

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MAY 5, 2015

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr., Majority Leader Barbara-Ann Rossi, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc I. Weinberg, Linda A. Russo, Ram Aberasturia, Patricia Harmon and Anita D. Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.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.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Susan Kniep, 44-46 and 50 Olde Roberts Street, (1) asked that the Council disclose the amount of the assessment appeal that is under the Executive Session agenda item at the beginning of the meeting so that the public can effectively speak on the issue; (2) is opposed to any assessment appeal for Hartford East Elderly Apartments; (3) believes that the town should reassess properties sold where there is such a disparity between the assessment and the selling price; and (4) asked the Council not approve the pension agreement for the Teamsters Local 559, Telecommunicators.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 21, 2015 Executive Session

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the minutes of the April 21, 2015 Executive Session.
Motion carried 9/0.

April 21, 2015 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the April 21, 2015 Regular Meeting as corrected on May 4, 015.
Motion carried 9/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Resignation of Peter Gero from the Inland Wetlands Commission

Chair Kehoe announced the resignation of Mr. Gero from the Inland Wetlands/Environment Commission and thanked him for his service to the community.

NEW BUSINESS

Transfer of Ownership – Police Department K-9

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Barbara Rossi
 to **approve** the transfer of ownership of Axel, a 9-year old German Shepard, from the Town of East Hartford to John Zavalick, pursuant to Section 10-3 of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances.
 Motion carried 9/0.

Pension Agreement: Teamsters, Local 559 Telecommunicators

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **approve** the tentative pension agreement between the Town of East Hartford and Teamsters Local 559, Telecommunicators, for the time period beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020, and as outlined in a memo dated May 1, 2015 from Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc to Richard F. Kehoe, Town Council Chair.
 Motion carried 9/0.

Historic Document Preservation Grant

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name of and on behalf of this municipality, a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Preservation Grant.

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

Nuclear Safety Emergency Program Grant

MOTION By Bill Horan
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEHMS) has made funding available to "Host Communities" under the Nuclear Safety Emergency Program (NSEP); and

WHEREAS, East Hartford serves as a "Host Community," defined as municipality located at least 15 miles from the decommissioned Millstone Nuclear Power Generation Facility that has agreed to assist residents of Towns that neighbor the Facility in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this program is to enhance both municipal readiness and the readiness of state agencies in responding to emergencies at the Millstone Nuclear Power Generation Facility.

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 State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security as they pertain to this Nuclear Safety Emergency Program grant.

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

School Readiness Grant 2015-2016

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
 seconded by Anita Morrison
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Connecticut State Department of Education is authorized to extend financial assistance, through the School Readiness Grant Program, to Priority Communities for the development of a network of school readiness programs that provide open access for children to quality programs that promote the health and safety of children and prepare them for formal schooling; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford and East Hartford Public Schools desire to make and execute an application for funding in the amount of \$2,649,490.00 with the State of Connecticut to support School Readiness programs for East Hartford children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is hereby authorized to execute such application and, upon approval of said application, to enter into and execute a funding agreement and any amendments and other documents as may be required by the State of Connecticut for the School Readiness Program.

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

Appointment of Awet Tsegai to the Patriotic Commission

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **approve** the appointment of Awet Tsegai, 19 Home Terrace,
 to the Patriotic Commission; whose term shall expire December 2016.
 Motion carried 9/0.

Outdoor Amusement Permits:

10th Annual Abelon Memorial Walk

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
 seconded by Barbara Rossi
 to **waive** the 30-day filing period as required by §5-2 (a) of the East

Hartford Code of Ordinances and **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled “10th Annual Abelon Memorial Walk” submitted by Rachel Buck, Vice President of the Michael Abelon Memorial Foundation, to conduct a walk to raise money and awareness for pancreatic cancer research and to provide a college scholarship for a Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy student on Saturday, May 16th on the grounds of the Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes Street from approximately 7:30AM to 2PM; 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, and to **waive** the associated permit fee under the provisions of §5-6(a) in the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances, as this is a not-for-profit student initiated event. Motion carried 9/0.

28th Annual Memorial Mile

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application submitted by Ted Fravel, Director of the East Hartford Parks and Recreation Department and the East Hartford Board of Education Physical Education Department to conduct the 28th Annual Memorial Mile Road Race on Monday May 25, 2015, from approximately 10:20AM to completion, with race registration at Martin Park, 307 Burnside Avenue; 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 9/0.

Gengras Harley-Davidson ICS Chili Challenge

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Barbara Rossi
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application submitted by Stephen T. Bray, Events Coordinator for Gengras Motor Cars, Inc. to conduct a regional chili cook-off by The International Chili Society to benefit the Fidelco Guide Dog foundation on Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 11AM to 4PM at 221 Governor Street with music during the same time period; 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 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Pat Harmon reported that Denise Beaulieu, a teacher at Norris School, helped a bed-ridden student attend his junior prom.

Anita Morrison reminded all that the “Letter Carriers’ Food Drive” will be this Saturday May 9th.

Ram Aberasturia suggested that the East Hartford Golf Course managers explore having “night” golf sessions.

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Hartford East Elderly Apartments LP, et al, v Town of East Hartford

MOTION By Barbara Rossi
 seconded by Bill Horan
 to **accept** the Corporation Counsel’s recommendation to settle the
 pending real property tax appeal known as Hartford East Elderly Apartments
 Limited Partnership v Town of East Hartford Docket No. HHB-CV-14-602484S,
 involving 886 Main Street from the fair market value of \$8,490,800 to the
 fair market value of \$6,800,000, which shall generate a reduction of
 \$53,733.62 in property taxes, commencing the Grand List Year of 2013.
 Motion carried 6/3. **Nay:** Clarke, Harmon, Morrison

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Marc Weinberg wished Anita Morrison a Happy Birthday.

Ram Aberasturia wished his daughter, Averie, a Happy First Birthday on May 16th.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Bill Horan
 to **adjourn** (8:52 p.m.).
 Motion carried 9/0.

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

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK