

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, November 18, 2019. Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone and City Councilors Frank Rubino, Gregg Cogswell, Marie Soliani, Fred Simon, Anne Ruwet and Paul Cavagnero.

Corporation Counsel Victor Muschell, Director of Personnel and Labor Relations Atty. Mark Dumas, City Treasurer Daniel Farley, Public Works Director Raymond Drew, City Engineer Paul Kundzins, WPCA Senior Plant Operator Edward Tousey and Superintendent of Parks & Recreation Brett Simmons were also present.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held November 12, 2019. Councilors Ruwet and Cavagnero abstained.

Open to Public

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

Tim Waldron, Chairman of the Republican Town Committee, commended Councilors Cogswell, Soliani, and Simon for their service to the City of Torrington and presented certificates to Councilors Cogswell and Soliani.

Sean Stoecker-Hempstead expressed his concerns regarding insufficient and unsafe sidewalks and requested that more sidewalks be added on East Main Street.

Mayoral Appointments

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to take from the table and approve the Mayor’s appointment of Angaza Mwando, Delois Lindsey, Kathryn Meetz, Jasmine Hargrove, Deborah Justine Ickes, Julissa Martinez and Antoinette Denise Singleton as regular members of the Cultural Affairs Committee to fill existing vacancies for four-year terms expiring on December 31, 2020 with automatic reappointments through December 31, 2024.

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to take from the table and approve the Mayor’s appointment of Daysi Granodeoro as a regular member of the Cultural Affairs Committee to fill an existing vacancy for a four-year term expiring on December 31, 2022.

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor’s appointment of Starley Arias as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, effective December 1, 2019, to fill the remainder of a five-year term expiring on December 1, 2020.

Addition of Section B

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to add Section B to the agenda:

<u>Section B</u>				
On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor’s reappointment of Christopher Beyus as a regular member of the Board of Finance for a six-year term expiring on December 15, 2025.				
On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor’s reappointment of James Wright as a regular member of the Board of Finance for a six-year term expiring on December 15, 2025.				

Small Cities

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Small Cities subcommittee. Councilor Soliani presented the Small Cities subcommittee’s recommendation to approve Litchfield Bancorp’s request for the City to subordinate a Housing Rehabilitation loan in the amount of \$37,155 (dated 9/25/2014 and recorded in volume 1190, page 1057 of the Torrington land records) and allow Litchfield Bancorp to replace Sovereign Bank as 1st Mortgagee. On her motion, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to approve Litchfield Bancorp’s request.

WPCA Invoice

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to approve the following payment from Fund #490 Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement:

DATE	INVOICE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
10/8/19	0000203215	Wright-Pierce	\$738.87	PACP Training CMOM Planning

Tognalli Drive

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Engineering Department and the Planning and Zoning Commission and authorize the City to accept the street known as Tognalli Drive. Councilor Cavagnero expressed his concerns. Mayor Carbone explained that it was always the City’s intention to accept the street and clarified that a separate public hearing would need to be scheduled to accept the sewers at Tognalli Drive.

Extension of Fireworks Contract

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation and the Purchasing Agent to extend the contract with Zambelli Fireworks Mfg. Co. of New Castle, PA for the 2020 Fireworks Display and authorize the Mayor award the contract extension for the amount of \$14,325.

Revocation of Reserve Capacity for WLSL

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council herein acting as the WPCA, in accordance with Article 6 § 601(2) of the Torrington WPCA Rules and Regulations, voted unanimously to revoke the reservation of flow capacity for Woodridge Lake Sewer District as previously approved by the WPCA on March 19, 2018. Councilor Cavagnero questioned the City's interest in revoking the reservation of flow capacity and requested clarification regarding the process by which WLSL would need to follow in order to reserve the flow capacity again in the future. Mayor Carbone clarified that WLSL surpassed the one-year time limit that the WPCA granted them to submit design plans and explained that WLSL would need to submit a new application, subject to Council approval, in order to be considered for any future sewer connection. Councilor Soliani thanked the Mayor for giving the Council the opportunity to revoke the reservation of flow capacity and Councilor Cogswell suggested reaching out to the delegation in Goshen to help find alternative solutions that do not involve connecting to the City's sanitary sewer system.

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, 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 November 18, 2019.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the six tax refunds indicated on the list dated November 18, 2019.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council herein acting as the WPCA voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the sewer usage refund indicated on the list dated November 18, 2019.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Mr. Drew and Mr. Farley thanked Councilors Cogswell, Simon, and Soliani for their service on the City Council and wished them good luck. Mr. Drew also expressed optimism about working with the new and returning Council members in the future. Atty. Dumas encouraged the Council to help with the City's efforts to recruit more local candidates for the Police and Fire Departments and announced that Cigna would be offering an Employee Assistance Program for City employees.

Business by the Mayor and Council Members

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and Council Members. Councilors Cavagnero, Ruwet and Rubino thanked and commended Councilors Cogswell, Simon and Soliani for their service. Councilors Cogswell, Simon and Soliani expressed their appreciation and gratitude to the Torrington residents and voters for giving them the opportunity to serve on the Board. They also thanked their fellow Council members and City staff for their support. Mayor Carbone also expressed her gratitude for the outgoing Council members and presented each of them with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Open to Public

On an amended motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public. State Representatives Maria Horn and Michelle Cook thanked Councilors Cogswell, Simon and Soliani for their service on the City Council and presented Councilor Soliani with an official citation from the northwest delegation of the Connecticut General Assembly in recognition of her service to the City of Torrington. Democratic Town Committee Chairman Paul Summers also thanked Councilor Soliani for her service and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, 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
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK