

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, August 20, 2018.

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

Also present were Corporation Counsel Jaime LaMere, City Comptroller Alice Proulx, Public Works Director Jerry Rollett, Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer Rista Malanca, Regional Planner for the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments Aaron Budris, and Director of Personnel and Labor Relations Atty. Mark Dumas.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 6, 2018. Councilor Ruwet abstained.

Open to the Public

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

Michael Banziruk refuted Atty. Dumas' statement in the Ordinance Committee meeting that the Torrington WPCA is not permitted by state and federal law to charge a different rate for residents from another town. Mr. Banziruk stated that sewer fees for non-residents are not regulated by state statutes.

Budget Transfer: Approved

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to approve the budget transfer requests described in City Comptroller Alice Proulx's memo dated August 15, 2018, pending Board of Finance authorization.

Oil Tank Removal Project

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation and the Director of Public Works and authorize the Mayor to award RFP #ATR-005-081418 for the removal of the underground oil tank at the Armory building and related services as well as the charges associated with the oil transfer, cost of removal and disposal of any contaminated soil, and the two alternates for concrete removal and site restoration as described in their letter dated August 16, 2018, to Kropp Environmental Contractors, Inc. of Lebanon, CT, with funding from Fund 91 "LoCIP Public Act Proceeds".

Southeast School Demolition

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Public Works Director and the Purchasing Agent, and authorize the Mayor to award the contract for the environmental abatement and demolition services of Southeast School to Standard Demolition Services, Inc. of Trumbull, CT in the amount of \$248,290.00 with funding from Fund 0310 and Fund 91, and have the Mayor act on behalf of the City regarding the execution of the contract and its administration.

Councilor Cogswell requested additional information about the building and plans for future development. Mr. Rollett described a brief history of the building and stated that it would be too expensive to renovate. He stated that there are currently no plans for the lot after the building is demolished.

Presentation: NRG Economic Development Study

Ms. Malanca and Mr. Budris presented the Economic Development Study for the proposed Naugatuck River Greenway (NRG) project. They discussed revenue projections, the cumulative health impact, as well as the timeline for construction. They stated that the 44-mile trail buildout should be complete by the year 2030.

Councilor Soliani asked when they expect Torrington's trail section to be completed. Ms. Malanca stated that she expects construction to start next spring, with the trail's completion dependent upon funding, but likely before 2030.

Release Liens

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, 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 August 20, 2018.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 22 tax refunds indicated on the list dated August 20, 2018.

Ordinance: Discussion Tabled

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to table the discussion of business by the Ordinance subcommittee.

Item Added to the Agenda: 9A

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to add item number 9A to the agenda – to consider business by the Small Cities subcommittee.

Small Cities

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

Councilor Soliani stated the recommendation of the Small Cities subcommittee to approve a Small Cities loan not to exceed \$10,000 for a new roof at 131 Roberts Street. The Council voted unanimously to approve the loan.

Business by Dept. Heads

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

Atty. Dumas reported that the collective bargaining negotiations are progressing with four of the City's five units. City Clerk Carol Anderson reported that the Primaries went well and approximately 9% of the voters came out to vote. Mayor Carbone announced that Atty. LaMere will be leaving her position as Corporation Counsel at the end of the week.

Comments for the Good of the Order

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

Councilor Cavagnero stated his concerns and expectations regarding the City's Sewers Ordinance and fees for non-residents. Councilors Cogswell, Simon, Ruwet, Soliani, and Rubino thanked Atty. LaMere and Tim Waldron for their service to the City of Torrington and wished them well in their new positions of employment.

Mayor Carbone reported that she participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony at 829 Restaurant and Lounge, announced that Sullivan Honda will be undergoing a major expansion project on East Main Street, and reported that Main Street Marketplace held their final event of the season on Thursday, August 16th at Coe Memorial Park. She also announced that Sasso's Restaurant will be expanding and reported that the City completed its first round of interviews for a new Police Chief.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items Only

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

Michael Banziruk stated his opposition to agenda item number 13 regarding the executive session to discuss draft intermunicipal agreements.

Sharon Waagner thanked the City for helping to get 829 Restaurant and Lounge off the ground.

Ray Bottass requested to be able to snow mobile on the Naugatuck River Greenway when it is complete.

Executive Session

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted with five votes in favor and one opposed (Councilor Cavagnero), to enter into Executive session, pursuant to C.G.S. §1-200(6)(E) and C.G.S. §1-210(b)(1), to discuss draft intermunicipal agreements for the discharge of sewage from real property lying outside the bounds of the City into the City sewage system at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Rollett and Attorneys LaMere and Dumas joined as well.

Return to Open Session

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to enter Open Session at 8:32 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol L. Anderson".

CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK