

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCTOBER 6, 2015

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr., Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc I. Weinberg, Linda A. Russo, Ram Aberasturia, Patricia Harmon and Anita D. Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 8:05 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.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Anita Morrison
to **amend** the agenda by adding, under Communications:

item 6 B. "United Way Campaign"; and
item 6 C. "City and Town Development Act Informational Sheet".

Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

John Kennelly, Attorney for Lamar Enterprises, spoke in favor of the billboards relocation agreement.

Susan Kniep, 50 Olde Roberts Street, spoke to (1) the issue of education in East Hartford; (2) is opposed to the billboards relocation; (3) inquired on how a citizen's comments can be made part of the minutes if that citizen cannot be present at the meeting; and (4) is opposed to the tax appeal request of the East Hartford Housing Authority for King Court.

Rick Bollash, representing Cox's Automotive, encouraged the Council to approve the outdoor amusement permit application for the recognition of the hundredth anniversary of Cox Automotive.

Mayor Leclerc (1) supports the amusement permit application of Cox Automotive; (2) thanked the Council for attending the Raymond Library ribbon cutting; (3) UCONN Health center opened at 800 Connecticut Blvd; (4) Dunkin Donuts at School Street Square opened; (5) flu clinic on October 23rd at the south end senior center; (6) the Hartford Marathon will be held this weekend; (7) revaluation has begun; (8) Youth Services will sponsor a social media safety program on Wednesday October 7th; and (9) the Request For Proposal for a municipally-hosted gaming facility has been released by the Mohegan and Mashantucket Tribal Councils.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 16, 2015 Executive Session/McKennaCondio

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Executive Session.
Motion carried 8/0.

September 16, 2015 Public Hearing/Billboards Relocation

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Public Hearing.
Motion carried 8/0.

September 16, 2015 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Regular Meeting.
Motion carried 8/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

East Hartford Public Schools Update

Brian Hall, Chair of the East Hartford Board of Education, and Nate Quesnel, Superintendent of East Hartford Public Schools, displayed a PowerPoint presentation to the Council on the 2015-2016 School Year Annual Report. Besides reviewing the results of the “Smarter Balanced Assessment” for language arts and math with the Council, Superintendent Quesnel relayed some of the many honors bestowed on the different schools within the district and the teachers honored by various organizations.

The district improvement plan is outlined as follows: (1) expect student achievement; (2) align system and operational efforts; (3) foster talent and competence; (4) nurture a solution-based culture of safety and engagement; (5) build family and community relationships; and (6) insist on results. One area of improvement that is being addressed is absenteeism – 2 fulltime truant officers have been hired.

United Way Campaign

Mayor Leclerc announced the start of the annual United Way Campaign which began with a kick-off breakfast held today in the town hall’s Welling Conference Room.

CTDA Informational Sheet

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Linda Russo
to move "CTDA Informational Sheet" from Communications to
Item 8. G. under New Business.
Motion carried 8/0.

NEW BUSINESS

Recommendations from Ordinance Committee:

Swine and Poultry

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **postpone action** on revising sections 6-5, 6-8 and 6-10 regarding the
keeping of swine and poultry, until the October 20, 2015 Town Council
meeting.
Motion carried 8/0.

Sexually Oriented Businesses

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Linda Russo
to **amend** the East Hartford Code of Ordinances by revising sections 8-61
through 8-79 of the Sexually Oriented Businesses ordinance, consistent
with the draft dated September 11, 2015, which was unanimously
approved at the Ordinance Committee meeting held September 14, 2015,
with two minor typographical corrections.
Motion carried 8/0.

Billboards Relocation Agreement

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the proposed agreement between the Town of East Hartford,
Goodwin College, Inc., TLC Properties LLC d/b/a TLC Properties of
Connecticut Inc. and Lamar Central Outdoor Inc., as outlined and attached
to a memo from Richard Gentile, Assistant Corporation Counsel to Marcia
Leclerc, Mayor dated August 25, 2015, to relocate 2 billboards located at
361 Main Street and 2 of the 4 billboards at 1179 Burnside Avenue to a
location facing I-84 westbound at 65 Roberts Street.
Motion carried 8/0.

Clean Energy Pledge

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Marc Weinberg
to **adopt** the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EAST HARTFORD TO BECOME A CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Town of East Hartford has assisted the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to produce Blue Ribbon guidelines to municipalities on the use of energy performance contracts, they have assisted the State in the selection of qualified energy service companies for municipalities to use to complete energy savings projects, they have completed three energy performance contracts providing energy savings to the Town and Board of Education totaling \$14.2 million using a combination of low cost financing and Energy Conservation bonds where 70% of the interest cost is paid by the Federal Government, they have converted 5,000 streetlights to LED fixtures saving \$250,000 annually in electricity costs while securing \$500,000 of rebates from Eversource, they have installed rooftop solar panels at five locations and solar panel arrays at four locations with projected savings of \$1.6 million, they have competitively bid electricity, gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas, and they have a solar field under development at the landform, and

WHEREAS, in order to further the good work to date at energy efficiency, the Town and Board of Education desire to become a Clean Energy Community and join 143 other Connecticut Municipalities in taking the pledge to reduce energy usage by 20% by 2018, and

WHEREAS, by taking the pledge, East Hartford will begin the laborious process of energy benchmarking by building using the Energy Star Portfolio Manager System, it will be allocated one slot in the Municipal Technical Assistance Program to document past energy savings programs and to prioritize future energy savings programs, it will gain access to \$43,000 in awards and grants to be used to further design and execute additional energy savings programs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the Town of East Hartford is authorized to execute a municipal pledge, letter of commitment, and any other documents necessary to become a Clean Energy Community. The terms, schedule, and other details shall be mutually determined between the company and the Mayor, whose signatures will indicate approval of specific terms and conditions.

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

Assistance to Firefighters Grant

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Federal Fire Protection and Control Act of 1974 established a competitive financial assistance program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) entitled the "Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program"; and

WHEREAS, the East Hartford Fire Department has made application to this Program to support the replacement and improvement of its wellness and fitness equipment; and

WHEREAS, the total of this award does not exceed \$ 52,536.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of East Hartford recognizes the need for funding these items under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council does support and authorize the acceptance of this grant award from FEMA and authorizes its Mayor, Marcia A. Leclerc, to act as representative of the Town and to enter into contract and make any amendments thereto to receive funding from FEMA.

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

Refund of Taxes

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Anita Morrison
to **refund** taxes in the amount of \$12,588.52
pursuant to Section 12-129 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
Motion carried 8/0.

Bill	Name	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Over Paid
2014-03-0050262	ACOUSTICS INC	1999/1FTZF1821XNB07184	-25.59
2014-03-0050936	ALMADA MANUEL R	2001/2T1BR12E81C400926	-31.28
2014-03-0051005	ALVARADO-RODRIGUEZ MARIA	2000/1YVGF22C4Y5164781	-7.61
2014-03-0054107	BRAMANDE MATTHEW R	2000/JN1CA31D1YT734897	-10.64
2014-03-0056000	CASTELLANO JOSE EUSEBIO	2000/YS3EH45G6Y3050805	-10.64
2013-01-0000121	CORELOGIC COMMERCIAL TAX SERVICE ATTN: EVELYN CHAPA	860 MAIN ST	-187.28
2013-01-0000122		860 MAIN ST REAR	-187.28
2013-04-0081910	CT MAIDS CORP DBA MOLLY	2006/2T1BR32E16C614840	-22.06
2014-03-0058821	DAMORE CHRISTOPHER DAVID	2003/4A3AA46G33E214059	-19.31
2014-03-0059206	DAY JOHN C OR	2000/JTDDR32T2Y0033240	-34.26
2014-03-0059248	DEBORBA JULIANE H	2003/3VWSE69M53M107840	-12.98
2014-03-0059323	DEJESUESOTO OCTAVIO A	2003/2FMDA51473BA25151	-9.67
2014-03-0060354	DOUGLASS CHARLES M	2000/1FAFP5824YA171872	-10.91
2014-01-0001555	DOUVENMUEHLE MORTGAGE ATTN: ESCROW DEPT	91 CHRUCH ST	-8188.58
2014-03-0066612	HONDA LEASE TRUST	2014/1HGCR2F32EA173179	-215.48
2014-03-0067266	IAVECCHIA PETER J	2007/2G4WC582571213900	-20.5
2014-03-0068295	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA	2013/SALVP1BG2DH733832	-411.86
2014-03-0068525	KATHWARU RAJENDRA	2007/1N4AL21E47N415391	-74.85
2014-03-0070887	LIZOTTE DOLORES V	1999/2G4WB52K0X1534738	-42.84
2014-03-0072670	MCALLISTER JEAN M	1993/1YVGE31A9P5149605	-28.06
2013-03-0073123	MEDINA MIGDONIO P	2002/1FMZU77E22UB76254	-160.49
2014-03-0073260	MELENDREZ JESUS	2000/1J4GW48S1YC110389	-11.1
	MERCEDES-BENZ FINANCIAL SERVICES		
2014-03-0058683	LEASE TAX SUPPORT	2013/WDDHF8JB3DA695791	-714.4
2014-03-0074446	MORRIS JAMES F OR	1999/1GCCS1945XK159680	-23.89

2014-03-0075288	NGUYEN TUNG T	1996/JNKCA21D3TT000891	-8.62
2014-03-0075358	NIEVES ESPERENZA	1996/2T1BA02E3TC108489	-7.48
2014-03-0076366	ORTIZ JESSICA N	2013/MLHMC4108D5301247	-5.23
2014-03-0079269	REED RAYMOND	2008/1GCEC14X38Z118187	-170.7
2013-03-0079729	RICHARDSON VENDETTA Y	1999/1G4HR52K7XH403386	-39.26
2014-03-0081445	RUEMMELE MADELINE	2001/1FTRW08LX1KD78837	-18.12
2014-03-0085296	THOMPSON LEE L	2006/JA4LZ31F16U048075	-68.79
2014-03-0086973	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	2013/YV4902DZ7D2440249	-420.34
2013-03-0087330	VISUAL EXPRESSIONS LLC	2011/1D7RV1CT5BS515996	-932.06
2013-03-0087462	VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	2011/WWHP7AN6BE705571	-456.36
		TOTAL	-12,588.52

Outdoor Amusement Permit Applications:

Cox Automotive

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application submitted by Larry Galuska, Owner of Cox Automotive Corporation to hold an Open House to celebrate Cox Automotive's centennial with food, music and an antique car show on Saturday October 17th from Noon to 5PM at 200 Main Street and 191 Main Street –Hockanum School – with proceeds going to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, 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) of the Code of Ordinances as this is a fund raiser to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project which is a non-profit organization.
Motion carried 8/0.

24rd Annual Aselton Memorial Snow Dash

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Anita Morrison
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled "Brian Aselton Memorial 5K Snow Dash", submitted by Ted Fravel, Director of the East Hartford Parks and Recreation Department and by the East Hartford Police Department to conduct a 5K road race (Snow Dash), to be held in the vicinity of the Langford School area – 61 Alps Drive – and surrounding streets on Sunday, January 10,

2016 between the hours of 11:00AM and 4:00PM, with the use of public streets occurring between the hours of 1:30PM and approximately 2:15PM, 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.

Gengras Harley-Davidson Fall Open House

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application submitted by Stephen Bray, Events Coordinator, on behalf of Gengras Motor Cars, Inc. for a Fall Open House which featured motorcycle stunt shows each day, music, food, sales and vendors at 221 Governor Street on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 9AM to 5PM, with music from 10AM to 4PM, and on Sunday, September 20, 2015 from 10AM to 3PM, with music from 10AM to 2PM; 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.

CTDA Informational Sheet

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
that the Mayor or her designee is authorized to prepare and disseminate informational documents in a Question and Answer format which explains the provisions of the City and Town Development Act, the Senior Center bond referendum and the Capital Equipment bond referendum. Such document shall not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the referendum questions.
Motion carried 8/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Pat Harmon asked about trimming shrubs at the corner of Bidwell Avenue for a better sight line to Burnside Avenue. *The Mayor explained that the shrubs are on private property and sent a certified letter asking the owners to trim their hedges.* Councillor Harmon also asked approving MDC water lines for the residents on Sherwood Drive. *The Mayor indicated that residents need to consent to this installation and the residents have previously rejected such installation on two separate occasions.*

Esther Clarke inquired on drilling wells on the golf course. *The Mayor indicated that the goal is to replace MDC water with well water while ensuring the town does not draw down the aquifer in a manner that impacts other users of the aquifer on Sherwood Drive and Burnham Street.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

East Hartford Housing Authority, et al v Town of East Hartford

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to accept Corporation Counsel's recommendation to settle the pending real property assessment (tax) appeal known as East Hartford Housing Authority v town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHB-CV-14-6026018S, involving the following properties – all on King Court – for the total fair market value of \$2,850,000.00:

5-7,6,9-11,10,12-14,13-15,16-18,20-22,21,24-26,25-27,30,32-34,36-38,37, 40-42,44-46,48,49,50-52,51-53,54-56,55-57,58-60,59,61-63,62-64,65-67, 66-68, 69-71, 70-72, 73, 75-77, 76-78 and 79-81.

Motion carried 8/0.

CHRO/Employment Claim(s) of current Town employee, Frank Iacono (Police Officer).

No action taken.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Marc Weinberg wished a belated Happy Birthday to Bill Horan.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
seconded by
to **adjourn** (11:00 p.m.).
Motion carried 8/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be October 20th.

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK