

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 1, 2016**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, August 1, 2016 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:43 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  
M. Casey  
D. German  
A. Giannattasio  
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

B. Bier  
J. Golden

**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.

S. Kraffmiller – 37 Sycamore Road - spoke regarding Twin Oaks Road item on the agenda. He stated he had no problem as long as the neighbors were in favor of the abandonment and also that lighting does not shine into his home. He asked that it be stipulated that the lots remain residential. He expressed concern the property behind his house could be purchased as well and that he did not want to see cars in his backyard.

**3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on July 11, 2016.**

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 11, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Organizational Meeting.

None

#### 5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro stated he had no report this month.

#### 6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake commented he hoped everyone was enjoying the summer weather and all the activities in Milford. He stated the beaches in Milford are jam packed every weekend. He credited the public works department for putting in the extra time on the weekends to be sure the beaches and public facilities are being maintained. He also spoke of the number of permits being pulled for various outdoor fun activities in the city. Mayor Blake also reported a lot of new business has been coming into Milford. He also stated construction permits are up from last year, citing the numbers. He credited city employees who have risen to the challenge and are doing an exceptional job.

#### 7. Unfinished Business

(8g) Board of Aldermen approval is requested pursuant to the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission pursuant to §8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to allow the owners(s) of 262 Point Beach Drive and 16 and 20 Westmoor Road to construct driveway access within the right-of-way of Westmoor Road, subject to the agreement, and to authorize the City Attorney and Mayor to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement. (This item tentatively is to be addressed at the September 12, 2016 Board of Aldermen meeting at the request of the applicant).

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (R) Mark Tutino, 212 Cedarhurst Lane, 06461, as a member of the Pension and Retirement Board to fill the present vacancy (three-year term expiring 12/31/16). Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (D) Christopher Hiza, 81 Loomis Street, 06460, as a member of the Milford Government Access Television Committee (MGAT) to fill the present vacancy (two-year term expiring 12/31/17). Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (D) Vito Castignoli, 843 North Street, 06461, as a member of the Sewer Commission to fill the present vacancy (two-year term expiring 12/31/18). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request, per the endorsement of the Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission's July 11, 2016 meeting, to

support the Milford Garden Club's Blue Star Memorial Marker Project as a tribute to the Armed Forces and in celebration of the Club's 90th year as a community organization. (Requested by Alderman Ellen Beatty)

Kathryn Kobishyn, member of the Milford Garden Club was present along with Marilyn Wardell, Bunny Elmore, Katherine Patrick, Cheryl Cappiali and Anne Sherogan. Ms. Kobishyn stated the garden club wanted to install a Blue Star Memorial Program. She went on to explain the program and the brochure distributed to each alderman.

Ald. Vitali thanked Ms. Kobishyn and the club for their work.

Ald. Anderson thanked Ms. Kobishyn and the club for bringing this before the alderman as well as Ald. Beatty. He spoke of the connection to the garden club which is historic. He asked about maintenance of the garden bed.

Ms. Kobishyn stated they have spoke to the public works department about the installation of the beds, but not maintenance of the beds.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the acceptance of the Municipal & State Agency Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Incentive Program Grant and to authorize the Mayor, Director of Community Development and City Attorney to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said program. Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Municipal & State Agency Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Incentive Program. Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request, following the approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Section 8-24g of the Connecticut General Statutes, for the abandonment of a portion of Twin Oaks Terrace, and to authorize the City Attorney and Mayor to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said abandonment.

Ald. Vitali asked why the property was not being sold, instead of being abandoned.

Mayor Blake stated the city does not own it. He stated it is a public right of way.

Attorney Berchem explained the process of accepting a street. He stated a public right of way is not a fee interest, that is why the request under §8-24 is to sell or abandon. He explained in this case, it is an abandonment of this portion of the road.

Ald. Vitali asked if the property would have any constraints.

Attorney Berchem stated it abandons the city's right to pass through.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he spoke to some of the folks that came out tonight. He stated it seems the neighbors are happy with the decision, but he expressed concern regarding two of the parcels, one which could become available through foreclosure. He stated he would like to see both of those properties remain residential properties. He expressed his hope it was not in the future for the dealership to purchase those two properties down the road. Ald. Veccharelli also spoke about parking in the area where the overflow from the Bridgeport Avenue restaurant overflows onto this street and stated he would like to have additional parking spaces. He stated he would like to continue debate before offering a motion.

Ald. Bevan commented even with the 11 parking spots, people likely will continue to park in front of the residential homes. He stated he would like to see additional parking, for a total of 25 spaces. He stated he was concerned about the burm to divide the road and questioned what actually would be placed there. He stated he would prefer to see something other than trees, which as they grow push up the sidewalks.

Ald. Anderson addressed Ald. Bevan's concern regarding installation of trees. He spoke of the agreement with the buyers and the neighbors and that arborvitae trees would be planted. He referenced the burm that was placed along Gunn Street. He stated he could consider an additional 14 additional spaces.

Ald. Giannattasio stated parking is a sensitive topic. He stated he did not have a problem with additional parking. He stated based on what he has heard tonight from the neighbors and the owner of the restaurant, there are no extra spaces. Ald. Giannattasio stated to Ald. Veccharelli point, he would be in favor of additional parking spaces. He asked how many spaces were originally proposed and the number of spaces changed by the police department.

Mr. Macaluso stated initially there were no spaces in the right of way and that it would just be a cul-de-sac and that the police would enforce the "no parking" on the north side. He also stated spaces in the right of way were discussed by his client and the owner of the restaurant. He stated he heard Ald. Veccharelli request an additional 14 spaces which he stated would cut into other people's properties. Mr. Macaluso stated his client's have no intention of purchasing the residential home which is being foreclosed and that his client's only request is to abandon what he already owns. Mr. Macaluso stated the neighbors agreed to the 4 foot burm. He stated they want the same model that was built along Colonial Toyota. Mr. Macaluso stated lighting would not be touched. He stated every opportunity is being made to accommodate the property owners and the restaurant parking, as well as the city.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the improvements the business is paying for in this project.

Mr. Macaluso stated they would construct, replace the roadway as well as sidewalks and the burm. He also stated there is a sewer easement that will need to be addressed as well.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the site lines and if there was any flexibility to add additional spaces.

Mr. Macaluso stated in the original design they tried for 14-15, but at this point it is a minimum of 11, per the police department.

Ald. Vitali asked Mr. Macaluso if additional parking spaces were approved would the plans would come back to this Board.

Mr. Macaluso stated if additional parking spaces are added, they would have to go back to the Planning and Zoning Board, as well as the other city agencies.

Ald. Vitali stated he could not support this without increased parking spaces. He stated the two-hour parking limit just was not sufficient as it would be difficult to enforce.

Chairman Vetro stated it is the police department's purvey regarding parking, not this Board. He went on to explain their role.

Ald. Vitali stated he was looking for more parking to accommodate residents and make everyone happy.

Ald. Veccharelli stated a lot of the right of way is being given up. The owner will have a continuous piece of property. He expressed his hope the 14 spaces could be approved in the existing right of way or if the homeowners have to give up something for a line of sight. He stated he did not feel it would be a lot to ask for a sliver from the other side of the street for parking. He asked Westcott and Mapes to look at the site plan and see if they could come up with 14 spaces.

Ald. Casey commented he agreed with some of the comments made by Ald. Veccharelli as to the need for additional parking spaces and enforcement.

Ald. Shaw agreed this should be postponed. She stated she wanted to be careful with recommending additional parking spaces without further information. She suggested this be postponed.

Ald. German stated he too would support additional parking, but it would cut into the neighborhood. He asked about a redesign for the neighborhood.

Mr. Macaluso stated he would have to get permission from his client, therefore he could not answer. He reiterated they did sit down with the neighbors and that they were in favor of this plan.

Ald. German stated he too would agree with postponing.

Ald. Smith stated what is in front of the aldermen is the abandonment of a portion of the road. He asked the city attorney if it was in the purview of the aldermen to recommend additional parking.

Attorney Berchem stated this Board was being asked to abandon a portion of the public right of way. He stated parking is the purview of the police department and planning is the purview of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Ald. Smith asked if this could be postponed until more information could be received from the police department.

Attorney Berchem stated what is the purview of this Board is the abandonment of a portion of the roadway.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he would amend the motion to allow for 14 parking spaces with a 2-hour parking minimum.

Chairman Vetro stated he could not put in the motion that 14 spaces are required.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he would he would like to have Westcott and Mapes come back to this Board with a plan that shows 14 spaces and 2-hour parking. He stated without that, he just could not support this.

Ald. Giannattasio pointed out in the aldermanic packet; each of the neighbors was in favor of the 11 parking spaces and the burm.

Mr. Macaluso stated the speaker tonight is a property owner and that she signed off, with her only request being that one side is no parking and that one side of the street is not just parking for the restaurant.

Ald. Giannattasio asked his colleagues to be mindful that no neighbors are opposed to the plan and that the restaurant was neither opposed or in favor. He requested a 5 minute recess.

The Board recessed at 8:51 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 9:00 p.m.

Ald. Bevan stated he wished to table this matter for the reason he would like to see a redesign and that additional parking be added. He stated with regard to the neighbors signing off, to his knowledge the neighbors were given only one design and accepted it because it was better than what they had.

Mr. Macaluso stated they have been meeting with the neighbors for months and they were given numerous options. He stated the neighbors didn't want additional spaces just to have additional spaces, especially since those spaces would benefit the restaurant. He reiterated there were a number of options.

Ald. Bevan stated currently vehicles are currently parking in front of the neighbors properties. He state he was only looking for additional spots

Mr. Macaluso stated they were looking to put in a designated parking area, but the neighbors did not want to see an additional parking lot on their street.

Ald. Bevan asked if there is another way to keep the 11 spots as they come into the street, but go in on the other side which will be used by the dealership.

Mr. Macaluso stated the dealership will only have entrances and exits from Bridgeport Avenue.

Ald. Shaw stated what was being asked by this Board has been answered. She also stated the residents have agreed to this plan. She stated it is not up to this Board to take over the roles of Westcott and Mapes and also the Planning and Zoning Board. She stated she appreciates the good work of the Board and that she was ready to move on and would vote with a favorable recommendation.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he wished to rise in support of this plan. He stated a number of §8-24g have come to this Board over the last few months and so the Board has been cautious. He stated he is in favor of voting on this tonight.

Ald. Grant stated there has been some good discussion on this matter; he pointed out the request has been signed off by Planning and Zoning Board and numerous other city departments.

Ald. Smith stated this Board is over thinking this request, however applauded the comments and discussion the Board has heard tonight. He stated he was in support of the original motion.

Ald. Veccharelli stated if this Board chooses to vote in favor of this, then the residents can come to those who vote in favor of this when they start complaining. He stated as aldermen they should be protecting the people on that street who do not want parking in front of their homes. He stated nothing will be solved and the problems will continue. He stated he would not support this as submitted.

Ald. Vitali stated many good points have been made, however, this is the last bite for the alderman and if this is approved tonight, this Board will not have another chance. He asked that Mr. Macaluso go to this client and bring a new plan. He stated he wished to postpone.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to postpone the vote on this request for abandonment.

By roll call vote the motion to postpone carried 7 yes (Beatty, Bevan, Casey, German, Grant, Veccharelli, Vitali) and 6 no (Anderson, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Shaw, Smith, Vetro).

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. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #11 and #12, Fund 10, FY 16. Motion carried unanimously.

(b) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #1 and #2, Fund 10, FY 17. Motion carried unanimously.

## 11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$5,659.93. 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 – Ald. Anderson reminded everyone of the Public Works meeting tomorrow, August 2, 2016.
- 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 Commission – no report.
- 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.

None.

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

The Board adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary