

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MAY 7, 2019

Robert J. Paek

2019 MAY 13 A 8:32
TOWN CLERK
EAST HARTFORD

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Linda A. Russo, Majority Leader Ram Aberasturia, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc Weinberg, Shelby J. Brown, Patricia Harmon and Caroline Torres

ABSENT Councillor Joseph R. Carlson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:30 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

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 16, 2019 Executive Session

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Marc Weinberg
to **approve** the minutes of the April 16, 2019 Executive Session.
Motion carried 8/0.

April 16, 2019 Public Hearing

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **approve** the minutes of the April 16, 2019 Public Hearing.
Motion carried 8/0.

April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting.
Motion carried 8/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Resignation of Vanessa Jenkins

The Chair announced that Vanessa Jenkins has been appointed to the East Hartford Board of Education and therefore cannot serve on the Board of Assessment Appeals. He congratulated her on the appointment and thanked her for her service to the town.

NEW BUSINESS

To accommodate those present, the following motion was made:

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to take item 8.F. entitled "Outdoor Amusement Permit Applications"
 out of order.
 Motion carried 8/0.

Outdoor Amusement Permit Applications:

14th Annual Abelon Memorial Walk

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "14th
Annual Abelon Memorial Walk" submitted by the East Hartford
Public Schools by Rachel Buck, Walk Faculty Advisor for the
Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy Student
Advisory Board to conduct a walk to raise money and awareness
for pancreatic cancer research and to provide a college scholarship
for a CIBA student on Saturday, May 11th on the grounds of the
Connecticut International Baccalaureate Academy, 857 Forbes
Street from approximately 7:30AM to 2PM; the walk will begin at
CIBA, proceed down Forbes Street to Sunset Ridge School, 450
Forbes Street and turn and retrace its steps back to CIBA; 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 Section 5-6(a) in
the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances, as this is a not-for-
profit student initiated event.
 Motion carried 8/0.

2019 Lung Force Walk

MOTION By Shelby Brown
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "2019 Lung Force Walk", submitted by Mary Mackey, Development Manager for the American Lung Association to conduct a walk to raise awareness to help defeat lung cancer at Great River Park on Sunday, June 2nd from 6:30AM to 12:30 PM with music and interactive educational activities; 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 Section 5-6(a) in the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances, as this is a not-for-profit event to raise funds to help prevent lung disease.
Motion carried 8/0.

Pappy's Golf Tournament and Customer Appreciation Days

MOTION By Shelby Brown
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Pappy's Golf Tournament and Customer Appreciation Days", submitted by Arthur Rancourt, Permittee, for Rancourt Enterprises, Inc., DBA: Pappy's Café, to conduct two Customer Appreciation Day cookouts on Saturday, June 22nd –preceded by a golf tournament – and Saturday June 29th from 12PM to 8PM on both days with food and liquor to be served both days at Pappy's Café on 37 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 8/0.

East Hartford's Back to School Rally

MOTION By Shelby Brown
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit entitled East Hartford's Back to School Rally as submitted by Cephus Nolen, Jr., Director, Youth Services to conduct a back to school rally on Saturday August 10th from 9AM to 12PM at the Town Green and Gazebo with food and back pack giveaways, with music from 10AM to 11:15AM; 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.

Riverfront Recapture Applications:

Riverfront Summer Pops

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Riverfront Summer Pops" submitted by Josh Urrutia, Director of Events, for Riverfront Recapture to conduct three Pop concerts in Great River Park, with music on the following dates and times in 2019:

Saturday, June 8th 7PM to 9PM (rain date: Sunday, June 9th)

Saturday, July 20th 7PM to 9PM (rain date: Sunday, July 21st)

Saturday, August 24th 7PM to 9PM (rain date: Sunday, August 25th)

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 permit fee and any associated town expenses for this event pursuant to the resolution passed by the Town Council on June 3, 2014.

Motion carried 8/0.

Riverfront Fireworks

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Riverfront Fireworks", submitted by Joshua Urrutia, Director of Events, for Riverfront Recapture, to conduct an outdoor concert, with food and a fireworks display at Great River Park on Saturday, July 13th, beginning with the concert at 7PM to the conclusion of the fireworks display which is scheduled for 9PM to 9:30PM, with a rain date of Sunday, July 14th with the same hours as the July 13th event; 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** both the permit fee and any associated town expenses, except for East Hartford Police and East Hartford Fire Department costs, for this event pursuant to the resolution passed by the Town Council on June 3, 2014.

Motion carried 8/0.

Head of the Riverfront Regatta

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application, entitled "Head of the Riverfront Regatta" submitted by Joshua Urrutia, Director of Events for Riverfront Recapture to conduct a rowing regatta on the Connecticut River on Sunday, October 6th from 6AM to 5PM, with a flood and rain date of

Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to take item. 8. E., entitled "Riverfront Recapture Management Services
Agreement", out of order.
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **refer** to the Personnel and Pensions Subcommittee (1) the possible upgrade of the Library Specialist position; (2) the possible upgrade of the Food Bank Coordinator position; and (3) the creation of a new job description in the Information Technology Department entitled "GIS Analyst", with instructions to discuss the referrals and report back to the Town Council with its recommendations, if any.
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Shelby Brown
seconded by Linda Russo
to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Town of East Hartford and East Hartford Public Schools desire to make and execute an application for funding in the amount of \$2,885,178 with the State of Connecticut to support School Readiness programs for East Hartford children.

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

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford and Capitol Region Council of Governments developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024 and under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held and public input was sought in 2017 and 2018 regarding the development and review of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, 2019-2024; and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addressed hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedure for the Town of East Hartford; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of East Hartford, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of East Hartford eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the East Hartford Town Council:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of East Hartford.
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them.
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five years from the date of this resolution.
4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the Town Council.

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

Appointment of Margaret Goodrow to the Board of Selectmen

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the appointment of Margaret Goodrow, 34 Springside Avenue,
to fill the vacancy on the East Hartford Board of Selectmen caused by the
passing of Todney Harris, whose term shall expire November 2019.
Motion carried 8/0.

Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the following appointments and reappointments:

- Economic Development Commission:
Veronica Rosario, 210 Plain Drive term to expire December 2019
- Public Building Commission:
John Murphy, 205 Westerly Terrace term to expire December 2023
- Commission on Culture and Fine Arts:
Marie T. Blackstone, 26 Holland Lane term to expire December 2023
- Veterans Commission:
Vincent Parys, 1401 Silver Lane term to expire December 2019

Motion carried 8/0.

Esther Clarke asked (1) if the streetlight issue for a resident who lives on Scott Circle has been resolved; and (2) who is responsible for road and sign damage at Bicentennial Park. *Mayor Leclerc answered (1) the resident was happy with the changes made to the streetlights and she believes this issue to be resolved; and (2) the damage on the road is due to repairs by MDC. She is aware that the sign is cracked in half, but does not know how it happened or who is responsible.*

Ram Aberasturia, on behalf of a grateful resident, thanked the Mayor and her team for installing the mailbox that was knocked down previously.

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Workers' Compensation Claim of employee, Michael Weglarz

At this point, the Council returned to the order of the agenda.

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Marc Weinberg

to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to fully and finally settle the pending Superior Court action known as Patrick Twohig v Town of East Hartford, Docket No.CV-18-611625-S, for a total sum of \$15,000.00.
Motion carried 8/0.

Pending tax appeal known as United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Division v. Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-18-6044669-S

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to settle the pending assessment (tax) appeal known as United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Division v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-18-6044669-S, involving personal property located at 400 Main Street from the net assessment of \$37,622,290 to the net assessment of \$37,277,840, which shall generate a reduction of \$16,416.49 in property taxes, for the Grand List Year of 2017. And furthermore, to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to settle the pending assessment (tax) appeal known as United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Division v Town of East Hartford, Docket No. CV-18-6044669-S, involving personal property located at 400 Main Street from the net assessment of \$54,670,280 to the net assessment of \$53,262,980, which shall generate a reduction of \$69,112.50 in property taxes, for the Grand List Year of 2018.
Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Bridgitte Prince, 41 Bodwell Road, addressed the Council on a payment arrangement for delinquent taxes she has with the town.

Mayor Leclerc commented on: (1) the town will mill & pave Governor Street on Wednesday May 8th; (2) this summer, the town plans to mill & overlay Forbes Street, Green Manor Drive, Linwood Drive, Montclair Drive, Jarman Drive, Timber Trail, Tolland Street and, if finances allow, Maple Street, Mitchell Drive and Wadsworth Street; (3) the town plans a full reclamation of Cambridge Drive, Evans Avenue, Handel Road, Hollister Drive, Jefferson Lane, Milbrook Drive, Nassau Circle, Oxford Drive, Princeton Lane and Sutton Avenue. Included in that group are Bodwell Road, Delmont Road, Maridon Road and Vernon Road. The Mayor indicated that the new standards for the road program will include the installation of new curbing, stop signs and street signs. (4) the Mayor's Clean-up Day is May 18th; (5) the low cost rabies clinic will be held on Saturday, May 18th behind the Fire House, 726 Main Street (next to Town Hall); (6) the transfer station at Ecology Drive will be opened every Saturday in May; (7) Subway is sponsoring Sandwich with a Cop, 1210 Main Street on Tuesday May 21st; (8) the Veterans Commission will be adding the name of Allen W. Eckert, a WWII US Army soldier to the Gold Star Honor Roll at Bicentennial Park on Sunday May 26th; and (9) on Thursday May 23rd, the Veterans Commission will be hosting a musical program to honor veterans in the auditorium of East Hartford High School.

Ram Aberasturia wished his daughter, Averie Simone, a Happy 5th Birthday!

Marc Weinberg wished the Mayor a Happy Birthday on Monday, May 13th.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **adjourn** (9:20 p.m.).
 Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be May 21st.

Attest 
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK