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MILFORD CITY CLERK

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
SPECIAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2019**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Special Organizational meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 in the Board of Education meeting room. Mayor Blake called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and asked those present to rise for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present**

E. Beatty  
C. Gaynor  
A. Giannattasio  
J. Golden  
J. Grant  
M. Hardiman  
G. Harla  
M. Parente  
F. Smith  
W. Smith, III  
A. Sutton  
J. Tranquilli  
P. Vetro  
R. Vitali  
W. Willis

**Also Present**

Mayor Benjamin G. Blake  
Karen Fortunati, City Clerk  
Justin Rosen, Chief of Staff

**2. Matters of Organization of the Board of Aldermen:**

Mayor Blake welcomed the members of the Board to the 2019/2021 term. He congratulated all the newly-elected and re-elected Board members and stated he looked forward to working together.

**a. Election of Chairman of the Board of Aldermen**

Mayor Blake opened up nominations for purposes of nominating a chairman.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Hardiman nominated and seconded Ald. Phil Vetro for Chairman.

Being no further nominations for chairman, Mayor Blake closed nominations.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Blake turned the meeting over to Chairman Vetro.

Chairman Vetro thanked the Board for their support and confidence. He stated he had always been fair to both sides and would continue to do so. He noted there had been differences in the past, but expressed his hope they could work together for the citizens of Milford.

b. Announcement of Majority and Minority Leaders

Ald. Smith stated he was happy to announce Ald. Sutton as the Majority Leader.

Ald. Vitali stated he wished to announce Ald. Giannattasio would serve as the minority leader.

3. Matters of Administration

a. Appointments of Aldermanic Standing Committees by aldermanic chairman

1. Meetings of the Aldermanic Standing Committees for the purpose of electing a Chairman and a Vice Chairman of each committee and conducting any other business pertinent to the Administration of the Standing Committees. Rules Committee to vote on recommended aldermanic Rules of Order for 2019-2021.

Chairman Vetro announced the aldermanic Standing Committees and temporary chairs.

Ordinance Committee: Frank Smith, temp chair, Anthony Sutton, temporary vice chair, Greg Harla, Anthony Giannattasio and Ray Vitali.

Public Works Committee: Janet Golden, temp chair, Ellen Beatty, temporary vice chair, Ward Willis, Anthony Giannattasio, and Ray Vitali.

Claims Committee: Martin Hardiman, temp chair, Janet Golden, temp vice chair, Frank Smith, Win Smith, III and Ray Vitali.

Rules Committee: Michelle Parente, temp chair, Marty Hardiman, temp vice chair, Ward Willis, Win Smith, III, and Jay Tranquilli.

Public Safety & Welfare Committee: Ellen Beatty, temp chair, Michelle Parente, temp vice chair, Greg Harla, Jeremy Grant and Connie Gaynor.

Personnel Committee: Philip Vetro, Chairman, Nick Veccharelli, Vice Chairman and Anthony Giannattasio.

Chairman Vetro stated the Board would stand in recess for the standing committees to meet. The Board recessed at 6:45 p.m. Chairman Vetro reconvened the Board in public session at 7:15 p.m.

2. Reports of the Aldermanic Standing Committees:

Ordinance Committee – Ald. Frank Smith announced he was elected as Chairman and that Ald. Sutton would serve as Vice Chairman.

Public Works Committee – Ald. Beatty announced that Ald. Golden was elected as Chairman and that she would serve as Vice Chairman.

Claims Committee – Ald. Hardiman announced that Ald. Golden was elected as Chairman and that he would serve as Vice Chairman.

Rules Committee – Ald. Parente announced that Ald. Hardiman was elected as Chairman and that Ald. Tranquilli would serve as Vice Chairman.

Public Safety & Welfare Committee – Ald. Beatty announced she was elected as Chairman and that Ald. Grant would serve as Vice Chairman.

Personnel Committee – Chairman Vetro stated he would serve as Chairman with Ald. Sutton as Vice Chairman, in accordance with the City Charter.

3. Voting on the Adoption of the aldermanic Rules of Order for the 2019-2021.

Ald. Sutton and Ald. Golden made and seconded a motion to adopt the Board of Aldermen Rules (2019-2021) as presented.

Ald. Winthrop Smith stated he had concerns with the section 13 for suspending the rules. He stated there was no good reason he could think of to suspend the rules. He would recommend amending that section of the rules.

Ald. Winthrop Smith and Ald. Vitali made and second a motion to amend the Section 13 of the 2019-2021 Proposed Board of Aldermen to require a 2/3 affirmative vote of those present and voting.

Ald. Willis requested a recess. Chairman Vetro stated the Board would take a 5 minute recess. The Board recessed at 7:22 p.m. Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Ald. Frank Smith stated he could not recall a time while he has been on the Board when the rules were suspended. He further stated that rules might require more consideration by the Rules Committee, but he does not see a pressing need to amend this evening. Ald. Smith suggested the Rules Committee schedule future meetings to give the rules the attention they deserve.

Ald. Giannattasio stated he agrees with Ald. Frank Smith that the rules deserve greater attention. He further stated that the suspension of the rules as currently written could be an issue and is glad that Ald. Winthrop Smith brought this up. Ald. Giannattasio does not believe that a simple majority supports the charter and that amending the rules to require a 2/3 vote is in order. He further stated he is not opposed to the rules committee meeting, but it needs to be done in a timely manner. Ald.

Giannattasio stated this should be on the next agenda. He further stated he is in favor of amending to require 2/3.

Ald. Sutton stated rules may be amended after adoption. He further stated the rules should be adopted this evening and the rules committee should meet to review.

Motion as amended failed 6 in favor (Gaynor, Giannattasio, Grant, W. Smith, Tranquilli, Vitali), 8 against (Beatty, Golden, Hardiman, Parente, F. Smith, Sutton, Vetro, Willis).

Main motion passed 8 in favor (Beatty, Golden, Hardiman, Parente, F. Smith, Sutton, Vetro, Willis), 6 against (Gaynor, Giannattasio, Grant, W. Smith, Tranquilli, Vitali).

b. Appointments of Liaison Assignments by Aldermanic Chairman.

Board of Education: Janet Golden, Raymond Vitali  
Flood & Erosion Control Board: Michelle Parente, Connie Gaynor  
Park, Beach & Recreation: Ward Willis, Connie Gaynor  
Planning and Zoning Board: Anthony Sutton, Win Smith, III  
Sewer Commission: Marty Hardiman, Jay Tranquilli  
Harbor Management Commission: Greg Harla, Ray Vitali  
Council on Aging: Ward Willis, Connie Gaynor  
Library Board: Frank Smith, Jeremy Grant  
Veterans Ceremony & Parade Comm: Janet Golden, Jay Tranquilli  
Fine Arts: Frank Smith, Connie Gaynor  
Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership: Ward Willis, Win Smith, III  
Golf Course Commission: Marty Hardiman, Ray Vitali  
Inland Wetlands Agency: Michelle Parente, Jeremy Grant  
Board of Health: Ellen Beatty, Ray Vitali  
Department of Human Services: Ellen Beatty, Jay Tranquilli  
Pension and Retirement Board: Ellen Beatty, Win Smith, III  
Milford Government Access Television (MGAT): Janet Golden, Jeremy Grant  
Economic Development Commission: Greg Harla, Win Smith, III  
Milford Arts Council: Frank Smith, Connie Gaynor  
Milford Progress, Inc.: Ellen Beatty, Win Smith, III  
Fire Commission: Michelle Parente, Anthony Giannattasio  
Police Commission: Philip Vetro, Anthony Giannattasio

c. Appointments of Special Committees by Aldermanic Chairman

Chairman Vetro announced the appointments of the Special Committees as follows:

Permanent School Facilities Building Committee: Matthew Woods (R), Citizen, Robert Nunno (D), Citizen, Mark Ahrens (D), Citizen, Ald. Raymond Vitali, Ald. Martin Hardiman, Warren Pawlowski (D), BOE and Andy Fowler (R), BOE.

Ald. Hardiman and Ald. Golen made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Toni Jo Weeks  
Recording Secretary