

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2009**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Special Organizational meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Mayor Richetelli welcomed called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and welcomed the Board to the organizational meeting, which he stated was being held in accordance with the City of Milford Charter, Article III, Section IV. He asked those present to join rise for the reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bevan
B. Bier
B. Blake
D. German
F. Goodrich
A. Giannattasio
M. Hardiman
B. Joy, Jr.
J. Patterson
G. Smith
P. Smith
P. Staneski
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
R. Vitali

Also Present

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

2. Matters of Organization of the Board of Aldermen:

Mayor Richetelli offered his congratulations to each of the members as Aldermen and expressed his support and cooperation for the betterment of the citizens of Milford. He also congratulated the new City Clerk, Linda Stock stating this was the first meeting without Mr. Jepson, who was the former city clerk for so many years. He wished Mrs. Stock in her new position as City Clerk and stated he looked forward to working with her. He stated there were some housekeeping items. He asked the Board members to complete the "Contact Information Sheet" and return it to him and Ms. DiLullo at the end of the meeting. He also noted the list of meeting dates had been distributed to each member for the 2010 calendar year, which he stated would be filed with the City Clerk following the meeting. He explained the requirement by State statute to file one month before the new calendar year begins. Mayor Richetelli also stated a packet of information was distributed from the City Attorney's Office regarding FOIA information. He stated the city attorney would be happy to answer any questions.

a. Election of Chairman of the Board of Aldermen

Mayor Richetelli recognized Ald. Bier for purposes of recommendation of a Chairman.

Ald. Bier and Ald. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to nominate Ald. G. Smith as the Board's Chairman.

Ald. Bier stated this is Ald. G. Smith's third term as an aldermen having previously served two terms prior to leaving to serve his country in the military. Ald. Bier stated Ald. G. Smith is also the past chairman of the Ordinance Committee and the Public Works Committee and has proved to be a great citizen of Milford. He stated he was confident Ald. G. Smith would serve this Board well and would make a great alderman.

Ald. Goodrich added he has known Ald. G. Smith for several years and is the type of person able to work with.

Mayor Richetelli asked if there were any other nominations.

Hearing none, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Richetelli turned the meeting over to Chairman G. Smith.

Chairman G. Smith thanked Ald. Bier and Ald. Goodrich for the nomination and support. He stated as Chairman he would always try to be fair and would always respect those in the minority. He also stated as third district aldermen, he would represent his district as well as serving the Board.

b. Announcement of Majority and Minority Leaders

Chairman G. Smith recognized Ald. Giannattasio.

Ald. Giannattasio stated the majority nominated to serve as majority leader, Paula Smith and recognized her for her fairness, honesty and hard work.

Chairman G. Smith recognized Ald. Blake.

Ald. Blake stated Ald. Vetro from the fourth district would be the minority's leader. He stated Ald. Vetro has been a member of the Board for the past 6 years and was beginning his fourth term as aldermen. He also pointed out he most recently served as the Board's majority leader.

3. Matters of Administration

a. Appointments of Aldermanic Standing Committees by Aldermanic Chairman.

Chairman G. Smith announced the Aldermanic Standing Committees as follows:

Ordinance Committee: Anthony S. Giannattasio, Acting Chairman, Pamela S. Staneski, Acting Vice Chairman, Paula L. Smith, James J. Patterson and Nick Veccharelli.

Public Works Committee: Bernard F. Joy, Jr., Acting Chairman, Brian Bier, Acting Vice Chairman, Daniel J. German, Nick Veccharelli, Philip J. Vetro.

Claims Committee: Raymond G. Vitali, Acting Chairman, Bill Bevan, Acting Vice Chairman, Pamela S. Staneski, Martin B. Hardiman, Benjamin G. Blake.

Rules Committee : Frank J. Goodrich, Acting Chairman, Daniel J. German, Acting Vice Chairman, Bernard F. Joy, Jr., Benjamin G. Blake, Philip J. Vetro.

Public Safety: Bill Bevan, Acting Chairman, Raymond G. Vitali, Acting Vice Chairman, Frank J. Goodrich, Martin B. Hardiman, James J. Patterson.

Personnel Committee: Gregory M. Smith, Acting Chairman, Paula L. Smith, Acting Vice Chairman, Philip J. Vetro.

Chairman G. Smith asked the committees meet individually to select their chair people.

Ald. Blake requested a recess at 6:18 p.m.

Chairman G. Smith reconvened the Board in public session at 6:33 p.m.

2. Reports of Aldermanic Standing Committees.

Ordinance Committee: Ald. Giannattasio announced he was nominated as Chairman and that Ald. Staneski was serve as Vice Chairman.

Public Works Committee: Ald. Joy, Jr. stated he was elected as Chairman and Ald. Bier as Vice Chairman.

Claims Committee: Ald. Vitali reported he was elected Chairman and Ald. Bevan would serve as Vice Chairman.

Rules Committee: Ald. Goodrich reported he was elected Chairman and Ald. German as Vice Chairman.

Ald. Blake and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to adopt the Aldermanic Rules of Order for 2009-2011 as listed in their packet. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety & Welfare Committee: Ald. Bevan announced he would serve as Chairman and Ald. Vitali as Vice Chairman.

Personnel Committee: Chairman G. Smith stated in accordance with the Charter he would be serving as the Chairman with Ald. P. Smith as Vice Chairman.

3. Voting on adoption of the Aldermanic Rules of Order for the 2009-2011 term. (see above under Rules Committee).

b. Appointments of Liaison Assignments by Aldermanic Chairman.

Chairman G. Smith announced the liaison assignments as follows:

Board of Education: Ald. Patterson and Ald. Vitali
Flood & Erosion Control Board: Ald. Blake and Ald. Bier
Park, Beach & Recreation: Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Bevan
Planning and Zoning Board: Ald. Vetro and Ald. German
Sewer Commission: Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Giannattasio
Harbor Management Commission: Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Bier
Council on Aging: Ald. Vetro and Ald. Staneski
Library Board: Ald. Patterson and Ald. P. Smith
Fowler Memorial Commission: Ald. Blake and Ald. Bevan
Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership: Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. German
Golf Course Commission: Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Joy, Jr.
Inland Wetlands Agency: Ald. Patterson and Ald. Goodrich
Board of Health: Ald. Patterson and Ald. Vitali
Milford Department of Human Services: Ald. Vetro and Ald. Staneski
Pension and Retirement Board: Ald. Blake and Ald. Joy, Jr.
Milford Government Access Television (MGAT): Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Goodrich

c. Appointments of Special Committees by Aldermanic Chairman

Chairman G. Smith announced the appointments of the Special Committees as follows:

Devon Revitalization (per the original Resolution of the Board of Aldermen): Ald. Hardiman, Ald. Smith and Ald. Goodrich

Permanent School Facilities Building Committee: Mr. Matthew B. Woods, Mr. Ronald J. Funaro, Ald. Vitali and Ald. Hardiman.

Chairman G. Smith stated there would be one vacancy at this time. He also stated he would take up the appointments of the Board of Education members at the next meeting, as they were having their organizational meeting this evening as well.

Walnut Beach Enhancement: Board of Aldermen appointment, Ms. Suzanne Manning; Park, Beach and Recreation, Mr. Daniel Worroll; and Joe Garbus and Ald. Goodrich.

4. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Hardiman made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (R) Edward Mead, 67 peak Avenue, 06460, to fill the unexpired term of Frank Jerry Goodrich (elected to the Board of Aldermen) as the third district representative on the Planning and Zoning Board. Term to expire 12/31/09. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Linda Stock swore in Mr. Mead.

5. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. F. Goodrich made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the appointment of (R) Paul Beckwith, 10 Butternut Lane, to the Board of Finance to fill the unexpired term of Paula L. Smith (elected to the Board of Aldermen) term to expire 12/31/11. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Linda Stock swore in Mr. Beckwith.

6. Ald. P. Smith and Ald. Vitali made and seconded a motion to approve the request to authorize the following changes to the FY 2009-2010 budget of the City of Milford as follows:

Fund 0010 – Account 4310 Police Department

a) Account 00104310 4112 9948 0000 Overtime, COPSS (Community Oriented Police Sub-Station) to restore \$10,875 for a total line item of \$35,875 for a subtotal of \$8,910,440 in the Personal Services category; and

b) In the table of organization, restore one Police Officer position which was eliminated at a salary of \$52,085 and authorize the Mayor to take all steps necessary to effectuate these changes.

Ald. Bevan asked for an explanation as to where the money is coming from to fund this.

Mayor Richetelli stated if this item is passed there would be sufficient funds in the regular wages account in the police department due to retirements. He stated those funds would pay for the police officer position and those funds in COPSS. He went on to explain an officer would be hired to go to the next police academy in Hartford and noted two additional officers are scheduled to go to class in December 2009 at the State Police Academy in Meriden.

Ald. Blake raised a point of order. He stated this meeting is a Special Organization meeting and was noticed as such. He stated this particular line item goes beyond the scope of an organization meeting and that he would deem it is more appropriate for a regular meeting. Ald. Blake stated the second point he wished to raise was that the Finance Board had not had an opportunity to review this and pass on their recommendation. He stated it believed it would be appropriate to get their thoughts before moving forward. He stated the Chairman could rule on those two items separately as he wished.

Mayor Richetelli stated as a special meet of the Board of Aldermen you cannot take up items not properly noticed. He stated this meeting was properly noticed with these items. He also explained if there were funds that needed to be transferred outside of the Personnel Services account then this matter would have gone to the Finance Board.

Chairman Blake asked for a ruling on his point of order.

Chairman G. Smith stated he agreed with the Mayor on the points raised.

Ald. Veccharelli questioned why the police officer, if approved, would go to training in Hartford. He stated it was his understanding Milford has an academy.

Mayor Richetelli stated the Milford does run its own academy when they have enough. He stated that number is generally five. He stated there are two officers ready to start in December.

Ald. Patterson asked about item 6a and questioned why approval would be needed from this Board, if it didn't need Finance Board approval.

Mayor Richetelli stated if this Board authorizes that position to be restored he would do a Mayor's transfer and that approval of this would give him the authorization to do that.

Ald. Patterson asked about 6a.

Mayor Richetelli stated that could not be done without authorization from the Board to do the transfer.

Ald. Staneski stated it was her understanding these funds covered seven retirees and that two would go into the State program and one would go in the spring, if there would be any deficient on the force.

Mayor Richetelli explained currently there are five open positions and that initially there were seven retirements. He stated two of those positions were filled at the last class and two more will go in December and one more will go to Hartford in the spring. He also explained all of the union contracts were ratified a few months ago with the exception of the police and the agreement with the hiring of the two positions. He stated with the Board's vote tonight two of the three positions would be filled.

Ald. Blake stated if there are still four openings it seemed it would be more prudent to fill those before moving forward.

Mayor Richetelli stated that is the decision of this Board. He reminded the Board that some candidates had pledged to restore a police officer if elected. If the Board takes that action tonight they would be doing that.

By roll call vote, the motion carried 14 yes (Bevan, Bier, German, Goodrich, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Joy, Patterson, G. Smith, P. Smith, Staneski, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali) and 1 no (Blake).

Ald. Vitali and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary