

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 7, 2021**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their regular meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021 in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall. Chairman Vetro called the meeting to order at 7:30 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

C. Gaynor  
A. Giannattasio  
G. Harla  
W. Smith  
A. Sutton  
J. Tranquilli  
N. Sutton  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali  
W. Willis

Also Present

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
J. Berchem, City Attorney  
P. Erodicti, Finance Director  
J. Rosen, Chief of Staff  
K. Fortunati, CityClerk

Excused

E. Beatty  
J. Golden  
M. Hardiman  
S. Marlow  
F. Smith

**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.

Brandee McHale, 8 Laurel Avenue, stated her concerns for parking in the Walnut Beach area, specifically the seawall at Laurel Avenue. She encouraged parking enforcement and cleanup of the area.

Chairman Vetro stated written comments were received from the following:

Jenn Scopp – 31 Gerard Street  
Brandee and Joseph McHale – 8 Laurel Avenue  
Ashley and John Daley – 50 Cooper Avenue  
Marina Suarez – Address unknown

Kelly Schettino – 24 Cooper Avenue  
Joseph Schettino – 24 Cooper Avenue  
Allison and Stephen Henn – 73 Cooper Avenue  
Nancy Meehan – 13 Cooper Avenue  
Judith Keating – 30 Cooper Avenue  
Alyson Durand – 104 Cooper Avenue  
Heather Coelho – 60 Cooper Avenue

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on May 3, 2021.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 3, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Vetro welcomed everyone to the beginning of the summer season. He expressed his wish for everyone to enjoy the summer and safely.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Blake echoed Chairman Vetro's comments concerning the summer season. He reported the appointment of Catherine Williams (U), 121 Hilltop Circle, 06460, as a member of the Conservation Commission to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/23). Mayor Blake asked the Board of Alderman for their consideration of items 8a-8c on the agenda.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

a. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion a to approve the appointment of (U) Reza Manzouri, 20 Bridgewater A venue, 06460, as a member of the Flood and Erosion Control Board to fill the present vacancy (term expiring 12/31/21 ). Motion carried unanimously.

b. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion a to approve the appointment of (U) Francisco Rodriguez, 69B Robert Treat Drive, 06460, as a member of the Veterans Ceremony and Parade Commission to fill the present (VV A) vacancy (term expiring 12/31/23). Motion carried unanimously.

c. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion a to approve the Materials Management Agreement (NE) between Synagro and the City of Milford and to authorize the Mayor, City Attorney, Public

Works Director, and Wastewater Superintendent to take all steps necessary, including signing all documents, to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he understands the City utilized Synagro at one time. He asked if the bid process is every two years. Jonathan Berchem, City Attorney, stated Synagro had been the hauler at one time and last year a different vendor took over. He further stated the Synagro was the low bidder. Ald. Giannattasio stated the previously Synagro opted out of bidding due to water in the sludge. He asked if provisions are being made to dewater sludge at this time. Attorney Berchem stated he believed dewatering was addressed in the RFP.

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. Vitali made a motion to add update concerning beach activities and resolutions to the agenda.

Mayor Blake stated there will be an update provided under item 13, Reports of Standing Committees. He asked Ald. Vitali if that would be acceptable. Ald. Vitali stated it would and withdrew his motion.

10. Budget Memo Transfers

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve Budget Memo Transfers #7 and #8, Fund 1005, FY 21. Motion carried

11. Refunds

a. Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve refunds in the amount of \$ 63,507.34. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

a. Ordinance Committee.

1. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach and other Restricted Parking Areas).

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Division 1, Generally, Section 14-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford. (Beach and other Restricted Parking Areas).

Ald. W. Smith asked if the ordinance only affects those without beach parking stickers. Mayor Blake stated the ordinance does not change eligibility and addresses 3 items – extends when beaches are opens, formalizes parking penalty adjusted by the Police Commission last year, and changes acquisition of non-resident season passes from Police Department to Recreation Department.

Ald. Giannattasio asked when the parking ban per the emergency order will end. Mayor Blake stated last year there were more visitors to the neighborhood beaches and the emergency order is a reminder to help control parking challenges. He stated the emergency order will likely expire July 20<sup>th</sup>. Ald. Giannattasio stated he believes the best practice is to enforce on the weekends and not weekdays as it is having an adverse effect on residents. Ald. W. Smith asked what would exist beyond on the July 20<sup>th</sup> date. Mayor Blake state the traffic commission may designate some streets with parking restrictions and make necessary adjustments from time to time. Ald. W. Smith asked if Gov. Lamont's emergency orders are extended will this also extend the parking ban. Mayor Blake state the Legislature would have to extend the emergency orders and if that were to happen the local orders would be reviewed.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 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. –

Mayor Blake stated Milford is open and Pirate Day this past weekend was a great success. He stated the beaches are active throughout the City and Recreation and Public Works did and continue to do a great job. Mayor Blake stated there has been a police presence at the beaches and will continue to do so. He stated the Recreation Department is working with Health to open the splash pad.

Ald. Vitali stated there are many illegal activities such as alcohol, marijuana, bicycles, dogs and such. He stated there need to be punitive measures or such activities will continue. Ald. Vitali noted there is a police presence and gates have been erected. He asked who is responsible for locking and unlocking the gates. Mayor Blake stated the ordinance approved tonight provides more control starting May 1<sup>st</sup> and ending September 30<sup>th</sup>. He stated police, beach rangers and lifeguards are working to control the issues. He stated that the ordinance will allow for earlier enforcement and he believe there will be a notable difference as the summer moves forward. Mayor Blake stated the beaches close at 10 p.m. per ordinance and that gates are operated by the Recreation Department in conjunction with the Police Department. He also noted that residents may go to the Recreation Department and obtain an after-hours fishing permit free of charge.

Ald. Parente asked for an explanation of what is public and what is private. Attorney Berchem stated the City beaches are public and the mean high tide is all public.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he is aware of the intent of the ordinance and believes it is a step in the right direction. He stated he disagrees the issues were prior to Memorial Day and that public comment shows that it is a continue issue that needs to be addressed. Mayor Blake stated he agrees beach use has increased. He stated that Public Works has addressed more garbage cans and is making more garbage pickups, including Saturdays and

Sundays. Ald. Giannattasio stated a police presence is important and the mobile command unit should be utilized.

- 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. Liaison Sub-Committee – Library Board – no report.
- i. Liaison Sub-Committee – Veterans Ceremony & Parade Commission – no report
- j. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fine Arts – no report
- k. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership – no report.
- l. Liaison - Golf Course Commission – no report.
- m. Liaison - Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.
- n. Liaison Board of Health – no report.
- o. Liaison – Human Services Commission – no report.
- p. Liaison Sub-Committee - Pension & Retirement Board – no report
- q. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Government Access Television (MGAT) – no report.
- r. Liaison – Economic Development Commission – no report.
- s. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Arts Council – no report.
- t. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Progress, Inc.
- u. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fire Commission
- v. Liaison Sub-Committee – Police Commission
- w. Permanent School Facilities Building Committee

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.

- a. Discussion regarding Trumbull Avenue Revetment Memorandum of Agreement.

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.

Chairman Vetro stated he would entertain a motion to enter into executive session. He stated that joining in executive session would be Mayor Benjamin Blake and City Attorney, Jonathan Berchem.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion regarding Trumbull Avenue Revetment Memorandum of Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board entered into executive session at 8:22 p.m.

Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting in public session at 8:47 p.m.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as discussed in executive session and to authorize the Mayor, and City Attorney and any other necessary parties to sign document to effectuate said agreement.

Ald. W. Smith stated he supports the Memorandum of Agreement but believes other triable nations, specifically the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation, should have been included.

Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, Ald. Sutton and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Toni Jo Weeks", written over a horizontal line.

Toni Jo Weeks  
Recording Secretary