

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, July 1, 2019. Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell, and City Councilors Frank Rubino, Paul Cavagnero, Gregg Cogswell, Fred Simon, and Anne Ruwet. Public Works Director Raymond Drew, City Engineer Paul Kundzins, and Torrington Housing Authority Executive Director Claudia Sweeney were also present. City Councilor Marie Soliani was absent.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 17, 2019.

Open to Public

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

Glenn Royals expressed his concerns and frustration regarding unsatisfactory road repairs in Torrington.

Janet Stroud expressed her concerns about the City’s upcoming revaluation and the overall state of Torrington.

David Frigo expressed his satisfaction that East Main Street is scheduled to be repaired and requested that the utilities be put underground.

Barbara Gall expressed her concerns regarding IMAs and requested that a moratorium be put in place until the City establishes a formal policy regarding the construction of IMAs.

Michael Banzurik expressed his concerns regarding IMAs and requested that Chapter 170 of the Code of Ordinances be amended to include a set of policies and procedures for developing IMAs.

Glenn Royals expressed his concerns regarding a draft IMA with Goshen.

Mayoral Appointments

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor’s reappointment of David Murelli as a Commissioner of the Torrington Housing Authority for a five-year term from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2024.

WPCA Invoices

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council, herein acting as the WPCA voted unanimously to approve the following payments from Fund #490 – Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement:

DATE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
5/13/19	Wright-Pierce Eng.	\$664.35	Capital Project D-15 CMOM
6/11/19	Wright-Pierce Eng.	\$1,441.84	Capital Project D-15 CMOM

Discussion: Consulting Engineering Services

Mr. Kundzins requested the Council’s approval to enter into general master agreements with two consulting firms to assist as needed for various engineering services related to the road reconstruction projects that were approved in 2018 as part of the pavement management program. The Council expressed their concerns regarding the financial cost of consultants and their lack of investment in the community. Mr. Kundzins and Mr. Drew provided additional information regarding the anticipated role of the consultants, how they were selected, and how a general master agreement would expedite the process for contracting their services. The Council requested additional information to review before voting on the proposed agreements.

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, 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 July 1, 2019.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the nine tax refunds indicated on the list dated July 1, 2019.

Building

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Building Department's report for May, 2019.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Mr. Kundzins provided an update on various road reconstruction projects and addressed Mr. Royals' concerns regarding the utility work and road repairs at the north end of Torrington. Mr. Drew updated the Council on progress being made with the water treatment facility upgrade.

Comments for the Good of the Order

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to consider comments for the Good of the Order by the Mayor and Council members. Councilor Cavagnero requested an update on the draft IMA with Woodridge Lake Sewer District at the next City Council meeting. Councilor Simon expressed his satisfaction that the reconstruction of Highland Avenue would be starting soon. Mayor Carbone addressed Ms. Stroud's concerns regarding the revaluation and directed her to the City's website for additional information.

Open to 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.

Mr. Royals expressed his frustration regarding unsatisfactory road repairs at Calhoun Street in Torrington and expressed his opposition to hiring consultants.

Ms. Gall, Mr. Bottass, and Mr. Banzurik also expressed their frustration regarding the road repair work. In addition, Mr. Banzurik urged the Council to revisit Chapter 170 of the Code of Ordinances.

Ms. Stroud expressed her concerns and frustration.

Executive Session

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to enter Executive Session with Atty. Muschell at 8:16 p.m., pursuant to C.G.S. §§ 1-200(6)(E), 1-210(b)(1), and 1-210(b)(24), to discuss draft terms of agreement with Pennrose, LLC for the development of the Franklin Street project.

Open Session

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to return to Open Session at 8:55 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK