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#### EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

# **TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

2019 MAY 13 A 8: 32

TOWN CLERK EAST HARTFORD

MAY 7, 2019

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.

#### 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-forprofit student initiated event.

#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> –preceded by a golf tournament – and Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

# 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 9<sup>th</sup>) Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 7PM to 9PM (rain date: Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>) Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 7PM to 9PM (rain date: Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>)

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 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 14<sup>th</sup> with the same hours as the July 13<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> from 6AM to 5PM, with a flood and rain date of

Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>; 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.

To accommodate those present, the following motion was made:

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.

# Riverfront Recapture Management Services Agreement

MOTION

By Linda Russo

seconded by Ram Aberasturia

that the East Hartford Town Council **authorizes** Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc to execute a certain agreement between Riverfront Recapture, Inc. and the

Town, entitled "Riverfront Recapture, Inc., Management Services

Agreement", which contract, unless renewed by this Council, will terminate

on December 31, 2023.

Motion carried 8/0.

A copy of this agreement follows these minutes.

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

# Recommendation from Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee: 53 Main Street

MOTION

By Linda Russo

seconded by Caroline Torres

that the East Hartford Town Council (1) waive the appraisal requirement set forth in Section 10-19(c) of the Town Ordinances; and (2) having complied with Connecticut General Statues 8-24 review of the property and Connecticut General Statues 7-163e public hearing requirements, transfer 53 Main Street by Quit Claim Deed to Gregory S. Broadie for \$20,225.99, subject to the requirement that as part of the transaction conveying the property to Broadie, Broadie combines the Property with the property he owns at 71 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut, such that 53 Main Street and 71 Main Street shall henceforth comprise one parcel. Motion carried 8/0.

# Referral to the Personnel & Pensions Subcommittee re: Job Descriptions for Library Specialist, Food Bank Coordinator and GIS Analyst

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"

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.

# 2019-2020 School Readiness Grant

MOTION

By Shelby Brown

seconded by Linda Russo

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 \$2,885,178 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 8/0.

#### 2019-2024 Capitol Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Approval

MOTION

By Linda Russo

seconded by Ram Aberasturia to adopt the following resolution:

# RESOLUTON ADOPTING THE CAPITOL REGION NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE, 2019-2024

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford has historically experienced severe damage from natural hazards and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of those natural hazards profiled in the plan (e.g. flooding, high wind, thunderstorms, winter storms, earthquakes, droughts, dam failure, and wildfires), resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety: and

WHEREAS, the East Hartford Town Council approved the previous version of the Plan in 2014; and

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 meeting s 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

# OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

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.

Rich Kehoe inquired if the town has considered leaf pickup in the right-of-way along the east side of 670 Forbes Street as was suggested by a Naomi Drive resident at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Since Mayor Leclerc was not at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, she was not aware of this issue, but will look into it.

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

<u>Linda Russo</u> said she heard that East Hartford will participate in 20Towns in 20Days – a program that WFSB hosts – and asked the Mayor if that has been confirmed. *Mayor Leclerc stated that East Hartford will participate and that will be on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The location has not been determined yet, but it will be posted to the town's website once confirmed.* 

# COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

seconded by Linda Russo

to take item 10. B. entitled "Workers' Compensation Claim of employee,

Michael Weglarz", out of order.

Motion carried 8/0.

# Workers' Compensation Claim of employee, Michael Weglarz

MOTION

By Ram Aberasturia

seconded by Linda Russo

to **accept** in compromise of the Town's workers' compensation lien regarding current employee, Michael Weglarz, the sum of \$4,333.32 to be received from the total settlement proceeds of \$13,000.00 in the third-party action known as Weglarz v Sager, Docket No. HHD-CV-17-6083352-S.

Motion carried 8/0.

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

# Patrick Twohig vs. Town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHD-CV-18-6101625-S

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.

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

#### 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.

# <u>OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK</u>

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 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Marc Weinberg wished the Mayor a Happy Birthday on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

# **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