

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, February 5, 2018 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:37 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

B. Anderson  
E. Beatty  
K. Fortunati  
C. Gaynor  
D. German (8:45 p.m.)  
A. Giannattasio  
J. Golden  
J. Grant  
F. Smith  
A. Sutton  
J. Tranquilli  
N. Veccharelli  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
J. Berchem, City Attorney  
P. Erodicti, Finance Director  
J. Rohrig, City Clerk  
S. Fournier, Mayor's Admin. Asst.

Excused

M. Hardiman

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 January 8, 2018.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 8, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day, a special day for loved ones.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake echoed Chairman Vetro's remarks and reminded everyone Milford is a city of compassion and asked everyone to remember that for the month of February and each day of the year.

Mayor Blake asked the Board for their consideration of items 8a-z and stated he would be happy to answer any questions as they come up. He also informed the Board of the Mayoral appointment(s) below.

6a. Mayor Blake announced the following mayoral appointment(s):

Inland Wetlands Agency (Planning and Zoning Recommendation)

(R) Edward Mead, 998 East Broadway, 06460, to fill the vacant position, term to expire 12/31/18.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (U) Rev. Matthew J. Lindeman, 4 Glen Street, 06460, as a member of the Ethics Commission to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/20). Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointments of (U) Gayle McMillan, 258 West Rutland Road, 06461, and (D) Jessica DeYoung, 74 Oriole Lane, 06460, as members of Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) Committee, to fill the present vacancies (terms expiring 12/31/22). Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (U) John Kranz, 15 West Main Street, 06460, as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/22). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (D) Kelly Miller, 100 Viscount Drive, Apt. C-4, 06460, as a member of the Tree Commission, to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/20). Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointments of (U) Frank G. Fortunati, Jr., M.D., 165 Gulf Street, 06460, and (D) Nija Phelps, 1264

Naugatuck Avenue, 06461, as members of the Transit District Advisory Board, to fill the present vacancies (terms expiring 12/31/19).

Ald. Fortunati stated she wished to recuse herself due to her personal connection to one of the appointees.

City Clerk Rohrig swore in those recently confirmed.

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 2 (Golf Course – HVAC).

Ald. Sutton asked if there was a cap.

Mayor Blake explained this is an expenditure amount for the clubhouse at the Orchards Clubhouse. He stated the Commission have priced it out and continue to work with the Public Works Office.

Ald. Golden asked what the work entailed.

Bill Healey, member of the Golf Commission explained they are looking to replace the heating, ventilating and air conditioning system, as well as the duct work at the clubhouse. He stated the system is old and failing. He explained how they have been working with the public works office to get the best price.

Chairman Vetro asked about estimates.

Mr. Healey stated they went out for an RFP and the numbers were just too high, so they started working with the public works director. He reiterated the ceiling is \$35,000, but they don't expect to spend that much. He also stated they would be upgrading the original ductwork. Mr. Healey added the air conditioning failed several times last year. He stated a new HVAC system would be more efficient and a savings overall.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if it would be an oil tank or gas.

Mr. Healey stated it would be oil fired. He stated the nearest gas line is just too far away.

Ald. Veccharelli asked the yearly cost of oil.

Mr. Healey stated oil is not the largest cost because the course is closed during the winter months. He stated they are looking to upgrade to a double steel, 275 gallon tank.

Ald. Veccharelli suggested two 230 gallon tanks, which would be more efficient.

Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the Dockwa Terms of Service for Marina Users, and to authorize the Mayor, Harbor Management Operations Director and City Attorney to take all steps necessary, including the signing of all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Anderson noted Ray Swift was present and asked he be given an opportunity to provide an overview.

Mr. Swift explained it is an app that was developed in 2016, that people can download to their phones and people can look up marinas, dock sites, etc. He spoke of the benefits to the marina, adding it is simply a reservation system.

Ald. Fortunati asked if this is the first time the marina is using this type of app.

Mr. Swift replied yes. He stated they would still be in control of the reservations and that it should help the marina in the long run with new boaters.

Ald. Vitali asked if there is a set up cost and if there was a cost for the app.

Mr. Swift stated the app is free.

Ald. Veccharelli asked when reservations are made if people pay by credit card.

Mr. Swift stated most do pay by credit card.

Ald. Veccharelli asked what the credit card charges for their fee.

Mr. Swift stated the credit card company they were using was 3.5% but that they are in the process of switching to a company that will charge 2.5%.

Ald. Gaynor asked if Dockwa would take the fees and deposit and how it is currently done.

Mr. Swift stated currently they make a deposit with the Finance Department weekly. He stated there would be a savings with regard to time.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the contractual piece regarding Stripe, Inc. and an agreement with them.

Mr. Swift explained the agreement could be cancelled at any time.

Motion carried unanimously.

8h. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Department of Human Services. Motion carried unanimously.

8i. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Youth and Family Services Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

8j. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Office of Early Childhood.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if this is the first time this grant is coming to the city.

Director Joseph stated this is a long time grant that was formerly through the Department of Health. She explained they work in conjunction with the Good Shepard Day Care.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro stated he would entertain a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward items 12a-1, 12a-2 and 12a-3.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward items 12a-1, 12a-2 and 12a-3. Motion carried unanimously.

12a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. Smith reported the Ordinance Committee met earlier in the evening to consider the six (6) Ordinances which were forward to the full Board of Aldermen with a favorable recommendation. He stated the first three Ordinances concerned bonding for the City.

Mayor Blake stated typically February is the month the bonding Ordinances come before this Board. He pointed out the number before the Board is less than in previous years. He also stated he may be bringing additional bonding before the Board in the next two years for the police department project. Mayor Blake also pointed out experts from both the city side and school side were available tonight. Mayor Blake pointed out the Finance Director recommended adding the 10% finance charge, which is enumerated in the package

Ald. Smith and Ald. Anderson made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Appropriating \$6,875,000 for Various Public Improvements and Authorizing the Issuance of \$6,875,000 Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation and Pending the Issuance Thereof the Making of Temporary Borrowings for Such Purpose.

Ald. Smith noted in this appropriation the vast majority of the bonding is for city roads, sidewalks and curbing. He asked if the Mayor could provide an update with regard to improvements.

Mayor Blake stated paving is generally \$200,000 a mile to pave. He stated each year they try to pave at least 15-20 miles. He stated the bonding request before the Board is not just for paving, but for sidewalks, parking lots, curbing, etc. At one point we did receive more State assistance which is being held back this year.

Ald. Vitali asked if there is a list of streets to be paved and if that is something that could be shared with the Board.

Mayor Blake stated there is a spring and fall paving schedule and that list is posted on the City website when it becomes available, prior to paving.

Director Saley stated there is not a list as yet. He explained they look at their data list, complaints received, etc.

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the State assistance the city no longer receives and how the city plans to “catch up.”

Mayor Blake stated traditionally the city has always bonded for paving each year.

Director Saley stated for the record that the aldermen have not appropriately funded the paving account. He stated last year approximately 18 miles of roadway were paved.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the amount currently in the sidewalk account.

Director Saley stated he did not have the number with him but that he could get that.

Mr. Erodici stated he did not have the number with him and pointed out they don’t collect that much each year.

Director Saley stated he did not think there was much in the account.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Smith and Ald. Anderson made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Appropriating \$3,828,000 for Various School Improvements and Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,828,000 Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation and Pending the Issuance Thereof the Making of Temporary Borrowings for Such Purpose.

Ald. Vitali asked about the planetarium and asked if the design phase is indicative of that.

Mr. Richetelli stated having a planetarium in a high school is an asset and is a credit to the Milford School District and the City of Milford. He stated the planetarium is original to the school which was built in 1973. Mr. Richetelli explained the company that built the console is no longer in business and it is getting more difficult each year to get parts. He stated the planned renovation would include the system, as well as chairs.

Ald. Vitali questioned the need for the design phase.

Ms. LaSala that there are three (3) businesses that design and install these types of systems. They know the orientation of the seat, what needs to happen in the dome, options for projectors, etc.

Ald. Veccharelli asked what the planetarium is used for.

Ms. LaSala stated courses are run through the K-12 system, including courses at Law where they take a field trip to Foran as part of the course. She stated all 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes come to the planetarium as part of their curriculum. Ms. LaSala also commented other school districts use their planetarium for community events as well. She stated basically planetariums are learning tools.

Ald. Grant asked about the digital technology.

Ms. LaSala stated cost considerations would dictate, but most schools are going for the hybrid.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Smith and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Appropriating \$2,600,000 for the Design and Construction of Sanitary Sewers and Waste Water Facilities and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,600,000 Bonds of the City to Meet Said Appropriation and Pending the Issuance Thereof the Making of Temporary Borrowings for Such Purpose.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the scope of the work and how long it has been in the planning stages.

Mayor Blake stated there have been several breaks over the course of the year.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the cost of the last repair.

Director Saley stated they hired a local contractor and it was in the area of \$19,000. He stated currently it is just a matter of time when the pipe will fail. He explained the two scenarios they would be looking at. He provided an overall detailed explanation.

Ald. Anderson asked about the schedule.

Director Saley stated the hope is to have the work done by mid May and if not, the project would not begin until the fall.

Ald. Vitali asked if the portion on Naugatuck Avenue toward Route 1 would have to be done again.

Director Saley explained the difference between a sanitary force main.

Mayor Blake stated the road towards Route 1 would not have to be done again.

Motion carried unanimously.

8k. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Various Public Improvements – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8l. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Various School Improvements – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8m. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Design and Construction of Sanitary Sewers – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8n. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at John F. Kennedy Elementary School – 2018.

Ald. Vitali stated he wished to reiterate his previous remarks regarding declining enrollment, not knowing the long range plan of the Board of Education and the possibility of schools closing. He restated his objection to working on schools that could potentially close.

He stated as to the security upgrades the Permanent School Facilities Building Committee could prioritize the work schedule for each school. He also pointed out the upgrades are due to a recently passed State statute regarding the main entrances of all schools.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the security upgrades were eligible for reimbursement.

Mayor Blake stated he believed they were.

Motion carried unanimously.

8o. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Meadowside Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8p. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Pumpkin Delight elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8q. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Live Oaks Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8r. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Orange Avenue Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8s. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Mathewson Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8t. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Orchard Hills Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8u. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Calf Pen Meadow Elementary School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8v. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at The Academy – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8w. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at East Shore Middle School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8x. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Harborside Middle School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8y. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Joseph A. Foran High School – 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

8z. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Milford Board of Education – Concerning Security Infrastructure Upgrades at Jonathan Law High School – 2018. 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

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #5 and #6, Fund 10, FY 18. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$45,047.86. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

12a.

Ald. Smith and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Establishing Chapter 20.5, Taxation, Section 20.5-15 of the Milford Code of Ordinances (Property Tax Abatement – Surviving Spouses of Police Officers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians).

Ald. Fortunati stated she is in full support of this and explained this came about when she was campaigning and she met someone whose husband had been killed in the line of duty. She stated this also follows the Gold Star Exemption recently approved by this Board. She stated her research showed there are four families in Milford who would benefit from this Ordinance and that she was in favor of the Ordinance as written.

Ald. Anderson stated a lot of hard work went into this and commended his colleague for putting this Ordinance forward.

Ald. Smith stated he enthusiastically supports this Ordinance. He spoke of other municipalities have a similar Ordinance in place.

Attorney Berchem pointed out the language is specific to surviving spouse and primary residence.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he would support this Ordinance and thanked Ald. Fortunati for sharing her personal story.

Ald. Veccharelli asked referenced the language “EMT” and asked how paramedic would be included since it is not specifically stated in the language.

Mayor Blake stated it was his understanding to be a paramedic you need to be an EMT.

Ald. Veccharelli asked how a “surviving spouse” is defined.

Attorney Berchem explained the language *shall be defined in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes*.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Smith and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 18, Planning, Article XXI, Historical Preservation Commission, Sections 18-221, 18-226 and 18-227 of the Milford Code of Ordinances. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Smith and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 19, Employment conditions and Benefits, Article II, Public Safety Employees, Section 19-13 (e), Employee Benefits, (Longevity).

Ald. Smith pointed out a typographical error and that the year had been corrected to read 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 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 – Ald. Vitali reported as many may already know that Supt. Feser would be retiring at the end of the school year. He thanked her for her years of service to the City of Milford following tumultuous times and wished her well.
- 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.

- 14a. Consideration of settlement of:  
Milford Medical Group v. City of Milford  
RE: 20 Commerce Park
  
- 14b. Consideration of settlement of:  
Michael G. Flagiello, et al v. City of Milford  
RE: 23 Abigail Street

Chairman Vetro announced those entering Executive Session would be the full Board of Aldermen, Mayor Blake, City Attorney and City Assessor.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:22 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 9:34 p.m.

14(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Milford Medical Group v. City of Milford, regarding 20 Commerce Park, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(b) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Beatty made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Michael G. Flagiello, et al v. City of Milford, regarding 23 Abigail Street, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Smith moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary