

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, February 6, 2017 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked the Milford Eagles cheerleaders and football teams to lead the Pledge.

**1. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present**

B. Anderson  
E. Beatty  
B. Bevan  
B. Bier  
M. Casey  
A. Giannattasio  
J. Grant  
M. Hardiman  
S. Shaw  
F. Smith  
N. Veccharelli  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali

**Also Present**

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
Jonathan D. Berchem, City Attorney  
P. Erodicti, Finance Director  
J. Rohrig, City Clerk  
S. Fournier, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

**Excused**

D. German  
J. Golden

Chairman Vetro deferred to Mayor Blake for a special presentation.

Mayor Blake recognized the Milford Eagles Pop Warner cheerleading and footballs teams in the audience. He stated tonight was about honoring the achievements of these championship teams who have represented Milford so well in the past and continue to do so. Mayor Blake stated tonight he would be recognizing the Medium Level Division III Cheerleaders (6th nationwide), Jr Pee Wee - Division II Football team, Jr. Pee Wee Cheerleading - Intermediate Division II (New England Regional Champions, finished 6th nationwide.), and the Pee Wee Cheerleading - Large Level III Division (2nd nationwide). Mayor Blake called upon each team to recognize them and provide them with a proclamation. He asked them to give a big Milford cheer.

**2. Public Statements**

Public statements are limited to the legislative function of the Board of Aldermen. He stated only residents; taxpayers or electors may address the Board. The time limit granted to each speaker shall be three (3) minutes. He asked each speaker to adhere to the three-minute limit.

Jill Reis - 42 Wood Avenue - thank you for volunteering your time and serving our City. Read from a prepared statement regarding appealing to the Republican Party regarding values and putting people first. Continue reading.

Carol Walker - 116 Todd Drive - addressed the Board asking Milford to become a sanctuary city. Continued reading from a prepared statement.

Natalie Osborne - 51 Lambert Drive - also asked the Board to make Milford a sanctuary city.

Tessa Marquis - 67 Point Beach Drive - read an article regarding homeless girls and women. Reading from a prepared statement she spoke of the need for feminine products for these girls and women. She stated donations could be dropped off at her office, 84 Broad Street, Milford or online at [www.youngwomenrisingct.com](http://www.youngwomenrisingct.com).

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 9, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro reminded everyone February is the month for remembering that special person referring to Valentines Day.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake asked the Board's consideration and action on items 8a-8i. He also extended a Happy Valentines Day and wished everyone a Happy February. He stated he would be happy to answer questions as they come up.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business (from Mayor's Report Items 8a-8i)

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve the request pursuant to Article III, Section 16(6) of the Charter of the City of Milford, to approve the appointment of (R) Richard Varrone, Sr., 24 Dewey Avenue, 06460, to complete an interim term on the Planning and Zoning Board representing the Third District (Edward Mead, resigned), term to expire 23/32/17.

Ald. Anderson offered remarks regarding Ed Mead. He stated Mr. Mead served with dedication, humility and humor and that he would be missed.

Ald. Casey echoed the words of Ald. Anderson. Ald. Casey stated he had the opportunity to work with Mr. Mead on a number of occasions.

Ald. Giannattasio welcomed Mr. Varrone to the Planning and Zoning Board. He also spoke about Mr. Mead.

Ald. Shaw pointed out no resume from Mr. Varrone was attached to the aldermanic packet, which has been customary practice.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if Mr. Varrone could be recognized to introduce himself to the Board.

Chairman Vetro recognized Mr. Varrone.

Mr. Varrone introduced himself and provided the Board with his background. He stated he is a lifelong Milford resident, a small business owner. He also stated he ran for State Representative this past election year. He stated he is honored to serve in this position.

By roll call vote, the Motion carried 12 yes (Beatty, Bevan, Bier, Casey, Giannattasio, Grant, Hardiman, Shaw, Smith, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali) and 1 no (Anderson).

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request to approve the appointment of (D) Ryan McConnell, 114 Maple Street, 06460, as a member of Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) Committee to fill the present vacancy (two-year term expiring 12/21/18. Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (D) Craig Zentkovich, 11 Depot Road, 06460, as a member of the Ethics Commission to fill the present vacancy (term to expire 12/31/17).

Ald. Giannattasio stated he was impressed with Mr. Zentkovich's resume and thanked him for his service to our country and volunteering to serve Milford.

Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the reappointment of (R) Robert Thomas, 50 Underhill Road, 06460, as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of appeals (three-year term, expiring 12/31/19), and for the new appointment of (D) Benjamin Gettinger, 25 Deerfield Avenue, 06460, as a regular member of the Zoning Board of appeals, to fill the present vacancy (term to expire 12/31/21). Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (D) Janet Montalbano, 30 Revere Place, 06460, as an alternate member of the

Pension and Retirement Board to fill the present vacancy (term to expire 12/31/17). Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Rohrig swore in Mr. Varrone and Mr. Zentkovich

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Department of Human Services. Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Youth and Family Services Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

8h. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for the Office of Early Childhood. Motion carried unanimously.

8i. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for approval of the Fund Balance, Debt Management and Pension Funding Policy.

Ald. Bevan asked if the city was at the 5% minimum at this point.

Mr. Erodici replied yes and in fact the city had surpassed.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if this is a new policy put in place by the Finance Director.

Mr. Erodici stated the fundamentals of the policy 5% and 10% have long been in place. He explained the background information of the numeric policies which comes from the governmental advisory agencies.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the City is required to do this yearly because of the upgraded rating.

Mr. Erodici stated if adopted tonight, it would only need to be approved once until this Board wished to make changes.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the fund mechanisms and questioned why the enterprise agencies, i.e. Golf, harbor, were not mentioned in the policy.

Mr. Erodici provided some background and explained the details.

Ald. Casey asked if this is similar to an Ordinance.

Mayor Blake stated the rating agencies and governmental agencies look at these types of policies, adding they carry the additional oversight of the financials. He pointed out these are longstanding policies that have been in place for many years. The bond agencies look at those municipalities that have put these policies in place.

Ald. Bevan asked about the pension funding.

Mr. Erodici stated the pension funding is very strong and almost fully funded at this point.

Mayor Blake stated Milford's pension fund is second in the state only to Bristol regarding the funding of its pension fund.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about the policy in its entirety. He cited as an example when a school roof project would need to be bonded for.

Ald. Vitali referenced the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee which he sits on. He stated the process is that the committee goes out to bid and then seeks bonding.

Mayor Blake spoke of the West Shore Middle School addition which went on to bid first so that solid numbers would be in place and to fully understand the market. He stated other projects that are competitive such as roofing projects, the monies may be bonded prior to going out to bid. He stated the practice of doing it both ways has been done for a number of years and has been successful.

Chairman thanked the Mayor and Finance Director for their valuable input.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. New Business not on the Agenda which may be introduced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting.

None.

10. Budget Memo Transfers – None.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$6,992.41. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

- a. Ordinance Committee – no report
- b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – no report.
- c. Public Works Committee – no report.
- d. Claims Committee – no report
- e. Rules Committee – no report.
- f. Personnel Committee – no report.

13. Report of Special Committees:

- a. Liaison Sub-Committee – Board of Education – no report.
- b. Liaison Sub-Committee – Flood & Erosion Board – no report.

c. Liaison Sub-Committee – Park, Beach & Recreation Comm. – Ald. Bevan reported the turf fields are 90-95% complete. He stated the lights were turned on for the first time last Thursday. He reported they will be adjusted so there is no light into the neighborhood.

d. Liaison Sub-Committee – Planning & Zoning Board – no report.

e. Liaison Sub-Committee – Sewer Commission – no report.

f. Liaison Sub-Committee – Harbor Management Commission – no report.

g. Liaison – Council on Aging – no report.

h. Permanent School Facility Building Committee – no report.

i. Liaison Sub-Committee – Library Board – Ald. Smith stated he and his wife will be performing on Sunday at 2:00 at the library.

j. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fowler Memorial building – no report

k. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership – no report.

l. Golf Course Commission – no report.

m. Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.

n. Liaison Health Department – no report.

o. Devon Revitalization Committee – no report.

p. Human Services Commission – no report

q. Liaison Pension & Retirement Board – no report.

r. Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) – no report.

s. Liaison – Milford Progress, Inc. – no report.

14. Executive Session. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting is required for any item to be considered in executive session. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting is required to go into executive session.

The Chairman shall announce, in public session, those items to be covered in executive session and call for a vote to enter executive session. If a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to enter executive session, is obtained, the hall shall be cleared and executive session declared.

None.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Board adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary