

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, October 1, 2018.

Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone and City Councilors Marie Soliani, Frank Rubino, Anne Ruwet, Gregg Cogswell, Fred Simon, and Paul Cavagnero. Also present were City Comptroller Alice Proulx, Fire Chief Peter Towey, Water Pollution Control Administrator Ray Drew, 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 Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held September 17, 2018. Councilor Cavagnero abstained.

Open to the Public

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public. No one from the public wished to speak.

Recognition of Torrington Women's Club 95th Anniversary

Mayor Carbone presented a proclamation encouraging all Torrington residents to recognize the volunteerism and special contributions that the Torrington Women's Club continues to make to enrich the community and less fortunate through its volunteer services. She thanked Club members June Zeiner, Claire McDonald, and Marie Gervasini, who were in attendance.

Budget Transfers: Approved

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to approve the budget transfer requests described in City Comptroller Alice Proulx's memo dated September 26, 2018, pending Board of Finance authorization on October 16, 2018.

Tree Trimming and Removal Services

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Streets and Parks and the Purchasing Agent, and authorize the Mayor to extend the Tree Trimming and Removal Services contract to Asplundh Tree Expert Company of Willow Grove, PA (Branch location: East Windsor, CT) for fiscal year 2018/19.

Torrington Police Collective Bargaining Agreement

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of Attys. Muschell and Dumas, and approve the two year Police Local 442, Council 4, AFSCME Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement, as described in Atty. Muschell's letter dated September 27, 2018. Councilor Simon abstained.

Councilor Cogswell asked Atty. Dumas how much the new agreement will save the City. Atty. Dumas responded that the employees will pay a cumulative additional amount of \$40,000 over the two year period.

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Cavagnero, 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 October 1, 2018.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 50 tax refunds indicated on the list dated October 1, 2018.

Business by the Ordinance Subcommittee

Councilor Cogswell stated that the Ordinance subcommittee met and voted on amendments to the Sewers ordinance. On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to table the discussion by the Ordinance subcommittee until the next regular meeting of the Board of Councilman.

Business by Dept. Heads

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

Chief Toweey informed the Council about the Assistance for Firefighters Grant (AFG), which the Fire Department is applying for to secure funding for the Torrington Fire Department to transition its radio system to the State of Connecticut Telecommunications System.

Mr. Drew stated that the Water Pollution Control Facility upgrade contracts have been executed and the City has received the finalized set of plans and specifications. He stated that he anticipates issuing the notice to proceed the week of October 22nd, and reported that the Clean Water Fund grant and loan agreement is currently being finalized. Mr. Drew reported that the necessary sewer easements have been secured for the project to extend sewers on Homestead Road and announced that he will present a request to schedule a public hearing on the sewer extension at the next City Council meeting.

Atty. Dumas reported that the City is down to only three collective bargaining negotiations that are still open, and stated that negotiations are continuing with the City's Fire, City Hall, and Public Works units.

Comments for the Good of the Order

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

Councilor Cavagnero questioned whether the road repair job at the bottom of East Main Street is complete, and expressed his dissatisfaction with its appearance. Mayor Carbone stated that the road is maintained by the State and offered to follow up with the State to find out.

Councilor Rubino thanked Mr. Drew for a tour of the Sewage Treatment Plant and suggested having a ground breaking event to commence construction at the facility.

Mayor Carbone stated that Election Day is November 6th and announced that mailers will be sent out regarding Torrington's four referendum items.

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.

Executive Session

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to enter Executive Session with Atty. Dumas to discuss the potential acquisition of real property, per C.G.S. §1-200(6D) at 7:12 p.m.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to return to open session at 7:43 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Cavagnero, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Carol L. Anderson

CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK