

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2008**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, September 8, 2008 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman B. Blake called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. welcoming everyone. Chairman Blake recognized former Aldermen Thomas Beirne and asked him to lead those present in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

J. Blacketter
B. Blake
V. Ditchkus, Jr.
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.
A. Jepson, City Clerk
M. Case, City Attorney

Chairman Blake asked for a moment of silence for three individuals who served in Milford over the course of a number of years, Dr. Reingold, Mrs. J. Heybruck and Mr. R. Toronto.

Chairman Blake deferred to the Mayor for a presentation.

Mayor Richetelli thanked the Board for allowing him this opportunity to present a proclamation to Bobbi Blake from Jenkins Chiropractic in recognition of their annual "Kids Day America" which is dedicated to children's health, safety and environmental awareness. He stated this year's event would be held on September 20, 2008.

Ms. Blake speaking on behalf of Dr. Jenkins and Kids Day America thanked the Mayor for his support. She stated the event on September 20, 2008 would be held at Platt Tech and extended an invite for all the aldermen to attend.

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.

A. Berman – 77 Pelham Street – spoke as to the Resolution on the agenda tonight. She stated she supported this “Green Fleet” and the need to increase the cars used by City officials to hybrids or retrofitting them for bottled gas.

R. Roy – 43 Howe Street - stated he too was in support of the Resolution before the Board of Aldermen tonight concerning the green house. He commented the State of Connecticut is one of the leaders in the country on this issue. He also noted the ECC has been in Hartford religiously over the last several years concerning this issue and other environmental issues. He also stated cars in the coming year will have to have a sticker that states the number of miles the vehicle will average. He also spoke as to the retrofitting of our school buses. He noted the State is using natural gas, hybrids and some electric. He asked the Board to support this Resolution.

R. Platt – 132 Platt Lane – stated he is the City Historian. He stated he toured the new house built on the Cadley property and that he was quoting as saying he was happy with the work. He stated he was disappointed that he was not told what went from the beginning. He stated they did make a nice house, but it is modern construction and not post and beam or historical. He spoke as to some of the work in the house such as the two chimneys and that they used a number of the beams from the old house and also noted the wood flooring and bricks from the old chimney. He stated it was beautifully done, but that it is modern construction and just not the David Merwin House. He reiterated he was not happy about the whole process and that there still are a lot of unanswered questions that still need to come out.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Drive – spoke as to the Downs situation. He also commented regarding the flooding situation on Naugatuck Avenue and that the aldermen who live in that area should pursue that issue. He also commented about a newspaper article regarding the appropriation of monies for that project. He also expressed his hope that since the 2008-2009 budget has passed that the Chairman would appoint a new committee to investigate other tax relief for senior citizens. He also spoke as to a quote in the newspaper from Ald. Toohey about there not being enough money and stated something needed to be done. He also commented about retired City employees who have been rehired by the City and that that money could be better used for the senior citizens.

T. Beirne – 55 Bayshore Drive – stated he was delighted to be here tonight. He stated there has been a lot of talk regarding the John Downs House and that he wished to give his perspective. He stated he himself is a history buff and that provided some history of the John Downs.

B. Genovese – 19 Belmont Street – spoke regarding the Downs House and the importance of the history of that house. She stated she was very upset with the Cadley property and that she did not want to see that happen with the Downs property. She asked the Board to check on open space and that there are no taxes due and that it would not be a wash. She reiterated the importance of history of that house and how it benefits our children and their children. She stated she once sat in the position of these Board members and that she served for 18 years as alderwoman. She stated she respected each of the members of the Board and asked them to please check into this.

D. Vasseur – 17 Devol Street – stated the Recycling Committee is starting up again and that they would be meeting on September 30, 2008 at Ann Berman’s house. She also spoke as to the City’s upcoming contract with Connecticut Resource Recovery. She stated she supported the Resolution of Ald. Lambert and Manning and that she also wished to express her thanks to Ald. Blake and Lambert who have been very supported of the

work of her committees. Ms. Vasseur also spoke regarding history and once something is gone so is the history and that it is important to pay attention to history.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on August 4, 2008.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held August 4, 2008 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Blake welcomed back our students and teachers and extended wishes for a safe and successful 2008-2009 school year. He also stated in accordance with the request of Lisa Diamond Graham that he was appointing Ald. Vetro as liaison of that Board and another aldermen to be named. He also reported he wished to make two appointments to the Personnel Director Search Committee in accordance with Section 2-78 and that Eliza Holcomb and Mary Tinti would serve on that Committee.

Chairman Blake stated he wished to address 72 Old Field Lane, which is substantially complete. He stated he and Ald. Vetro had the opportunity to tour the property. He also reported he has spoken with outside counsel hired by the City Attorney's Office and that he will be looking into the status of that property and how they should proceed. He stated they are looking into consideration if the developer has complied with all of the terms of the Restrictive Deed and Covenant.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Richetelli stated he respectfully asked the Board to consider items 8a-8g. He stated he also wished to update the Board regarding the Naugatuck Avenue flooding. He stated he had a conference call with Speaker Amann and the DOT and that nothing had changed after today's discussions. He explained the current funding and how it would be used and how the federal government funds it. He stated currently the City has enough money to cover its portion of the work and that the topic of today's conversation with Speaker Amann and the DOT was whether the State would cover their portion. He stated it would be prudent to go forward with the design of the project for the Naugatuck Avenue and Bridgeport Avenue explaining it is easier to access monies if the design is done and they demonstrate they are ready to move forward.

Mayor Richetelli stated he also wished to make the Board aware of the following Mayor's appointment:

Conservation Commission, term to expire 12/31/08.

(D) Danielle Bercury, Esq., 162 Melba Street, to fill the unexpired term of (D) Charles Montalbano (resigned).

He stated Ms. Bercury would be a great addition to this Commission. He noted she was present and asked if it would be the Board's pleasure to swear her in tonight.

Mr. Jepson swore in Ms. Bercury administering the oath of office.

7. Unfinished Business:

None.

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

8a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the following Mayor's appointments:

(D) Dr. William F. Lynch, MD, 73 North Street, to complete the unexpired term of (D) Robert F. Toronto (deceased). Term to expire 12/31/09.

(D) Joan M. Costello, RN, 33 Walker Street, to complete the unexpired term of (U) Dr. Joseph Reingold (deceased). Term to expire 12/31/09.

Mr. Jepson swore in Dr. Lynch and Mrs. Costello administering the oath of office.

8b. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Sewer Easement Agreement from ADP, Inc. (for the West Avenue Force Main Project) located on two strips of land approximately 3,452 and 837 square feet in area, upon land owned by ADP, Inc. located on West Avenue also known as Map 41, Block 336, Parcel 4 and Map 42, Block 335, Parcel 1B per recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board at their meeting held on September 2, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request to dispose of, by auction, the vehicles and equipment listed on the memo from Public Works Director Bruce Kolwicz dated August 22, 2008.

Chairman Blake recognized the Public Works Director who was present. He asked when the action would be held.

Mr. Kolwicz responded if his request were approved tonight, it would be about 10 days.

Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request for a technical waiver of bid in order to: 1) Upgrade the Milford Land Record Indexing System and provide electronic access to the indexes from forty (40) years ago to present and into the future; and 2) Provide the ability to permit annual expenditures to Cott Indexing Company above \$7,500 from the budget item for indexing and recording per the memo from City Clerk Alan H. Jepson dated August 21, 2008, which terms, conditions, explanations and stipulations will be included as part and parcel of this motion.

Ald. Lambert stated she wished to go on record that she does approve of this and would be voting in favor but she wished to note that usually this Board would like to receive competitive bids.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for FY 2008-2009 Equipment Need Plan (Vehicle Acquisition Plan).

Chairman Blake noted Chief LaVecchia and the Dinosaurs from the Canteen truck were present and asked for a thumbnail sketch of the truck needed.

Chief LaVecchia thanked the Chairman for recognizing this group of guys that is made up of retired firefighters. He stated the current vehicle is about 35 years old.

Chairman Blake also recognized Captain Mooney from the Police Department and asked if she would explain the need of the Prisoner Transport Vehicle.

Capt. Mooney explained their current vehicle is 11 years old and is really more of a car pool vehicle. She also explained the need to separate male and female prisoners and juveniles from adults adding with the current vehicle it is difficult to get the people in and out of the vehicle while handcuffed. She also stated the current vehicle is in disrepair.

Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 4. Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 5.

Mayor Richetelli stated he provided to the Board tonight a revised copy as corrected. He explained the handout from Battalion Chief W. Healey.

Chairman Blake noted the revised figures shall be included into the record.

Motion carried unanimously.

8h. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: In Support of Establishing a "Green Fleet" for the City of Milford (Requested by Aldermen Barbara Lambert and Ald. Suzanne Manning).

Ald. Lambert stated if this passes and the Board so desires she would like to pursue this further through the Ordinance Committee to host some type of workshop for training of the various city agencies/departments.

Ald. Willey commented it is a nice Resolution and he was especially happy with the second paragraph. He stated when the Board gets purchases in front of them he stated he would hope the Board would be able to justify the purchase from a financial aspect.

Ald. Lambert stated she spoke with a gentleman in Waterbury who spoke as to the same issue Ald. Willey alluded to. She also stated there is grant money out there as well.

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

(a) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #5, FY08, Fund 10.

(b) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #6, FY 08, Fund 10. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$35,326.85. 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. Vetro reported the City now has a shed (including cement pad and roof) to protect the sand. He stated in the past it would get wet from the rain, snow, etc. He also reported the engineering drawings are complete for the Senior Center and have gone out to bid as well as the bid for the Parsons Complex for the front steps and wall.

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 – Ald. Vitali reported at the recent BOE meeting Mr. Russell reported the enumeration study response had been very sparse with the result indicating there would be no redistricting in the school system at this time.

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

- c. Liaison Sub-Committee – Park, Beach & Recreation Comm. – Ald. Toohey reported on the number of activities and the number of new programs for people with special needs. She also applauded the efforts of the Recreation Director and this Commission. She also reported there would be a Bocci Tournament at the new Bocci courts on October 4-5, 2008 and that the proceeds from the tournament would benefit the United Way. She also explained the “Adopt A Bench Program” and that it appears it will be very successful.
- 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 – Ald. Nunno reported the two high schools were ready for the opening day of school.
- 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 – Ald. Lambert spoke as t the renovations of the public housing and that \$1,000,000 is available. She also reported the Farmer’s Market vouchers were all used up. She stated they do a wonderful job with their programs.
- l. Golf Course Commission – Ald. Hardiman reported some materials were delivered to the course to start some much-needed work on the building. He also reported there is some minor electrical work that is needed and that the list has been forwarded to the Public Works Department. He reported the Devon Rotary would be holding their annual golf tournament sometime in October and that the Irish Heritage Society would also be hosting a golf tournament at the end of September.
- m. Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.
- n. Milford Academy Community Campus Bldg. Committee – Chairman Blake reported the ribbon cutting ceremony would be held on September 9, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.
- o. Courthouse Expansion Committee – no report
- p. Liaison Health Department – no report.
- q. Milford Legislative Action Committee – no report.
- r. Devon Revitalization Committee – Ald. Manning reported the Committee met on August 5 and 27, 2008 and that the streetscape was on the agenda. She stated they also had a meeting with Senator Slossberg regarding Phase III and that all issues had been resolved. With regard to the flooding issue, Ald. Manning reported they are setting up an information session with residents in that area.

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.

Mayor Richetelli invited the Board to attend the September 11 official ceremony to be held at the World Trade Center Memorial Garden at Live Oaks School. He stated the ceremony would begin at 8:46 a.m. and that all the aldermen were invited to attend.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson moved to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary