

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2011 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman G. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and remain standing for a moment of silence for those men and women serving our country.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bevan
B. Bier
B. Blake
D. German
F. Goodrich
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman
B. Joy, Jr.
J. Patterson
G. Smith
P. Smith
P. Staneski
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.
P. Erodici, Finance Director
W. Smith, City Attorney
L. Stock, City Clerk

Chairman G. Smith deferred to Mayor Richetelli for a special presentation.

Mayor Richetelli stated he wished to recognize and offer a proclamation to two very good Milford citizens. He recognized John and Leona D'Amico for their extensive contributions to the Milford community as well as their dedication to the veterans of Milford. Mayor Richetelli went on to read a proclamation proclaiming November 10, 2011 as John and Lee D'Amico Day.

Mr. D'Amico thanked the Mayor and the Board and everyone present.

Chairman G. Smith offered his congratulations to Mr. and Mr. D'Amico for their work.

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.

B. Kates – 97 Pomona Avenue – congratulated those aldermen who sought and gained re-election. He also commented regarding those aldermen leaving the Board, most notably, Chairman G. Smith who he stated worked tirelessly to put together the Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Committee and also to Bill Bevan for his work. Mr. Kates stated he looked forward to working with the new Board and working in a positive manner.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – thanked everyone on the Board, those leaving and those elected.

R. Platt – 132 Platt Lane – also added his congratulations to the winners and condolences to the lam duck, adding it won't be the same without them. He thanked everyone for their service. He also stated he was glad Milford doesn't have "cut throat" politics like other towns. He stated there may be differences, but they do work together. Mr. Platt stated he was here tonight regarding the Downs House. He stated he was quoted in the paper as being "blind-sided", but that he really did know something about what was happening, but wished he had been consulted. He also pointed out the homestead is located in the historic district. He stated the Milford Land Preservation Trust should have been consulted as well. He asked those new aldermen to make sure they look at all the details and know before they vote.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on October 3, 2011.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 3, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

5. Chairman's Report – Chairman G. Smith reported the annual wreath laying ceremony would take place tomorrow in front of City Hall. He also congratulated the Mayor on the completion of his 5th term and his devotion to our community. Chairman G. Smith also congratulated Mayor Elect Blake and wished him the best. He also thanked his fellow aldermen who unanimously elected him chairman two years ago and thanked them for putting their faith in him. He acknowledged Ald. Staneski, Hardiman and Patterson for their service and dedication.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Richetelli reported there were a number of items of correspondence he wished to inform the Board of as follows:

6a. Mayor Richetelli reported he has filed a schedule of the Regular Meeting dates of the Board of Aldermen for 2012 with the City Clerk's Office and that a copy of the schedule was included in the Board's packet.

6b. Mayor Richetelli reported he received a letter from Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Elizabeth E. Feser, dated September 28, 2011, which he reported was included in the Board's packet.

6c. Mayor Richetelli made the Board aware of the following appointment, stating the appointment was made pursuant to Chapter 18, Article XIX of the code of Ordinances of the city of Milford:

Milford's Representative to Housatonic River Estuary Commission

(R) Lori J. Romick, 10 Valery Court 06461, reappointment (two-year term to expire 7/1/13).

6d. Mayor Richetelli stated he was pleased to provide the Board of Aldermen with the Bond Rating Agency Reports from Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings. He reported all three agencies have, once again, affirmed the city's excellent AA+ bond rating as well as noting Milford's positive and stable financial outlook.

Mayor Richetelli also asked the Board's consideration for items 8a through 8e on the agenda and stated he would be happy to discuss each as they come up. He went on to thank each and every alderman for their service to the City. He stated it has been an honor and pleasure to work with each member even though there were differences. He congratulated Ald. Blake on being elected Mayor. Mayor Richetelli stated they have been working together and promised a seamless transition that. He also thanked all the citizens of Milford.

Chairman G. Smith commented with tomorrow being Veterans Day, he wished to take the opportunity to thank those members of the Board who have honorably served their country, acknowledging Ald. Hardiman, Vetro and Bevan.

7. Unfinished Business:

(Tabled Item 12a.1 of the August 1, 2011 meeting). An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 2, Article V., Division 2, Section 2-90 and 2-91, and substituting Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2, Section 2-90 through 2-92.5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford.

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

8a. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request to amend Emergency Resolution Re: Hurricane Irene (approved by the Board of Aldermen on August 31, 2011) as follows: add to Section 4: "including Fund 12 – Sewer Fund and Fund 36 – Harbor Management Fund". Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 5 (Hurricane Irene Expenses). Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 6 (Hurricane Irene Expenses – Fund 12 Sewer Fund). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve a request for a post de facto waiver of bid for emergency repairs to Fire engine 2 in the amount of \$18,326.29 to Cummins Power Systems, LLC, 914 Cromwell Avenue, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, per memo from Battalion Chief William Healey dated October 27, 2011.

8e. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the acceptance of land located near Oxford Road, Milford, which was acquired by the State of Connecticut under Agreement No. 08.04-02 (99) for the reconstruction of Woodmont Road in West Haven.

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. P. Smith and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #1 and #2, Fund 10, FY12. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

a) Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$23,736.81. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. Giannattasio reported the Committee met earlier in the evening and voted unanimously to forward to the full Board with a favorable recommendation one Ordinance.

Ald. Giannattasio and Ald. P. Smith made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19, Conditions Of Employment And Benefits For City Officials And Employees In The Service Of The City Of Milford, Article II, Public Safety Employees.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he had a problem with the language on p. 3, stating there appeared to be some parity between fire personnel and police. He stated one department seems to use a fiscal year and the other an anniversary year for earning vacation time. He stated the language appears to be clear, but he could not understand how you could earn with “less than one year.” He suggested the Board amend the language to read “complete six (6) months or up to one (1) year of service. He stated the current language is ambiguous.

Mayor Richetelli stated what was before the Board tonight was changes that were underlined. He explained all other items have not been changed and all other items have been in effect for many years. He also stated the item Ald. Veccharelli was addressing was not advertised. Mayor Richetelli asked the Board to corrections and hold any other changes for a future Board that could make any changes.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he had concerns about the language and more importantly about how vacation time was being earned. He stated he would not have a problem with the changes if he could be assured that one group is not getting more or less than the other group.

Mayor Richetelli stated he has explained tonight and back when this matter came up in June that this portion does not apply to uniformed police or uniformed firefighters. He stated in the police department this applies to the Chief, Deputy Chief and in the fire department it applies to the Chief, two Assistant Chiefs and the clerks in

the fire department. He stated this Ordinance has nothing to do with parity. He invited Mayor elect Blake and the next Board of Aldermen to take this up in the future. He also maintained what he always has “if its not broke, don’t fix it.”

Ald. Veccharelli responded it was his opinion it is broke and that the language is not clear.

Chairman G. Smith stated the Mayor has made a point about the language and that it has worked. He suggested waiting for the new Board to change the language.

Ald. Bevan pointed out that paragraph A states “6 months or less.”

Ald. Bevan and Ald. Vitali made and seconded a motion to move the question. Motion carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – no report.

c. Public Works Committee – Ald. Joy stated he did not have a report, but that he wished to thank Ald. German, Ald. Vetro, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Bier for serving with him on this committee. He stated he also wished to thank Public Works Director Kolwicz for addressing issues in a timely fashion. He also thanked Mayor Richetelli for his service and wished mayor elect Blake the best during his term.

d. Claims Committee – no report.

e. Rules Committee – Chairman G. Smith stated this Committee would meet at the next Board of Aldermen meeting.

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. – 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 – Ald. Staneski reported the United Way has started this holiday drive and they are looking for donations. She also reported Human Services has received over 800 applications for fuel assistance.

q. Liaison Pension & Retirement Board – no report.

r. Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) – Chairman G. Smith stated he attended the last MGAT meeting. He commented he was startled at the number of people that watch this Board and other Boards on the MGAT station. He commended the Committee for their work and expressed his hope they remain funded.

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 settlement of City of Milford v. Helen F. Maykut, et al
Re: 62 Herbert Street

(14b) Board of Aldermen approval is requested for Allocation Transfer No. 7 (Maykut Settlement – 62 Herbert Street).

Ald. J. Patterson and Ald. P. Smith made and seconded a motion to enter Executive Session to consider Items 14a and 14b.

Chairman G. Smith stated the full Board along with the Mayor and City Attorney W. Smith would be going into Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

Ald. Bevan and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman G. Smith reconvened the Board in public session at 8:34 p.m.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Staneski and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary