

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

June 7, 2022

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Majority Leader Sebrina Wilson, Minority Leader John Morrison, Councillors Angela Parkinson, Awet Tsegai, Travis Simpson, Thomas Rup and Harry Amadasun, Jr.

ABSENT Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr.

ALSO Mayor Michael Walsh

PRESENT Marilyn Cruz-Aponte, Interim Director of Public Works
Doug Wilson, Town Engineer
Allyn Tarbell, Associate Director of Highway
Kevin Munson, Fire Chief
Sarah Morgan, Library Director (via Teams)
Laurence Burnsed, Director of Health and Social Services
Paul O'Sullivan, Grants Administrator
Ted Fravel, Director of Parks and Recreation
Anthony Garro, Senior Vice President Beta Group Construction Services

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. The Chair stated that this meeting was also available to the public through the "Teams" platform.

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

Shelby Brown, 2 Sunset Ridge Drive, proposed an examination of town ordinances and best practices regarding citizen engagement, specifically regarding major changes and events directly impacting residents. Ms. Brown feels there should be more of an opportunity for citizens to discuss concerns preemptively. The resident's concerns are derived from recent road reconstruction on Sunset Ridge Drive where residents were not notified in advance of a realignment of the road. She expressed her appreciation for the recent road paving of Sunset Ridge Drive but is concerned for the safety of residents due to contour changes to the road near her residence.

Mayor Walsh shared (1) wished all a good evening; (2) Marilyn Cruz-Aponte has been appointed as Director of Public Works. Allyn Tarbell, Associate Director of Highway and Gary McKeone, Superintendent of Parks will serve as supports; (3) The front entryway stairs to Town Hall have been closed off due to safety concerns with the crumbling brownstone steps; (4) Volume IV of the Pulse of East Hartford has been shared with the public highlighting various town events and updates; (5) The Juneteenth celebration will be occurring on the Town Green Saturday June 18 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (6) Free and discounted passes for a number of local museums available at library including Beardsley

Zoo, Wadsworth Athenaeum and the Mark Twain House; (7) East Hartford Police and Crossroads Community Cathedral are hosting a “Bike Rodeo” on June 11 at 1492 Silver Lane; (8) Registration for swim lessons are open. The town provides lessons for more than 900 children annually. (9) Crime statistics are available on the town website and the newsletter; (10) East Hartford Summer Reading Program registration is open at the Library on June 9th; (11) Dog licenses are required to be renewed in June via the Town Clerk’s office; (12) East Hartford Health Department advises residents regarding mosquito control measures. Information is available on the town website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 17, 2022 Public Hearing

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
 seconded by Tom Rup
 to **approve** the minutes of the May 17, 2022 Public Hearing

Motion carried 8/0.

May 17, 2022 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
 seconded by Angie Parkinson
 to **approve** the minutes of the May 17, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion carried 8/0.

May 24, 2022 Executive Session Re: Board of Education

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
 seconded by John Morrison
 to **approve** the minutes of the May 24, 2022 Executive Session Re: Board of Education

Motion carried 8/0.

May 24, 2022 Executive Session Re: Waste Services

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
 seconded by Angie Parkinson
 to **approve** the minutes of the May 24, 2022 Executive Session Re: Waste Services

Motion carried 8/0.

May 26, 2022 Special Meeting

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
 seconded by Awet Tsegai
 to **approve** the minutes of the May 26, 2022 Special Meeting

Motion carried 8/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Presentation Re: Bond Referendum Questions by Public Works, Fire Department and Finance Departments

The Chair shared that the town typically will propose a bond referendum every two years. In the upcoming presentations this evening, administration will present a list of prioritized needs that require funding from bond money. The council will revisit the discussion in August where a Public Hearing will be scheduled and then the council will vote on what referendum questions will be placed on the November ballot.

Mayor Walsh shared with Councillors the proposed bond referendum issues are focused on road improvements (\$15 million) and Fire Department equipment (\$3M).

Marilyn Cruz-Aponte, Director of Public Works introduce the team who will present on behalf of the department. Anthony Garro, Senior Vice President of the Beta Group, detailed an assessment and management program that has been used to evaluate town road conditions and plan improvements. 152 road miles were inspected and prioritized for repairs.

Allyn Tarbell, Associate Director of Highway and Doug Wilson, Town Engineer, presented a number of recommendations on Public Works improvements, including (1) Continued VIP (vender in place) improvements such as milling and paving of roads in poor condition (\$4.5M per year); (2) Engineered Road Improvements (\$2.0M per year) which include projects that need full depth repair and drainage upgrades; (3) Sidewalk assessment and improvements (\$500K per year) and (4) Stormwater system improvements to address drainage concerns. The total cost annually for the proposed programs is \$7.5M..

Kevin Munson, Fire Chief, detailed recommendations for (1) the replacement for two fire engines, Ladder 1 (approximate cost \$1.6M) and Engine 2 (approx. \$800K); (2) 15 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (\$135K), and technical rescue equipment specifically designed for rescues of parties below grade or at elevation; including ropes and other equipment that is nearing its life expectancy (\$150K). The Chief estimates that the potential cost of these items will increase in the coming months due to supply chain challenges.

Mayor Walsh spoke on behalf of the Finance Department and a presentation prepared by Melissa McCaw, Finance Director which detailed bonding procedure and anticipated annual tax impact on residents from what has been proposed.

The Council will consider the two items in August.

Resignation from Economic Development Commission

The Chair disclosed that Victor Rosas-Granda has resigned from his position as a member of the Economic Development Commission as he is moving out of state. The Council thanks Mr. Rosas-Granda for his service to the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Transfer of Ownership re: Waste Vehicles from Department of Public Works to All

American, LLC

MOTION By Harry Amadasun
 seconded by Awet Tsegai
 to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford (the “Town”) has issued a bid (the “Bid”) seeking proposals for the provision of Residential Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) services, including management, collection, transportation, and proper disposal of all acceptable MSW Refuse, Recycling and Bulky Waste from eligible properties in Town (“MSW Services”); and

WHEREAS, All American Waste, LLC (“All American Waste”) has been selected as the successful bidder to provide MSW Services and, accordingly, the Town will no longer need to maintain ownership of the Waste Disposal Vehicles described below; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Bid the Town asked bidders to provide an offer to acquire the Waste Disposal Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, All American Waste’s bid for the Waste Disposal Vehicles was consistent with the terms of the Bid; and

WHEREAS, All American Waste’s ownership of the Waste Disposal Vehicles is critical to its provision of MSW Services beginning on or around July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Section 10-3 (a) of Town Ordinances governs the disposition of property as set forth above;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that contingent upon the execution of a final contract between the Town and All American Waste for MSW Services, the Town Council authorizes the sale and transfer of the below property to All American Waste on the following terms:

1. VIN # 3BPD LH0X7MF110006 Truck # 1060 Natural Gas

Make/Model:

- 2021 Peterbilt Model 520 Right Hand Drive Refuse and Recycling Collection Trucks
\$250,000 lump sum payment

2. VIN # 3BPD LH0X9MF110007 Truck # 1063 Natural Gas

Make/Model:

- 2021 Peterbilt Model 520 Right Hand Drive Refuse and Recycling Collection Trucks
\$250,000 lump sum payment

3. VIN # 1FVHG3DV6HHJC0209 Truck # 1059 Diesel Fuel

Make / Model:

- 2017 Freightliner 114SD Right Hand Drive Refuse & Recycling Collection Truck
\$50,000 lump sum payment

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

NEW BUSINESS

Revisions to Adopted Budget for 2022-23 Fiscal Year

MOTION By Angie Parkinson
seconded by Tom Rup
to **adopt** the following revised receipts for the 2022-23 uniform fiscal year in accordance with Section 6.4(b) of the Town Charter as follows:

Grand List as of October 1, 2021:

Real Estate and Personal Property	3,125,896,992
Motor Vehicles	369,433,530

Tax Collection Rate	97.31%
---------------------	--------

Mill Rate Setting Generating Taxes of:

Real Estate and Personal Property	123,599,226
Motor Vehicles @ 32.46	11,668,993
Totaling (incl Suppl MV)	135,268,219

(Local Elderly, Veteran's Leased Engines Relief)	(520,000)
Other Receipts	69,683,858

Total Revenue	204,432,077
----------------------	--------------------

Motion carried 8/0.

MOU Operation Fuel Energy Assistance Program

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
seconded by John Morrison
to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS; Operation Fuel provides emergency energy and utility assistance to households in Connecticut that are facing financial crisis; and

WHEREAS; this assistance is critical to many East Hartford residents who are struggling financially and facing difficulties in paying their utility bills; and,

WHEREAS; Operation Fuel, Inc. has requested the Town's assistance in administering their energy/utility assistance programs;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED; that Michael P. Walsh, 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 as they pertain to this grant.

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

Board of Education Capital Reserve Fund

MOTION By Harry Amadasun
seconded by Tom Rup

in accordance with Article 7, Section 10-38 of the Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances, the Town Council **approve** the Board of Education's request to expend \$1,883,584 or such lesser amounts as deposited based on the proceeds as forwarded by the Board of Education from the Board of Education's Capital Reserve Account for the purposes of funding capital improvements and other general improvement projects which are all consistent with the projects contained in the district's approved Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion carried 8/0.

ARPA Allocation for Arts Project: Threads of Assumption

MOTION By Harry Amadasun
seconded by Angie Parkinson

that the Town Council appropriate \$36,000 from the town's allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA) from category 6.10 entitled "Provision of Government Services" to secure the program "Threads of Assumption."

Motion carried 8/0.

Bid Waiver: Main Street/King Court Storm Water Infrastructure Project

MOTION By Awet Tsega
seconded by Travis Simpson
to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has allotted the Town \$24,561,068 in American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funding; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to utilize \$900,000 in previously-allocated ARPA funds for to improve storm water drainage infrastructure in the area of Main Street and King Court; and

WHEREAS, the Town requires assistance with the undertaking of the Main Street/King Court Storm Water Infrastructure Project (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, as provided by Connecticut General Statutes § 32-602(a)(8), the Capital Region Development Authority's ("CRDA") purpose includes: "upon request-from-the legislative body of a city or town within the capital region, to work with such city or town to assist in the development and redevelopment efforts to stimulate the economy of the region and increase tourism"; and

to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS; The Emergency Food and Shelter Program was created by Congress to help meet the needs of hungry and homeless people throughout the United States and its territories by allocating federal funds for the provision of food and shelter.and

WHEREAS; the Town of East Hartford is eligible to apply for funds to provide rent, mortgage and utility payment assistance for low income East Hartford residents;

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED; that Michael P. Walsh, 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 National Board of the EFSP as they pertain to this EFSP grant.

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

Suspense List: Grand List Year 2018 – Personal Property, Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Supplemental

MOTION By Angie Parkinson
seconded by Awet Tsegai
to **transfer** the uncollected personal property and motor vehicle – including
motor vehicle supplemental – taxes on the 2018 Grand List as referenced
in a memo dated May 18, 2022 from Iris Laurenza, Collector of Revenue,
to Michael P. Walsh, Mayor to the suspense rate book in the total amount
of \$517,880.27 as follows:

Personal Property	Grand List Year 2018	\$ 56,672.37
Motor Vehicle	Grand List Year 2018	\$ 461,207.90

Motion carried 8/0.

Senior Farmers' Market Voucher Program Agreement

MOTION By Angie Parkinson
Seconded by Harry Amadasun

to **approve** the Town of East Hartford to enter into an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for the Department of Health & Social Services to serve as a local coordinating agency for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program as recommended by Laurence Burnsed, Director of Health and Social Services in a memo to Mayor Michael P. Walsh dated May 20, 2022.

Motion carried 8/0.

Setting of Public Hearing Date re: Enterprise Zone Expansion

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson
Seconded by Tom Rup

Motion carried 8/0.

Motion carried 8/0.

Motion carried 8/0.

Motion carried 8/0.

Refund of Taxes

MOTION By Harry Amadasun
seconded by Tom Rup
to **approve** a total refund of taxes in the amount of \$13,799.96
pursuant to Section 12-129 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Motion carried 8/0.

Bill	Name	Address	City/State/Zip	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Over Paid
2020-03-0054235	BRINSON JASMIN J	39 NOD RD	WINDSOR, CT 06095	2004/1NXBR38E74Z337792	-115.20
2019-03-0054939	BURK CHRISTOPHER J	6 COTTAGE ST	EAST HARTFORD, CT 06108-3719	2005/4S4BP61C957364704	-8.79
2020-01-0002170	CAMARO EMILE C CAMARCO CYNTHIA	13 ANDERSON RD	TOLLAND, CT 06084	74 BROOKFIELD DR	-1,915.97
2020-03-0055790	CASTILLO MARIA I CATILLO MANUEL N	9 WHITE OAK DR	COLCHESTER, CT 06415-1962	2010/1FTFW1EV6AKB48825	-220.05
2020-03-0055791	CASTILLO MARIA I CATILLO MANUEL N	9 WHITE OAK DR	COLCHESTER, CT 06415-1962	2019/1HGCV1F30KA128114	-399.60
2020-03-0055948	CCAP AUTO LEASE LTD	1601 ELM ST STE 800	DALLAS, TX 75201-7260	2020/1C4RJFLT7LC164488	-339.84
2018-01-0003271	CORELOGIC CENTRALIZED REFUNDS	PO BOX 9202	COPPELL, TX 75019	31 WHITEHALL DR	-6.01
2019-01-0009876	CORELOGIC CENTRALIZED REFUNDS	PO BOX 9202	COPPELL, TX 75019	21 PRESTON ST	-2,684.20
2020-03-0059818	DOLGENCORP LLC	100 MISSION RDG	GOODLETTSVILLE, TN 37072-2171	2018/1G1ZC55TXJF169159	-13.26
2020-03-0063639	GLOSS YESSSENIA E	7 BERKELEY LN	EAST HARTFORD, CT 06118-1602	2012/WA1FAFP7CA126886	-53.64
2020-03-0066143	HONDA LEASE TRUST	1919 TORRANCE BLVD	TORRANCE, CA 90501-2722	2019/5FNYP6H52KB035700	-687.07
2020-03-0072549	MELO-ALFONSO SANDRA L	7351 EAST BEVERLY DR	TUSCAN, AZ 85710	2011/4S4BR8GC9B1353386	-267.75
2019-03-0074299	MIRANDA ADAN	55 SPRING ST	NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051	2008/1G2ZH57N784114181	-158.85
2020-03-0051756	MORRISON ANNE	143 PENNEY DR	EAST HARTFORD, CT 06118-1618	2009/2G1WTS7K591201988	-22.95
2020-03-0074639	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	PO BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	2017/1N4AA6AP7HC413050	-611.10
2020-03-0074747	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	PO BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	2017/JN8AT2MV0H0W028343	-480.33
2020-03-0074754	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	PO BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	2018/5N1DR2MM3JC627707	-466.42
2020-04-0086482	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	PO BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	2020/JN1BJ1CW6LW651097	-619.25
2019-01-0011820	PRIEST SEAN PRIEST MARY	2 ALEXANDER CHASE APT B	SPARKS, MD 21152	216 SANDRA DR	-2,571.13
2019-03-0084567	SOTO JUSTIN	23 ALISON LN	WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109-3823	2013/1HGCR2F37DA041873	-225.4
2020-04-0089115	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	20 COMMERCE WAY STE 800	WOBBURN, MA 01801-1057	2018/JTMJFREV2JJ731522	-206.55
2020-04-0089141	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	20 COMMERCE WAY STE 800	WOBBURN, MA 01801-1057	2021/JTHGZ1E28M5019407	-611.41
2020-04-0089169	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	20 COMMERCE WAY STE 800	WOBBURN, MA 01801-1057	2020/JM3KFBDM5L0842926	-995.85
2020-04-0089560	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	1401 FRANKLIN BLVD	LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048	2021/WAUEAAF43MA029170	-119.34
TOTAL					\$ (13,799.96)

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Councillor Morrison requested an update on the upcoming Town Hall move. *The Mayor shared that a bid has been posted but a contractor has yet to be selected for the project. Preparation for the relocation at the Cultural Center will begin in August. All departments should be fully ready to move in late October into early November.*

Councillor Tsegai asked when the Russell restaurant located on Main Street is scheduled to open. *The Mayor stated that an update will be provided at the next council meeting.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By John Morrison
 seconded by Tom Rup
 to **adjourn** (10:27 p.m.)
 Motion carried

The Chair wished all a good evening and announced that the next regular meeting of the Town Council would be June 21, 2022.

Attest _____
 Jason Marshall
 TOWN COUNCIL CLERK