

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 4, 2009**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, May 4, 2009 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman B. Blake called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Chairman Blake asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance lead by the City Historian Richard Platt.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bier
J. Blacketter
B. Blake
V. Ditchkus, Jr. (9:31 p.m. family emergency)
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman
S. Manning
R. Nunno
J. Patterson
J. Rosen
J. Toohey
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
S. Willey

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.
L. Bull DiLullo, Mayor's Admin. Asst.
W. Smith, Jr. City Attorney
A. Jepson, City Clerk

Chairman Blake stated before they moved on this evening he wished to recognize the accomplishments of some special individuals in Milford. He called upon State Representative and former alderwoman Barbara Lambert for the presentations. Chairman Blake first recognized Jonathan Law High School senior, Alejandra Dorado recently accepted to the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Chairman Blake read her list of accomplishments which included being a member of the high school soccer, basketball and track teams as well as the band; President of Best Buddies. He stated her ambition is to pilot a space shuttle mission and currently to help her prepare for the military services she is a member of the Civil Air Patrol where she is a Flight Sergeant. Ms. Dorado is the first Milford women ever to be accepted at Annapolis. State Representative Lambert went on to read and present the proclamation to Ms. Dorado. Chairman Blake then called upon Ald. Nunno to join Representative Lambert for the next two proclamations.

Ald. Nunno recognized the members of the "Kickin Daisies" a group of young folks who have rocked our town. He stated they would be putting out an album this summer and this Friday night they would be performing at Jonathan Law High School for a benefit to help West Shore Middle School build an outdoor basketball court. Ald. Nunno proceeded to read the proclamation introduced by Representative Lambert. Ald. Nunno next called upon Jay Rowe for a special proclamation. Ald. Nunno stated it was a great pleasure to recognize a great person in our community who given so much back to the community. He stated through his Smooth Jazz

Concerts he has brought great culture to our City and support our community by giving back to the music department of the Milford Board of Education thousands of dollars. Ald. Nunno read the proclamation introduced by Representative Lambert.

Mr. Rowe thanked everyone. He stated the Smooth Jazz Concert would be held Saturday, May 16, 2009 at this alma mater Foran High School. He stated it has been a pleasure to do fundraising like this.

Chairman Blake extended congratulations to our accomplished Milford citizens.

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.

M. Ziebell – 10 Silver Street – stated she resides in the second district and has lived there for quite a while. She stated she has been interested in the Seemans Lane project for some time and was here to voice her opinion. She stated she felt very strongly that the Health Department needed to expand. She urged the Board to drop the “or” and put in police, fire and health department.

B. Lambert – Breakneck Lane – stated she is in favor of the Army property being a facility to house the health, police and fire departments and stated it is a wonderful municipal use of the property to serve the Milford people.

R. Platt (City Historian) – 132 Platt Lane – expressed his gratitude to see item 8b on the agenda. He stated the Gulf Street area is the third of the major areas sought as historic areas. He stated his last recommendation is to see the Board put forward a Historic Properties Commission. He cited Sec. 7-147p-y which describes the procedure to establish historic properties. He expressed his hope the Board would proceed with the Gulf Street Committee and next month proceed with adding the Historic Properties Commission.

P. Hanna – 5 Gibson Road – stated she spoke last month in opposition to the proposed cell tower at the YMCA. She thanked the Board for voting against that proposal. She stated her group met with Senator G. Slossberg who in turn spoke with the cell phone company and that it was her understanding they are willing to change if Milford suggests another area. She stated she was here tonight to present as an idea she has heard about the possibility of moving it to Eisenhower Park which has more than 26 acres. She stated she believed this belongs in an industrial or commercial area.

D. Miller – 30 Lawrence Avenue – stated he is here for the third time addressing this Open Burning Ordinance. He stated the Ordinance Committee inserted language concerning a nuisance; thereby he could now support this Ordinance. He continued reading from a prepared statement concerning the issues with smoke and the dangers it poses to persons. He urged the Board to pass the open burning. He also stated he wished to comment regarding how he obtained a copy of this Ordinance. He stated he had to go to the City Clerk’s Office and that it required his wife taking time off from work. He stated this information should be on-line and could be posed as a PDF. He stated it was very difficult to obtain this.

C. Kalafus – 13 Ranch Road – thanked the Board for honoring his children “Kickin Daisies”. He stated for 4-5 years at West Shore Middle School they have been raising money for this project and it was done because of the hard work and dedication of the children, parents and teachers who supported the efforts to get this basketball court built. He urged the Board to come out on Friday night and support them.

A. Berman – 77 Pelham Street – stated she concurred with the comments of Mr. Miller as to obtaining a copy of these documents. She stated she was able to receive it because Mr. Miller’s wife typed it for her. Ms. Berman addressed the issue of prohibitive material and chemically treated wood. She stated Dura flame logs are not treated. She thanked the Board for the change to the Ordinance.

M. Sulik – Julia Court – thanked the Board for voting regarding the cell tower. She spoke personally of her concerns for her husband who wears a pacemaker and also recalled she grew up near a NIKE site and in her area the incidents of breast cancer were higher. She thanked the Board for thinking about moving it.

J.B. Gray – 44 Ettadore Parkway – stated she is a 50 year citizen of Milford and was speaking again in protest of the Health Department. Reading from a prepared statement she questioned why the health department could have outgrown their building so quickly, why they need so much space and why they are the favorite one.

F. Pinto – 439 Housatonic Drive – stated he was before the Board tonight looking for assistance for the removal of two City trees in his area. He explained neighbors have been complaining to the Public Works Department for many years now concerning two large oak trees where the limbs are drying up and falling one by one. He stated on April 11, 2009 a limb fell and damaged his truck. He stated his concern is that one of these limbs will fall on his house and that he is here tonight to make his plea that the Board of Aldermen look into this. He stated something needs to be done before there is a tragedy.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – thanked Ald. Toohey and Veccharelli for coming out. He stated at the meeting last month he invited the Board to come see the problem with the guardrails on Anderson Avenue. He stated only Ald. Toohey and Veccharelli came. He expressed concern someone would go down the embankment without the guardrails there and end up in the water there. He stated it’s hard to get people to where he lives, which he refers to as the “last outpost”. He also expressed his hope the Board would do something for the taxpayers of Milford that may be laid off and referred to those women who may lose their jobs due to layoffs. He stated the department heads should be giving concessions as well.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on April 6, 2009.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on April 6, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held April 13, 2009 (Budget Deliberation session).

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on April 13 2009 (Budget Deliberations session). Motion carried unanimously.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Blake recognized members of the Kimball Report Implementation Team present to give a status report.

Mr. Studer stated it has been 6 weeks since this Board empowered their team to look at implementation of the Kimball report. He stated they have met with a number of the department heads in the City including Planning and Zoning and the Building Department. Mr. Studer stated they have also had site visits with representatives from other municipalities, specifically Building and Planning and Zoning individuals. He stated the trips have been helpful and that they continue to gather information.

Mr. Novack also spoke concerning the signage recommendation at Parsons Complex. He reported they had met with staff at Building and Planning and zoning to put together some type of signage at the 5 entrances to the Parsons complex.

Ald. Patterson asked about the draft of the demolition delay Ordinance and if the Team would be reviewing it and forwarding recommendations to the Ordinance Committee for its next meeting.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the specific towns they visited.

Mr. Studer replied Shelton and Danbury. He also reported a member of the Team visited the Town of Greenwich. He stated they were also looking to speak with representatives from Fairfield and Farmington.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Richetelli stated he respectfully was submitting items 8a-8e for the Board's consideration. He stated in addition he would ask the Board to consider item 9a which was found at their station regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through JAG and urged the Board's passage of these items.

7. Unfinished Business:

None.

8. New Business:

8a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for approval of the appointment of (R) Vincent Rositani, 140 Red Bush Lane to the position of Constable to fill the unexpired term of the late (R) Robert b. Serrano, Jr. in accordance with Article II, Section 6 of the Charter of the City of Milford. Term to expire 11/16/09. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jepson swore in Mr. Rositani.

8b. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the Resolution Re: Establishment of Historic District Study Committee – Gulf Street Area.

Ald. Manning asked if there needed to be a public hearing for the formation. She also read the language from sub-section (1) and asked if they could add language *“and that it is with Board of Aldermen approval”*.

Attorney Smith responded there did not need to be a public hearing to establish the Committee.

Ald. Manning asked about hearings.

Attorney Smith explained that is later on in the process. He also stated there is a detailed State Statute which explains the process.

Ald. Manning stated the wording gives the Mayor authorization and asked if they could add language *“with board of Aldermen approval”*.

Mayor Richetelli pointed out this is the exact Resolution this Board approved for the establishment of the South of the Green Committee and that the same language was taken from there. He stated he believed the Statute says Mayor or Board of Aldermen.

Chairman Blake asked for a thumbnail sketch of the process as to the study.

Attorney Smith asked if he was asking about the establishment of the district or commission.

Chairman Blake responded the entire process from start.

Attorney Smith stated it was his recollection from the South of the Green Historic District that the Committee meets and then works to determine if the area under consideration meets criteria for the establishment of a historic district. He went on to explained the proposed boundaries which also factor in. He stated the process does not happen in matter of weeks, but can take up to years.

Ald. Nunno and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to amend the main motion and add the language *“with Board of Aldermen approval”*. Motion carried unanimously.

On the main motion, motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the contract for Professional Services by and between the City of Milford and Tax Management Associates, Inc., dba Tax Management, Inc. for Municipal Personal Property Tax Audits and Discovery Service.

Mayor Richetelli stated the City Assessor along with principals from Tax Management Associates were present this evening. He introduced Mark Cooke, Bob Lucas and Chip Bourgeault and gave the background of what brought them here. Mayor Richetelli stated he would strongly recommend the Board pass this stating the work they do would bring in new revenue to Milford with no risk or cost to the taxpayer.

Ald. Blacketter asked if this was replacing an existing service.

Mr. Thomas explained historically and typically in a municipality this specialized function is outsourced.

Chairman Blake asked what towns do this service in-house.

Mr. Thomas responded none that he was aware of. He commented he knows of one assessor that has the specialty, but he is unemployed. He stated they are not certified public accounts.

Ald. Vetro asked the percentage of performance in their experience.

Mr. Cooke asked if he meant compliance. He explained they do not correct, they audit to make sure what they are reporting is done correctly.

Ald. Manning stated it indicates up to 1,500 businesses and questioned how those businesses would be selected.

Mr. Thomas responded all those accounts that have an assessment of \$50,000 or higher would be assessed.

Ald. Manning expressed concern this would send out a signal Milford is not business friendly and expressed concern since Milford is known as a business friendly community. She also expressed concern regarding the recourse of action being through the courts. She also asked who would oversee this.

Mr. Thomas explained the only appeal is not through the Courts and that it is first with the Assessor's Office. He stated the Assessor has final approval of all assessments. He also pointed out all taxpayers would be notified. He explained the process in detail.

Ald. Manning asked what would go out to the business owner.

Mr. Thomas stated once the selection portion is done the business owner would receive a letter signed by him notifying them they will be going through the audit process. He pointed out this is all done in accordance with State Statute which explained the process.

Mr. Cooke added integrated into the audit is an education process and explained how it works.

Mayor Richetelli stated the City would continue to remain a business friendly community and that this process was not in any way to be construed as anti-friendly. He stated businesses of all sizes should rely on the fact that everyone is paying their fair share of taxes and that is what this audit will find. He stated it would also provide the ability to correct any inaccuracies as well as provide fairness to the residential residents as well.

Ald. Willey asked with a City this size what the outcome of the audit might be and also high much in taxes could be expected.

Mr. Cooke responded it would revenue would be difficult to come up with. He explained 1/3 is to the adjustment to the audit and 2/3 not the audit. He reiterated it would not be able at this point without the variables in place to project a dollar amount.

Ald. Willey asked the last time and audit like this was done.

Mr. Thomas replied it was prior to his coming to Milford.

Chairman Blake stated he read in the newspaper the Mayor was projecting \$200,000.

Mr. Thomas responded it could be reasonable, but again it would be too hard to protect.

Mayor Richetelli stated the number could be higher, but the number he projected was a conservative one.

Chairman Blake asked if the 25% fee was an industry standard.

Mr. Cooke responded it varies depending on the environment. He explained the complexity of the auditing process and stated 25% is the lower end of the spectrum. He stated the industry standard is usually 35%.

Chairman Blake what the lowest figure the company has offered.

Mr. Cooke responded 25%.

Mayor Richetelli pointed out of the three companies Tax Management was the lowest.

Ald. Rosen referred to page 9 of the contract and asked about audit fees and discovery fees the first year or each.

Mr. Cooke explained with regard to discovery services annually how it is filed. With regard to audit fees he explained it is for the business that possible has not even filed in the past. He stated the main focus is business and proper audits.

Ald. Blacketter asked if the 45% discovery fee is for the first year or a carryover fee.

Mr. Cooke replied it is a onetime fee.

Ald. Blacketter asked the typical amount of time they would spend with a business.

Mr. Cooke responded it would depend on the size of the business. He stated an average time would be 1 hour.

Ald. Nunno asked if a cost analysis had been done, this service as opposed to hiring someone in-house.

Mayor Richtelli responded it was considered and determined very quickly the City just did not have the personnel to do it on the scale it should be done. He stated if they did it in-house they would only be able to use one person and the cost gained would be very small. He stated there is no cost to the taxpayer.

Ald. Nunno asked if we knew that hiring additional personnel would exceed the 25%.

Mayor Richetelli explained this is a very specialized area. He stated you need to be a CPA to do this work. He also pointed out these gentlemen are the experts and that he would venture to say this is a much more cost effective way.

Chairman Blake asked if all members were CPAs or if they sign off on the work.

Mr. Cooke responded they are a firm of 130 and explained their specializations.

Chairman Blake asked how many are CPAs.

Mr. Cooke responded he did not know off the top of his head.

Ald. Toohey spoke at length concerning comments made regarding the 25% and work done out of what is collected and the comparison of a service and a person.

Mayor Richetelli responded it is not just one person; it is also the support services Tax Management has to offer. He also stated this is just not the time to add staff to the budget, especially if they do not collect. He stated Tax Management has been very successful and effective in collecting.

Ald. Manning asked about making a revision in the agreement to #25 and asked if language could be added to the effect that all records are returned to the City of Milford.

Mr. Cooke responded all work conducted goes back to the Assessor who will maintain the records.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blake deferred to Ald. Nunno for the next item.

Ald. Nunno and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to reconsider the approval of the Revised Redevelopment Plan for the Army Repair Facility located at 26 Seeman's Lane, Milford – namely – the LRA voted on February 23, 2009 to utilize the existing building for Health Department facilities and as storage of Homeland Security equipment/vehicles and other related activities for which a Public Benefit conveyance would be possible. Specifically, Ald. Nunno and Ald. Veccharelli moved to amend the previously adopted amendment and strike the “and/or” provision and replace the same with “and”.

Chairman Blake pointed out Ald. Nunno and Ald. Veccharelli had voted at that April meeting for this change.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Richetelli stated the Board still needed to consider the action on the agenda.

8d. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve the request for approval of the Revised Redevelopment Plan for the Army Repair Facility located at 26 Seeman's Lane, Milford – namely – the LRA voted on February 23, 2009 to utilize the existing building for Health Department facilities and as storage of Homeland Security equipment/vehicles.

Mayor Richetelli stated Gary Puryear was present if anyone had questions.

Ald. Rosen commented it was prudent as a committee that this Board make every effort to retain this property.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request to authorize the City to submit application to the U.S. Department of Energy – National Energy Technology Laboratory for the Recovery Act – Energy Efficiency and conservation Block Grant in the amount of \$536,100 +/- (Application form SF 424 and required attachments) and to authorize the Mayor to sign said application and all other required documents. The Board of aldermen further authorizes the Finance Director to prepare and execute Attachment B-2 (Financial Management Assessment) and to accept receipt of grant funds, establishing an account to deposit funds and account for the disbursements of such funds. The Community Development Block Grant Coordinator, with the cooperation of various City and Board of Education departments and in accordance with the recommendations of the Clean Energy Task Force, will establish and prepare Attachment B-1, Project Activity File and Attachment D, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (EECS) within 120 days of the effective date of the award.

Mayor Richetelli stated Tom Ivers, Block Grant Coordinator was present for questions. He stated Mr. Ivers would oversee this grant and is also the Chair of the Clean Energy Task Force and they have been working on strategies for some time.

Chairman Blake asked if projects have been identified for every dollar of the \$536,000.

Mr. Ivers responded no. He explained the work involved and stated they are focusing on the development of a strategy and will then prioritize the most cost effective.

Ald. Manning commented during budget deliberations they asked all department heads to touch base with him regarding their capital improvement budgets.

Mr. Ivers stated this program is completely new and that they are starting out with a \$250,000 advance to get started.

Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Bier and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to authorize the City of Milford to explore possible alternative locations for the proposed YMCA Cell Tower on other City/State property. (Request of Alderman Brian Bier).

Ald. Bier stated basically they wanted to say as a Board of Aldermen that they will allow Park, Recreation & Beach to explore the possibility of Eisenhower Park.

Ald. Manning asked if they actually need something like this or if they have to give clearance and if so, do they need a Resolution or Ordinance.

Mayor Richetelli stated this is somewhat unique. He explained the YMCA is under contract with a pending application. He stated by the action of this Board at the last meeting it put the Sitting Counsel on notice this Board was opposed to the site. He stated this would encourage Cellco to explain other possibilities and allow the City to entertain those other possibilities. He stated currently they are not under any obligation to look any further. He stated this motion would give Cellco the opportunity to open the line of communications.

Ald. Blacketter asked if the sites being brought up would go through Park Recreation & Beach.

Mayor Richetelli responded yes. He noted Eisenhower Park has been mentioned. He stated once a site has been deemed appropriate or comparable it would have to come before the various Boards for approval.

Ald. Bier followed up stating through the agenda item, this Board was saying we are interested in allowing Cellco to look elsewhere in Milford.

Ald. Patterson asked if this Board had the authority to speak on behalf of the State.

Mayor Richetelli explained this is City and State property in that area. He stated this was simply looking to cast other possibilities, but certainly it was not saying we would commit the State, but just look at other properties.

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. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to add to the agenda the Request of the Milford Police Department to apply for and accept the 2009 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the amount of \$79,567.00 (+-) to be used in accordance with the memo from Lieutenant T. Connor to Chief K. Mello dated May 4, 2009 and to authorize the Mayor and the Police Chief to take all steps necessary to effectuate the grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the Request of the Milford Police Department to apply for and accept the 2009 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in the amount of \$79,567.00 (+-) to be used in accordance with the memo from Lieutenant T. Connor to Chief K. Mello dated May 4, 2009 and to authorize the Mayor and the Police Chief to take all steps necessary to effectuate the grant.

Ald. Manning requested at 5-minute recess to digest the information just received tonight.

Mayor Richetelli pointed out Lt. Connor was here tonight to answer any questions the Board might have.

The Board recessed at 9:15 p.m.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in public session at 9:21 p.m.

Chairman Blake commented the purpose of the grant is for the creation and preservation of jobs. He asked why not for salary or jobs in the Milford Police Department.

Lt. Connor explained there is a separate grant for that. He stated this is the JAG program which is one of many programs designed to create and preserve police jobs.

Mayor Richetelli stated they do plan on applying through the COPS program for additional personnel for Milford.

Chairman Blake stated he wished to clarify this grant could not be used to create or preserve jobs.

Lt. Connor responded he could not be used to pay salaries.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Budget Memo Transfers

(a) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer 15, Fund 10, FY 2008-2009. Motion carried unanimously.

(b) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer No. 16, Fund 10, FY 2008-2009. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$20,698.20. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – Chairman Patterson reported the Committee met earlier in the evening to discuss one Ordinance and that it was unanimously forwarded to the full Board as amended.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance Establishing Chapter 7, Article V, Sections 7-77 through 7-83 of the Milford Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford (Open Burning) as amended.

Ald. Vitali commented although the additional language was accepted by many here tonight, he could not support this. He went on to comment on the clean energy bill passed tonight, cell fuels, etc that this Board is in favor of and yet we want to allow to put the harshest of carcinogens into the air. He stated he did not understand the rationale when this Board consistently talks of clean air, going green, hybrids, etc. He stated he did not know what this Board would choose to vote for this. He stated with regard to the nuisance piece after the fire department has been called its already too late as persons have already inhaled these fumes.

Ald. Veccharelli stated this is a starting place and a better alternative and gives some type of recourse. He stated the public wants their safety protected and want that. He also spoke to the individual who wants to have a small fire in their backyard for recreational purposes and that they want to have a good neighbor policy. He also pointed out it is spelled out in the Ordinance what a nuisance is. He also stated people in the audience are asking for help. He stated without this there was little control and with this Ordinance at least there is some control. He stated it might not be the best and it could be improved on, but there is a responsibility on both sides of the aisle to do this. He reiterated it is marginally better than what they had.

Ald. Ditchkus apologized for being late due to a family emergency. He stated he wasn't in favor of the Ordinance and that he still has concerns with it. He stated it is judgmental. He stated he also had concerns with the costs involved with this and sending someone out each time the fire department is called. He stated with the difficult economic times they would be burdening the taxpayers. He asked if any kind of a cost analysis had been done.

Chief LaVecchia stated when they get called out today, they really do not have jurisdiction. He stated the only thing they currently have under State Statute is a "hostile fire". He stated the fire officer would make the determination.

Ald. Ditchkus asked how a situation would be handled late at night.

Chief LaVecchia stated the responding engine would go out with an officer. He stated currently they get numerous calls to the same address with no action taken.

Ald. Toohey asked with those actions if he knew if they would be able to take action.

Chief LaVecchia stated he did not have the numbers with him, but that they get at least 2-3 per month. He explained how weather conditions would factor in.

Ald. Toohey commented she was getting a sense this would not change how the department handles calls. She asked if they would still put out fires.

Chief LaVecchia stated currently it is really a bluff. He stated this Ordinance would allow persons to get permits. He also spoke of the person who wished to burn land and how they respond.

Ald. Ditchkus asked how they would determine a nuisance, if it was wind, etc.

Chief LaVecchia responded it would fall under the guidelines as well as size. He stated it is not uncommon to get calls where the entire block is covered with smoke. He stated they are not looking to stop cooking or campfires.

Ald. Blacketter read the language from the Ordinance as it pertains to an open burning certificate.

Chief LaVecchia stated it is part of the permit process.

Chairman Blake took the opportunity to congratulate Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Cooke on his pending retirement and wished him luck.

By roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Rosen, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Willey) and 2 no (Ditchkus, Vitali).

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – no report.

c. Public Works Committee – Ald. Vetro reported the ball fields are ready. He also reported as to paving.

Ald. Veccharelli commented the reason it was only he and Ald. Toohey that went out to Anderson Avenue is because they are the liaisons to the Public Works Department. He stated under adverse conditions, i.e. icy roads, fog, etc, there could be concern because the guardrails are rotted. He stated the Public Works Director would look into this.

- 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 – Ald. Hardiman reported work is ongoing at the clubhouse and that a color had been selected to paint the clubhouse and it is not Kelly green. He also reported on the number of rounds for the month.

- m. Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.
- n. Milford Academy Community Campus Bldg. Committee – no report
- o. Courthouse Expansion Committee – no report.
- p. Liaison Health Department – no report.
- q. Milford Legislative Action Committee – no report.
- r. Devon Revitalization Committee – no report.

s. Human Services Commission – Ald. Vetro reported notices had been sent out in response to the end of the moratorium on electric/heating services. He also reported the “Rent-A-Kid” program was in full swing and to call the office for further information. He reported the Youth and Family Day would be held on May 30, 2009. Also, therapy sessions are provided by calling HRD directly.

t. Liaison Police Commission – Ald. Vetro reported the Police Department is looking forward to the grant. He also reported they have 9 new window cameras.

- u. Liaison Pension & Retirement Board – no report.
- v. Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) – 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 Ratification of Successor Collective Bargaining Agreements between the city of Milford and:

Chairman Blake stated the full Board along with the Mayor and City Attorney would be going into Executive Session.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to go into Executive Session regarding the item announced above by Chairman Blake.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:50 p.m.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in Public Session at 10:27 p.m.

14a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve Ratification of Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Milford Supervisors Association (MSA). Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey moved to adjourn at 10:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary