



Stratford, Connecticut

MINUTES OF MEETING

THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONDUCTED A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, 2725 MAIN STREET, STRATFORD, CT PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY POSTED.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:00 p.m.

PRESIDING: Council Chairman Beth Daponte

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Beth Daponte, Mr. Wali Kadeem, Mr. David Harden, Mr. Philip Young, Ms. Marianne Antezzo, Mr. J. Vincent Chase, Mr. Alan Llewelyn, Ms. Tina Manus.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor John Harkins, Town Attorneys John Florek, Christopher Hodgson, and Brian LeClerc; Human Resources Director Ronald Ing, Chief of Staff Marc Dillon, Finance Director Susan Collier, Constituent Service and Outreach Coordinator Chris Bandecchi, CAO Chris Tymniak, Director Of Public Works Maurice McCarthy, Grants Writer Christina Kazanas.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Ninth district Council member Alan Llewelyn. Mr. Llewelyn asked all persons present to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the 9/11 victims.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Regularly scheduled meeting and public forum of August 8, 2016.

RESOLVED: That the reading of the foregoing minutes be dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously provided to each Council Member and the same be and are hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KADEEM SECONDED BY MR. HARDEN TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. MR. LLEWELYN MOTIONED, SECONDED BY MS. MANUS TO AMEND THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, ITEM 7.5.7 TO RECTIFY THE VOTE TALLY FROM 6 IN FAVOR – 2 OPPOSED TO 5 IN FAVOR AND 3 OPPOSED. THE MOTION TO AMEND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MOTION TO APPROVE AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS — None

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS' RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Kadeem — Gratitude and appreciation to Stratford Fire, Police and EMS departments and other Stratford Citizens for their assistance to his family.

Mr. Harden — comments re: conflicts among the Council

Ms. Antezzo — train station shuttle parking, budget vote, Motel's pond, FY 2016/17 Budget increases

Mr. Llewelyn — purchases of 25 North parade and 245 King St., other Stratford High School renovations items.

Ms. Manus — Magnet School on Shakespeare Grounds, WPC funds spent, issues with L. Ciccarelli

Ms. Daponte — tax increases, Board of Education budget increase

4. COMMUNICATIONS, BILLS, PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES — None**5. MAYOR'S REPORT, COMMITTEE REPORTS, TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORTS**

5.1 MAYOR'S REPORT — Charter § 1.2.14, report on employment, vacancies, promotions and recently hired employees. Mayor Harkins reported:

Police promotion ceremony on Sept. 1, VFW 9/11 remembrance event, Civil war reenactment on Sept. 17 at Boothe memorial Park, Latin Festival on Paradise Green on Sept. 18, "Bonfire at the Beach" event, vigil to be conducted at Town Hall by Center for Family Justice, accounting for "Blues on the Beach" - \$42,225.77, meeting with SAEP officials to take place next month. Economic Development projects such as: Complete Streets Program, Ross & Roberts property, Popeye's Chicken, Former Ramada Inn to become housing, many other expanding and/or new businesses.

5.1.1 APPOINTMENTS — none

5.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.2.1 ARTS COMMISSION — During the Arts Commission meeting of August 10, 2016, the following items were referred to Council:

- A. Bonfire on the Beach — seeking sponsorships for the 2016 event and offered the Arts Commission Gold Level for the cost of Silver Level. \$500.00 was approved.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Arts Commission is accepted and the allocation of \$500.00 for sponsorship on the 2016 "Bonfire on the Beach" event be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN, SECONDED BY MR. HARDEN TO APPROVE THE ALLOCATION OF \$500.00 FOR "BONFIRE ON THE BEACH" EVENT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. PAL Cartooning Class — \$900.00 for PAL Cartooning Class

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Arts Commission is accepted and the allocation of \$900.00 for PAL cartooning class be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KADEEM, SECONDED BY MS. ANTEZZO TO APPROVE \$900.00 FOR PAL CARTOONING CLASS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.2.2 BUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE

5.2.2.1 The Building Needs Committee conducted a special meeting on Sept. 12 and referred the following:

- A. TOWN PURCHASING of the property located at 25 North Parade Street as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School State Construction project # 138-0101

BE IT RESOLVED, that the recommendation of the Building Needs Committee is accepted and the purchase of 25 North Parade Street by the Town of Stratford be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN SECONDED BY MR. CHASE TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING PURCHASE OF 25 NORTH PARADE STREET. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. TOWN TRANSFERENCE of Town-owned property at 245 King Street to be utilized as additional property for the scope of the Stratford High School State Construction project # 138-0101

BE IT RESOLVED, that the recommendation of the Building Needs Committee is accepted and the Town of Stratford's transference of 245 King Street be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN SECONDED BY MR. CHASE TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING TRANSFERENCE OF TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY AT 245 KING STREET. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. FINAL STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL PHASE One Plans and Project Manual(s) as prepared for bidding and dated August 15, 2016, and the associated Professional Cost Estimate dated, for State Office of School Construction Grants & Review Project Number 138-0101. This motion authorizes the Chair of the Building Needs Committee to sign the School Building Committee Chairperson's line on State form SCG-042 – REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF FINAL PLANS.

BE IT RESOLVED, the final Stratford High School Phase One Plans and Project Manual(s), as prepared for bidding and dated August 15, 2016, and the associated Professional Cost Estimate dated August 15, 2016, for State Office of School

Construction Grants & Review Project Number 138-0101 be and are hereby approved and authorize School Building Needs Chairman to sign state form SCG-042 – request for final plans.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN SECONDED BY MR. CHASE TO APPROVE THE FINAL STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL PHASE ONE PLAN AND PROJECT MANUAL AS STATED ABOVE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.2.2.2 At the regularly scheduled Building Needs Committee meeting of August 15, the following was referred to Council with Favorable recommendation:

- A. MODULAR/Portable Classrooms – change order in the amount of \$41,058.83 to extend the rear walkways at Eli Whitney and Nichols Schools per order of the Fire Marshal.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Building Needs Committee is accepted and the change order for the amount of \$41,058.83 to extend the rear walkways at Eli Whitney and Nichols Schools per order of the Fire Marshal be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN SECONDED BY MR. CHASE TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING CHANGE ORDER AS STATED ABOVE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. HVAC renovation at Fire Station 2 - This project is a design/build project that has been bid. The low bidder has been qualified to do the renovation that includes heating, air conditioning and other energy saving improvements in the facility. Value of contract is \$115,900 — County Wide Mechanical Services, LLC of Bristol, CT.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Building Needs Committee is accepted and the energy renovation at Fire Station 2 for the amount of \$115,900.00 be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KADEEM SECONDED BY MR. HARDEN TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING FIRE STATION 2 RENOVATION PROJECT AS STATED ABOVE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. SHAKESPEARE THEATER RFQ— Re: building security, watertight/weatherproofing to prevent wildlife from living there, cleaning. \$1.1 million still exists in town funds for this property, architectural services.

RESOLVED; that the recommendation of the Building Needs Committee is accepted and that an architect be hired to develop a comprehensive plan to first secure and then clean the building, and the architect create documents to be used in an RFP to be issued to make the building safe and secure and then clean building.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING SHAKESPEARE THEATER RFQ AS STATED ABOVE.

After discussion and questions, MR. CHASE MOTIONS TO MOVE THE QUESTION. MR. LLEWELYN SECONDS THE MOTION. THE MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE THEATER RFQ AS STATED ABOVE PASSES 8 TO 0 VIA ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: MR. KADEEM — YES, MR. HARDEN — YES, MR. YOUNG — YES, MS. ANTEZZO — YES, MR. CHASE — YES, MR. LLEWELYN — YES, MS. MANUS — YES, MS. DAPONTE — YES.

5.2.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (CDBG) In accordance with the recommendation of the Town Engineer, the Community Development Subcommittee, at its special meeting of August 31, 2016, unanimously approved the item, at which time it was referred to the Town Council with a favorable recommendation.

Bids for the project (Bid No. 2016-032) were received on August 18, 2016, as tabulated below:

G. Pic and Sons Construction	143,250
VAZ Quality Works	166,900
Dalling Construction	171,500
William Layden Construction	328,348

RESOLVED: that G. Pic and Sons Construction be and is hereby selected as the lowest responsible bidder, and that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute a contract with G. Pic and Sons Construction of Bridgeport, CT, in the amount not to exceed the available funding provided by the Community Development Block Grant, Program Year 41 (2015-16),

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HARDEN, SECONDED BY MS. ANTEZZO TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. MR. KADEEM MOTIONS TO MODIFY THE RESOLUTION, SECONDED BY MS. ANTEZZO, BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING:

and Program Year 42 (2016-17), in accordance with the project manual and bid documents, for the foregoing project.

THE MOTION TO MODIFY PASSES UNANIMOUSLY. After discussion, MR. CHASE MOTIONS, SECONDED BY MS. ANTEZZO, TO MOVE THE QUESTION. THE MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY. THE MAIN MOTION AS MODIFIED PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

5.3 TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT — No report.

5.3.1 QUESTIONS TO THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Ms. Manus — re: Ice skating rink. Messrs. Tymniak and McCarthy were called to the podium for input.

Ms. Antezzo — re: references to Town charter for Rights to recall.

6. QUESTIONS TO MAYOR OR STAFF

Mr. Young — re: Center School, testing

Mr. Chase — re: Ethics Commission Appointments from the Mayor

Mr. Kadeem — re: Center School

Ms. Manus — re: “Blues on the Beach” event expenses, new apartment building and growing school enrollment, L. Ciccarelli issues, education budget

Ms. Antezzo — re: Over stressing the WP plant with increased new home building, Mayor’s letter in the adopted budget booklet re: flooding and coastal disasters

Ms. Daponte — re: L. Ciccarelli issues

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and/or OLD BUSINESS

7.1 INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION — appointed by Council Chair, § 217-4A of Town code — NO ACTION TAKEN.

A. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (vacated term of Vincent Massey expires May 31, 2018)

B. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (vacated term of Dennis Blake expired May 31, 2016)

7.2 TABLED ITEMS

7.2.1 Cost of Dog Park - \$15,000.00 be set aside from CIP 2017. TABLED DURING COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 11, 2016

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Committee is accepted and that setting aside \$15,000.00 from CIP 2017 for the Dog Park be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. ANTEZZO SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM TO TAKE THE FOREGOING ITEM OFF THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. ANTEZZO, SECONDED MR. KADEEM TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING AMOUNT FOR THE DOG PARK. Mr. Rich, Chairman of the Subcommittee, was called to the podium to clarify a few matters. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM TO RETURN THE ITEM TO THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3 TABLED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

7.3.1 CENTER SCHOOL — RESOLUTION — (tabled July 11, 2016) — REMAINS ON THE TABLE.

Sponsored by the Stratford Town Council

Whereas, the Town Council has the power to authorize the demolition of a town building;

Whereas, the demolition of a school has long-lasting implications on educational opportunities for the town’s population;

Whereas, the number of building permits has increased in Stratford;

Whereas, the physical use of the center of Stratford has long-lasting implications on the town’s reputation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL: THAT THE PATH TO DEMOLITION OF 55 SUTTON PLACE ~~1000 EAST BROADWAY~~, AKA THE NEW CENTER SCHOOL, BE STOPPED, STOP PHASE 3 TESTING, FURTHER, A STUDY WILL BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE THE COST OF RETURNING THE BUILDING TO USE AS A SCHOOL.

7.3.2 TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND RESOLUTION (*placed on the table during Council meeting of June 13, 2016*) REMAINS ON THE TABLE.

sponsored by:

WHEREAS: In accordance with section 6.2.5 of the Town Charter, the Town Council at it’s regularly scheduled meeting of June 13, 2016 proposed to make a transfer of certain funds in the budget appropriations for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017, as hereinafter enumerated;

WHEREAS: Pursuant to said direction a Public Notice was duly posted on the Public Sign post on June 23, 2016 and appears on the return of notice as on record:

RESOLVED: that said transfer be and is hereby authorized and made as follows:

FY2016-2017 Interdept Budget Transfers / Approp [General Fund]							
Inter-Departmental Budget Transfers -							
EXPENSES:							
				Beginning	From	To	Ending
				FY17	Expense	Expense	FY17
Org	Obj	Proj	Account Description	Budget	[Decrease]	[Increase]	Budget
VISITING NURSES							
01360	6422		Visiting Nurses Association	500	53,000		53,500
							Restore to historical funding amount
TOWN BUILDINGS							
01108	6376		Sewer Use Fees-Town&BOE Bldgs	200,000	(53,000)		147,000
TOTAL EXPENSES				200,500	-	-	200,500
Net Impact					-		

7.4 TABLED APPOINTMENTS

7.4.1 STRATFORD HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

- A. 3 members of the local business community (3 vacancies)
- B. 1 member-at-large

Chairman Daponte appoints James Vigliotti as Chairman of the Partnership.

7.4.2 SIKORSKY MEMORIAL AIRPORT NOISE ABATEMENT COMMITTEE — § 7-12 of Town Code, one member appointed by Mayor, one member appointed by PYE. *Placed on the Table during Council meeting of March 10, 2014. ACTION NOT TAKEN.*

- A. 1 member from District of Town in which Sikorsky Memorial Airport is located – appointed by Town Council.

B. 2 members from the Stratford Electorate at-large — appointed by Town Council.

7.4.3 ETHICS COMMISSION — 4-year term. *Placed on the table during Council meeting of Nov. 11 2015.* Members — 5 (§5-30 of Town code) — ACTION NOT REQUIRED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.

Michael Peslak (Pastor) — expired Oct. 31, 2012. Alternate members (3)

7.4.4 BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE — term concurrent with Council — NO ACTION TAKEN.

A. 2 ALTERNATE MEMBERS (new positions)

B. REGULAR MEMBER

RESOLVED: That _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Beautification Committee. (vacated term of Rosanne Neri)

7.4.5 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS – ALTERNATE MEMBERS — 4-year term, appt. by Council, § 5-77-78. TABLED DURING COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 8, 2016. NO ACTION TAKEN.

RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed an Alternate member of the Board of Assessment Appeals. (term of Kenneth Caserta expired March 13, 2016)

7.4.6 STRATFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY — 5-year term TABLED DURING COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 8, 2016

RESOLVED: that KENNETH BISHOP- of 156 ALLENCREST DRIVE be and is hereby appointed a member of the Stratford Housing Authority. (term of Kenneth Bishop ended June 30, 2016)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MS. MANUS TO TAKE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT OFF THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. LLEWELYN TO RECONSIDER THE LAST VOTE. THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM TO REAPPOINT KENNETH BISHOP TO THE STRATFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.4.7 COMMITTEE/COMMISSION VACANCIES created by Town Council resignations— TABLED DURING COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 8, 2016. ACTION NOT TAKEN.

A. Conservation Commission

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE SECONDED BY MR. LLEWELYN TO AMEND THE AGENDA BY ADDING: MODIFICATION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MODIFICATION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. LLEWELYN TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Whereas, the Town Council has the authority to create council committees and advisory committees to assist with the Council's work, and whereas the Council has the authority to specify the qualifications of members of such committees, the Town Council resolves to amend the qualifications of persons to serve on its Financial Advisory Committee to include members to hold an MBA, CPA or government, or work experiences in public administration of 10 years or more and/or financial work experience at the senior level in for-profit or non-profit organizations for 10 years or more.

THE MOTION PASSED 8 TO 0.

8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

8.1 RESOLUTION re: Port Security Grant Program
sponsored by: The Town Council

WHEREAS, the *Town of Stratford* has applied for funding from *FEMA/U.S. Department of Homeland Security* through the *2016 Port Security Grant Program*; and

WHEREAS, grant funding will be used to support the Stratford Police Department and Fire Department's port security activities in the amount of \$77,885; and

WHEREAS, the Town will be responsible for providing matching funds in the amount of 25% of the total project budget (\$25,961); and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the *Town of Stratford* to enter into a grant agreement with *FEMA/ U.S. Department of Homeland Security*.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the Town's application and grant award from *FEMA/ U.S. Department of Homeland Security- 2016 Port Security Grant Program* in the amount of \$77,885; and
2. That it hereby authorizes, directs and empowers the Mayor, John A. Harkins, or his designee to execute such contract with *FEMA/U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, to provide such additional information, to implement the program once the award is secured, and to execute such other contracts, amendments, extensions and documents as maybe necessary under this program.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. YOUNG TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

~~8.2 — FORENSIC AUDIT OF ACTIVITIES AND REPRESENTATIONS of former Public Safety Director Lawrence Ciccarelli~~

sponsored by: Hon. Beth Daponte, First district Council member

Whereas, Section 2.2.15 of the Town Charter gives the Town Council the Power to Investigate and Procure Information;

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Town Council that a consultant (L. Ciccarelli) for the town has acted in a manner similar as if he were an employee of the town;

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Town Council that a consultant had a history of misrepresentation to and embezzlement from a former client;

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Town Council that it is a wise and reasonable to take action to assure that no misrepresentations or misuse of funds occurred by such consultant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL: THAT AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY SUCH CONSULTANT AND ANY FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS MADE BY HIM WHILE REPRESENTING THE TOWN BE REVEALED THROUGH A INVESTIGATION WHICH WILL INCLUDE, BUT NOT NECESSARILY BE LIMITED TO, A FORENSIC AUDIT BY A THIRD PARTY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HARDEN, SECONDED BY MR. LLEWELYN (FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES) TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. After discussion, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. LLEWELYN, SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM TO STRIKE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION FROM THE AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 7 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING FOR “BLUES ON THE BEACH” – 2016 — Mayor Harkins stated the amount spent was \$42,225.77 with \$22,000 received from sponsors.

9.2 APPOINTMENTS

9.2.1 ETHICS COMMISSION, Regular Members — 4-year term, appointed by Council — ACTION NOT REQUIRED.

A. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Ethics Commission. (term of Robert Chimini expires Oct. 22, 2016)

B. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Ethics Commission. (term of Bruce Hawley expires Oct. 31, 2016)

10. ADJOURNMENT — Hearing no further discussion in connection with the above agenda items or further business, Chairman Daponte called for a motion to adjourn. ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. CHASE, SECONDED BY MR. KADEEM, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carol Cabral

Carol Cabral, Council Clerk