

EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

NOVEMBER 17, 2015

PRESENT Chair Richard F. Kehoe, Vice Chair William P. Horan, Jr., Majority Leader
Linda A. Russo, Minority Leader Esther B. Clarke, Councillors Marc I.
Weinberg, Ram Aberasturia, Joseph R. Carlson, Patricia Harmon and
Michael G. Kurker

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:50 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 Linda Russo
seconded by Bill Horan
to **amend** the agenda as follows:

Under New Business, move item 8. H. to item 8. D. and
move item 8.D. to item 8.H.

Motion carried 9/0.

Chair Kehoe called for a moment of silence to honor the life of Patricia "Pat" Begley, who recently passed away. Mrs. Begley was active in the community, having served as a Constable since 2009. She will be missed.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

2015 CT Veterans Parade Student Essay Winner

Daniel Harper, an East Hartford resident, read his award-winning essay honoring veterans.

"Why Should We Honor Veterans?"

My barber, Joe Picard, has tears in his eyes as he is telling me a story of his time fighting in the Korean War over 63 years ago. He tells how bullets were flying everywhere, and his comrades were getting picked off, one by one. He doesn't know how he survived without a scratch, but he has committed to using his life to take care of his family, love God, and serve others. Mr. Picard has given my family and many others at our church free haircuts for over 20 years just because he is grateful for his life and freedom. I can't think of a more deserving veteran to honor. We should honor veterans because they have bravely faced danger and death for our country, heroically put others' needs before their own, and sacrificially didn't ask for anything in return.

Many of America's veterans, like my friend Joe Picard, have bravely faced danger and death for their country, family, and friends. One day the North Koreans shot a mortar shell that landed right in front of Mr. Picard and his friends. It just so happened that the shrapnel from the explosion exploded away from them and did not kill them even though the impact was so close. Their bulletproof vests had pieces of shrapnel stuck in them, but otherwise, they were safe. Many veterans remember similar times of terror. In spite of their fear, they still defended, fortified, and fought for our freedom. How can we not honor those who would risk their lives to protect ours?

Another reason we should honor veterans is that they have heroically put other people's needs before their own. For example, Mr. Picard and many other veterans have given the scared and hungry civilians food, water, and clothing even when their own lives were in danger. They have rescued their comrades in the heat of battle. Despite being terrified of jumping from an airplane as a paratrooper, Mr. Picard and so many other veterans bravely did the impossible in spite of the great risk to their own lives because they wanted to know that they were doing something to protect their families and friends at home.

Finally, we should honor our veterans because they sacrificially didn't ask for anything in return for their service. Although Mr. Picard is thankful when friends and strangers thank him for his military service, he tells me that he considers it a privilege and an honor to have served our country. Our veterans loved our country by thinking about the future of our next generations, not about their own personal welfare. We can honor our veterans' sacrifices by making sure that their medical needs are met and that they get the help and treatment they need to live a normal life.

We should gratefully honor the bravery, selflessness, and sacrifice of America's veterans. Let us follow the example of our veterans who are still working to make our country a better place.

The Council recognized the poise and maturity of Daniel and congratulated him and his family on his accomplishment.

Anita Morrison

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Pat Harmon
 to **adopt** the following resolution:

Resolution Honoring Anita Domler Morrison

Whereas, Anita Domler Morrison grew up in East Hartford's well known Mayberry Village in East Hartford and attended Mayberry Elementary School ,O'Brien Middle School and graduated in 1976 from East Hartford High School ; and

Whereas, Anita married John Morrison in 1978 and raised two sons, Jeremy and Gregg in East Hartford; and

Whereas, Anita's urge to help people in many different ways led to her whole-hearted involvement as a parishioner of St Mary's Church as well as Director of St. Mary's Food Bank from 2005 to the present as well as Vice President of St. Mary's Women's Club; and

Whereas, Anita was involved in the Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts, served in every office of the Parent and Teacher Organization of her sons' schools, as well as volunteering at Birthright and St. Gerard Center for Life; and

Whereas, Anita worked as a Property Manager, Legal Assistant and Office Manager as well as holding a Real Estate Agent's license for over 10 years; and

Whereas, Anita ran and served on the Board of Education from 2007 to 2011 also serving as a member of Future Planning Committee, as well as Committee Chair of that committee in 2010-2011, on the Policy & Audit Committee, Child Plan and Public Building Commission; and

***Whereas**, Anita ran and served on the East Hartford Town Council from 2013 - 2015 also serving as a member of the Budget Committee, Personnel & Pension Committee, Public Building Commission ,the Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee.*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the East Hartford Town Council, governing body of the Town of East Hartford, along with Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc, hereby express the community's gratitude for the compassion, integrity and devotion that Anita Domler Morrison has displayed in service to the residents of East Hartford, Connecticut and thank her for that service.

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

Anita thanked the Council for this recognition and wished the new Councillors well in the next two years of their term.

At this point, Chair Kehoe updated those present, as well as the viewing audience, on the casino RFP. He apologized for MGM – the operator of the Springfield casino – for misleading individuals into thinking the casino issue would be on the agenda. The Chair explained that the Tribes would make a decision in December on a location, then the General Assembly would have to take action and the town would enter into a development agreement. If East Hartford gets that far, there will be informational sessions and public hearings before Council action.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Pat Sirois, Chair of the Beautification Commission, spoke in favor of the amusement permit application for Holiday Fest.

Susan Kniep, 44-46 and 50 Olde Roberts Street, (1) congratulated the new Councillors for their election to the Council; (2) suggested that the Council discuss the “state of the State” at their next meeting; (3) believes that the Council should discuss the issues under Executive Session at the start of the regular Council meeting to keep the public informed; (4) questioned the approval of the October 6th regular Town Council meeting; and (5) would appreciate seeing documents for the real property assessment (tax) appeal known as East Hartford Housing Authority v. Town of East Hartford, Docket No. HHB-CV-14-6026018S, involving King Court, which was approved at the October 6, 2015 regular meeting.

Mayor Leclerc commented on the following: (1) recognized the talent of Daniel Harper which was evident in his essay; (2) thanked Anita Morrison for her service on the Council; (3) will share with the Council state budget cuts, once they are more definitive; (4) the town, along with Goodwin College, is participating in “Green Light a Vet”; (5) leaf collection continues; and (6) looks forward to Holiday Fest and thanked Pat Sirois for her efforts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 20, 2015 Executive Session

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia

to **approve** the minutes of the October 20, 2015 Executive Session.
Motion carried 7/0. **Abstain:** Carlson, Kurker

October 20, 2015 Regular Meeting

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Pat Harmon
to **approve** the minutes of the October 20, 2015 Regular Meeting.

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Ram Aberasturia'
to **amend** the motion as follows:

Under Approval of Minutes – revise October 20th minutes as follows:

October ~~20~~ 6, 2015 Public Hearing/Hens and Spas
October ~~20~~ 6, 2015 Regular Meeting

Motion carried 7/0. **Abstain:** Carlson, Kurker

On call of the vote on the amended motion, motion carried 7/0. **Abstain:** Carlson, Kurker

November 9, 2015 Organizational Meeting

MOTION By Linda Russo
seconded by Esther Clarke
to **approve** the minutes from the November 9, 2015 Organizational meeting.
Motion carried 9/0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

2015-2017 Committee Assignments

Chair Kehoe presented the Town Council's subcommittee assignments as follows:

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

2015-2017

Economic Development

Ram Aberasturia
Pat Harmon

Personnel & Pensions

Marc Weinberg, Temp Chair
Joe Carlson
Mike Kurker

Education, Board of (Liaison)

Rich Kehoe
Mike Kurker

Public Building Commission

Rich Kehoe
Mike Kurker

EMS

Linda Russo
Pat Harmon

Fees Committee

Marc Weinberg, Temp Chair
Ram Aberasturia
Pat Harmon

Housing Authority (Liaison)

Joe Carlson
Esther Clarke

Investigation & Audit Com.

Bill Horan, Temp Chair
Ram Aberasturia
Esther Clarke

M.D.C. (Liaison)

Bill Horan

Ordinance Committee

Rich Kehoe, Temp Chair
Bill Horan
Esther Clarke

Real Estate Acq. & Disp. Com.

Linda Russo, Temp Chair
Bill Horan
Mike Kurker

Pension & Retiree Benefit Board

Esther Clarke

Riverfront Recapture (Liaison)

Marc Weinberg

Tax Policy Committee

Bill Horan, Temp Chair
Marc Weinberg
Pat Harmon

**Town-owned Property Other Than
RE**

Marc Weinberg, Temp Chair
Rich Kehoe
Pat Harmon

Budget Committee

Ram Aberasturia, Temp Chair
Joe Carlson
Mike Kurker

Resignation of Michael Kurker from Zoning Board of Appeals

Chair Kehoe announced the resignation of Mike Kurker from the ZBA due to his election to the Town Council.

Resignation of J. Roger Pelletier from Commission on Veterans' Affairs

Chair Kehoe announced the resignation of Mr. Pelletier from the Commission on Veterans' Affairs due to health reasons.

NEW BUSINESS**Outdoor Amusement Permit Application: Holiday Fest 2015****MOTION**

By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **approve** the outdoor amusement permit application entitled

Holiday Fest 2015, as submitted by Patricia Sirois, Event Chairperson for the East Hartford Beautification Commission, to conduct the Annual Holiday Fest, starting on Friday, December 4th through Monday, December 7th with activities as follows:

- Tree-lighting ceremony with music and a Carol sing with Santa to be held on the lawn of the Town Green on Friday, December 4th, between the hours of 6:30PM and 7:30PM;
- Miscellaneous activities including an outdoor petting zoo, horse drawn wagon and a snowman building contest to be held on the Town Green on Sunday, December 6th, between the hours of 12:00PM and 3:00PM; and
- Tree of Lights ceremony with a Carol sing to be held on the small green in front of 886 Main Street – Hartford East Apartments – on Monday, December 7th, between the hours of 6:00PM and 6:30PM

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.

Motion carried 9/0.

Recycling Incentive Grants Program

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

WHEREAS; the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has made funding available to municipalities and regions through the Recycling Incentive Grants Program, and

WHEREAS these funds are one component of the Municipal and Regional Recycling Assistance Program which supports Connecticut's Solid Waste Management Plan to increase diversion from disposal by 60% through targeted technical assistance and incentives,

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED; that Marcia A. Leclerc, 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 DEEP as they pertain to this Recycling Incentive Grants Program.

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

Local Prevention Council Grant (ERASE)

MOTION By Bill Horan
 seconded by Ram Aberasturia
 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 \$7,116 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 9, 2017. 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.

Brownfields Area-wide Revitalization Grant

MOTION By Bill Horan
seconded by Ram Aberasturia
to **adopt** the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.G.S Section 32-763, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for developing a comprehensive plan for the remediation and redevelopment of multiple brownfields (called the Brownfield Area-Wide Revitalization (BAR) Planning Grant); and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of East Hartford make an application to the State for \$200,000 in order to undertake the Silver Lane Corridor and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE EAST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites (including the match obligations) for the state financial assistance imposed by C.G.S Section 32-763 and the Guidelines of the BAR Planning Program.
2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of East Hartford in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 is hereby approved and that Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of East Hartford.
3. That it agrees to fulfill the required 10% cash match of the BAR Planning Grant Program if the application is successful.

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

2016 Town Council Meetings Schedule

MOTION By Joe Carlson
seconded by
to **adopt** the 2016 Town Council meeting schedule as follows:

Please note the start time for all regular Town Council meetings is 7:30PM.

January 5	July 12
January 19	August 2
February 2	August 16
February 16	September 6
March 1	September 20

Town Council
Town Clerk
Registrars of Voters
Selectmen
Probate Court

Rich Kehoe
Robert Pasek
Mary Mourey & Judi Shanahan

Scott Chadwick

Finance

Administration
Accounts and Control
Information Technology
Purchasing
Assessor
Revenue and Collections
Employee Benefits
Risk Management
Debt Services
Contingency
Capital Improvements
Revenues

Mike Walsh

Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

Summary

Project Narratives
Finance
Public Works
Parks and Recreation
Fire Department
Police Department
Public Library
Other Departments

Boards and Commissions

Beautification Commission
Patriotic Commission
Board of Assessment Appeals
Personnel Board of Appeals
Historic District Commission
Library Commission
Public Building Commission
Retirement Board
Commission on Services for Persons w/Disabilities
The Hockanum River Commission
Board of Ethics

Inland/ Wetlands/Environment Commission

Human Rights Commission
Emergency Medical Commission
Zoning Board of Appeals
Fine Arts Commission
Commission on Aging

Veterans' Affairs Commission

Executive

Office of the Mayor
Channel 5
Corporation Counsel
Human Resources
Public Library
Youth Services

Lunch Break

12:30 p.m.

Marcia Leclerc
Irene Cone
Scott Chadwick
Santiago Malave
Susan Hansen
Cephus Nolen

Development

Administration
Redevelopment Agency
Economic Development Commission
Planning & Zoning Commission
Grants Administration

Eileen Buckheit

Monday, February 29, 2016

Public Works

Administration Tim Bockus 6:30 p.m.
Engineering
Highway Services
Waste Services
Fleet Services
Flood Protection
Building Maintenance
Metropolitan District Commission
Public Works Capital Improvements

Parks and Recreation

Administration Ted Fravel
Maintenance
Other Facilities
Senior Services
Park Special Program
Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements

Health and Social Services

Administration Jim Cordier
Community Health & Nursing Services
Environmental Control
Social Services
Services for the Elderly

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Public Hearing - Budget 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Special Meeting - Budget 7:00 p.m.

Motion carried 9/0.

Refund of Taxes

MOTION By Marc Weinberg
seconded by Linda Russo
to **refund** taxes in the amount of \$ 13,676.57
pursuant to Section 12-129 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
Motion carried 9/0.

Bill	Name	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Tax Paid	Int Paid	L/F Paid	Over Paid
2013-04-0088364	ALLY FINANCIAL LOUISVILLE	2014/1GTV2VEC1EZ244257	0	0	0	-755.41
2014-03-0086881	ALLY FINANCIAL LOUISVILLE	2014/1GTV2VEC1EZ244257	0.00	0	0	-1,222.18

2014-03-0055471	CAPPA ROBBIN A	2002/5N1ED28Y62C507644	0	0	0	-173.35
2014-03-0055474	CAPPA ROBERT A OR	2006/KM8SC13D46U091680	0	0	0	-174.27
2014-03-0055980	CASSELLS RONALD A	2004/1HGCM82614A008062	0	0	0	-166.38
2014-03-0055982	CASSELLS RONALD A	2001/19UYA42431A025995	0	0	0	-11.19
2013-01-0001385	CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE	21 SOUTHWOOD LN	0.00	0	0	-198.14
2013-01-0005213	CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE	31 HIGH ST 10108	0.00	0	0	-1,581.74
2013-01-0008691	CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE	745 BURNHAM ST	0.00	0	0	-2,432.08
2013-01-0009831	CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE	131 CAMBRIDGE DR	0.00	0	0	-1,884.78
2014-03-0058498	CURRIER JASON M	2010/5TFUY5F1XAX106245	0	0	0	-756.24
2014-03-0058521	CVA AMRCN HNDA MTR	2013/5FNYP4H98DB070557	0.00	0	0	-536.86
2014-03-0058523	CVA AMRCN HNDA MTR	2014/19VDE1F79EE013107	0	0	0	-486.17
2014-03-0058524	CVA AMRCN HNDA MTR	2014/5FNYP4H65EB025101	0.00	0	0	-520.16
2014-03-0061966	FIGUEROA EDWARD	1996/1HGCD5659TA060764	0	0	0	-27.74
2014-03-0066888	HOUGHTALING WILLIAM P	2003/1FMZU74W13UB60786	0	0	0	-193.53
2014-03-0066889	HOUGHTALING WILLIAM P	2014/4YMUL0816EV016085	0	0	0	-14.68
2014-03-0075494	NISSAN INFINITI LT	2011/1N4AA5AP3BC855972	0	0	0	-597.1
2014-03-0070396	NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORP	1998/1GTCS1446W8525746	0	0	0	-9.26
1999-03-0079530	RICH SHANNON M	1989/1HGCA5623KA031046	-102.7	-283.45	0	-386.15
2014-03-0085857	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	2013/JTHCE1BL8D5003652	0.00	0	0	-1,081.11
2014-03-0085810	ATTN TDB1999999 TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP	2012/4T1BF1FK9CU565765	0	0	0	-468.05
	ATTN LBX842701					
TOTAL						-13,676.57

Appointment to Commission on Aging

MOTION By Ram Aberasturia
seconded by Linda Russo
to **approve** the appointment of Joanne Fulk, 53 Hamilton Rd, to the
Commission on Aging, whose term shall expire December 2017.
Motion carried 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNCILLORS TO DIRECT QUESTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Pat Harmon inquired on (1) the status of the proposed outlets at Rentschler Field; (2) the kiosk on the Town Green; (3) adding Primrose Drive and Shady Lane to this year's road repair list; and (4) questioned the town's policy on immigrants. *The Mayor answered as follows: (1) proposal is at the state level where the sales tax exemption is being discussed; (2) agrees the LED display on the kiosk is difficult to read and the company which installed the display is working on a*

solution; (3) will check with Tim Bockus on where these streets are on the road repair list; (4) the Mayor does not invite people to live in East Hartford – they move in on their own.

Esther Clarke asked why Columbus Circle and Columbus Street are on the road repair list since the Housing Authority plans major construction in this area. *Mayor Leclerc will rely on Tim Bockus' professional judgement on this issue.*

Rich Kehoe asked what section of the Willowbrook Flood Mitigation Study will be discussed at the public hearing on Thursday November 19th. *Mayor Leclerc stated the section from Sawka Drive to Simmons Road.*

COUNCIL ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

MOTION By Linda Russo
 seconded by Bill Horan
 to **accept** Corporation Counsel's recommendation to file an offer
 of judgement in the amount of \$125,000 in the pending federal court
 action known as Huaman v Sirois, et al., Docket No. 13CV484(DJS).
 Motion carried 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

Candace Pepin, 28 Sandra Drive, inquired on development along the Silver Lane corridor, specifically adding restaurants to this area.

Linda Russo announced that the Protectors of Animals will hold their annual Holiday Fair on Saturday November 21st at St. Christopher's Church. Councillor Russo urged all to attend.

Bill Horan pointed out that there are still several good restaurants in East Hartford –most of which are independently owned – that draw people in from surrounding towns.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Esther Clarke
 seconded by Bill Horan
 to **adjourn** (9:40 p.m.).
 Motion carried 9/0.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the Town Council would be December 8th.

Attest _____
Angela M. Attenello
TOWN COUNCIL CLERK