

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 6, 2016**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, June 6, 2016 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

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

Also Present

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

Excused

D. German (business)

2. Public Statements

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

M. Kramer - 104 West River Street – stated she addressed the Board in April regarding demolition of buildings and the process in place. She stated before a decision is made to demolish a building, the building is being sprayed with orange paint stating “demolition.” She stated she sent a letter to the Planning and Zoning and DPLU Department expressing her concerns. She went on to read a letter from an 11 year old who is also concerned with the buildings that are being torn down in Milford.

R. Platt – 132 Platt Lane – echoed the comments of Ms. Kramer. He too spoke of this young boy who is out soliciting signatures. He stated the practice of painting “demolition” on these buildings is getting out of hand. He expressed his hope the alderman would enforce their own ordinance. He also spoke of buildings where interior demolition has already been done prior to a response from the City Historian.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on May 2, 2016.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 2, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Organizational Meeting. None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro reminded everyone next Sunday is Father's Day and to set aside time to remember dads. Also, the second Sunday of June is the annual volunteer fireman's memorial service.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake stated last week was the unofficial start of summer. He stated the 2nd annual summer kick-off would take place on July 1, 2016. He asked for the Board's consideration concerning items 8a-8d. He stated he would be happy to answer any questions as they come up.

6a. The Milford Police Department presented a brief overview on the School Resource Officer (SRO) program within the Milford Public School.

Mayor Blake stated the program has been met with kudos and praise of their work. He deferred to Captain Marschner and members of the Milford Police Department.

Captain Marschner stated both Foran and Law have a full-time SRO Officer, and two additional positions that cover an 4 schools, The Academy, Harborside Middle School, East Shore Middle School and West Shore Middle School. He explained the selection process and specialized training for an SRO officer. He added each officer is embedded into the daily routine of the schools. State mandated assessments. He continued with a PowerPoint presentation.

Ald. Anderson asked about calls outside of the school. He also asked about coverage once the school year ends.

Sgt. Dellamonte explained how they assist each student. He stated at the end of the school year they remain at the for an additional two to three weeks to complete assessments for and then they go back on the road

Ald. Vitali asked about the number of reports written each day.

Sgt. Dellamonte explained it could be an incident above a matter of documented record, He explained the difference between the two types of reports.

Ald. Vitali asked about the additional time past the school year.

Sgt. Dellamonte stated in addition to writing reports and assessments they also take that opportunity to introduce themselves to the incoming freshmen.

Ald. Golden thanked the SRO's for all of the work they do in the school. She commented the kids see them also as counselors.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the various incidents they are involved with at the schools and when parents are notified. He asked the process.

Sgt. Dellamonte stated he calls a parent anytime he meets with a student. If it is a criminal type incident, a parent is present or a school related incident the parent is contacted.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if there is follow up.

Sgt. Dellamonte stated they provide the parent with their email.

Ald. Hardiman commented he has watched these officers, Kiley and Dellamonte in action and thanked them for all they do.

Ald. Shaw asked if the Board would receive a copy of the survey and data.

Capt. Marschner replied yes.

Ald. Shaw asked about feedback from students.

Capt. Marschner stated they have received a great deal of feedback from the students and many times they will have them come to the presentations.

Ald. Vitali asked about truancy.

Sgt. Dellamonte stated they will make contact at the home, but will bring a school member with them when doing so.

Ald. Vitali asked if the SRO's are involved with out of district investigations.

Capt. Marschner explained it is done through the School Safety Officer and Mr. Richetelli's office.

Ald. Beatty stated she would like to see a copy of the presentation and also the survey and tying it to national standards.

Ald. Bevan asked about records on actual arrests in the school.

Capt. Marschner stated they do keep records. He stated he would be able to provide that report

Chairman Vetro thanked Capt. Marschner and Sgt. Dellamonte for their presentation, as well as the other SROs present.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for reappointment of (D) Benjamin Gettinger, 25 Deerfield Avenue, 06460, as Milford's representative to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District Representative Policy Board (term expiring 6/30/19). Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for acceptance of the Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) and Public Workplace EV Charging Station Incentive Program and to authorize the Mayor, Finance Director and Public Works Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Bevan noted it includes purchasing one electrical vehicle and asked the need in the city.

Mayor Blake stated the grant includes two things, installation of the charging station and 50% of the cost of the vehicle. He stated a decision has not been made as to which vehicle. He stated there is the need to increase the city's fleet.

Ald. Bevan asked about the need.

Mayor Blake stated the city has hybrid vehicles but no true electrical vehicles.

Ald. Shaw asked about a plan for the incentive.

Mayor Blake stated this is relatively new in the State and that Milford is one of the first municipalities to take advantage of this.

Ald. Bier asked about the charging station and the location.

Mayor Blake stated it will be set up in the Wasson parking lot. He stated work had already begun.

Ald. Bier asked about the location.

Mayor Blake stated that is where most of the city vehicles are parked,

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the grant is fully reimbursable.

Mayor Blake replied yes.

Ald. Giannattasio asked why installation had begun if it was not voted on.

Mayor Blake explained the timing which dictated that the initial work begins. He stated it was his hope the Board would accept this and that he would recommend it wholeheartedly.

Ald. Giannattasio asked who would determine who would ultimately get this vehicle.

Mayor Blake stated it generally goes to a department heard. He stated the public works director would work with those departments that have made requests.

Ald. Giannattasio asked when the city received this grant.

Mayor Blake stated he did not have the date in front of him, but it is generally a short turnaround time.

Ald. Vitali asked if it was part of the grant that it would be for public use as well.

Mayor Blake reiterated the location is adjacent to the Parsons Complex where a majority of the vehicles used by department heads are located.

Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the Resolution: Cash Advance for a Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) and Public Workplace EV Charging Station Incentive Program. Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for allocation Transfer No. 10 (Electric Vehicle State Grant). Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for E-Payment Services Agreement between the Point & Pay LLC and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor and Finance Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Mayor Blake explained eventually residents would the opportunity to pay taxes on-line. He stated the service would not be available for July, but likely January.

Ald. Vitali asked the negotiated percentage and cost to the city.

Mr. Erodici stated there is no cost to the city for the credit card processing.

Ald. Vitali asked if it would be clear to the taxpayer that there is a fee.

Mr. Erodici stated yes, it would be made very clear.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the card would be swiped.

Mr. Erodici explained it would be done at the counter with a swipe. He stated with regard to the tax collector, it would be through a secured site.

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.

10. Budget Memo Transfers

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #7 and #8, Fund 10, FY 16.

Ald. Bevan asked if these items are for the budget just passed or the current budget.

Mayor Blake stated it is the current budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$8,653.57. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. Smith reported the committee met earlier in the evening to discuss 6 Ordinances and voted to forward the Ordinance to the full Board of Aldermen with a favorable recommendation.

12a-1 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19, Planning, Article X, Department of Human Services, Sections 18-131 through 18-135 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford.

Ald. Bevan asked how the aldermanic appointment to this board would be done.

Mayor Blake explained the streamlining of the department and the additional opportunities to coordinate and support for each department as part of the same team.

Chairman Vetro stated the liaisons to the Health Department and Human Services Department would remain the same.

Ald. Vitali asked if any additional help would be needed to run the agency.

Director Joseph stated the goal would be to work with the current staff at hand and create efficiencies as well as coordination and collaboration between the two departments.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he would support this Ordinance as presented with the understanding that no additional staff be added.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-2 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9, Garbage, Trash and Refuse, Section 9-14, Rules and Regulations Generally of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford.

Ald. Smith stated this is merely an amendment of the existing ordinance

Ald. Casey asked what would be done with the existing containers.

Mayor Blake stated they are recyclable, however, they can be repurposed. He stated they must also be clean.

Ald. Veccharelli spoke of conversation at the ordinance committee regarding the size. He asked the price difference with the two sizes. He also asked about the talk of offering the homeowner a second tote, but there would be a cost. He asked if it would be better to offer a different size to the homeowner, so there is no hardship.

Mayor Blake stated the cost of the toter is minimal. He stated the cost comes with the tipping fees. He stated everything is being done to encourage recycling. Mayor Blake also stated he has implemented a new recycling task force and enlisted the help of the audio visual folks at Foran and Law High Schools to remind residents of what is and is not recyclable. He also noted the vehicles being purchased have a camera which will allow them to see what is being picked up. He stated the 64 gallon toter is doable. He stated this proposed change allows the city to offer the receptacle instead, which is what this Board is being asked to consider in this Ordinance.

Ald. Grant asked if there has been discussion in allowing the residents to chose the size tote to fit their own needs.

Mayor Blake stated he was not the mayor when single stream recycling began. He stated there has been a lot of research done and the 96 gallon is the medium. He stated it is something that can be looked at when the RFP goes out.

Ald. Giannattasio stated this Ordinance states "a receptacle," which to him is one. He stated it may be well suited to keep the same size. He stated he did not want to see the homeowner incur any additional costs at this point. He asked who would dictate the capacity of the receptacle and if the aldermen would have input.

Mayor Blake stated it is the decision of the public works department.

Ald. Bevan stated the sanitation department does an excellent job in his neighborhood but noted are often there are homes with more than the allowed number of cans being picked up.

Ald. Casey noted this very important decision being made and the importance of getting as much input from the residents as possible.

Mayor Blake stated the public works sub-committee would certainly be consulted.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-3 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Establishing Compensation of City Officials and Employees in the Service of the City of Milford.

Ald. Vitali commented salary schedules usually show how steps are incurred from the current salary. He stated it would be helpful to have those numbers included.

Mayor Blake stated the schedule before the Board lists the weekly rate of pay. He stated there are approximately 50 employees affected by this.

Mr. Erodici stated if you multiply the number by weeks you would get the total.

Ald. Anderson asked how long a classified employee serves a probationary period of employment.

Mr. Erodici stated it is generally a 6 month period.

Mayor Blake added many of these are “at-will” positions.

Ald. Anderson questioned the policy.

Ald. Bevan pointed out head librarian position should be changed to library director.

Ald. Giannattasio questioned schedule U2 – Harbor Management Office Manager.

Mr. Erodici stated that position was still left in as a placeholder in the event the revenue increased.

Ald. Giannattasio pointed out the position is not in the city budget recently adopted.

Mayor Blake reiterated it really does not matter either way.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he did not feel it should be adopted.

Ald. Vitali asked if what the Board was asking to consider were non-union positions.

Mayor Blake stated they are non-represented positions.

Ald. Vitali asked the process for the increases and who does the negotiating for these individuals.

Mayor Blake explained those non-represented positions always follow MSA which has been in effect for over 20-30 years.

Attorney Berchem stated these non-represented positions have followed MSA or MEA, which has been the process for years. The negotiating took place with the bargaining units. He stated he believed this to be past practice.

Ald. Vitali expressed concern over “riding the coattails” of another bargaining unit.

Attorney Berchem reiterated what the mayor previously stated, which is that this Board has the final say.

Mayor Blake stated the increase is 2 ¼, 2 ¼ and 2 ½, which is what these would follow.

Ald. Bier stated he wished to be clear this is what all the other bargaining units would receive.

Attorney Berchem replied yes. He explained the final Ordinance this Board would tonight applied to benefits.

Ald. Anderson stated for the record that it is his hope administration would come back in the future with language that sets a policy that no step increase is granted to an employee until they have served the probationary period.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the Schedule U2 and whether any were paid for by grants.

Mayor Blake replied yes.

Ald. Giannattasio asked why grant positions would be included in the Ordinance.

Mayor Blake stated a proportional rate of the cobra is included in the salaries.

Ald. Giannattasio asked how many of the positions included in the U2 Ordinance are unfilled.

Mayor Blake replied only one or two.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-4 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Establishing Compensation of City Officials and Employees in the Service of the City of Milford (Registrars). Motion carried unanimously.

NOTE: Ald. Golden left at 10:07 p.m.

12a-5 Ald. Smith and Ald. Anderson made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Establishing Compensation of City Officials and Employees in the Service of the City of Milford (Mayor, City Clerk). Motion carried unanimously.

12a-6 Ald. Smith and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19, Employment Conditions and Benefits, Article I, Classified Employees, Sections 19-3(g), (h) and (i), Article 1A, Federal and State Subsidized Employees, Sections 19-7(a), (b) and (c), Article III, Unclassified Officials and Employees Sections 19-17(g), (h) and (i), and Article V, General Provisions, Section 19-28.

Ald. Bevan stated he did not receive p. 6 referencing this Ordinance.

Chairman Vetro stated the Board would stand in recess until the appropriate documentation was provided to the Board. The Board recessed at 10:00 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 10:20 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – Ald. Hardiman reported the Committee met tonight to consider the appeal of George Hunihan and Suzanne D’Anna. He reported the Committee denied the appeal, but approved the public works director to remove the tree(s) and repair that portion of the sidewalk.

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.

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 – no report

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.
- t. Liaison – Police Department – no report.
- u. Liaison – Fire Department – 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.

14a. Consideration of Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Local 3322, Council 4, American Federation of the State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

Chairman Vetro announced those individuals entering Executive Session would be the full Board, Mayor, City Attorney, Assistant City Attorney and Human Resources Director.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Anderson made and seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the matters announced by the Chairman above. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 10: 07 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 10:42 p.m.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Smith made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Local 3322, Council 4, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shaw moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy
Recording Secretary