

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
740 MAIN STREET  
EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

AUGUST 4, 2015

PUBLIC HEARING/PROPOSED BONDS: SENIOR CENTER-MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY  
and CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND EQUIPMENT

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

ABSENT Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr.

Chair Kehoe called the public hearing to order at 7:06 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.

The following is a copy of a legal notice published in the Hartford Courant on Tuesday,  
July 28, 2015.

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Town Council of the Town of East Hartford will meet in the Council Chambers on  
**Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.** for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the following  
proposed bond resolutions:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$4,625,000 FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, ACQUISITION  
AND CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT AND  
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,625,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID  
APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY  
BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE;

AND

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, ACQUISITION  
AND CONSTRUCTION AND/OR RENOVATION OF A SENIOR CENTER/MULTIPURPOSE  
FACILITY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,000,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO  
MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF  
TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

Copies of said resolutions are on file and open to public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk  
and the Town Council.

Angela Attenello  
Town Council Clerk

Chair Kehoe summarized the legal process for the proposed bonds and offered  
background information on each.

The following citizens came forward in favor of a new senior center:

Linda Larensen, 20 Brandon Road; Lydia Ciccarello, 46 Strong Drive; Marie Frederickson, Elms Village Drive; Amy Peart, 74 Wood Drive; Bonnie Kishimoto, 22 Matthew Road; Maureen Sundin, 6 Suffolk Drive; Pam Fasciglione; and Nancy Yiznitsky, 87 Montclair Drive.

Laura Sobolewski, Aquatics Director, Parks and Recreation Department, is greatly in favor of a new senior center since it will be considered a multi-purpose facility.

Kathy Kane, Senior Services Coordinator, presented the Council with six pages of names of citizens who could not attend this public hearing but are in favor of a new senior center.

Steven Strange, 40 Maplewood Avenue, raised questions regarding tax breaks for senior citizens, referendums for property assessments and tax increases, the restricted use of the senior center and the cost of a new senior center versus a renovated senior center.

Sue Simmons, 19 Vincent Court and Patti Rakauskas, 10 Palmer Drive, are concerned about their property assessment and tax mill rate.

Reginald Thibault, 42 Chester Street, is not in favor of bonding for a senior center.

Susan Kniep, 50 Olde Roberts Street, asked for clarification on whether the proposed senior center bond is for a newly constructed building or a renovated building. Ms. Kniep also suggested that a recently approved State of Connecticut grant for \$900,000 and a cash contribution from the Friends of the Senior Center of \$300,000 be utilized to up-grade the existing senior center housed in the former McCartin School.

Don Sugalski, 1736 Main Street, is concerned about bonding for the construction of a new senior center versus renovating the existing structure using the State of Connecticut grant for \$900,000 and money from the Friends of the Senior Center of \$300,000.

MOTION      By Esther Clarke  
                         seconded by Pat Harmon  
                         to **adjourn** (8:10 p.m.).  
                         Motion carried 8/0.

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
Angela M. Attenello  
Town Council Clerk