

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**CITY COUNCIL & WPC AUTHORITY**  
**January 16, 2018**

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A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority and the Board of Education was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Corporation Counsel Jaime LaMere and City Councilors Paul Cavagnero, Gregg Cogswell, Anne Ruwet, Marie Soliani and Frank Rubino. Councilor Fred Simon was absent. Fire Chief Gary Brunoli, Comptroller Alice Proulx, Water Pollution Control Administrator Ray Drew and ZEO/Inland Wetlands Officer Rista Malanca were also present.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. starting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

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

**Open to Public**

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

Michael Banziruk presented his opinion and research on rules and regulations City Council should follow regarding Ordinance Chapter 170. Mayor Carbone requested Mr. Banziruk reserve his comments for the Public Hearing on January 31<sup>st</sup>, as it is inappropriate at this time.

Glenn Royals expressed his concern about the issue, saying he will speak on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Mayoral Appts.**

Section B

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to add Section B to the agenda.

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Jenna Reichen to the Board of Finance to fill the remainder of a six-year term to expire December 15, 2019.

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Kevin Finn as a regular member of the Conservation Commission to fill the remainder of a three-year term to expire September 4, 2018.

**Fire Department Uniforms**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Fire Chief and Purchasing Agent and extend the current contract with New England Uniform of Bridgeport, CT for one month to February 1, 2018 at the current rates.

**E. Sewer Basin Rehab. Project**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council, acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to approve a payment of \$309,706.43 from Fund #490 Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement, to Insituform Technologies for Requisition #5, dated Jan. 4, 2018, for Capital Project D-2Ab, the East Sewer Basin Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Drew explained the change orders, percentage ratios, and overages.

**Budget Amendments/Transfers**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Comptrollers Budget Amendments and Transfer Requests listed in the three memos dated January 10, 2018, pending Board of Finance approval.

**Schedule Public Hearing: Woodridge Lake Sewer Dist.**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council, acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing, pursuant to C.G.S. §7-247a, on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss and obtain public comment on an application for a proposed extension of, and connection to, the City of Torrington's sanitary sewer system by the Woodridge Lake Sewer District.

Mayor Carbone explained that the public informational session and the opportunity for the public to speak at a public hearing are being combined on January 31 to make it part of the same record. She said if the evening runs too long, a second public hearing can be scheduled on February 20. Mayor Carbone clarified that no action will be taken that evening. Councilor Cavagnero recommended Map #4934 in the City Clerk's office.

### **Sewer System Analysis & Valuation**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council, acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, considered the allocation of funds to hire a consultant for an independent analysis and valuation of the City's sanitary sewer system. Mayor Carbone said she provided a copy of the comprehensive 2002 inventory and appraisal of all City and WPCA assets, and recommended that if an updated valuation were done, it should be done citywide. Mayor Carbone noted that it is a long and laborious process and offered to return with a project proposal and plan for its inclusion in the budget process. Councilor Ruwet noted that the project specifications and budget could be included in the RFP.

Mr. Drew noted that sewers are typically designed for a 50-year life span, and recommended the WPCA clearly define the parameters such as an appraisal, a value assessment, or an in-ground replacement cost if it were to be built it new.

Councilor Rubino suggested that Capital Improvement plans be included. Councilor Cavagnero said it is essential to define what the Council is looking for in this analysis. Mayor Carbone suggested the WPCA members look at the 2002 inventory and appraisal she distributed. Mr. Drew explained the existing Capital Plan.

Mayor Carbone clarified the motion, to consider the allocation of funds for an independent analysis and valuation of the City's sanitary sewer system, and that a scope of services will be brought back to the WPCA for consideration. The funding was unanimously approved.

### **Transportation Engineering Services**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to accept a proposal from BSC Group of Glastonbury, CT for the performance of additional transportation services at the Main Street / E. Main Street Intersection in the amount of \$38,500; and to approve additional services as outlined in the RFQ/RFP not to exceed the total grant amount of \$275,000.

Mrs. Malanca reminded the Council of a recent \$275,000 grant received from OPM which allowed BSC to do a full routing study of the Sue Grossman Greenway from where it currently ends to downtown on Franklin Street where it will connect to the Naugatuck River Greenway. She said it was difficult to know what engineering plans would be needed when the trail's location was still undetermined. Mrs. Malanca noted that the RFP contained many additional services, planning for the project to exceed the original grant proposal. She said it is now known that the trail's alignment goes to the five-way intersection downtown, where the routing study requires more information about traffic and how a pedestrian signal will affect that intersection. Mrs. Malanca said they need the information to make improvements, to improve the level of traffic service, and to include the bike and pedestrian components to improve it and make it better. She noted that the motion includes Additional Service Work in BSC's proposal for the year and a half long project, not to exceed the grant amount.

### **Release Liens**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Rubino, the Council voted unanimously to accept Corporation Counsel's recommendation and authorize the Mayor, pursuant to CGS §12-179, to release the liens described in Atty. LaMere's Memo dated January 16, 2018.

### **Tax Collector Refunds**

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Soliani, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the 19 tax refunds indicated on the list dated Jan. 16, 2018.

Acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, on a motion by Councilor Soliani, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the three sewer-usage fee refunds indicated on the list dated January 16, 2018.

### **Building Dept. Report**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Building Department Report for December 2017.

**Business by Dept. Heads**

On a motion by Councilor Cavagnero, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Dept. Heads. No business was presented.

**Business by Mayor & Members**

On a motion by Councilor Cavagnero, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and Members of Council.

Councilor Cogswell clarified that he has not made any final determinations on any applications received, or expressed any opinions in public or private that would suggest he has made any final determinations.

Councilor Ruwet expressed her appreciation of Councilor Cogswell's comments, especially in light of the Council's primary responsibility to be open to receive all of the information on whatever issue might be before them.

Councilor Soliani commended the AME Zion Church's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. saying it was informative, fun and delightful.

**Open to Public for Agenda Items Only**

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public to discuss agenda items only. There was no one present who wished to speak.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Councilor Cavagnero, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC  
CITY CLERK