

22.

**AD HOC REPORT**  
**Energy Conservation Tax Credit**

Honorable Mark D. Boughton, Mayor  
Common Council Member

September 17, 2008

Chairman Cavo called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M. In attendance were committee members Councilman Saadi and Councilwoman Teicholz. Atty. Laszlo Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Colleen LaHood, Tax Assessor; David St. Hilaire, Director of Finance and Mayor Mark Boughton and Councilman Knapp ex-officio were also in attendance.

Chairman Cavo stated that the call of the meeting was to review the letter dated August 27, 2008 from Mayor Boughton. Mayor Boughton proposed the Council's consideration to offer residential property owners a property tax credit for a limited time period to encourage energy saving improvements.

Atty. Pinter provided background information regarding a rebate or tax credit for the installation of new windows, insulation and weatherization efforts in an amount up to \$500.00. Atty. Pinter advised that he has crafted a generic resolution authorizing the Mayor to develop and implement this program. There are no other municipalities offering this type of program. The State of Connecticut has developed other programs, which would enable the City to offer a tax credit or rebate.

Mayor Boughton anticipates 100-150 applicants and waiving the Building Permit fee would provide an added incentive. He advised that he would like to partner with the State of Connecticut program for furnace replacement.

Councilman Saadi advised that he researched the State of Connecticut- Office of Policy and Management Furnace Replacement Rebate Program. He distributed copies of the guidelines, application and verification forms utilized by OPM. Councilman Saadi gave an overview of the process and protocol for the program offered by the State of Connecticut. He suggested that by modeling the City program after that which is offered by OPM for furnace replacement would streamline the process administratively. Upon approval for the State program, the resident would automatically qualify for the City's program and they would only need to bring the approved documentation to the administrative entity for the City.

Mayor Bought concurred with Councilman Saadi's proposal. Mayor Boughton advised that no other municipality offers this type of tax credit.

Discussion followed among committee members, the Director of Finance and the Tax Assessor and the Mayor. It was determined that the qualifying dates would be September 1, 2008 – April 15, 2009, the program would be administered through the Tax Assessor's Office and the credit would be applied to the July 1, 2009 real estate bill. The tax credit amount would match the same amount offered by OPM.

Atty. Pinter will draft a resolution for the next Common Council meeting.

Councilman Saadi moved to recommend to the Common Council as a whole, this program for the providing of tax credits equal to approved rebates through the Furnace Rebate Replace Program established by the Office of Policy and Management, that it be for the period September 1, 2008 – April 15, 2009 and be administered through the Tax Assessor's Office and that permit fees would be waived upon communication from the Tax Assessor's Office that the applicant has complied with the OPM guidelines. Seconded by Councilwoman Teicholz. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Councilwoman Teicholz moved to adjourn at 6:44P.M. Seconded by Councilman Saadi. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Cavo, Chairman

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Tom Saadi

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Mary Teicholz



# RESOLUTION

CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

\_\_\_\_\_ A. D., 200\_\_

**RESOLVED** by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

**WHEREAS**, the City of Danbury is desirous of promoting and assisting residents and homeowners in the conservation of energy, for the health, safety and welfare benefit of the City of Danbury; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to promote said goals through offering residents and homeowners who purchase and install authorized energy conserving natural gas or other alternative, energy savings heating units as authorized through existing State programs special tax credits or rebates; and

**WHEREAS**, said program would be developed and offered for a specified and limited period of time and offered in conjunction with and in accordance with the existing tax rebate for furnaces/boilers as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-46e; and

**WHEREAS**, applications for said program credits or rebates must have been or be submitted between September 1, 2008 and April 15, 2009 for review and certification; and

**WHEREAS**, said tax credits or rebates shall not exceed five hundred (\$500.00) dollars per household, said amount inclusive of building permit fees that shall be deemed waived for approved applications.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Danbury hereby adopts a temporary and necessary energy conservation and savings program, in accordance with guidelines as set forth by the State Office of Policy and Management ("OPM") pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 16a-46e, providing for tax credits or rebates for the purchase and installation, by residents and homeowners, in residential structures containing not more than four (4) dwelling units, of energy savings furnaces or related heating devices, as authorized by said State law;

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT** said program shall be temporary in nature, with applications received between September 1, 2008 and April 15, 2009 being eligible for review and certification for a credit or rebate in an amount not over five hundred (\$500.00) dollars inclusive of waived building permits fee(s) for such installations.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT** applicants for said municipal tax credits or rebates shall be eligible for said tax credits or rebates so long the applicant presents bonafide proof to the City of Danbury of having submitted and received approval of a Furnace Replacement Rebate Program application from OPM.