

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING and
PUBLIC HEARING
JULY 6, 2020**

The Ordinance Committee of the Board of Aldermen held a virtual video/teleconference meeting and public hearing via Zoom on Monday, July 6, 2020. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

F. Smith Chairman
A. Giannattasio
G. Harla
A. Sutton

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake
J. Rosen, Mayor's Assistant
J. Berchem, City Attorney

EXCUSED:

R. Vitali

Chairman Smith stated the Committee was here tonight to consider one ordinance. He stated the meeting was being held in accordance with the legal notice posted in the New Haven Register on July 1, 2020.

Chairman Smith stated the purpose of the meeting is to consider an amendment to Chapter 14, Motor Vehicle and Traffic, Article II concerning beach and other restricted parking areas.

Mayor Blake stated the ordinance will apply when the current emergency orders concerning beach usage and parking is no longer in effect. He further stated the Board of Aldermen has adopted three levels of parking fines and the Police Commission determines which level applies to certain parking violations. Mayor Blake stated that under the current emergency order residents can park with 2019 and 2020 beach parking stickers but once the emergency order is lifted parking will require a 2020 sticker.

Chairman Smith read the ordinance into the record.

Chairman Smith opened the public hearings at 7:16 p.m.

1. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach and Other Restricted Parking Areas)

Speakers in Favor - None
Speakers Opposed – None

Chairman Smith closed the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to forward to the full Board of Aldermen with a favorable recommendation an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach and Other Restricted Parking Areas).

2

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the ordinance should be amended further to state it does not apply to City residents. Mayor Blake stated the ordinance only deals with parking and that Milford beaches can be used by all except during the emergency orders due to the pandemic. Ald. Harla stated sections (a) and (b) of the ordinance state "unless said vehicle displays a sticker." Mayor Blake stated the adjustment to the parking fines is necessary to help control the volume coming to City beaches. He commented that due to new resources the number of visitors has increased substantially. Mayor Blake reviewed beach parking fees from surrounding communities. He stated this amendment will bring the City in line with neighboring municipalities. Chairman Smith asked if there is a fee for parking at Silver Sands State Park. Mayor Blake stated he is not certain and commented on the park passport fee in vehicle registrations. Ald. Giannattasio stated he is in favor of this amendment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Ald. Harla and Ald. Sutton made and seconded a motion to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
July 6, 2020**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, July 6, 2020 via video / teleconference Zoom meeting. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

E. Beatty
C. Gaynor
A. Giannattasio
J. Golden
J. Grant
M. Hardiman
G. Harla
M. Parente
F. Smith
A. Sutton
J. Tranquilli
N. Sutton
P. Vetro
W. Willis

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake
J. Berchem, City Attorney
P. Erodicti, Finance Director
K. Fortunati, City Clerk
J. Rosen, Chief of Staff

Excused:

R. Vitali

Chairman Vetro welcomed everyone to the Board of Aldermen regular meeting. He reviewed how the meeting will be conducted via Zoom and guidelines to be followed. He further stated a recording of the meeting will be available on the City's website.

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.

Chairman Vetro stated two comments were received by mail from the following:
Alexandra Powell, 91 Ocean Avenue
Charlotte Bell, address unknown.

Bryan Anderson, 40 Ingersoll Road, stated he is in favor of the resolution and read from a prepared statement. He thanked all who worked on the resolution.

Amy Romano, 67 Hauser Street, stated she is in favor of the resolution and read from a prepared statement. Ms. Romano stated she would like to see additional consideration added concerning declaring racism as a public health crisis.

Lillian Holmes, 100 Oxford Road, stated she is in favor of the resolution and read from a prepared statement. Ms. Holmes stated racism is declared a public health crisis.

Sara Bromley, 27 Norway Street, stated she is in favor of the resolution and thanked all who worked on bringing the resolution to the Board. She stated the resolution should be amended to add racism as a public health crisis.

Alice Garlock, 34 Florence Avenue, stated she would like to see the resolution amended to include racism as a public health crisis.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on June 1, 2020.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 1, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro thanked everyone for their efforts during Covid-19 pandemic. He stated Connecticut is doing better than most states. He thanked the Mayor for keeping everyone well informed.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake stated Connecticut is slowly opening with good numbers. He stated youth sports are beginning to open and he is hopeful we will continue the trend with reopening. Mayor Blake asked for the Board's consideration of items 8a through 8c on the agenda.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

(8a) Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve a Materials Management Agreement between the City of Milford and H.I Stone & Son, Inc., and to authorize the Mayor and Director of Public Works to take all steps necessary to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Giannattasio asked for background on the agreement. He also asked about pricing and whether a savings would be realized. Chris Saley, Public Works Director, stated the City had the same vendor for 10 years. He further stated there was an issue with too much water in the City's sludge and the vendor did not want to continue. Mr. Saley stated the contract was put out to bid with no bids being received. Ald. Giannattasio asked if the City dewater the sludge. Mr. Saley stated it is a chemical and physical process. Ald. Giannattasio asked what could be done in order for the City to realize a savings. Mr. Saley stated the City needs to look at other options which will take some time. Mayor Blake stated the City needs an outlet to dispose of its sludge and it is based on the willingness of the vendor to take the sludge with the current water content. Mayor Blake stated the sewer use fee has been reduced over the past few years and wastewater is running more efficiently. Ald. W. Smith asked what Mr. Saley meant by the City ran out of time. Mr. Saley explained no bids were received and the current contract was coming to an end. Jonathan Berchem, City Attorney, explained the prior vendor had an option to renew each year in February and the City received notice that the vendor elected not to renew. He further stated that upon receipt of notice the City went out to bid but none were received. Attorney Berchem stated feedback was vendors chose not to bid due to the weight of the sludge. Ald. Smith asked where the increase cost will come from. Mr. Saley stated from the operational accounts and if necessary, a transfer will be requested. Mayor Blake stated the sewer user fee is associated with wastewater.

Motion carried unanimously.

(8b) Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Allocation Transfer No. 1 (Vehicle Acquisition Program).

Ald. Giannattasio stated he is happy to see police cruisers in the acquisition program for this year. He asked how many cruisers will be purchased. Mayor Blake stated due to new model of Ford Explore new equipment will also need to be acquired. Ald. Giannattasio asked what the expected delivery date is for public works trucks purchased through the TAR program. Mayor Blake stated there is a 6 month delivery window and they are expected early winter.

Motion carried unanimously.

(8c) Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve a Resolution in Support of Justice and Equality.

Ald. Sutton thanked all those that spoke in favor of the resolution. He stated he appreciates and understand the desire to add public health crisis to the resolution but does not believe inserting a sentence in the resolution serves the idea well. Ald. Sutton stated the Board should address the issue in a separate resolution with a broader cross-section having input. He believes this resolution is a positive first step in denouncing racism. Ald. Beatty also thanked all those that spoke in favor of the resolution. She asked that a subcommittee be created to continue the discussion. Ald. F. Smith stated he applauds those that spoke this evening and worked on advancing the issue. He also stated he agrees something more needs to be identified and agree with a subcommittee. Ald. Grant thanked all those that spoke this evening and acknowledged that racism is a public health crisis. He stated he agrees with not stopping at approve the resolution and appointing a subcommittee to move forward. Ald. Parente thanked all that spoke this evening and stated she concurs with her colleagues. She stated she would like to see Milford take a leadership role.

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. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$1,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. F. Smith reported the Ordinance Committee met earlier in the evening to consider one ordinance and voted to forward to the full Board with a favorable recommendation.

12a-1. Ald. F. Smith and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach and Other Restricted Parking Areas).

Mayor Blake stated Milford beaches are open to all, but due to the pandemic the current emergency orders limit beaches to Milford residents. He stated the ordinance will go into effect when the emergency order expires which will then allow for paid parking at Walnut and Gulf Beaches. He reviewed parking fees from surrounding towns and stated Milford is currently at the low end. Ald. Giannattasio thanked Mayor Blake for the explanation and asked the amendment will help handle the volume at the beaches. Mayor Blake stated currently there is a police presence at the beaches. Ald. Giannattasio asked if the fees go to the Police Commission next. Mayor Blake stated the Aldermen set the parking fee and the Police Commission is charged with determine level for parking fines. He further stated the Police Commission has already acting on changing be parking to an \$85 fine.

Motion carried unanimously 13 in favor (Beatty, Gaynor, Giannattasio, Grant, Hardiman, Harla, Parente, F. Smith, W. Smith, Sutton, Tranquilli, Vetro, Willis), 1 not voting (Golden).

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.
- 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.

Ald. Vitali mentioned the activities in the country over the past few days. He stated his hope that our community is ready to address such issues. He also expressed his hope that everyone stay safe and for a resolution soon. Ald. Parente stated she appreciates Ald. Vitali's comments and thanked Chief Mello for his recent statement on these issues. Ald. F. Smith also state he appreciation. He also stated he was experiencing technical difficulties with his internet service and stated he was in favor of all of tonight's motions.

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

The Board adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary