

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 1, 2015**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, June 1, 2015 in the aldermanic chambers of 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.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Anderson
B. Bier
M. Casey
S. Fontana
D. German
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman
D. Kubek
S. Shaw
F. Smith
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali

Also Present

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

Excused

J. Golden
G. Stanford

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.

J. Amann - 515 Pope's Island Road – stated it was nice to in beautiful City Hall, recognizing many of the predecessors he worked with. He expressed his appreciation of the Board's public service to the City. He stated he had a simple request and that he had spoken with Ald. Veccharelli and Fontana asking them to put on next month's agenda the discussion of the patio at Eli's Restaurant. He asked the Board to please put the matter on their agenda next month. He commented Eli's has been a great addition to the City. Mr. Amann thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

A. Jagoe - 1 Morningside Drive - requested if the Board takes up Mr. Amann's request to add something to the agenda tonight, that the Chairman recognizes her at that time.

S. Fisk - 40 Branca Court – stated she has been on a quest to get sewers in the Erna Street area which is where her business is located. She stated all the businesses in that area are on septic systems. She stated she also went to the Sewer Commission to pursue this as well. She stated she cannot expand her business without sewers. She stated she has approximately 11 employees and

that her business is to supply parts for the government. She stated it is a very important project for them. She stated she has spoken with the aldermen in her district where she resides but not the district where her business is located. Asking that Erna Avenue be included in the recent funding the sewer commission received. She stated she was looking for whatever support the aldermen could provide. She stated the business owners on Erna Avenue would like to be a part of the \$1.7M grant that the city was awarded.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on May 4, 2015.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 4, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting. None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro asked the aldermen to keep Ald. Stanford in their thoughts and prayers as she recovers from a fall and surgery. He also stated he wanted to wish all the fathers a Happy Father's Day.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake asked the Board's consideration of items 8a-8g and stated he would be happy to answer any questions as they come up. He also pointed out next month's meeting would take place on July 6, 2015. Mayor

Blake also stated he was pleased to announce Milford is hosting its summer kickoff on July 2, 2015.

7. Unfinished Business – None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request per the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board dated May 21, 2015 for the acquisition of a sidewalk easement at 72 Old Field Lane, and to authorize the Mayor, Director of Public Works and City Attorney's Office to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said acquisition. Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request regarding the Agreement with the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority for road maintenance and resurfacing and to authorize the Mayor, Director of Public Works and City Attorney to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Shaw asked about the timing of the project on Point Beach.

Mr. Saley stated there was a little snag at the end of Richard Street. He explained they are in the process of getting new catch basins installed. He stated once that is done they will continue with the milling and paving work.

Ald. Shaw asked if the timeframe is 2, 4 or 6 months.

Mr. Saley stated they are seeking out contractors at this point. He stated he just could not give a definitive answer as to time at this point. He also spoke of discussions with the City Engineer in getting other projects done this way throughout Milford.

Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Pre-Development Grant under the Housing for Economic Development Growth Program (Incentive Housing Zone Study). Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Founder's Walkway Improvement Grants. Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Establishment of Account Related to Hazard Mitigation Program Sub-Grants.

Ald. Shaw expressed appreciation of the Economic Development Office. She asked Ms. Nash about a timeframe for reimbursement.

Ms. Nash stated she wished she could provide an answer and went on to explain the process.

8f. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer #3 (General Maintenance – Golf Course). Motion carried unanimously.

8g. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Technical Waiver of Bid for Clean out of the Sanitary Sewer Pipe Line from New Haven Avenue back to the Gulf Pond Pump Station, including the Wet Wells.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if this was going under New Business.

Mayor Blake explained this item came up after the leadership meeting. He stated the project is necessary so that the system does not fail and could not wait until the July meeting.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the background regarding this request and recognized the Public Works Director who was present.

Mr. Saley stated last fall they were doing the Indian River Interceptor. He explained during a high tide effect it was found that the contractor failed to secure the pipe, which resulted in a back up. He stated there are only 2 or 3 companies that have expertise in doing this work.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the contractor would be held responsible with reimbursement to the city.

Attorney Berchem stated he could not comment on pending litigation. He explained this was brought to his attention after the leadership meeting that it could not wait, but that they would pursue it.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the contractor has worked with the city before.

Mr. Saley stated they have not selected a contractor as yet. He explained the complexities of the clean out.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the line itself had been compromised.

Mr. Saley stated they tried to look at the pipe through a camera, but they just don't know how much debris is in the pipe, but they are aware of the backup.

Ald. Giannattasio asked the timeframe in getting the work done.

Mr. Saley stated the hope was to start the work next month.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the wildlife in that area had been affected. He also asked when incident occurred.

Mr. Saley stated it was back in the fall, but initially they were not aware of the full scope of the work.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the sewer commission was aware of this.

Mr. Saley replied yes.

Attorney Berchem stated he wished to clarify the city had received an estimate, not a bid. He stated the city would be seeking two additional estimates.

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. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Budget Memo Transfers #11 and 12, Fund 10, FY15. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Bier asked what the transfers were for.

Mayor Blake stated the lion's share of the transfer was for the public works department. He stated there was an issue with the gas void which is obsolete. He explained the wastewater costs to get rid of the sludge and an additional amount for chemicals. He also stated it included building maintenance costs for roof issues, one which was an emergency basis at the Parsons Auditorium.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$9,391.55. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. Smith reported the Ordinance Committee met earlier in the evening to consider two Ordinances. He explained the Ordinance documents classification of the new positions created during budget deliberations; the accountant position and the open space/natural resources agent. He stated the Ordinance also documents the employee pay grades and classifications.

12a-1 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve consideration of an Ordinance Amending an Ordinance Establishing Compensation of City Officials and Employees in the Service of the City of Milford.

Ald. Vitali stated these two positions were discussed during budget deliberations. He reiterated the accountant position was putting the cart before the horse and that the technology piece should be completed first. With regard to the open space agent, he stated he felt a new department should not have been created, but that the position could have absorbed into another department. He spoke of potential costs, i.e. secretary, computer, office supplies, etc.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he wanted to make sure the proper individuals were notified as to this Ordinance. He pointed out the errors in the distribution and that he had shared his concerns with Mayor Blake. He stated the Ordinance notice as sent out was just plain embarrassing. Ald. Giannattasio stated his position has not changed; he stated he is not in favor of adding these two positions. Intuitively, it just doesn't make sense. To Ald. Vitali's point, Ald. Giannattasio stated this Board was now adding benefits, insurance, etc. Also, he stated it has been brought to his attention that there is a seasonal temporary working in the department.

Ald. Anderson commented there are department heads that have occasion to use interns in their office. He stated the city welcomes the idea of these interns having the availability to work in their field of interest.

Mayor Blake added the interns receive course credit and that the City of Milford is not paying any salary.

Ald. Giannattasio stated this position initially was paying the open space agent under a grant.

By roll call vote, the motion carried 7 yes (Anderson, Hardiman, Kubek, Shaw, Smith, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Casey, Fontana, German, Giannattasio, Vitali).

12a-2 Ald. Smith and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to approve consideration of An Ordinance Amending chapter 19, Employment Conditions and Benefits, Article III, Unclassified Officials and Employees Sections 19-16 and 19-17.

Ald. Smith stated this Ordinance is related to the first Ordinance in that it spells out the specifics of the benefits, salary grade, overtime, etc makes this consistent with another position in the city with the existing schedules and grades.

By roll call vote, the motion carried 7 yes (Anderson, Hardiman, Kubek, Shaw, Smith, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Casey, Fontana, German, Giannattasio, Vitali).

- 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 – none.
- 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
Patricia McAndrew v. City of Milford
RE: 543 Plains Road

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

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Shawn made and seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the matters announced above by the Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:34 p.m.

14a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to authorize the City to accept Consideration of Settlement of Patricia McAndrew v. City of Milford, RE: 39 543 Plains Road, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Assessor and City Attorney, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro stated the next meeting would be Monday, July 6, 2015.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Smith moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy
Recording Secretary