

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 2, 2018**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, July 2, 2018 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman P. Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:39 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
A. Giannattasio
J. Grant
M. Hardiman
F. Smith
A. Sutton
J. Tranquilli
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake
S. Fournier, Mayor's Admin Asst.
P. Erodicti, Finance Director
J. Rohrig, City Clerk
J. Berchem, City Attorney (7:45 p.m.)

Excused

J. Golden

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.

S. Glennon – 99 Carlson Drive – here tonight as Chair of the Board of Education. She stated she wanted to take this opportunity to introduce Milford's new superintendent, Dr. Anna Cutaia.

Dr. Cutaia stated she was grateful to the Board of Education for the opportunity to serve the children of the Milford School system and the many stakeholders who she stated she would be reaching out to. Dr. Cutaia stated although her official start date is August 1, she would be in Milford to assure a smooth transition.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on June 4, 2018.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 4, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

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

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro extended a happy and safe 4th of July to all. Thanked Mayor Blake, Public Works and Julie Nash for the wonderful summer kickoff.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Wished everyone a Happy Independence Day. Mayor Blake requested the Board's consideration for item 8a-8c.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

8a. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (R) Albert W. Franke, III, 27 Green Street, 06460, as a member of the Economic Development Commission to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/20).

Ald. Giannattasio commented on Mr. Franke's extensive resume and extended a welcome to him and thanked him for serving.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Rohrig swore in Mr. Franke.

8b Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Grant Application for Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan.

Ald. Anderson noted for the record this application is in its 44th year and that many previous Boards of Alderman have approved this block grant funding since 1974. He stated it is significant and one that should not be passed without comment. He asked Ms. Dravis to outline the grant for the Board.

Ms. Dravis thanked the aldermen, Mayor Blake and City for this funding. She stated they solicited some other funding such as funding for seniors and giving the ability to stay in their homes. Also, some funds for adult education wherein they are able to provide adult scholarships. There is also CDGB monies, also finished the room at McKeon (sp).

Ald. Giannattasio asked about the projects listed on p. 8b and asked if all the projects listed would be addressed with these grants.

Ms. Dravis responded yes.

Ald. Giannattasio asked how the projects were identified.

Ms. Dravis explained the put out a Notice of Funding Availability.

Ald. Vitali asked how they are able to work with the required budget.

Ms. Dravis stated they look at many factors, such as need, revenue and budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 1 (Vehicle Acquisition Program).

Ald. German acknowledged the Public Works Director and asked if he could provide some background regarding the request.

Director Saley stated the allocation is for one new plow truck. He stated one was taken off line due to its age. He also stated they would have a “hook” truck which is multi-facet, one mason dump truck and two F-250 pickup trucks.

Ald. German asked about the beach rake and the need.

Director Saley stated the current beach rake is over 25 years old and getting past its useful life. He also stated is the tool most used in the City.

Mayor Blake stated two of the items have been identified as being a part of the Volkswagen settlement grant regarding diesel vehicle. Hook life and one of the trucks would be eligible.

Ald. Grant asked about the new rake, efficiencies and if it was more modern,

Director Saley stated it is pretty much the same type machine. He stated it is a unique piece that suits the needs of Milford for its beaches.

Ald. Vitali asked Director Saley if he could elaboration as to why the acquisition is not more spread out.

Director Saley explained he has asked for plow trucks over the last two years. He stated this year they were conservative as well as last year.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the hook truck included the additional apparatus.

Director Saley stated the purchase was just the chaise and that they would go out to bid to see where they could get the best bang for their buck.

Ald. Giannattasio asked if the pick up truck would include a plow.

Director Saley replied yes. He stated that was the intention and continued with an explanation of the use of the plows and the wear and tear.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro thanked Director Saley for coming out tonight.

Ald. Vitali asked about the new splash pad and pickleball courts. He questioned whether there would be supervision, cost, etc.

Mayor Blake announced splash and pickle would officially be open on July 4th at noon. He stated they are open to all, and explained there will be two parking lots designated for the splash and pickleball courts. He stated they would be supervised, with some assistance from Recreation as well as Public Works. He also acknowledged Ald. German and his suggestion of recycling the water from the splash pad.

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

None.

11. Refunds

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$341,398.99. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

- a. Ordinance Committee – no report.
- 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 – 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. Consideration of settlement of:
HIT Portfolio II Owner, LLC v. City of Milford
RE: 129 Plains Road
- 14b. Consideration of settlement of:
Woodmont Realty Investors, LLC v. City of Milford
RE: 130 Woodmont Road
- 14c. Consideration of settlement of:
Kelly Dellacroce Family Trust v. City of Milford
RE: 138 Woodmont Road
- 14d. Consideration of settlement of:
15 Research Drive, LLC v. City of Milford
RE: 15 Research Drive
- 14e. Consideration of settlement of:
Rogers Service Co., Inc. v. City of Milford
- 14f. Consideration of settlement of:
Jo De Trust v. City of Milford
RE: 114 Woodmont Road

- 14g. Consideration of settlement of:
The Milford Yacht Club v. City of Milford
RE: 131 Trumbull Avenue

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

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

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:15p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:40 p.m.

14(a) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of HIT Portfolio II Owner, LLC v. City of Milford, regarding 129 Plains Road, 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. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Woodmont Realty Investors, LLC v. City of Milford, regarding 130 Woodmont Road, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(c) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Kelly Dellacroce Family Trust v. City of Milford, regarding 15 Research Drive, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(d) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of 15 Research Drive, LLC v. City of Milford, regarding 15 Research Drive, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(e) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Rogers Service Co., Inc. v. City of Milford, regarding 18 New Haven Avenue, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(f) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of Jo De Trust v. City of Milford, regarding 114 Woodmont Road, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

14(g) Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. made and seconded a motion to authorize settlement in the matter of The Milford Yacht Club v. City of Milford, regarding 131 Trumbull Avenue, in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor, as discussed in Executive Session.

Ald. Veccharelli asked for the opinion of the city attorney as to whether he was allowed to disclose the figure that was discussed concerning the tax break the yacht club would be receiving.

Attorney Berchem stated those figures cannot be discussed. He also pointed out this is not a tax break, but a settlement agreement of a law suit that was filed.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he believed this was a tax break they were receiving. He stated he felt an obligation to his constituents to let them know how this matter was being resolved.

Ald. Smith asked if at some point the revaluation becomes public.

Attorney Berchem stated it could be found on the tax rolls at some point.

Ald. Smith asked what would happen if this item were voted down.

Attorney Berchem stated the matter would go to trial and explained the process, which included hiring experts, obtaining appraisal reports, etc.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he believed the appraisals were biased.

Attorney Berchem explained the process of a tax appeal prior to it coming to this Board.

Ald. Beatty asked if there were a mechanism in place in light of these objections being raised and stated she wished to pass over this item until next month.

Ald. Beatty and Ald. Veccharelli made and seconded a motion to postpone the vote on this item until next month. By roll call vote, the motion carried 12 yes (Anderson, Beatty, Fortunati, Gaynor, German, Giannattasio, Grant, Smith, Sutton, Tranquilli, Vetro) and 2 no (Hardiman, Vitali).

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Beatty and Ald. Sutton moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy
Recording Secretary