

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, September 14, 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 (Left Meeting During Ex. Session)
J. Grant
M. Hardiman
G. Harla
M. Parente
F. Smith
A. Sutton
J. Tranquilli
N. Sutton
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
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

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.

None.

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

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 3, 2020. Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

None.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake asked the Board for their consideration and action on items 8a through 8c. Mayor Blake expressed thanks to Milford Public Schools on their dedication and hard work over the summer in preparing for the opening of schools and providing a safe environment.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

8a. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve a Master Services Agreement between Commerce Bank. and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor, Finance Director and City Attorney to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the agreement involved departments utilizing credit card machines. Peter Erodici, Finance Director, explained it is for payment to vendors via a virtual one-time use credit card. He explained the program is voluntary. Mr. Erodici also explained that payments are made via virtual credit card number. Each payment will have its own credit card number that is deleted would the payment is made and accepted. Ald. Giannattasio asked who will approve payments before they are released. Mr. Erodici stated it will follow same protocols as payment to vendors via check. He further stated there is no cost to the City and the program will provide the City with a revenue share.

Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

8b. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to accept the attached Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant and to authorize the Mayor, Police Chief, Finance Director and/or City Attorney's Office to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said grant.

Ald. Vitali if other driving distractions are looked at with this program. Sgt. Sean Moore gave a brief synopsis of the grant program. A brief discussion ensued concerning various types of distractions. Ald. Smith asked if the grant funds are using strictly for overtime or for other program services. Sgt. Moore stated it is for reimbursement of overtime allocated to distracted driving enforcement.

Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

8c. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion approving a Resolution re: A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of up to \$45,000,000 for the Costs Associated with City of Milford General Obligation Refunding Bonds.

Ald. Giannattasio asked for a brief background. Mr. Erodici stated the City has done a number of refunds since 2010. He further stated that with interest rates lower it makes sense in order to save City dollars. He also stated the bond rating companies expect the City to do such refunds. Ald. W. Smith asked if there will be a new debt issue that runs with the refunding. Mr. Erodici stated they are currently analyzing bond sales for October. He stated it depends on when State approval is received.

Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

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

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Budget Memo Transfers #9 and #10. Fund 1005 and Fund 2812, FY 2020.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if Transfer #1 was due to flu and Covid-19 medical supplies. He asked if the care act will reimburse the amount being transferred. Mayor Blake stated that the care act provides reimbursement after all other grant money has been exhausted.

Motion carried 14 yes and 1 excused/absent (Hardiman).

11. Refunds

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Refunds in the amount of \$9,644.64. Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

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 Adopting Article I, Generally, Section 16.1-11 (Dockage and Mooring Fees) and Amending Chapter 16.1, City of Milford Harbor Management Plan Rules and Regulations, Article III, General Regulations, Section 16.1-35 (City Docks and Boat Ramps) and Article IV, Regulations Concerning Anchoring, Mooring and Security of Vessels, Section 16.1-62 (Mooring Fees) And Section 16.1.71 (Fees for Use of Guest Moorings in Milford Harbor) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford.

Ald. W. Smith asked if the ordinance proposed to eliminate and increase various fees. Mayor Blake explained it was to adjust non-resident fees. Ald. W. Smith asked if annual fees for residents would be impacted. Mayor Blake reiterated the increase at this time is for non-resident fees.

Motion carried 14 in favor, 1 unable to vote due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – Ald. Vitali expressed his concern that they have not been any recent meetings. Ald. Golden stated one is scheduled for this month and has been noticed.

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.

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 Tournament Turf Care, LLC claim for concessions.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the matter of consideration of Tournament Turf Care, LLC claim for concessions. Motion carried 14 yes, 1 excused/absent (Hardiman).

Chairman Vetro announced the full Board, along with Mayor Blake, Attorney Jonathan Berchem, Assistant City Attorney Debra Kelly, and Chief of Staff Justin Rosen would enter Executive Session. The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

Chairman Vetro announced the Board was out of Executive Session and reconvened the meeting in public session at 9:49 p.m.

Noted that Ald. Golden did not return to the meeting from Executive Session.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve the Tournament Turf Care, LLC's claim for concession as discussed in executive session. Motion carried 9 in favor (Beatty, Gaynor, Grant, Parente, F. Smith, W. Smith, Sutton, Vetro and Willis), 4 against (Giannattasio, Harla, Tranquilli and Vitali), and 1 not voting due to technical difficulties (Hardiman).

Ald. F Smith stated he had been in contact with Ald. Hardiman who apologized for the technical issues he was experiencing. Ald. F. Smith stated that Ald. Hardiman indicated that although his vote could not be heard he was in favor of all the motions presented this evening.

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 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Jo Weeks", written over a horizontal line.

Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary