BOARD OF ALDERMEN SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 30, 2008

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held a Special Meeting on Monday, June 30, 2008 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman B. Blake called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. and asked everyone present to join in the reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bier

J. Blacketter

B. Blake

A. Giannattasio

M. Hardiman

B. Lambert

S. Manning

R. Nunno

J. Patterson

J. Toohey

N. Veccharelli

P.Vetro

R. Vitali

S. Willey

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.

J. O'Connell, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

J. Doneiko, Finance Director

A. Jepson, City Clerk

Budget Memo Transfers:

2a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer No. 20, Fund 10, FY 2007-2008. Motion carried unanimously.

2c. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer No. 21, Fund 10, FY 2007-2008.

Ald. Vitali commented last year a request was made for secretarial fees of \$900 and the fee was reduced to \$750 resulting in this transfer of \$150. He stated it lends credence to the fact when this Board listens to the department heads it is a disservice cutting then restoring these budgets when in fact these department heads have provided this Board with the knowledge and experience they have.

Ald. Blacketter asked about the hydrant water charge and why it was higher than expected.

Chief LaVecchia was present and explained there was a rate increase on April 1, 2008. He went on to explain the history of the hydrants and that the City does not own these hydrants, but rents them. He explained the servicing and estimated proposals give to the Board of Aldermen at budget time.

Ald. Blacketter followed up asking if there was expected to be a shortfall at the end of the next fiscal year.

Chief LaVecchia responded it was hard to say at this time explaining the department is responsible each year for the installation of new hydrants.

Motion carried unanimously.

2c. <u>Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer No. 1, Fund 10, FY 2008-2009.</u>

Mayor Richetelli explained this is the new budget and continued the Personnel Director and the Administrative Assistant both retired last week and explained the situation in that office. He stated through the Civil Service Commission moved the clerk to the administrative position explaining this transfer would go from regular wages to the administrative assistant (retired) who will come back to train the pension clerk. He stated there is no new money here, it is money being transferred.

Ald. Blake asked if that opening has been advertised for.

Mayor Richetelli responded no.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 2d. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer No. 2, Fund 10, FY 2008-2009. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 5.
- Ald. Lambert asked if the Mayor could explain the whole process.

Mayor Richetelli responded this request is for the upcoming budget. He explained when the budget was put together gasoline and heating fuel was much cheaper and that no adjustments were made when the final budget was passed. He stated this request would allow any monies left over in the energy account to be transferred into an energy account of offset any shortfall.

Ald. Lambert asked about Finance Department approval.

Mayor Richetelli deferred to the Finance Director.

Ms. Doneiko explained legislative transfers such as a budget memo transfer. She also explained an allocation only requires the approval of the Board of Aldermen.

Ald. Veccharellli spoke at length regarding fuel costs, energy and locking in at a specific price. He asked if a total was available.

Mayor Richetelli responded it is around \$300,000-350,000.

Chairman Blake commented as to what folks are doing in their households to use less energy, he asked if the City has a plan in place to reduce gasoline costs.

Mayor Richetelli responded all departments are aware of this and making adjustments. He stated he has also meet with several energy efficient companies to look at more ways to be efficient and when he has a proposal he will bring it to the Board.

Ald. Patterson asked if the City would meet that \$300,000-350,000 or exceed it.

Ms. Doneiko responded she is still waiting for the last bills from this past fiscal year to come in.

Mayor Richetelli also spoke regarding the energy curtailment program through the UI and that last year the City received \$75,000-80,000 that was used towards the shortfall.

Ald. Blacketter asked if they were anticipating transferring any other line items into the reserve.

Mayor Richetelli explained what this allocation transfer was asking to do was take from these accounts and transfer into the next fiscal year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Patterson moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber Board Secretary