

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, October 15, 2018.

Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone and City Councilors Marie Soliani, Frank Rubino, Anne Ruwet, Gregg Cogswell, and Paul Cavagnero. Councilman Fred Simon was absent.

Also present were Acting Police Chief Wayne Newkirk, Lieutenant Brett Johnson, Water Pollution Control Administrator Ray Drew, Director of Personnel and Labor Relations Atty. Mark Dumas, Public Works Director Jerry Rollett, Elderly Services Director Joel Sekorski, Parks and Recreation Superintendent Brett Simmons, and Deputy Public Works Director and City Engineer Paul Kundzins.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Minutes**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held October 1, 2018.

**Presentation of the Good Deed Award to Richard Boulli**

Mayor Carbone and Mr. Sekorski presented the Good Deed Award to Richard Boulli for his work as volunteer coordinator at the senior gardens on Mountain Road.

**Northwest Community Bank check presentation to P.A.L.**

Dunkin Donuts presented a check for \$5,000 to the Police Activity League (P.A.L.). Raffaele Calabrese stated that the donation would go toward the P.A.L. basketball program, to help keep costs down and buy new equipment.

**Open to the Public**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public.

Charlotte Rossi, owner of the building located at 20 East Main Street, expressed her concerns regarding the "Franklin Street Project." She stated that she is concerned about the potential for diversion of traffic away from businesses, limited parking and access to businesses, safety, the City's maintenance of Patterson Park, and blight.

**Section "B" Added to the Agenda**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to add section "B" to the agenda.

**Section "B": Mayoral Appointment**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Atty. Victor Muschell to serve as Interim Corporation Counsel until the position is filled on a permanent basis.

**WPCA Public Hearing: Scheduled**

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing, pursuant to C.G.S. §7-247(a), on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss and obtain public comment on a proposal to extend the City of Torrington's sanitary sewer system and install sanitary sewers on Homestead Road and Kimball Lane.

**Tobacco/Smoke and Vape Free Parks**

Mr. Simmons reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission adopted a Tobacco/Smoke and Vape Free Policy at its meeting on October 3, 2018. He stated that several departments across Connecticut and the United States have implemented similar policies to address smoking and vaping, and requested that the City Council authorize a resolution in support of the policy.

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to adopt a resolution in support of the Tobacco/Smoke and Vape Free Parks Policy.

**Budget Transfers: Approved**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the budget transfer requests for the Police Department Information Technology upgrade, as described in City Comptroller Alice Proulx's memo dated October 15, 2018, pending Board of Finance authorization on October 16, 2018.

**Coe Park Gardens: Contract Extension Approved**

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Coe Memorial Park Committee, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Purchasing Agent, and the Parks and Recreation Supervisor, to authorize the extension of the contract regarding the maintenance and care of the Coe Memorial Park gardens to Still River Gardens, LLC, of Litchfield, CT for the 2019 season.

**Senior Center Floor Scrubber: Purchase Approved**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of Joel Sekorski, Director of Services for the Elderly, and the Purchasing Agent, to authorize the Mayor to award the purchase of a Walk behind Floor Scrubber to Maybury Material Handling of East Longmeadow, MA in the amount of \$5,927 and have the Mayor act on behalf of the City regarding the execution of the contract and its administration.

**Release of Liens**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept Corporation Counsel's recommendation and authorize the Mayor, pursuant to C.G.S. §12-179, to release the liens described in Atty. Muschell's memo dated October 15, 2018.

**Tax Collector Refunds**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 14 tax refunds indicated on the list dated October 15, 2018.

**Building Dept. Report**

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Building Department's report for September, 2018.

**Business by the Ordinance Subcommittee**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to consider business by the Ordinance subcommittee.

Councilor Cogswell stated the proposed amendments to Chapter 170 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Torrington that were agreed upon by the Ordinance subcommittee at its meeting on October 1, 2018.

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing to solicit public input regarding the proposed changes to Chapter 170 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Torrington on November 13, 2018, immediately following the public hearing of the Water Pollution Control Authority scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

**Business by Dept. Heads**

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads.

Mr. Sekorski updated the Council on several recent developments at the Sullivan Senior Center, including a large donation to erect a flagpole at the Senior Center.

Assistant City Clerk, Jonathan Draper presented the referendum brochure that he recently designed, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office.

**Comments for the Good of the Order**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider comments for the good of the order by the Mayor and Council Members.

Councilor Cavagnero requested a copy of the Federal statutes and guidelines that limit municipalities' ability to assign separate sewer fees for non-residents. Atty. Dumas stated that he provided the materials at the previous Ordinance subcommittee meeting, but offered to forward them to Councilman Cavagnero again.

Councilor Cogswell wished the best to FF Alex Deering, who recently deployed for military service.

Councilor Ruwet congratulated Mr. Sekorski and Mr. Boulli for their achievements at the senior gardens, and congratulated P.A.L. on receiving the \$5,000 check from Dunkin Donuts.

Councilor Soliani thanked Mayor Carbone for addressing the complaints she received regarding trash not being picked up on East Elm Street and throughout the City.

Mayor Carbone yielded the floor to Atty. Dumas. Atty. Dumas reported that the clerical, Public Works, and Fire contracts remain open, and stated that there is a mediation scheduled with the Fire union on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. He added that the process for hiring a new Police Chief is nearing completion.

**Open to the Public for Agenda Items Only**

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public to discuss agenda items only.

Sharon Waagner commended the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City for promoting Tobacco/Smoke and Vape Free Parks.

**Executive Session: Tabled**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to table the Executive Session to discuss the potential acquisition of real property, per C.G.S. §1-200(6D).

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*  
*Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. City Clerk*

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC  
CITY CLERK