

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL & WPC AUTHORITY
City Hall Auditorium
December 17, 2018**

Vol. 26, Page 787

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, December 17, 2018.

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

Also present were Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell, Fire Chief Peter Towey, and Firefighters Elliot Brickford and Brian Parks.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Certificate of Appreciation

Mayor Carbone presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Michael and Bonnie Hand for their support of the Fire Department's annual Christmas for Children Toy Drive. FF Brickford discussed the significance of Michael and Bonnie Hand's donations. FF Parks stated that they have donated almost \$42,000 over eight years.

Open to the Public

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

Eric Hammer discussed the new art gallery in the City Hall auditorium and provided a brief background on the featured artists.

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with the Board of Finance and the Board of Education held December 3, 2018.

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with the Board of Finance held December 3, 2018.

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held December 3, 2018.

Rules of Procedure

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #143-188 as amended, establishing rules of procedure for all regular and special meetings.

Mayoral Appointments

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's reappointment of Tim Waldron as Blight Hearing Officer, pursuant to §161-8(c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Torrington, for a two-year term to expire December 31, 2020.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Donna Greco as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill the remainder of a five-year term to expire December 1, 2019.

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Donna Greco as a regular member of the Flood and Erosion Control Board to fill the remainder of a three-year term to expire February 1, 2019.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Jaime LeMere, Esq. as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill the remainder of a five-year term to expire December 1, 2022.

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Jaime LeMere, Esq. as an alternate member of the Flood and Erosion Control Board to fill the remainder of a three-year term to expire February 1, 2019.

Tax Collector Services Agreement

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Second Amendment to the Tax Collector Services Agreement, pending Board of Finance authorization on December 18th.

Torrington EMS Plan

Chief Towey presented highlights from the Local Emergency Medical Services Plan for the City of Torrington that was approved by the Board of Public Safety on December 5, 2018.

2019 JAG Local VCP Grant Program

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the City of Torrington’s participation in the 2019 JAG Local VCP Grant Program and authorized the Mayor to execute the agreement with the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management on behalf of the City.

Addition of Section “B”

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to add Section “B” to the agenda.

Section B:

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to approve the City’s purchase of the parking lot on Franklin Street described by the Assessor’s Card as Map 117, Block 22, Lot 20 from General Real Estate Holdings, LLC for the purchase price of \$80,000 in accordance with the Letter of Intent dated December 5, 2018, and to refer the matter to the Board of Finance for approval on December 18th, 2018, and to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a recommendation, per C.G.S. §8-24.

Mayor Carbone discussed the advantages of acquiring the lot, including opportunities for future development.

WPCA Invoice

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted unanimously to approve the following payment from Fund #490 Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement:

DATE:	CONTRACTOR:	AMOUNT:	DESCRIPTION:
10/10/2018	Wright-Pierce	\$1,072.79	CIP D-14 CMOM Plan

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, 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 December 17, 2018.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 18 tax refunds indicated on the list dated December 17, 2018.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. No business was reported.

Comments for the Good of the Order

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

The Board commended the Fire and Police Departments for their fundraising efforts. Councilor Soliani thanked the Arts and Culture Commission for putting together the gallery in the City Hall auditorium.

Mayor Carbone stated that the THS Band won a major award and will be recognized at the first City Council meeting in January. She updated the Council on the City’s marketing strategy and on Five Points’ acquisition of the former UConn Torrington campus. She thanked the public for their participation at the Council meetings in 2018.


Open to the Public for Agenda Items Only

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public to discuss agenda items only. No one from the public wished to speak.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK