

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, June 4, 2018.

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

Also present were Public Works Director Jerry Rollett, Fleet Manager Emil Castro, Elderly Services Director Joel Sekorski, City Comptroller Alice Proulx, Deputy Comptroller Gina Casper, Fire Chief Peter Towey, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, and Water Pollution Control Administrator Ray Drew.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Roll-Call Vote: NAA**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the proposals for participation in the 2018 Neighborhood Assistance Act.

**Roll-Call Vote: Sewer Use Fee**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Rubino, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted to accept the recommendation of the WPCA Administrator and set the sewer use fee for the year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 as follows:

- a) For Residential Users: \$262.00 per dwelling unit.
- b) For All Other Users: \$262.00 per 65,000 gallons of volume of flow.

Councilors Cogswell, Rubino, Soliani, Ruwet, and Simon voted in favor and Councilman Cavagnero was opposed.

Mayor Carbone clarified that a separate vote for non-jurisdictional users will come before the board at a later date. Councilman Cavagnero requested for the vote to be postponed until the rate for Woodridge Lake Sewer District and other non-jurisdictional users is established.

Mr. Drew stated his recommendation to set the sewer use fees as presented for FY 2018/2019, citing the first-year repayment of the upcoming wastewater treatment facility upgrade and the construction period for the Woodridge Lake Sewer District connection which would delay any additional revenue from those non-jurisdictional users for approximately two years.

**WPCA**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted to approve the WPCA Budget for the year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 with five votes in favor and one (Councilman Cavagnero) opposed.

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted to approve the WPCA Five-Year Capital Improvement Budget/Program for the year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2023 with five votes in favor and one (Councilman Cavagnero) opposed.

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted to approve the WPCA Miscellaneous Fee Schedule for the year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 with five votes in favor and one (Councilman Cavagnero) opposed.

**Minutes**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Cavagnero, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing held May 21, 2018. Councilors Rubino, Simon, and Ruwet abstained.

On a motion by Councilwoman Soliani, seconded by Councilman Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with the Board of Finance held May 21, 2018. Councilors Simon and Ruwet abstained.

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing held May 21, 2018. Councilors Simon and Ruwet abstained.

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held May 21, 2018. Councilors Simon and Ruwet abstained.

**Open to the Public**

On a motion by Councilwoman Soliani, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public.

Michael Banziruk questioned the process for negotiating IMAs with Harwinton, Litchfield, and Woodridge Lake Sewer District. He expressed his concerns regarding the Sewer Ordinance committee and potential revisions to chapter 170 of the City's Code of Ordinances.

Glenn Royals stated that non-jurisdictional users should pay more in sewer use fees than Torrington residents.

Barbara Gall stated that Torrington is a good neighbor to surrounding towns and needs to stand up for itself.

**Appointments**

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruwet, seconded by Councilman Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's reappointment of James Steck, Esq. as Citation Hearing Officer for Blight Enforcement, as authorized by C.G.S. §7-152c and Torrington Code of Ordinances §161-8c for a term to expire December 31, 2018.

**SBEA Agreement: Sullivan Senior Center & Garage**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Services for the Elderly Commission, Public Works Director, and Purchasing Agent, and authorize the Mayor to sign the Small Business Energy Advantage (SBEA) Agreement to replace all interior and exterior lighting with cost saving LED lights at 88 East Albert Street, Sullivan Senior Center and Garage, as described in Director Joel Sekorski's letter dated May 22, 2018.

**City Budget Transfers: Approved**

On a motion by Councilwoman Soliani, seconded by Councilman Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to approve the City Comptroller's request to complete the budget transfers indicated in her letter dated May 31, 2018 for a total of \$29,925.00, pending Board of Finance authorization on June 19th.

**Plumbing Services Contract**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and authorize the Mayor to award the contract for General Plumbing Services to the City of Torrington to West State Mechanical Inc. of Litchfield, CT at the rates of \$90.00/hour per journeyman and \$60.00/hour per apprentice, and to have the Mayor act on behalf of the City regarding the execution of the contract and its administration.

**Hydraulic Snow Plows**

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruwet, seconded by Councilman Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Fleet Manager and Purchasing Agent and authorize the Mayor to award the purchase of two (2) Hydraulic Snow Plows to Bigson II, LLC/Equipment Service of Hartford, CT for \$17,187.20 out of the vehicle replacement account and to have the Mayor act on behalf of the City regarding the execution of the contract and its administration.

**Executive Session**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to enter executive session pursuant to C.G.S. §1-200(6)(D), to discuss the potential purchase of real property on University Drive at 7:25 p.m. Corporation Counsel Jaime LaMere was also present.

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to enter open session at 7:45 p.m.

**Business by Small Cities Subcommittee**

On a motion by Councilwoman Soliani, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Small Cities subcommittee.

Councilwoman Soliani stated the Small Cities subcommittee's recommendation and on her motion seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council voted unanimously to decline the loan subordination request for the property at 245 Migeon Avenue.

**Release Liens**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilwoman 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. LaMere's memo dated June 4, 2018.

**Tax Collector Refunds**

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruwet, seconded by Councilwoman Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the ten tax refunds indicated on the list dated June 4, 2018.

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruwet, seconded by Councilman Simon, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the two sewer usage fee refunds indicated on the list dated June 4, 2018.

**Business by Dept. Heads**

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

No business was reported.

**Business by Mayor & Members**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and Council Members.

Councilman Cavagnero requested for a follow-up meeting of the Sewer Ordinance committee to be initiated.

Councilman Cogswell addressed the concerns regarding the Ordinance committee and stated that as committee Chairman he is willing to hold additional meetings but wants people to come with proposals for how the ordinance should be amended. He stated that to his knowledge, it was agreed upon that the committee was waiting for the sewer system valuation to be completed before holding another meeting.

Councilwoman Ruwet expressed her satisfaction that the City Council will be meeting with the Board of Education on June 18<sup>th</sup> and commended the late Ann Giannattasio for her service to the City of Torrington.

Mayor Carbone explained that the purpose of the initial meetings for the IMA with Woodridge Lake Sewer District are to discuss ground rules only and stated that nothing will move forward without the City Council's understanding and blessing. She also announced that the Board of Finance approved a mill rate for FY 2018/2019 with the plan to bond funding and restore capital improvement projects.

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

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

In regard to the WPCA budget for FY 2018/2019, Michael Banziruk questioned the allocation of approximately \$13,000 for hydrant use to the Torrington Water Company and the use of drinkable water in the City's sewer pipes. He questioned the WPCA miscellaneous fees and stated that he hopes to be involved in the next Sewer Ordinance committee meeting.

Glenn Royals expressed his opposition to meetings with attorneys from Woodridge Lake Sewer District to discuss the IMA.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Councilman Cogswell, seconded by Councilman Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
*Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. Clerk*

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC  
CITY CLERK