

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2011**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, December 5, 2011 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. He asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Anderson
B. Bier
R. Dickman
G. Gasper
D. German
A. Giannattasio
J. Golden
R. Nunno
S. Shaw
F. Smith
P. Smith
G. Stanford
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali

Also Present

Mayor B. Blake
P. Erodici, Finance Director
J. Berchem, City Attorney
L. Stock, City Clerk
S. Fournier, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

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.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – stated he was here tonight to wish the Board a lot of luck and expressed his hope they would do a good job. He also extended a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

B. Lambert – 8 Breakneck Lane – stated she was speaking as a representative of the SMART committee. She stated the Chair, Robbie Silver was unable to attend. Mrs. Lambert stated the Committee has been actively pursuing recycling numbers. She reported the City overall has improved in its recycling efforts. Mrs. Lambert stated she is a long time advocate of recycling and recalled when Milford had a dismissal effort in recycling, but she was pleased to announce Milford is making great strides in its efforts. She stated there were some issues in the beginning of the program, but they are coming along. She stated she wanted to publically thank the Milford citizens and this Board for their efforts. She also congratulated the new members of the Board and the returning members and Mayor Blake.

J. Fowler – 50 Pine Knobb Terrace – extended congratulations to the Board and Mayor Blake. He stated he did not want to be here for what he was about to speak about, but felt the Board needed to think about the appointment of Ward Willis to take the seat of Mr. Dickman. Referring to an article from the Connecticut Post newspaper in 2006 in which Mr. Willis was arrested for the harassment of a school teacher. He continued on reading from the article. Mr. Fowler stated someone with this type of history should not be appointed to any position. He also stated putting this individual forward tonight would be a great disservice to the second district. Speaking personally he stated his two daughters had Facebook requests from this adult. Mr. Fowler stated this appointment would be the wrong decision for a lot of wrong reasons. He also stated he was shocked the second district of the Republican Party would do this. He stated this Board has no obligation to appoint the person chosen by the party. He stated it is a custom, not the law. He urged the Board not to do this and suggested if they must, to table the matter and conduct their own investigation.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on November 10, 2011.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 10, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

5. Chairman's Report – Chairman Vetro commented tonight is the first meeting of the newly seated Board. He thanked the former aldermen who did not return to the Board for their work and to the new Board he thanked them for providing him the honor of being the Chairman. Reading from a prepared statement he stated he looked positively toward working with the members of the Board and working in a positive manner for Milford. He also congratulated the Mayor.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations – Mayor Blake stated he looked forward to working with and supporting the Board to improve our great City. He commented there will be a lot of challenges. He stated he would be asking that services remain the same, but at the same time the economic times are still difficult and Milford citizens are still struggling. Mayor Blake stated he was happy to announce the appointment of two very fine gentlemen who have been appointed to serve the City. He introduced Attorney Jonathan Berchem, who he stated would be serving as the City Attorney. Mayor Blake stated Attorney Berchem is a lifelong Milford resident and active member of the community serving as the United Way Board Chairman, a member of the Executive Board of the YMCA and a former fire commissioner as well as a rated attorney. Mayor Blake stated the other familiar face tonight is Steve Fournier, who he stated has been appointed as the Assistant Mayor. He stated Mr. Fournier has served the last six years as deputy chief with the highest level of professionalism. He stated if anyone has any questions to feel free to contact them. Mayor Blake also requested the Board's consideration as they take up items 8a-8i under New Business and stated he would be happy to answer any questions as they come up.

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.

Ald. Anderson requested a 5-minute recess. The Board recessed at 7:49 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 7:56 p.m.

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

Chairman Vetro recognized Ald. Anderson.

Ald. Anderson deferred to Majority Leader Veccharelli,

Ald. Veccharelli stated he wished to make a motion to table item 8a.

Mayor Blake interjected stating there needed to be a motion on the floor to table.

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Stanford made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (R) Ward C. Willis, 30 Marshall Street, 06461 to complete the unexpired term of Robert Dickman (resigned) on the Planning and Zoning Board representing the Second District (term to expire 12/31/13).

Ald. Anderson and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to table the matter. Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (D) Jeanne Cervin, 3 Central Avenue, 06460 to complete the unexpired term of Janet Golden (resigned) on the Planning and Zoning Board representing the Second District (term to expire 12/31/11). Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro reported Ms. Cervin had already been sworn in.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (R) Michael S. Casey, 29 Lansdale Avenue, 06460 to complete the unexpired term of George Gasper (resigned) on the Planning and Zoning Board representing the third District (term to expire 12/31/11). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (D) Benjamin Gettinger, 17 Orchard Road, 06460 to complete the unexpired term of Susan Shaw (resigned) on the Planning and Zoning Board representing the Fourth District (term to expire 12/31/11). Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Blake stated those newly appointed individuals were here tonight and that it might be an appropriate time to swear them in.

City Clerk Stock swore in Mr. Casey and Mr. Gettinger.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to accept the 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the United States Department of Justice in the amount of \$12,603.00, to be used to purchase a License Plate Recognition (LPR) System for the Milford Police

Department, and the authorize the Mayor and the Chief of Police to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate this grant program.

Ald. Giannattasio noted the presence of a member of the police department and asked if that individual would be able to any questions the Board may have.

Lt. V. Dumas – stated he is the Coordinator for this grant.

Ald. Giannattasio asked how the first mechanism has worked for the police department.

Lt. Dumas responded they have received JAG grants over the years. He explained the 2010 grant was to facilitate the beginning stages of the LPR.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if there would be two units in place after this year.

Lt. Dumas stated they would have enough to facilitate one vehicle.

Ald. Shaw asked about data storage, how data is captured and how it is stored.

Lt. Dumas explained the two methods of collecting data.

Ald. Shaw asked if the department holds the data.

Lt. Dumas responded the data is held for 30 days.

Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the request for R.D. Scinto, Inc., pursuant to paragraph 4, RFP#1439, Request for Proposals for the Purchase of Delinquent Municipal Tax and Sewer Use Liens, to further assign tax liens for the property known as 265 Old Gate Lane, Milford to Milford Tax, LLC, which tax liens were assigned to R.D. Scinto, Inc. on October 24, 2011 and recorded in Volume 3435, Page 334 of the Milford Land Records.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he wished to be sure this is just a new entity this person is setting up and this is just housekeeping.

Attorney Berchem stated Milford Tax, LLC is a sole member, which is the entity requiring the transfer.

Mayor Blake added back in June 2011 the City put out \$4.5 million in tax liens and that those properties were put out for RFP in August and only one of the thirteen was purchased. He stated this is just a housekeeping matter.

Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the request for endorsement of a proposal to be submitted by the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) for a

Regional performance Incentive grant pursuant to Section 5 of Public Act 11-61 (An Act Concerning Responsible Growth) for an Inter-municipal Shared Services Feasibility Study.

Ald. Giannattasio asked what this grant entitled the City to as far as services.

Mayor Blake stated Milford is one of 15 communities that belong to SCRCOG. He explained to be eligible for the grant the members have to approve it, which would allow the COG to apply for a grant for a study that will research ways for efficiency.

Motion carried unanimously.

8h. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve the request for its endorsement of a proposal to be submitted by the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) for a Regional Performance Incentive grant pursuant to Section 5 of Public Act 11-61 (An Act Concerning Responsible Growth) for a Regional Web-Based GIS Program.

8i. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and second a motion to approve the memorandum of Understanding Between Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership and the City of Milford for Security Surveillance System Sites.

Ald. P. Smith asked if the Mayor could provide a brief outline of what is covered.

Mayor Blake introduced Attorney Chris Cody who he stated represented the Housing Authority. He also pointed out this has been thoroughly vetted by the police and fire departments to make sure they were on board as well as the City Attorney's Office. He stated this would allow cameras on Milford Housing and Redevelopment property and City property. He also stated both police and fire could be able to access those cameras.

Ald. Vitali stated after reading the MOU he wanted to understand the funding services or stream or fund research.

Attorney Cody stated it was former Speaker of the House Amann who assisted them in getting a grant from the State. He stated roughly 200 cameras have been installed including hallways, elevators, parking lots at Foran Towers as well as others. He went on to explain the details.

Ald. Vitali asked the amount of the initial grant.

Attorney Cody believed it was \$1,000,000.

Ald. Vitali asked if there was any funding stream, i.e. federal monies, etc.

Attorney Cody stated they received the monies for the cameras for Walnut Beach from the Economic Development Commission.

Mayor Blake interjected explaining there were a number of changes after 9/11.

Ald. P. Smith stated the Walnut Beach Enhancement Grant allowed for the purchase of some cameras.

Attorney Cody also pointed out the Housing Authority wanted to donate a tilt pan and camera with an approximate cost of \$3,000.

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

None.

11. Refunds

a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$2,625.33. Motion carried unanimously.

b) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Suspense List in the amount of \$262,786.27. 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 – 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. – 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.

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
Philip Macari, et al v. City of Milford
Re: 162 Hillside Avenue

(14b) Consideration of settlement of
Steven Berglass v. City of Milford
Re: 203 Kings Highway a/k/a 203 Seneca Place

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

Mayor Blake stated item 14b was removed from consideration.

Chairman Vetro stated the full Board along with the Mayor, City Attorney Berchem and City Assessor Daniel Berchem would be going into Executive Session.

Motion carried unanimously. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 8:32 p.m.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. P. Smith made and seconded a motion to authorize the City to enter into settlement RE: Philip Macari v. City of Milford, 162 Hillside Avenue, in accordance with recommendations of the City Assessor and City Attorney as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vitali and Ald. P. Smith made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary