

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2015**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2015 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and remain standing for a moment of silence for John DeRosa, a member of the Board of Education who passed away earlier in the week after a long battle with cancer.

**1. Roll Call**

Board Members Present

B. Anderson  
E. Beatty  
B. Bevan  
B. Bier  
M. Casey  
D. German  
A. Giannattasio  
J. Golden  
J. Grant  
M. Hardiman  
S. Shaw  
F. Smith  
N. Veccharelli  
P. Vetro

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
Jonathan D. Berchem, City Attorney  
Joanne Rohrig, City Clerk  
Steven Fournier, Asst. to Mayor  
Peter Erodici, Finance Director

Excused

R. Vitali

**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 and asked that speakers not make any derogatory, insensitive or offensive remarks. The time limit granted to each speaker shall be three (3) minutes. He asked each speaker to adhere to the three-minute limit.

Clifford Favia - 15 Applewood Dr – President, Milford Model Airplane Club. He stated he is very happy to share the space they have at Eisenhower Park. Reading from a prepared statement he spoke regarding a concern which has now become a safety issue for their club members regarding unleashed dogs. He went on to read Milford's City Ordinance. He continued reading from a prepared statement citing the rules and regulations of the park. He also stated he was able to find only one sign in the park concerning leashed dogs (photo provided to the City Clerk).

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on November 5, 2015.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 5, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Organizational meeting held on November 17, 2015.

Ald. Anderson pointed out one correction to the minutes as follows: p. 2, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph from the bottom should read the vote failed **7 no (Bevan, Bier, Casey, German, Giannattasio, Grant, Vitali) and 7 yes (Anderson, Beatty, Golden, Hardiman, Shaw, Veccharelli, Vetro).**

Motion carried unanimously, as corrected above.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro welcomed all of the new members of the Board and expressing his appreciation for the vote to serve as chairman for the next two years. He stated he hoped the Board would work as a team for the benefit of the city. Chairman Vetro stated he hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Kwanza to all.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake echoed Chairman Vetro's holiday greetings, adding he wished everyone a warm and spirited holiday season. He stated he looked forward to working with everyone on the Board and welcomed those new members. Mayor Blake stated he would respectfully request the Board's consideration and action regarding items 8a-d and stated he would be happy to answer any questions as they come up.

6a. Mayor Blake stated he wished to make the Board aware of the following Mayor's appointments.

Downtown River/High Streets Development Committee:

- (R) Alderman Raymond G. Vitali, 48 Founders Way, 06460
- (D) Alderman Bryan N. Anderson, 49 Ingersol Road, 06460
- (R) John Knuff, 147 North Broad Street, 06460
- (D) Peter C. Smith, 394 Gulf Street, 06460
- (D) Richard F. Jagoe, Jr., 12 Driftwood Lane, 06460
- (U) Amanda L. Root, 108 Marino Drive, 06460
- (D) Joseph M. Agro, Jr., 55 Brewster Road, 06460

Police Department Building Committee:

- (R) Alderman Anthony S. Giannattasio, 58 Rosebrook Road, 06460
- (D) Alderman Philip J. Vetro, 10 Carman Road North, 06460

(D) Richard Smith, 59 Sixth Avenue, 06460 (Chairman)  
(R) Samuel Bergami, Jr., 310 Tanglewood Circle, 06461 (Vice Chairman)  
(U) John Carissimi, 64 Kirkside Avenue, 06460  
(U) Twig Holland, 2 Gulfview Court, 06460  
(R) John Mager, 33 Brett Cliff Road, 06461

Mayor Blake asked those members present to come forward and be sworn in.

City Clerk Rohrig swore in those individuals present.

The Board recessed at 7:44 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 7:48 p.m. Chairman Vetro formally introduced the newest members of the Board of Aldermen

7. Unfinished Business – None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 6 (Miscellaneous Professional Fees and Services Hazardous Mitigation Grant). Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for the Emergency Watershed Protection Floodplain Easement Program.

Ald. Shaw recognized Mr. Johnson, Open Space Manager. She asked for clarification on the figures being requested.

Mr. Johnson explained there was a grant accepted earlier this year. He stated the first step in the project is to appraise the properties/parcels not owned by the city. He stated an appraiser has been selected and they are ready to move forward. He stated the cash advance is necessary for the purchase order for the appraisal services. Reimbursement grant from NCRS.

Ald. Shaw asked if the additional cost was for the survey.

Mr. Johnson replied yes.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the amount of the appraised value of the parcels.

Mr. Johnson stated the values are available through the Assessor's Office, however, after super storm Sandy the parcels were severely damaged.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the Assessor's Office could do the appraisals.

Mr. Johnson stated there are stringent requirements from NCRS and spoke of those requirements.

Ald. Giannattasio asked how many appraisers were approached.

Mr. Johnson explained the RFQ process, the qualifications and the sub-committee who reviewed those qualifications to make the best decision for the city.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if he was correct in his understanding that this work could not be done in-house.

Mr. Johnson replied yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 7 (Emergency Watershed Floodplain Easement Program). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request per the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board dated December 2, 2015, for approval under CGS 8-24 for the abandonment of a portion of the right of way in front of 88 Milford Point Road.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the city attorney if he could provide a brief background concerning this property.

Attorney Berchem stated the request came from the party seeking the abandonment which was approved by the Planning and Zoning Board. He explained the action requires the adjudication of this Board. He stated it was his understanding the home was involved in a fire earlier in the year and in order to rebuild and replace the structure, as well as elevating the building as required, a public hearing was required which took place prior to this meeting.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if it would be elevated and constructed in the original footprint.

Attorney Berchem replied yes, and that the homeowner would be able to get the necessary permits.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the difference of an abandonment and purchase.

Attorney Berchem stated this is a right of way and that the city does not own it.

Ald. Casey asked how long the house has been in the right of way.

Attorney Berchem replied the information could be found in the packet, but that it was around 1920.

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. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$14,087.43. Motion carried unanimously.

b) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of the Suspense List in the amount of \$251,385.82.

Ald. Bevan asked what length the city goes through to recoup these monies, adding this takes away from the tax rolls and asked for an explanation of the process.

Mayor Blake explained the tax office goes through great lengths to locate the parties on the list which includes enlisting sheriffs, constables, etc. He stated if any aldermen knows of the whereabouts of an individual or business on the list that they should contact the tax office.

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 – none.
- b. Liaison Sub-Committee – Flood & Erosion Board – no report.
- c. Liaison Sub-Committee – Park, Beach & Recreation Comm. – Ald. Bevan reported he attended the meeting of the Park, Beach & Recreation Commission last week. He reported they voted to change the time of their meetings from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- 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.

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  
Erwin Sickinger v. City of Milford  
RE: 45 Banner Drive

14b) Consideration of settlement of  
Roy Collins Francis v. City of Milford  
RE: 7 Crest Place

14c) Keepers v. City of Milford – Discussion concerning pending litigation.

Chairman Vetro announced item 14b had been removed from the agenda. He stated those individuals entering Executive Session for item 14a would be the full Board, Mayor, City Attorney and City Assessor. He announced for item 14c those entering Executive Session would be the full Board, Mayor and City Attorney.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the matter announced above by the Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:09 p.m.

City Assessor Daniel Thomas left Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:29 p.m.

14a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to authorize the City to accept Consideration of Settlement of Erwin Sickinger v. City of Milford, RE: 45 Banner Drive, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Assessor and City Attorney, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden moved to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary