

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, January 7, 2019.

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

Also present were Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell, Fire Chief Peter Towey, Police Chief Bill Baldwin, Jr., Director of Instrumental Music/Music Technology Wayne Splettstoesz and members of the THS Band.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

THS Band Recognition

Mayor Carbone announced that the THS Band was selected by the Connecticut Music Educators Association as the 2019 Honors Ensemble and will perform at the Hartford Convention Center on Friday April 12, 2019. She discussed the significance of the Band's achievements and presented a plaque in recognition of their excellence. Mr. Splettstoesz presented a framed portrait of the Band to the Mayor and Band member Julia Fritz thanked the Mayor and Council for their recognition.

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held December 17, 2018.

Open to the Public

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

Ray Bottass expressed his frustration regarding limited public access to a recent meeting hosted by Woodridge Lake Sewer District. He also expressed his concerns regarding the potential construction of Arethusa Farms' manure processing plant in Torrington.

Mayoral Appointments

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's reappointment of Gregory Perosino as a Regular Member of the Planning & Zoning Commission, for a five-year term to expire December 1, 2023.

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's reappointment of Gregory Perosino, Gregory Mele, Donna Greco, Richard Calkins, and James Bobinski as Regular Members of the Flood & Erosion Control Board, for a three-year term to expire February 1, 2022.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Sharon Waagner and Diane Carroll, and reappointment of Jaime LaMere, as Alternate Members of the Flood & Erosion Control Board, for a three-year term to expire February 1, 2022.

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's reappointment of Edward Cannata and Michael McAllister as Regular Members of the Arts and Culture Commission for a four-year term to expire December 31, 2022.

FD Class B Uniforms

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and authorize the City to award the bid for Class B uniforms for the Torrington Fire Department (Bid #FUB-022-122018) to Fairfield Uniform Company of Bridgeport, CT for an estimated budgeted amount not to exceed \$24,188 with funding from account #022-5208.0000 (Uniform Allowance).

Small Cities

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

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Small Cities grant administrator and award the contract for lead testing on Small Cities projects to Gilbertco Lead Inspections (Ansonia, CT).

On a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Small Cities grant administrator and award the contract for Title Search Services on Small Cities projects to Robert Green Associates (Terryville, CT).

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Soliani, 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 January 7, 2019.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 58 tax refunds indicated on the list dated January 7, 2019.

Building

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Building Department's report for November, 2018.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Chief Towey expressed his condolences for the families impacted by the house fire on Stoneridge Drive.

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 Cogswell requested to receive regular updates regarding the Materials Innovation & Recycling Authority (MIRA). Councilor Simon requested clarification regarding how the City tracks its Small Cities loans and Mayor Carbone offered to bring in the City Treasurer to provide a report. Councilors Soliani and Ruwet congratulated the THS Band on their achievements. Mayor Carbone addressed concerns regarding Arethusa Farms' potential acquisition and construction of a manure processing plant at the former Air Gas property in Torrington. She expressed her support for Arethusa Farms' business model.

Mayor Carbone and the Council discussed the sale of Campion Ambulance to Trinity Health Services Corporation and the possibility of reassigning the Primary Service Area (PSA) to the City of Torrington. Chief Towey explained the benefits of being reassigned the PSA. Mayor Carbone informed the Council that following a request by the Board of Public Safety, a letter was sent from her office to the Office of Emergency Medical Services (O.E.M.S.) informing them that the City supports the transfer of Campion ambulance to Trinity Health, contingent upon the PSA being reassigned to the City of Torrington.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items Only

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

Ray Bottass expressed his satisfaction with various construction projects throughout the City and thanked Chief Towey and the Fire Department for their service and response to the fire at Stoneridge Drive on January 3, 2019.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

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

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK