

Robert J. Pash

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

2019 AUG 26 A 9:07

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TOWN CLERK
EAST HARTFORD

AUGUST 20, 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 7:35 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.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

Beautification Commission – July 2019 Awards

Pat Sirois, Beautification Commission Chair, indicated that the Nagle Family, 108 Britt Road, were here this evening to receive the award for residential landscaping that they were given in June. Dennis Frawley, 8 Ridgewood Road, received the July award for residential landscaping and Advanced Performance Glass received the July award for commercial landscaping.

The Town Council joined with the Mayor in thanking the recipients for making East Hartford a prettier place to live. Pat Sirois also thanked Donna Kehoe, a Beautification Commission member, for the photographs she took of the properties.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Ana Rinehart, 21 Cheney Lane, shared with the Councillors an encounter she had with a town employee at Silver Lane cemetery.

Mayor Leclerc (1) supports the reappointment of Prescille Yamamoto to the East Hartford Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners; (2) announced that, once again, East Hartford has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) – specifically for the CAFR; Finance Director Mike Walsh was praised for his overseeing of all aspects of financial functions of the town. The Mayor thanked Mike and the Finance team staff for a job well done; (3) Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) presented the town with a check for \$42,134 which is a return of premium paid by the town based on an overall favorable loss experience from last year; (4) the EHPD is reminding all residents of East Hartford that schools are scheduled to open August 28th and to be mindful of students and buses will be prevalent throughout town; (5) Youth Services is

hosting a movie on Sunday, September 14th at the Community Cultural Center to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month; (6) Ice Cream with a Cop will be tomorrow August 21st from 12 to 2PM at the Dairy Queen on Main Street; and (7) National Night Out was a great success.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 6, 2019 Executive Session

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
 seconded by Pat Harmon
 to **approve** the minutes of the August 6, 2019 Executive Session.
 Motion carried 7/0. **Abstain:** Torres

August 6, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
 seconded by Pat Harmon
 to **approve** the minutes of the August 6, 2019 Regular Meeting.
 Motion carried 7/0. **Abstain:** Torres

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Prescille Yamamoto to the East Hartford Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Pat Harmon
 to **reappoint** Prescille Yamamoto to the East Hartford Housing Authority Board of Commissioners; whose term shall expire July 2024.
 Motion carried 8/0.

2019 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

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

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, has funding available to the Town of East Hartford under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program; and

WHEREAS these funds may be used to improve or enhance Law Enforcement Programs with no cash match required by the Town of East Hartford.

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

MOTION By Shelby Brown
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
that the Town Council **approve** the waiver of the building permit fees for the repair or replacement of a foundation of a structure – including basement walls, footings, and floors – that contain sufficient pyrrhotite to cause cracking or, in the opinion of a certified engineer, could collapse and the applicant submits evidence of such to the satisfaction of the building official. This waiver shall apply to any permit issued on or after January 1, 2019.
Motion carried 8/0.

Revised Job Descriptions – Deputy Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk
New Job Descriptions – Facilities Maintenance Specialist and Administrative Operations
Coordinator

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Caroline Torres
to **refer** to the Personnel & Pensions Subcommittee the proposed revised
job descriptions for Deputy Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk and the
proposed new job descriptions for Facilities Maintenance Specialist and
Administrative Operations Coordinator, with instructions to review the
need for these changes and report back to the Town Council with its
recommendations, if any.
Motion carried 8/0.

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Esther Clarke
to **refer** to the Ordinance Committee the expansion of the town's current noise ordinance to include noise emitted from additional sources, with instructions to investigate the issue and report back to the Town Council with its recommendations, if any.
Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Esther Clarke asked for an update on the Showcase Cinema property. *Mayor Leclerc indicated that the demolition work will begin soon and that it will take approximately 4 months to complete.*

Shelby Brown is concerned how town employees interact with residents (and non-residents) of East Hartford, primarily with the courtesy and respect that all people deserve. *Mayor Leclerc stated the administration will investigate this issue and provide the training necessary to all employees.*

Ram Aberasturia reported that a former East Hartford resident recently played the East Hartford Golf Club and was impressed on the upgrades and changes to the course. *Mayor Leclerc indicated that the Garden Club of East Hartford donated a Trex bench at the Golf Course near the first hole.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Nono

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Mayor Leclerc reported that the administration called in an on-call Engineer for a safety assessment of the Veterans Memorial Clubhouse on Sunset Ridge Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Linda Russo
 to **adjourn** (8:37 p.m.).
 Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be September 3rd.

Attest Angela M. Attenello
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK