

Council Chairman
Christopher J. Pia

Council Chairman Pro Tempore
Ken T. Poisson



Council Members

Christopher J. Pia - District 1
Kaitlyn Shake - District 2
Paul A. Tavaras - District 3
David L. Harden - District 4
Gregory R. Cann - District 5
Ken T. Poisson - District 6
William F. Perillo - District 7
James J. Connor - District 8
William O'Brien, Jr. - District 9
Laura J. Dancho - District 10

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Room 212
2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615
(203) 385-4035

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Stratford Town Council conducted a regularly scheduled meeting via GoToMeeting on January 11, 2021 pursuant to notice duly posted.

CALL TO ORDER 8:04 p.m.

PRESIDING: Council Chairman Mr. Pia

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Shake, Mr. Tavaras, Mr. Harden, Mr. Cann, Mr. Poisson, Mr. Perillo, Mr. Connor; Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Dancho

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Hoydick, CAO Tymniak, Town Attorney Hodgson, Assistant Town Attorneys LeClerc, Florek, Jackson, Finance Director Savo, Public Works Director Serra, Director of Community & Senior Services Trojanowski,

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Poisson, District 6.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES —December 14, 2020

RESOLVED: that the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2020 be dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously provided to each Council Member and the same be and are hereby approved.

MS. DANCHO MOVED ITEM ONE; SECONDED BY MR. O'BRIEN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

3. COMMUNICATIONS, BILLS, PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES

3.1 Letters of resignation (for information only)

- Letter dated December 18, 2020 from David D'Ausilio – Alternate Zoning Board of Appeals

3.2 Monthly Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) report – Report given by Finance Director Savo followed by brief questions and answers.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT, COMMITTEE REPORTS, TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

4.1 MAYOR'S REPORT

- COVID-19 updates

- Passing of former State Senator Ed Gomes
- National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Holiday Toy Drives
- CT Magazine Restaurant Award Winners
- Recognition of Rick Marcone – departing Registrar of Voters
- Christmas tree collection
- Tax Deferment Program
- “Device Drive 2021” in association with Stratford Strong
- Shakespeare Market
- VFW Post 9460 and Red Cross blood drive
- Recent openings: Oar and Oak Bird House, Surfside Motel, CARite, Cakes by Sonia, Chipotle’s
- CT Cares Small Business Grant
- CDBG Micro Enterprise Grant
- Updates: Center School property, Contract Plating property, Army Engine Plant, Shakespeare property, Airport Master Plan, Complete Streets, 495 Lordship Blvd., Ryder’s Landing (Parkway Plaza), Ross and Robert’s property, Stratford Ave rotary, 91 Wood Ave, 11 Old South, Knotts Landing Self Storage
- Promotion Tom Albert to Deputy Director, Public Works
- MLK Day

4.2 QUESTIONS FOR THE MAYOR

Mr. O’Brien re: process for naming the press box at Deluca Field

Mr. Tavaras re: recent events, safety concerns, and contact with Law Enforcement

Mr. Cann re: Army Engine Plant

Ms. Shake re: COVID vaccine rollout and creation of memorial space

4.3 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.3.1 **The Building Needs Committee of the Stratford Town Council** held a regular meeting on January 4, 2021 and referred the following items to the Town Council with favorable recommendations:

- A. SHS Renovation-Turner COR #276 in the amount of \$28,286 for VRF Programming for Y-Branches.

RESOLVED: that Turner COR #276 in the amount of \$28,286 for VRF Programming for Y-Branches be and is hereby approved.

MR. POISSON MOVED ITEM 4.3.1 A; SECONDED BY MS. SHAKE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. Town Bid #2021-21 to Olympus Construction in the amount of \$642,000 for Baldwin Center Renovations Project

RESOLVED: that Town Bid #2021-21 to Olympus Construction in the amount of \$642,000 for Baldwin Center Renovations Project be and is hereby approved and the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for such in form acceptable to the Town Attorney.

MR. POISSON MOVED ITEM 4.3.1 B; SECONDED BY MR. O’BRIEN. Finance Director Savo and CAO Tymniak provided details, clarifications, and answered questions. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.3.2 **The Public Works Committee of the Stratford Town Council** held a regular meeting on January 4, 2021 and referred the following item to the Town Council with favorable recommendation:

A. West Broad Street retaining wall change order in the amount of \$45,000

RESOLVED: that the West Broad Street retaining wall change order in the amount of \$45,000 be and is hereby approved.

MR. POISSON MOVED ITEM 4.3.2 A; SECONDED BY MS. DANCHO. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.4 TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT – No Report

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and/or OLD BUSINESS

6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

6.1 ORDINANCES

6.2 RESOLUTIONS

6.2.1 A RESOLUTION REGARDING CT DOT SECTION 5310 PROGRAM

Executive Summary: This grant must be used toward the purchase of one (1) new wheelchair accessible vehicle for the transportation of the elderly (ages 60 and older) and/or people with disabilities (receiving Social Security Disability). Rides are primarily provided for non-emergency medical appointments, senior center activities, and grocery shopping. The grant will pay for up to 80% of the cost of the wheelchair accessible vehicle. The Town is required to pay the remaining 20%.

Sponsored by: Stratford Town Council

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford has been awarded a grant from the CT Department of Transportation for the purchase of a wheelchair accessible vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$59,200; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Stratford enter into a grant agreement with the CT Department of Transportation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the Town's contract with the CT Department of Transportation for the purchase of a wheelchair accessible vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$59,200; and
2. That it hereby authorizes, directs and empowers the Mayor or her designee to submit an application with CT Department of Transportation, to execute such contract with the CT Department of Transportation, to provide such additional information, to implement the program once the award is secured, and to execute such other contracts and documents as maybe necessary under this program.

MR. PERILLO MOVED ITEM 6.2.1; SECONDED BY MS. DANCHO. Director of Community & Senior Services Trojanowski provided details and answered questions. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2.2 A RESOLUTION REGARDING CT STATE OPIOID RESPONSE INITIATIVE

Executive Summary: The Stratford Partnership for Youth and Families as the Local Prevention Council is eligible to receive this mini -grant. Funds build the Partnership's capacity to develop and enhance local opioid addiction and overdose prevention and response efforts. Proposed deliverables include conducting substance abuse prevention and behavioral health promotion strategies, implementing Live Loud/Change the Script social media campaign, and facilitating Naloxone Administration trainings.

Sponsored by: Stratford Town Council

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford has been awarded a grant from The Hub, a division of RYASAP, for the CT State Opioid Response Initiative – Community Mini Grants in an amount not to exceed \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Stratford enter into a grant agreement with the The Hub, a division of RYASAP.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the Town's contract with the The Hub, a division of RYASAP for the CT State Opioid Response Initiative – Community Mini Grants in an amount not to exceed \$5,000; and
2. That it hereby authorizes, directs and empowers the Mayor or her designee to submit an application with The Hub, a division of RYASAP, to execute such contract with the The Hub, a division of RYASAP, to provide such additional information, to implement the program once the award is secured, and to execute such other contracts and documents as maybe necessary under this program.

MR. HARDEN MOVED ITEM 6.2.2; SECONDED BY MS. SHAKE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2.3 A RESOLUTION REGARDING FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Executive Summary: The South End Community Center provides a valuable and effective summer learning program, Summer Soiree, for low and moderate income children from Stratford's south end neighborhood. This grant funds scholarships for children whose families are both income-eligible and would benefit from academic enhancement and enrichment.

Sponsored by: Stratford Town Council

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford has been awarded a grant from the Fairfield County Community Foundation for the South End Community Center Summer Soiree Scholarships in an amount not to exceed \$18,000; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Stratford enter into a grant agreement with the Fairfield County Community Foundation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the Town's contract with the Fairfield County Community Foundation for the South End Community Center Summer Soiree Scholarships in an amount not to exceed \$18,000; and
2. That it hereby authorizes, directs and empowers the Mayor or her designee to submit an application with Fairfield County Community Foundation, to execute such contract with the Fairfield County Community Foundation, to provide such additional information, to implement the program once the award is secured, and to execute such other contracts and documents as maybe necessary under this program.

MR. HARDEN MOVED ITEM 6.2.3; SECONDED BY MR. TAVARAS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2.4 RESOLUTION REGARDING SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (CDBG PROGRAM YEARS 43, 44, & 45)

Sponsored by: Stratford Town Council

Bids for the project (Bid No. 2020-04) were received on October 2, 2019, as tabulated below:

Connecticut Seal Coating	264,585
D&P Construction	178,700
G. Pic & Sons Construction	158,750
Kowalsky Construction	146,600
NAC Industries	393,500
Reliable Excavating Co.	136,950
Resource Services	207,265
Star Construction	236,300
The Grasso Companies	171,000

RESOLVED: that G. Pic & Sons Construction. be and is hereby selected as the lowest responsible bidder, in place of Reliable Excavating Co., and that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to execute a contract with G. Pic & Sons Construction in the amount of \$284,208 funded by the Community Development Block Grant, for the foregoing project.

MR. TAVARAS MOVED ITEM 6.2.4; SECONDED MR. HARDEN. Discussion followed with CAO Tymniak and Assistant Town Attorneys Florek and Jackson providing details, clarifications, and answering questions. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Increase to nonresident fees at the golf course (referred by the Short Beach Park Commission with a favorable recommendation)

- Nonresident Weekdays 9-holes: from \$16 to \$18
- Nonresident Weekdays 18-holes: from \$24 to \$27
- Nonresident Weekends 9-holes: from \$18 to \$20
- Nonresident Weekends 18-holes: from \$27 to \$30

MR. O'BRIEN MOVED; SECONDED BY MR. HARDEN TO REFER THE FOREGOING ITEM TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.2 Consider and act upon a request for a referral to the Planning Commission for a CGS §8-24 review regarding abandonment of the unpaved portion of Van Buskirk Avenue and Parcel 18235.

MR. POISSON MOVED; SECONDED BY MS. DANCHO TO REFER THE FOREGOING ITEM TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR CGS §8-24 REVIEW. Assistant Town Attorney Jackson provided details. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3 Consider and act upon a request for a referral to the Planning Commission for a CGS §8-24 review regarding abandonment of the unpaved streets known as Oronoque Place, Leslie Street, and Charlotte Street.

MR. CONNOR MOVED; SECONDED BY MR. PERILLO TO REFER THE FOREGOING ITEM TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR CGS §8-24 REVIEW. Assistant Town Attorney Jackson provided details. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3 APPOINTMENTS

7.3.1 Beautification Committee (term concurrent with Council)

RESOLVED: that CYNTHIA BUCKLEY of CRESTON ROAD be and is hereby appointed to the Beautification Committee to the resigned seat of Lisa McEachern.

MS. DANCHO MOVED ITEM 7.3.1; SECONDED BY MR. PERILLO. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3.2 Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission – 5 year term

RESOLVED: that JESSICA ROBBINS of RIVERDALE DRIVE be and is hereby appointed a member of the Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission to the resigned seat of Frank LeCardo with a term that expires May 31, 2021.

MR. PERILLO MOVED ITEM 7.3.2; SECONDED BY MS. DANCHO. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MR. POISSON MOVED TO ADJOURN; SECONDED BY MR. PERILLO. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

ATTEST: Margo Paquette
Margo Paquette, Council Clerk