

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their regular meeting on Monday, September 11, 2023, 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

M. Arciuolo
E. Beatty
M. Casey
D. German
A. Giannattasio
S. Marlow
J. Moffitt
C. Moore
H. Mulrenan
M. Parente
P. Vetro
R. Vitali
W. Willis

Also Present

Mayor Richard M. Smith
J. Berchem, City Attorney
K. Fortunati, City Clerk
J. Rosen, Chief of Staff

Excused:

B. Broesder
R. Pacelli

Mayor Smith welcomed Milford Little League Juniors softball team and Milford Little League 12 & Under softball team. He recognized both teams on their hard work and achievements. Mayor Smith presented proclamations to both teams on behalf of the City. State Senator James Maroney, State Representative Kathy Kennedy and State Representative Frank Smith presented both teams with State citations recognizing their hard work and achievements.

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.

Gary Frankel, 11 Grapevine Road, spoke about the condition of Jepsen Drive.

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board Aldermen held on August 7, 2023.

Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board Aldermen held on August 7, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Organizational Meeting.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications

Chairman Vetro reminded everyone the Irish Festival is this weeks and Octoberfest is September 23rd.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations

Mayor Smith commented on the 9/11 ceremony at Live Oaks earlier today. He discussed creation of Mayor's Safety Committee and safety protocols. He stated the ordinance posted for this evening has been withdrawn. Mayor Smith discussed salaries and the need to look at the salary structure. He discussed performing a salary study. Mayor Smith discussed hosting an open house for appointed boards and commissions. He discussed addressing teachers at the recent convocation and greeting students upon return to school. He asked for approval of items 8a through 8d.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

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

(8a) Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the appointment of (D) Ralph Mayo, Jr., 38 West Main Street, Unit 3, 06460, as a member of the Golf Course Commission, to file he present vacancy, term to expire 12/31/23.

Ald. Parente asked for background of Mr. Mayo. Justin Rosen provided a brief background on Mr. Mayo.

Motion carried unanimously.

(8b) Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the Service Level Agreement between the City of Milford and New Era for VOIP service and to authorize the Mayor, Finance Director, City Attorney and IT Manager to take all steps necessary to effectuate said Agreement, including signing all documents. Motion carried unanimously.

(8c) Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) in accordance with Planning & Zoning Memorandum Re: Referral of the draft Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) to the Board of Aldermen under CGS 8-23(h).

Ald. Vitali discussed letters received from citizens. He asked if the plan has priorities built into the POCD. David Sulkis, City Planner, stated the POCD is a guidance document not an implementation document. He discussed state requirements and efforts of the Planning & Zoning Board in developing the plan. Mr. Sulkis stated the plan takes into account the affordable housing plan adopted by the City. He stated the POCD is a guideline that anyone can use. Ald. Vitali asked why a draft is being voted on rather than a final copy. Mr. Sulkis stated state statute requires a draft be presented to the Board of Aldermen for review and guidance. He stated the Board of Aldermen is part of the process for the Planning & Zoning Board to adopt the POCD. Ald. Vitali asked if the public attends the Planning & Zoning Board for comment rather than the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Sulkis stated the Board of Aldermen may have a public comment session provided it is completed within the time limits required by statute. Ald. Willis asked if the POCD has been effective. Mr. Sulkis reiterated it is a planning/guidance document. Ald. Marlow stated the POCD is setting the direction for ordinances and regulations to be adopted as may be necessary. He asked how recommendations and goals in the POCD are followed upon. Mr. Sulkis discussed how Planning & Zoning Board will utilize as a guidance document. He discussed how other agencies within the City may use the POCD as a guide for projects. Ald. Marlow asked how recommended studies are funded. Mr. Sulkis reiterated the POCD is a guidance document, and no department or agency is required to do such study. He discussed how developers may use the POCD. Ald. Marlow discussed housing and land use map within the POCD. He discussed his concerns with voting on a draft. Ald. Marlow asked if an Architectural Review Board would be considered in the future. Mr. Sulkis discussed the difficulties in creating such a board. Ald. Arciuolo asked if the POCD has the ability to make Milford more affordable. Mr. Sulkis stated the POCD provides the guidance to the Planning & Zoning Board to amend regulations. He stated it can also be used for guidance for programs to reach goals. Ald. Casey asked plans for underutilized commercial properties. Mr. Sulkis discussed using the POCD as a guide and basis for requesting changes to underutilized commercial properties. Ald. Giannattasio asked what changes within the POCD stand out. Mr. Sulkis discussed the CDD-3 zone currently prohibiting housing, but with its proximity to the downtown area it might be an ideal location for a zoning amendment to allow for housing. Ald. Giannattasio asked if the POCD can be amended by Planning & Zoning following approval by the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Sulkis stated there will be at least one more public hearing, then draft may then be amended and adopted. Ald. Moffitt asked once approved by Planning & Zoning what happens when a developer presents an application in contradiction of the POCD. Mr. Sulkis discussed approvals of plans must be in compliance with zoning regulations. Ald. German asked what happens if the Board does not approve the POCD. Mr. Sulkis stated the Board of Aldermen is advisory and the final POCD will be adopted by the Planning & Zoning Board. Ald. Parente asked if approval is needed in order to move to the next step. Attorney Jonathan Berchem stated the statute requires that 65 days prior to adopting the Planning & Zoning

Board shall submit a copy of the POCD to the legislative body to endorse or reject the plan. The legislative body may hold one or more public hearings, can submit comments, recommended changes. He stated the Board of Aldermen's action is not dispositive of the POCD. It will remain a draft until such time as it is adopted by the Planning & Zoning Board.

Motion carried 10 in favor (Arciuolo, Beatty, Casey, Giannattasio, Moffitt, Moore, Mulrenan, Parente, Vetro, Willis), 3 against (German, Marlow, Vitali).

(8d) Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve Allocation Transfer No. 2 (Vehicles & Equipment – Public Works and Police). Motion carried unanimously.

9. New Business not on the Agenda that may be introduced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting.

None

Ald. Willis requested a 5-minute recess. Chairman Vetro announced a 5-minute recess at 9:24 p.m. Chairman Vetro reconvened the meeting at 9:29 p.m.

10. Budget Memo Transfers.

Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve Budget Memo Transfers #13 and #14, Funds 1005 and 2812. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds

11a. Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve refunds in the amount of \$278,232.52. 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 – 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. 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. – no report.
- u. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fire Commission – no report.
- v. Liaison Sub-Committee – Police Commission – no report.
- w. Permanent School Facilities Building Committee – 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.

Chairman Vetro requested a motion to enter executive session to consider item 14(a).

Ald. Giannattasio and Ald. Casey made and seconded a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Vetro announced those entering Executive Session for item 14(a) would be the full Board of Aldermen, Mayor Smith, City Attorney, Jonathan Berchem and Assessor, Marcus Irrek.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:32 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

Ald. Beatty and Ald. Giannattasio made and seconded a motion to approve settlement of GDKD, LLC v. City of Milford, Re: 80 Collingsdale Drive as discussed in executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

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

The Board adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Jo Weeks
Recording Secretary