

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 01, 2013

Honorable Mayor, Mark D. Boughton, called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm in the Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER

Mr. Antonio Iadarola led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Member Curran led everyone in the room in a prayer.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Philip D. Curran, Michael J. Haddad Sr., Jack Knapp, Warren Levy, Gregg Seabury, Colleen A. Stanley, Donald A. Taylor, Shay Nagarsheth, Mike Halas, Joseph M. Cavo, Andrew R. Wetmore, Peter Nero, Thomas J. Saadi, Duane E. Perkins, Fred Visconti, Benjamin Chianese, Paul T. Rotello, Joseph Scozzafava, and Mary E. Teicholz.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Phillip D. Colla Councilman Colla was out of town on family business.

PRESENT: 20, ABSENT: 1

ALSO PRESENT: Jean Natale, Legislative Assistant; Robert Yamin, Corporation Counsel; Les Pinter, Deputy Corporation Council; David St. Hilaire, Director of Finance.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Mayor Boughton informed those present that the polling location change would be taken up at the November 7th meeting.

Ms. Lynn Waller, 83 Highland Ave, wished to thank the City and specifically David St. Hilaire for the efforts in re-bonding in an effort to save money.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Boughton made announcements regarding events in Danbury during October.

MINUTES - Minutes of the Council Meeting held September 10, 2013

A motion was made by Joseph Cavo and seconded by Duane Perkins to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the previous meeting as all members have copies and additional copies are on file in the Office of the Legislative Assistant. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Seabury read the consent calendar.

(2) Receive the Communication and approve the appointment of Norman Wayne Gowdy to the Housatonic Area Regional Transit District Board of Directors to represent the City of Danbury.

(3) Receive the Communication and approve the 2013-2014 Proposed Budget for the Danbury Train Station Lease as submitted.

(4) Receive the Communication from the Health and Human Services Director Scott Leroy and approve the donation of \$1,000.00 from the Danbury Housing Partnership funds (Certification attached) to the City Center Farmers Market to support and promote proper nutrition and health for local residents in Danbury.

(5) Receive the report from the Assistant Director of Finance and authorize the re-appropriation of the unspent encumbered funds totaling \$896,872.61 into the Fiscal Year 2013-14 for ongoing Capital Projects from prior fiscal years. Also declare the 2 projects as specified in the Memorandum to be completed due to no activity in the past year and release any unused funds to the unassigned fund balance.

(11) Receive the reports of the City Engineer and Planning Commission and authorize the request for an 18 month time extension for Sanitary Sewer to the Housatonic Habitat for Humanity at 21 Hospital Avenue.

A motion was made by Thomas Saadi and seconded by Benjamin Chianese to accept the Consent Calendar as read. The motion carried unanimously.

1 - COMMUNICATION-Office of the Young Child (Office of Early Childhood)

A motion was made by Andrew Wetmore and seconded by Paul Rotello to receive the communication and certify the availability of \$12,500 to be transferred from the Contingency Account to a new account to be established for the City's share of the Office of the Young Child grant.

Mayor Boughton wanted to clarify that the name has been changed to Office of Early Childhood. Councilman Chianese asked the Mayor to clarify the role of this office. Mayor Boughton stated that it will be a single entry point for all the services currently offered in Danbury for ages Birth to 8 years. Councilman Levy asked for clarification regarding the employees. Mayor Boughton stated that no one would be employed by the City for this office, but rather through the grant, United Way, and a contracted individual for the purpose of fundraising. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

2 - COMMUNICATION-Appointment to HART Board of Directors

The communication was received on the Consent Calendar and approved.

3 - COMMUNICATION-Train Station Lease - Budget

The communication was received on the Consent Calendar and approved.

4 - COMMUNICATION-Certification of Funds - Housing Partnership - Farmer's Market

The communication was received on the Consent Calendar and approved.

5 - COMMUNICATION-Capital Projects Re-appropriations

The communication was received on the Consent Calendar and approved.

6 - COMMUNICATION-Water and Sewer Fund Re-appropriations

A motion was made by Jack Knapp and seconded by Benjamin Chianese to receive the report from the Assistant Director of Finance and authorize the re-appropriation of unspent funds totaling \$514,479.69 to the water fund and \$404,779.78 to the sewer fund. The motion carried unanimously.

7 - COMMUNICATION-MOA - Community Health Center - Emergency Homeless Shelter

A motion was made by Gregg Seabury and seconded by Elmer Palma to accept the communication and accept the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Danbury and the Community Health Center.

Councilman Perkins asked for an overview of the Centers. Mr. Leroy, Director of Health and Human Services, and Sue Zaborowski, Coordinator of Social Services, explained that the services would be delivered at the homeless shelter 2 days each week similar to what is done in other cities in the state. The types of services would include medical and substance abuse. In addition, there is a case manager to assist in the coordination of medical care beyond the capacity of the clinic. Finally, it is Federally funded and there would be no additional cost to the city. Councilman Palma thanked Mr. Leroy and Ms. Zaborowski for arranging these services as they are very important.

The motion carried unanimously.

8 - COMMUNICATION-Request for Sewer - 6 Somers Street

Councilman Taylor requested that this item be **referred to City Engineering and Planning for reports.**

9 - RESOLUTION-DOT Grant - Police Department

A motion was made by Shay Nagarsheth and seconded by Elmer Palma to receive the communication and adopt the resolution authorize Mayor Boughton and his designee Chief Baker to accept these grant funds and sign all contracts necessary to effectuate the purposes there of. The motion carried unanimously.

10 - RESOLUTION-Refunding of General Obligation Bonds

A motion was made by Colleen Stanley and seconded by Donald Taylor to receive the communication and adopt the resolution to refund bonding, issuance and sell, not exceed \$20,000,000 dollars for general obligation, tax exempt and taxable refunding bonds.

A brief discussion took place regarding the timing and amount. Mr. St. Hilaire stated that about \$1 million was saved in 2012 and almost \$3.7 million has been saved over the last 3 years. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

11 - REPORTS-Sewer Extension Renewal - 21 Hospital Avenue

The report was received on the Consent Calendar and approved.

12 -DEPARTMENT REPORTS-Police, Fire, Health-Housing & Welfare, Dream Homes, Public Works, Permit Center, UNIT. Elderly, Library EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Joseph Cavo and seconded by Shay Nagarsheth to waive the reading of Departmental Reports as all members have copies and additional copies are on file in the Office of the Legislative Assistant. The motion carried unanimously.

13-Tax Appeal Litigation Settlement

A motion was made by Thomas Saadi and seconded by Joseph Cavo to enter into Executive Session to discuss Tax Appeal Litigation Settlement. The motion carried unanimously.

The City Council entered Executive Session at 8:14 pm
The City Council returned from Executive Session at 8:55 pm

A motion was made by Joseph Cavo and seconded by Shay Nagarsheth to authorize Corporation Counsel to settle the case provided the terms discussed during Executive Session are met by Justa Hospitality. The motion unanimously approved.

Before adjourning the meeting the Mayor wished everyone luck in the upcoming elections and remind everyone that we are all neighbors. He also wished to thank the current City Council for their service.

A motion was made by Andrew Wetmore and seconded by Peter Nero to Adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shani Burke Specht
Recording Secretary

Attest,

Mark D. Boughton, Mayor