

*Robert J. Clark*

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL ~~2020~~ JUL 20 A 8:33

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TOWN CLERK  
EAST HARTFORD

JULY 14, 2020

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair Donald Bell, Jr., Majority Leader Sebrina Wilson, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Connor Martin, Angela Parkinson, Awet Tsegai, Patricia Harmon (Via "Teams") and John Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. He explained that this is an unusual meeting, in that while most of the Councillors are physically present in the Chamber, the virtual platform of Microsoft Teams is being utilized for those who wish to attend this meeting remotely, such as Councillor Harmon, Mayor Leclerc, etc., or for those who wish to comment on agenda items. The Chair then asked the Council to join him in the pledge of allegiance.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

The following individuals called in to the meeting to speak in favor of the amusement permit application entitled "National Black Cooperative Protest":

Adriana Sowell, 224 Forest Street, East Hartford  
Kathryn, Willard Street, Hartford  
Yazir Mega, 56 Fairwood Farms Road, West Hartford  
Nicholas Lombardo, 244 Terry Road, Hartford  
Isabelle Hernandez, 48 Lindsay Lane, Glastonbury  
Jennifer, Coventry  
Sophie Wheeler, 363 South Quaker Lane, West Hartford  
Carona Dunne, 38 Seminole Circle, West Hartford  
Sayaka Awao, 383 Fern Street, West Hartford  
Shavani, Coppell, Texas  
Miranda Marris, 255 Dudley Town Road, Windsor

Mayor Leclerc addressed the Council on the following: (1) absentee ballots will be available for the August 11<sup>th</sup> primaries per Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7QQ; (2) reminded all of the importance in filling out the 2020 Census form; (3) both the town's camp grounds and pools successfully opened last week; (4) the town's mosquito control program is in full swing and will continue until the first hard frost; (5) the Farmers' Market began its summer season in a social distancing manner; (6) the Library is operating in a social distancing manner through their walk-up window and their drive-up program; and (7) the first harvest of the town's community garden in cooperation with the Bakery on Main was fresh produce that was distributed to seniors who are home-bound in the community.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting

MOTION      By Sebrina Wilson  
                 seconded by  
                 to **approve** the minutes of the June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting.  
                 Motion carried 9/0.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Outdoor Amusement Permit Application: Family Drive-in Movie Night

#### Rescission of Original Motion from the June 16<sup>th</sup> Town Council Meeting:

MOTION      By Awet Tsegai  
                 seconded by John Morrison  
                 to **rescind** the motion made at the June 16, 2020 Town Council meeting  
                 approving the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Family  
                 Drive-in Movie Night".  
                 Motion carried 9/0

### Revised Outdoor Amusement Permit Application for Family Drive-in Movie Night

MOTION      By Awet Tsegai  
                 seconded by Connor Martin  
                 that pursuant to Section 5-2(a) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances  
                 the Town Council **waive** the 30-day filing requirement and **approve** the  
                 revised outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Family Fun Drive-  
                 in Movie Night", submitted by Tyron Harris, Vice President, BSL  
                 Educational Foundation Inc. to conduct a family drive in movie night at  
                 the Showcase Cinemas Lot, 936 Silver Lane, East Hartford on the following  
                 Saturdays: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 beginning at sunset  
                 between the hours of 7pm - 9:30pm and/or 8pm -10:30pm; 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 town Ordinance section 5-6(a) due to the  
                 town of East Hartford as this is a not-for-profit charity which focuses on  
                 providing scholarships to college-ready students, youth development  
                 programs and training & development.  
                 Motion carried 9/0

## NEW BUSINESS

### Recommendation from Real Estate Acquisition & Disposition Committee re: Possible Acquisition of 1241 R Burnside Avenue and One Hillside Street

MOTION      By Angie Parkinson  
                 seconded by John Morrison

That the Town Council **not approve** the acquisition of the properties known as 1241 R Burnside Avenue, currently owned by Felix Effa, and One Hillside Street, currently owned by Larry Welch & Earl Welch, as they are of no economic value to the town of East Hartford.  
Motion carried 9/0.

Recommendation from Fees Committee re: Boat Launch Fees

MOTION By Connor Martin  
seconded by Angie Parkinson  
that the Town Council **approve** the boat launch fees for seasonal permits and daily passes for residents and non-residents as follows:

Seasonal Permits – Residents	\$40 per year
Seasonal Permits – Non Residents	\$80 per year

Daily Passes – Residents & Non Residents \$20 per day

which are also listed on a memo from Mayor Marcia Leclerc to Chair Rich Kehoe dated May 26, 2020.  
Motion carried 9/0.

Contingency Transfer: 2020 Presidential Primary

MOTION By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Don Bell  
to **approve** the contingency fund transfer of \$52,010 to cover costs associated with holding the Presidential Primary during the Coronavirus Pandemic by complying to Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7QQ, which allows all registered voters to vote by Absentee Ballot, on August 11, 2020 as follows:

From G9600-63492	Contingency Reserve	\$52,010
To G1300-60135	Registrar of Voters – Election Officials	\$24,000
To G1300-62360	Registrar of Voters – Election Day Expenses	\$ 8,010
To G1300-64514	Registrar of Voters – Capital Equipment	\$20,000

Motion carried 8/0. **Abstain:** Clarke

2020-2021 Neighborhood Assistance Act

MOTION By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by Esther Clarke  
to **adopt** the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program provides State of Connecticut tax credits to businesses who contribute to community programs benefiting low income or handicapped individuals in such areas as: job training, job education, community services, and energy conservation; and

**WHEREAS** twenty-nine proposals have been received from area agencies, listed on the 2019 State of Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Proposal Summaries sheet as attached, and have requested to be included in the 2020 State of Connecticut tax credit program through the Town of East Hartford; and

**WHEREAS** a Public Hearing to present these applications was held on July 8, 2020, as required by the State of Connecticut.

**NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That Marcia A. Leclerc, Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is authorized to forward these applications to the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services for their review and inclusion into the 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program.

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

#### Local Youth Prevention Council Grant

**MOTION** By Angie Parkinson  
seconded by Esther Clarke  
to **adopt** the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that Marcia A. Leclerc Mayor of the Town of East Hartford, is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of this municipality a grant application in an amount not to exceed \$7,142 with the State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to support the activities of a local alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse Prevention Council, and to execute and file any contracts, amendments or reports as may be required to successfully complete the terms of the grant contract.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc's term of office began on January 10, 2011 and will continue until November 8, 2021. As Mayor, Marcia A. Leclerc serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of East Hartford, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of East Hartford.

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

#### Town of East Hartford and the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO re: New Retirement Plan for Full-Time Employees – July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025

**MOTION** By Don Bell  
seconded by Awet Tsegai  
that the Town Council **approve** the new Retirement Plan for Full-time Employees of the East Hartford Fire Department effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025, such tentative agreement was ratified by the bargaining unit members on June 29, 2020.  
Motion carried 9/0.

#### Town of East Hartford and East Hartford Police Department:

##### Collective Bargaining Agreement and Contingency Transfer

**MOTION** By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Awet Tsegai  
that the Town Council **approve** the one-year successor agreement between the town of East Hartford and the East Hartford Police Officers'

Association effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, such tentative agreement was ratified by the bargaining unit members on June 16, 2020; and that the Town Council **approve** a contingency transfer of \$224,680 to cover the costs associated with the one-year successor agreement between the town of East Hartford and the East Hartford Police Officers' Association as follows:

From: G9600-60201 Contingency Reserve – Contract Negotiations	\$224,680
To: G5203-60110 Permanent Services – Police	\$224,680

Motion carried 9/0.

#### Outdoor Amusement Permit Applications:

#### The National B.L.A.C.K. Cooperative Protest

#### MOTION

By Awet Tsegai  
seconded by Don Bell  
that pursuant to Section 5-2(a) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances the Town Council **waive** the 30-day filing requirement and **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "The National Black Cooperative Protest" submitted by Adriana Sowell and Miranda Marris, to conduct a peaceful protest against systemic racism to be held at the Alumni Park/Town Green on Saturday, July 25, 2020, beginning at 9:30AM through 1PM and music and speeches during those same hours with the following conditions:

1. Item #15 of the outdoor amusement permit application to be deleted.
2. The email from Miranda Marris to Laurie Fitzgerald dated July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 8:35AM will be part of the amusement permit application – stating that the applicant "...modify the request for the rally on Alumni Green only...", therefore there is no march planned for this event and no need for road or sidewalk closures.
3. A Certificate of Insurance to be submitted prior to the event with the town of East Hartford added as an additional insured.

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 that pursuant to Section 5-6(a) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances, the Town Council **waive** the associated permit fee as this protest is in response to a national outcry for justice over systemic racism.

Motion carried 9/0.

After the motion was read and before the vote was taken, Alex Clark, the organizer of Sweat it out for Black Lives, spoke to the Council on his intentions for holding this event.

Sweat it out for Black Lives

MOTION      By Awet Tsegai  
seconded by Connor Martin  
that pursuant to Section 5-2(a) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances the Town Council **waive** the 30-day filing requirement and **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Sweat it out for Black Lives" submitted by Alex Clark, to conduct an interactive and educational fitness experience at Martin Park on Saturday, July 18, 2020, beginning at 8:00AM through 12PM – with water and snacks provided, music played by a DJ and tables for black-owned businesses and their products between those same hours; 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 that pursuant to Section 5-6(a) of the East Hartford Code of Ordinances, the Town Council **waive** the associated permit fee due to the town since this event is more inspirational than physical for so many people who have lost hope due to racial injustice and inequality.  
Motion carried 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Esther Clarke noted that on the original amusement permit application for the Family Fun Drive-in Movie Night, Public Works had listed an estimated expense. The revised application does not list any expense from Public Works. *Mayor Leclerc said that there will be some costs associated with the event, but it will be minimal. Additionally, the organizer of this event indicated that he and his friends are available to help clean the area after the event is over.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Marek Morawski v. Town of East Hartford, CHRO Case No. 1840301, involving former Town employee, Marek Morawski

MOTION      By Sebrina Wilson  
seconded by Esther Clarke  
to **accept** the recommendation of Corporation Counsel to fully and finally settle the pending CHRO claim known as Marek Morawski v Town of East Hartford, CHRO Case No. 1840301, involving former Town employee, Marek Morawski for a total sum of \$1220.00.  
Motion carried 9/0.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Pat Harmon thanked the Councillors for understanding her need to self-quarantine.

Sebrina Wilson reminded all of the public forum on policing in East Hartford scheduled for tomorrow evening at Great River Park.

Awet Tsegai wished Don Bell a belated Happy Birthday. He also reminded everyone that the public forum which will be held "live" tomorrow evening, will also be held virtually on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Chair Kehoe reiterated Councillor Wilson's and Councillor Tsegai's reminders to all of the public forum that will be held tomorrow evening @ 6PM at Great River Park and virtually on Wednesday July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The main topic will be on police policies and procedures in East Hartford.

## ADJOURNMENT

MOTION      By Esther Clarke  
                  seconded by Don Bell  
                  to **adjourn** (9:17 p.m.).  
                  Motion carried 9/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Attest   
Angela M. Attenello  
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK