

JUL 12 2022

MILFORD CITY CLERK

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 11, 2022**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their regular meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members

M. Arciuolo
B. Broesder
M. Casey
D. German
A. Giannattasio
G. Harla
S. Marlow
J. Moffitt
H. Mulrenan
R. Pacelli
M. Parente
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
W. Willis

Also Present

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

Excused:

E. Beatty

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.

Walt Rollins, 49 Shadows End, read from a prepared statement discussing rising crime rates and impact on City residents.

Unknown, read from prepared statement regarding the need for additional police officers.

Jolyn Walker, 679 Wheelers Farm Road, stated she resent emails with updated contacts and heard from the majority of board members. She thanked all for listening and understanding. Ms. Walker discussed the use of her deceased husband's name without consent.

Leigh Lepper, 54 Nicole Drive, spoke concerning the need for additional police officers and various crimes in the City. He further discussed overbuilding and current taxes.

Andrew King, 32 Cedarhurst Lane, discussed public safety and his concerns with rising crime in the City.

Jean Cavallaro, 109 Seemans Lane, Unit 25, discussed garbage reimbursement for all condos. She requested ordinance 9-14 be revised to increasing rates for all condos for equity.

Paula Smith, 62 Hauser Street, discussed concerns of citizens to speak at public meetings. She discussed support for the police department.

Richard Smith, 59 Sixth Avenue, spoke concerning public policy and economics.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on June 6 2022.

Ald. Harla and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 6, 2022, as presented.

Ald. Mulrenan noted the minutes incorrectly her joining the meeting at 8:07 last month. She requested a technical correction.

Motion as corrected carried unanimously.

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

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications

~~Chairman Vetro thanked the Mayor and administration for a great Kick of to Summer celebration.~~

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations

Mayor Blake requested action on items 8a-8c and announced the appointment of 1 Tudor Road Building Committee, Ald. Scott Marlow, 353 West Main Street, 06460 (Chair), Director Megan Altomare or her designee, 59 Devonshire Road, 06460 and Director Bill Garfield or his designee, 70 West River Street. Mayor Blake discussed the vision for the property as a home for Boys & Girls Club and enhance recreation spaces.

Mayor Blake stated Chief Mello was present this evening at the Board's request to provide a brief update regarding policing of Milford beaches. Mayor Blake discussed recent adjustments to Walnut Beach for security purposes.

Chief Mello thanked Board members that reached out and discussed policing issues with him. Chief Mello provided a brief history of staffing beaches and recent events at Walnut Beach. He discussed responses and enhancements for security. Discussion ensued concerning policing in the City. Chairman Vetro and Mayor Blake thanked Chief Mello for his presentation.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

(8a) Ald. Harla and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (D) Kathryn L. Hurley, 46 Bedford Avenue, 06460, as a member of Milford's Golf Commission, to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/23). Motion carried unanimously.

(8b) Ald. Harla and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve a Resolution Re: Grant application for Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan.

Ald. Parente asked for a summary of the plan. Mayor Blake provided a brief explanation of the HUD funds received each year. He stated the grants focus on low to moderate income families and ADA. Sheila Dravis provided a brief explanation of categories eligible for funding. Mayor Blake discussed HUD grant due to Covid related issues.

Motion carried unanimously.

(8c) Ald. Harla and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve a Resolution Re: Milford Fire Department Training Opportunities.

Ald. Giannattasio asked for a brief background on the resolution. City Attorney Jon Berchem explained the Fire Department will from time to time have opportunities to train at structures slated for demolition and the property owners request indemnification from liability which requires legislative approval. The resolution will allow the Fire Department to enter into such agreements to train.

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. Giannattasio and Ald. Casey made and seconded a motion to add to the agenda the additional 4 police officer to the police department budget in order to fulfill the long-term plan of the Police Chief at a cost of \$254,720.

Ald. Harla requested a recess at 9:24 p.m.
The Board reconvened at 9:37 p.m.

Ald. Broesder asked the mechanism for funding the positions. Ald. Vitali stated the vote is to place on the agenda. Ald. Vitali stated the only discussion can be whether to place the item on the agenda and any additional motion will be discussed. Ald. Vitali requested an interpretation from the City Attorney. Mayor Blake the City Attorney is not the Parliamentarian. He further stated the motion is a motion place a specific resolution on the agenda which requires a 2/3 vote. He stated there is a provisional line item that covers base salaries and the question is where would the money come from, would there be a budget transfer or allocation transfer. Ald. Parente was very appreciative of the explanation provided by the Chief. She stated the mechanism to support should be discussed at a later time and she does not support the motion. Ald. Harla reviewed the timeline for officers currently in training and future recruits. He stated the timeline and issues with ability to staff it is seen that the positions could be funded with next years budget with little to no interruption to the police department. Ald. Moffitt stated the remarks of the Chief were that it is difficult to hire qualified officers. Ald. Giannattasio stated this is a missed opportunity, he is disappointed and cannot understand why those against would not want to stay ahead of the crime.

Motion failed 8 against (Arciuolo, Harla, Moffitt, Mulrenan, Pacelli, Parente, Vetro, Willis), 5 in favor (Giannattasio, Casey, German, Vitali, Marlow) and 1 abstention (Broesder).

10. Budget Memo Transfers

None.

11. Refunds

11a. Ald. Harla and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve refunds in the amount of \$7,560.68. 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. Liaison Sub-Committee – Library Board – no report.

- i. Liaison Sub-Committee – Veterans Ceremony & Parade Commission – no report
- j. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fine Arts – no report
- k. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership – no report.
- l. Liaison - Golf Course Commission – no report.
- m. Liaison - Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.
- n. Liaison Board of Health – no report.
- o. Liaison – Human Services Commission – no report.
- p. Liaison Sub-Committee - Pension & Retirement Board – no report
- q. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) – no report.
- r. Liaison – Economic Development Commission – no report.
- s. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Arts Council – no report.
- t. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Progress, Inc. – no report.
- u. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fire Commission – no report.
- v. Liaison Sub-Committee – Police Commission – no report.
- w. Permanent School Facilities Building Committee – 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.

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

The Board adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary