

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 12, 2021**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their regular meeting on Monday, July 12, 2021 in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Vetro asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence for the victims of the Miami condominium disaster.

**1. Roll Call**

Board Members

E. Beatty  
C. Gaynor  
A. Giannattasio  
S. Marlow  
M. Parente  
F. Smith  
W. Smith  
A. Sutton  
J. Tranquilli  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali  
W. Willis

Also Present

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

Excused

J. Golden  
M. Hardiman  
G. Harla

**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 written comments were received from the following:

Brandee McHale and Joseph McHale, 8 Laurel Avenue, submitted a letter concerning Laurel Avenue seawall.

**3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on June 7, 2021.**

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 7, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro welcomed everyone and hoped all had a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake wished all a happy and safe summer. He stated he hoped all had the opportunity to attend the kickoff to summer event and that many activities are planned for the summer. Mayor Blake recognized the new Chamber of Commerce Director Mrs. Paine. He asked the Board of Alderman for their consideration of items 8a-8h on the agenda.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

a. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve an agreement between Direct Energy Business Marketing, LLC d/b/a Direct Energy Business and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and Public Works Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Giannatassio asked based on the calculation provided the likelihood of the quantity exceeding the contracted amount. Mayor Blake stated the microgrid is up and running although there have been growing pains. He stated the purchase of this agreement is to purchase natural gas for the CHP and it allows the City to lock in pricing. Mayor Blake based on the City's energy consultant's recommendations he believes there is enough room that the quantity should not be exceeded. Chris Saley, Public Work Director stated the City's energy consultant provided the calculations and it is his belief the City will be fine with those numbers. Ald. Giannatassio asked if the loss of power at Parsons last week was considered growing pains. Mr. Saley stated there was a hiccup with the software for the microgrid that he believes is now resolved. Ald. Vitali asked if there was a not to exceed price negotiated should the City go above the contracted quantity. Mr. Saley reiterated that it is very unlikely the City will exceed the contracted quantity.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve a Municipal Energy Opportunities Standard Agreement between Power Point Energy, LLC and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and Public Works Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve a Resolution Re: Grant Application for Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan.

Ald. Giannattasio asked what handicap accessible improvements are earmarked. Mayor Blake stated the grant has very specific criteria for how it can be used. He stated there is a committee that will review project proposals and determine how the grant funds will be allocated. Mayor Blake stated the funds are targeted for low to moderate areas. Ald. Giannattasio asked about using funds for handicap accessible beaches. Mayor Blake stated there his currently handicap accessible beach at the west end of Walnut Beach. He further stated that through Recreation there will review areas that may require repair. Sheila Dravis, Block Grant Coordinator, stated Recreation did go through the grant process and received funding for ADA mats that roll out to provide handicap beach access. She stated she is not certain if there is anything permanent affixed, but that could be investigated. Ald. Giannattasio asked if the ADA mat is moved around the City. Ms. Dravis stated she believes it is only at Walnut Beach. Ald. W. Smith asked if the funds can be used for projects in the Capital Improvement Plan. Mayor Blake stated he did not believe so. He reiterated that a committee meets and selects projects that will receive funding. Ald. Vitali asked about the curb cuts in Milford Center. Mayor Blake stated that is a State project and that he is in constant contact with DOT. Ald. Vitali asked if Ald. F. Smith who is a State Representative could reach out to DOT to inquire about completing the project more expeditiously. Ald. F. Smith stated he is constant contact with DOT not only concerning Milford Center, but other concerns around I-95. Ald. Marlow stated he was looking at the list of activities and asked for an explanation of grant administration and planning. Mayor Blake stated that is for wages and administration costs.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve a Resolution Re: Grant Application for Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan – CARES Act.

Ald. Parente asked how this grant is different and how it can be utilized. Ms. Dravis stated this is the second of two grants specifically for preparing and responding to COVID. She provided an overview of grant criteria. Ald. W. Smith asked what administration and planning may be used for. Mayor it is for staffing, consultant, contractors, and such. Ms. Dravis stated it encompasses overhead costs

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve Allocation Transfer No. 1 (Vehicle Acquisition Program).

Ald. Sutton asked why it is preferred to do the vehicle acquisition program at this time rather than during budget. Mayor Blake stated previously all vehicles were purchased through the budget. He stated that several years ago vehicle acquisition was removed from the budget and replaced with the acquisition program. Mayor Blake provided an explanation as to how the vehicle acquisition is funded with surplus at the end of each fiscal year. He stated this allows for better planning and to see the entire field as to available funds and vehicles requested. Mayor Blake stated that some public works vehicles, specifically those used for roads, are acquired via the State's TAR program. Ald. W. Smith asked if the vehicle acquisition program has a cushion. Mayor Blake stated at the end of each fiscal year the City reviews its surplus. Ald. W. Smith asked how the surplus grows. Mayor Blake stated there are several ways to grow the surplus such as each fiscal year where less is spent than budgeted and unrestricted grant funding. Ald. W. Smith asked if dollars saved on unfilled positions

adds to the surplus. Mayor Blake stated it does and provided an explanation of how retirements and lag time in filling positions can contribute to the surplus. Ald. Giannattasio asked how many police cruisers will be purchased. Mayor Balke stated he believes funding will allow for 6 cruisers. Ald. Giannattasio asked why the fire command vehicle is not part of the vehicle acquisition program. Mayor Blake stated that most fire equipment is considered apparatus and can be very expensive. He explained that apparatus is acquired via grant funding and bonding. He further stated that other fire vehicle may purchased through the acquisition program.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for 2021 CT Youth Employment Program (CYEP) between the Workforce Alliance and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and Health Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Giannattasio aske if the City will be made whole through the program. Mayor Blake stated the grant is self-contained and there is no cost to the City. Lisa Streit, Employment & Training Director, stated the grant fund place of kids meeting certain criteria and there is no cost to the City.

Motion carried unanimously.

g. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve a Contract between the The WorkPlace, Inc and the City of Milford for the WIOA Youth Program and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and Health Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.  
Motion carried unanimously.

h. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion a to approve a Contract between the Workforce Alliance and the City of Milford for occupational Skills Training with Adult Education Services to JFES participants and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, and Health Director to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement. 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. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve refunds in the amount of \$24,323.59. 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.
- u. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fire Commission
- v. Liaison Sub-Committee – Police Commission
- w. Permanent School Facilities Building Committee

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. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Jo Weeks".

Toni Jo Weeks  
Recording Secretary