, 2021)**

Section 2-3 of the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Beginning November 14, 2007, the Mayor's salary shall be \$78,723, which is a zero increase and beginning on November 14, 2008, the Mayor's salary shall be \$81,400 which is an increase of 3.4%, representing the increase in the consumer price index for 2005. Beginning November 11, 2014 and annually thereafter, the Mayor's salary shall increase by fifty percent of the increase in the consumer price index-all urban consumers for the preceding calendar year, provided that the Mayor's salary for November 11, 2013 shall be increased by fifty percent of the consumer price index-all urban consumers for the calendar years 2006 through 2012 inclusive. Effective November 2015, the Mayor's salary will be \$90,067 which is based on the increase in the 2013 consumer price index. Effective November 2016, the Mayor's salary will be \$91,688 which is based on the increase in the 2014 consumer price index. Effective November 13, 2017, the Mayor's salary shall be \$93,522 which is an increase of 2% and effective November 1, 2018, the Mayor's salary shall be \$95,392 which is an increase of 2%. Effective November 11, 2019, the Mayor's salary shall be \$97,777 which is an increase of 2.5% based on the increase in the 2017 Consumer Price Index. Beginning November 1, 2020, the Mayor's salary shall be \$100,221 which is an increase of 2.5% based on the Consumer Price index for 2018. Effective November 8, 2021, the Mayor's salary shall be \$102,000 which is based on the 1.7% increase in the Consumer Price Index for 2019. Effective November 1, 2022, the Mayor's salary shall be \$103,000 which is based on the 1% increase in the Consumer Price Index for 2020.

*Esther Clarke indicated she would abstain from discussion on the following agenda item.*

**Section 2-3b. Registrars and Deputy Registrars of Voters Salaries**

The Chair explained that the salary increase for the Registrars of Voters would be from the current salary of \$27,000 annually to \$28,000 annually effective January 1, 2022 and the Deputy Registrars' salaries will increase from the current salary of \$9,000 to \$10,000 effective January 1, 2022. The ordinance provides for a change that no longer requires the Registrar of Voters office be opened to the public no less than 24 hours a week, but rather to have the Registrars of Voters work no less than 24 hours a week. The Chair noted that the vast majority of voter registrations occur online or through the Department of Motor Vehicles and as such there is less foot traffic in Town Hall requiring extended periods of time for the Registrars' office to actually be opened to the public. Nonetheless, the work of the Registrars of Voters office in handling the new registrations, updating the registrations, change of address forms, etc., still requires a substantial amount of work and verification. As such, the 24 hour a week requirement for the Registrars to be working is consistent with what would be necessary to keep up with all the changes in the registrations.

**MOTION** By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Rich Kehoe  
to send the January 31<sup>st</sup> draft of the Salaries of Registrars and Deputy Registrars of Voters Ordinance to the Town Council for the purposes of setting a public hearing date.  
Motion carried 2/0. **Abstain:** Clarke

**SALARIES OF REGISTRARS AND DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS**  
**(January 31, 2021)**

Section 2-3b of the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Beginning [on January 1, 2020, the salary for each registrar of voters shall be \$ 26,000 and the salary for each of the deputy registrar of voters shall be \$9,000 and beginning] January 1, 2021 the salary for each registrar of voters shall be \$27,000 and the deputy registrar of voters shall be \$9,000 and beginning January 1, 2022, the salary for each registrar of voters shall be \$28,000 and the salary for the deputy registrars of voters shall be \$10,000 provided: (1) the registrar of voters [office] shall [be open to the public] ~~work~~ no less than twenty-four hours per week; (2) the registrar of voters and deputy registrar of voters shall conduct no less than four voter outreach session in locations outside of town hall annually; (3) the registrars of voters and deputy registrars of voters shall take state mandated training for such offices; (4) the registrar of voters and the deputy registrar of voters shall comply with all state election law requirements; and (5) the registrars of voters shall provide an annual written report to the mayor and town council within two months after each election which shall consist of an overview of the office's activities for the year, an appraisal of the conduct of voting process for the previous election including any primary or special elections and recommendations for improving the election process. The Town Council may reduce the salary of a registrar of voters or a deputy registrar of voters if it determines that such person violated any provision of this section.

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION        By Esther Clarke  
                     seconded by Sebrina Wilson  
                     to **adjourn** (6:01 p.m.)  
                     Motion carried 3/0.

cc:        Mayor Leclerc  
             Rich Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel  
             Mary Mourey, Republican Registrar of Voters  
             Steve Watkins, Democratic Registrar of Voters