

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2017**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:48 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  
B. Bevan  
M. Casey  
D. German  
A. Giannattasio  
J. Golden  
J. Grant  
M. Hardiman  
S. Shaw  
F. Smith  
N. Veccharelli  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali

Also Present

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

Excused

E. Beatty  
B. Bier

Chairman Vetro deferred to Mayor Blake for a special presentation.

Mayor Blake stated tonight they were celebrating heroism and innovation. He called upon John O'Rourke to join him at the podium. Mayor Blake stated on a clear day, Mr. O'Rourke was out for a walk, which turned out to be anything but a walk. On that day he saved the life of a youngster that had fallen through the ice into Mondo Ponds. Mayor Blake went on to read a proclamation for Mr. O'Rourke. Mayor Blake continued that tonight he was pleased to celebrate innovation as well with the 2016 Lego First Robotics. Mayor Blake went on to present proclamations to Team Mastermind and Team Lightspeed. Finally, Mayor Blake called up the girl scouts, brownies and daisy groups present to celebrate Girl Scout Week. He went on to read a proclamation pointing out that girl scouts began in 1912 to help girls develop physically, mentally and spiritually.

Chairman Vetro announced a 5-minute recess to allow the auditorium to clear.

The Board recessed at 8:04 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:06 p.m.

## 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 February 8, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 8, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

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

None.

## 5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro reminded everyone of the Saint Patrick's Day parade to be held on Saturday, March 10, 2017. He invited all to attend. He stated lineup would begin at noon.

## 6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake asked the Board's consideration and action on items 8a-8f. He stated he would be happy to answer questions as they come up. He wished everyone a Happy Saint Patrick's Day.

## 7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for appointment of (D) Meghan Sloan, 15 Dogwood Place, 06460, as a member of the Flood and Erosion Control Board, to fill a vacant position, term to expire 12/31/21. Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (D) Edward Beatty, 194 Centennial Drive, 06461, as an Advisory Board Member of the Transit District, to fill the vacant position, term to expire 12/31/18. Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the City of Milford to accept the Emergency Management Performance Grant from the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and to authorize the Mayor, Fire Chief, Finance Director and/or

City Attorney's Office to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said grant.

Ald. Bevan asked about the \$26,000 sub-grantee match and who that is.

Mayor Blake stated the sub-grantee is the city, which can be in-kind. He explained the State gives approximately \$26,000 to be used as such. He stated the times are recorded.

Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the City of Milford to accept the 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. Casey asked if the trend of distracted driving is on the decline.

Sgt. Alexopolous responded it has not gone down. He stated a lot more work needs to be done even, especial with the technology that is available.

Ald. Grant asked the highlights of this grant last year.

Sgt. Alexopolous explained it is federal money the department receives and went on to explain the program, with education being a big part of the program. He stated he has had conversations with State DOT to advocate for stricter enforcement. As to the grant, Sgt. Alexopolous stated the City is a second tier member. He stated they have a number of statistics from April and August from which they receive reimbursement. He stated there were a lot of stops made. He went on to explain some of the grant requirements.

Ald. Golden asked about demographics.

Sgt. Alexopolous stated it is all across the board, young, old, male, female.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if officers are trained to decipher if the accident was caused due to distracted driving.

Sgt. Alexopolous explained the protocol for the investigation of an accident.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the Public Works Department to enter into the work based learning program with Plat Vocational Technical High School and to authorize the Mayor, Public Works Director, and City Attorney to take all steps necessary, including signing al documents, to effectuate said program.

Ald. Vitali applauded the efforts and work of Platt. He asked how many kids would be involved with the program and if there are other kids that would be involved in the program other than the IT program.

Mayor Blake echoed the sentiments of Ald. Vitali, stating they are above and beyond. He also acknowledged the Public Works Director and the Parks foreman and Garage foreman in the Public Works Department. He stated the agreement is somewhat of a blanket that allows student involvement. He stated this item is before the Board tonight because of the potential liability.

Ald. Vitali asked if the program is open to all grade levels.

Attorney Berchem stated it is open to juniors and seniors at the school and there is a grade point average that the student must maintain. He referred Ald. Vitali to the backup in the aldermanic packet.

Mayor Blake noted the Public Works Director was present tonight to answer any additional questions the Board might have.

Director Saley explained it is a beginner program. He stated they would likely start with one student in the garage and move forward from there. Director Saley stated there could be as many as five students, but it was just too new to know at this point. He explained some of the work the student would be doing while working alongside staff.

Ald. Bevan referred to the packet regarding wages. He asked what they would be paid.

Director Saley stated they would be paid minimum wage, which he stated is currently \$10.10.

Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Tyler Technologies Software as a Service Agreement and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney and Finance 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

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfers #3 and #4, Funds 10 & 12, FY 17. Motion carried unanimously.

## 11. Refunds

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$21,693.08. Motion carried unanimously.

## 12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – no report

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – Ald. Veccharelli reported the Public Safety and Welfare Committee meet prior to this meeting and voted to uphold the appeal presented.

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.

14a. Discussion pending Litigation – Edgar Crespo v. City of Milford.

14b. Consideration of Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Local 944, International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO.

Chairman Vetro stated the full Board along with the Mayor and City Attorney would be included in Executive Session for item 14a. Chairman Vetro stated the full Board, along with the Mayor, City Attorney, Fire Chief Edo, Assistant Chief Baker and the Human Resources Director, Tania Barnes would be joining them in Executive Session for item 14b.

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

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:38 p.m.

**NOTE:** Chief Edo, Assistant Chief Baker, and Ms. Barnes entered Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. for agenda item 14b. Ald. Veccharelli did not participate in Executive Session for agenda item 14b.

Chairman Edo reconvened the Board in public session at 9:46 p.m.

14a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Smith made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14b. Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Local 944, International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO, as discussed in Executive Session.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he would recuse himself from the vote as he is a retired member of the fire department.

Motion carried with 1 abstention (Veccharelli).

Ald. Hardiman stated the annual Saint Patrick's Day parade takes place on Saturday, March 10, 2017. He stated this is the 27<sup>th</sup> year of the parade. He stated this year's Grand Marshall is Nell Moll and Miss Emerald Isle, Colleen Hugo. He invited all to come on down to the parade.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Golden moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Board adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy  
Recording Secretary