

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 6, 2010**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, December 6, 2010 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman G. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 our men and women serving our country and their families.

**1. Roll Call**

Board Members Present

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

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.  
Winthrop S. Smith, Jr., City Attorney  
Linda Stock, City Clerk  
L. DiLullo, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

Excused

M. Hardiman

**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. Ald. G. Smith thanked the public for taking the time to address their Board of Aldermen.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – extended a thank you to Ald. Goodrich for helping to finally fix the audio system for the Board of Aldermen meetings. He stated he lives in the Anderson Avenue area and expressed concern with the asphalt heaving on the basketball courts there. He stated the situation could lead to a dangerous situation where someone could get hurt. He continued with an explanation of the history of that corner and the pond that comes underneath in that area. He asked it be looked into. He also extended a happy holiday to the Board and a best of health to all.

T. Beirne – 55 Bayshore Drive – reading from a prepared statement noted the members of the Board are the keepers of the taxpayers' checkbook, both for spending and accepting the dollars of the taxpayer. He continued reading talking about cutting government spending and reducing for the taxpayers. He cited five things this Board had done since taking over. 1) increased taxes; 2) increased spending; 3) \$19,000,000 in bonds and bond

notes; 4) ignored the request of the Finance Director regarding OPEP and approved only \$500,000; and 5) took \$2,000,000 from the unreserved/undesignated fund. He stated the Board, through its Chairman had the power to appoint two committees. One to look into cost saving strategies and another to examine OPEP. He urged the Board to appoint these committees and let them get to work.

D. Guaglianone – 73 Cooper Avenue – stated he is a member of the Cable Advisory Board for Milford. He stated the MGAT Chairman and its committee have not filed program logs for 6 months in 2010. He stated this will cause a problem with the DPUC in the New Year. He stated at the January Board of Aldermen meeting they could appoint 5 new appointees who could turn the service back to its tremendous high quality.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on November 8, 2010.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 8, 2010 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman G. Smith congratulated Tom Acri from West Shore Middle School who recently won the local VFW Teacher of the Year award and New Haven County VFW Teacher of the Year. He also wished the Board and the citizens a Happy Hanukah and Merry Christmas.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Richetelli extended his personal condolences to the Chairman on the recent death of his sister, Elizabeth, who suffered a long courageous battle with cancer. Mayor Richetelli informed the Board Milford has been officially designated a HEARTSafe Community by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) and the American Heart Association (AHA). He stated through the generous donation of Milford Rotary the city received 17 AED defibrillators. He stated he was very proud of the designation and our city emergency services, which he stated is due to the leadership of the fire chief and the fire department. Mayor Richetelli also stated he would respectfully ask the Board's consideration and action on items 8a through 8f on the agenda. He also asked the Board's consideration to add an item under item 9 New Business.

7. Unfinished Business:

None.

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

8a. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve pursuant to Article III, Section 16 (7) of the Charter of the City of Milford, Board of Aldermen approval for the appointment of (D) George r. Gasper III, 33 Rivercliff Drive, 06460, to complete the unexpired term of Kim M. Rose (resigned) on the

Planning and Zoning Board representing the Third District (term to expire 12/31/11). Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Stock swore in Mr. Gasper to the Planning and Zoning Board.

8b. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve the request for a technical blanket waiver of bid for all purchases associated with Bodie's Place Boundless Playground, which will be made by Bodie's Place, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donated to the city of Milford upon completion at Eisenhower Park. Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for allocation Transfer No. 2 (golf cart purchase – per request of Golf Course Commission). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 3 (per request of Lisa Diamond Graham, Executive Director, Department of Human Services).

Ald. Blake stated the request is for an additional \$20,000; however it is closer to \$40,000 additional expense to the City. He suggested the City should be looking for ways to reduce the amount especially with regard to healthcare cost and that perhaps the city should adjust the language of the statute. He stated he looked at the Ordinance and also contacted the Personnel Director and asked him to where the statute was codified. Ald. Blake stated the Personnel Director was unable to do this. He stated his question is whether there is subsequent language or if this is the current language.

Mayor Richetelli explained there is an Ordinance that all unclassified or non-union personnel fall under, which he stated dates back to the 1970's. He stated the Compensation Ordinance is traditionally reviewed after union employees receive their contract and then the non unionized individuals generally follow those unionized organizations. He stated in this case it was brought to their attention that the policy violates the 20 year old ordinance. Mayor Richetelli also explained the employees of the Department of Human Services fall under subsidized employees and that the grant they receive from the City as well as other grants they receive pays for those employees. He stated it came to their attention that the practice of giving certain employees only single coverage may have been in conflict with the City's ordinances. He went on to explain the difference between subsidized employees and city employee. He also cautioned the Board in changing this for the future stating that non-unionized employees should not be treated differently and reminded the Board these are benefits that are entitled under the governing Ordinance of the City of Milford.

Ald. Blake asked if over the last 20 years these employees or agency employees have received these benefits or if they are new benefits.

Ms. Diamond-Graham stated new hires were hired under new benefits. She stated these individuals should have had the opportunity for family coverage.

Ald. Blake asked if they had signed a waiver.

Ms. Diamond-Graham replied she did not believe they had.

Chairman G. Smith asked if they are full time employees and asked Ms. Diamond-Graham if she could elaborate as to what they do.

Ms. Diamond-Graham stated they were talking about two employees, the clinical coordinator and the family therapist.

Ald. P. Smith commented it had been 8 months and annualized the figure would be closer to \$30,000, not \$40,000.

Ald. Veccharelli stated these are the agencies the City gives grants to and commented there is not a lot of control over their budgets. He stated when this Board gives them the money it is up to the agency how those monies are used. Ald. Veccharelli asked how the insurance would be paid.

Mayor Richetelli stated they are already under the City's insurance and explained the three programs.

Ald. Joy commented if this were not for the dollars, this would not have even come before this Board. He asked if this was about the dollars.

Mayor Richetelli replied yes, to an extent. He stated he could have said to Ms. Diamond-Graham and their Board to provide the insurance and find the money elsewhere which likely would have meant cutting services. The Mayor stated he felt there was a greater need for the services and that he did not want to short change the citizens of Milford.

Ms. Diamond-Graham stated without these funds she would not have been able to keep the outreach coordinator. She stated that individual is responsible for the social services programs, outreach, energy assistance, etc.

Chairman G. Smith asked how that job has changed over the last two years.

Ms. Diamond-Graham responded the responsibilities have increased substantially over the last two years. She stated to Ald. Veccharelli's point, that they are one of the agencies that receives a grant from the city, but that they follow all the rules and regulations of the city.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 4 (Underground gasoline tank removal – per request of the Milford Fire Department, Battalion Chief William D. Healey). Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution RE: Approval of a Grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a Marine Sewage Disposal Facility Replacement at Milford Lisman Landing Marina.

Ald. Blake recognized Mr. Swift and asked how late in the season the pump station is open.

Mr. Swift stated they close down when it gets to a point where it could freeze. He stated they did the last pump out in late November.

Ald. P. Smith stated this would also require advancement of the funds and then the city would receive reimbursement from the State.

Mayor Richetelli replied yes, it was part of this.

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.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to add to the Agenda a Request for the Board of Aldermen to approve the amendment to a Resolution RE: Authorization to enter into a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for Financial Assistance for Improvements to Eisenhower Park (passed by the Board of aldermen on February 2, 2009). Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve an amendment to a Resolution RE: Authorization to enter into a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for Financial Assistance for improvements to Eisenhower Park (passed by the Board of aldermen on February 2, 2009) by adding the following:

This grant operated on a reimbursement basis, therefore, the Finance Director is authorized to advance from the General Fund an amount not to exceed \$75,000 to be used to execute this program; and

Repayment to the General Fund shall be made immediately upon receipt of grant funds from the State of Connecticut.

Ald. Goodrich commented the Bodie's Place playground was already approved under item 8b.

Ald. Blake asked if assurances were in place that the \$75,000 would be eligible for reimbursement.

Mayor Richetelli responded there was a signed Personal Services Agreement from the State of Connecticut.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Budget Memo Transfers

(a) Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #4, Fund 10, FY11. Motion carried unanimously.

(b) Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #5, Fund 10, FY11. Motion carried unanimously.

## 11. Refunds

- (a) Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$6,965.57. Motion carried unanimously.
- (b) Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of the Suspense List in the amount of \$191,329.42. 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. Joy reported they would not meet during the month of December due to the holiday.
- d. Claims Committee
- e. Rules Committee – no meeting.
- f. Personnel Committee – no meeting.

13. Report of Special Committees. Chairman G. Smith noted the minutes of the following Committees can be found on the city's web-site or are available at the next meeting. He stated if any liaison would like to give a report on the following committees, they may do so.

- a. Liaison Sub-Committee – Board of Education
- 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 – Ald. Bier reported an engineering firm had been selected for the dredging of the landing area.
- 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. Vetro reported the giving Thanksgiving basket was successful. He stated if anyone was interested in adopt a family program to contact the office and also the staff wished to extend happy holidays to all.

- q. Liaison Pension & Retirement Board
- r. Milford Government Access Television (MGAT)

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) Status report and consideration of settlement RE: Harold Smith v. City of Milford  
RE: 41 Merwin Avenue

Chairman G. Smith reported item 14a had been removed from the agenda.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber  
Recording Secretary