

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL & WPCA
REGULAR MEETING
City Hall Auditorium / Zoom
November 21, 2022**

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council and Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) of the City of Torrington was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, November 21, 2022. Present at the City Hall auditorium were Mayor Elinor Carbone, City Councilors Armand Maniccia, Drake Waldron, and Keri Hoehne. Also present at City Hall were Treasurer Dan Farley, and Building Committee Co-Chairs Ed Arum, and Mario Longobucco. Councilor David Oliver joined via Zoom. Also joining via Zoom was Corporation Counsel Victor Muschell. Councilors Anne Ruwet and Paul Cavagnero were absent.

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

Presentation of Certificates

Mayor Carbone presented Owen Quinn the Executive Director of the United Way of Northwest CT with a Certificate of Appreciation for his leadership, hard work, and commitment to managing the Cold Weather Overflow Shelter in Torrington for the last two years. She went on to say that Owen's energy, passion, and dedication to providing the highest level of service for our most vulnerable are greatly valued and appreciated, especially while dealing with the unforeseen challenges brought about by the Coronavirus Pandemic Crisis.

Owen Quinn Thanked the Mayor and the City for the award. He then took a moment to speak about the United Way and the impact that it has had on helping individuals in the community over the years.

Mayor Carbone presented Thomas Kandefer with the Good Deed Award, for keeping Torrington clean and beautiful. She explained that Tom has been an active member of the Torrington Trails Network and Torrington Recycling Committee and has participated in many Conservation Commission meetings and events. During the City's World Clean Up Day, held this September 17, 2022, Tom led the effort in filling a 20-yard dumpster with garbage from the Naugatuck River and city-owned conservation properties. Tom Kandefer Thanked the Mayor and the City for the recognition of his efforts. He went on the challenge all of the younger people in the City to volunteer to help keep the City beautiful.

Building Committee Co-Chair Ed Arum introduced Joe Toner the Executive Director of the CT State Building Trades Training Institute (BTTI). Mr. Toner said how they were recruiting and enrolling Torrington Residents who graduated, into the Construction Readiness Training Programs. He went on to say that the individuals tonight are being awarded a certificate of completion to be able to move onto the apprentice program in their chosen trade. Mr. Toner introduced Yolanda Rivera Director of BTTI and Ed Grabowski President of the Greater Hartford Building Trade Council to hand out the certificates.

The following individuals were awarded certificates:

Daniel Alvarez – Laborer
Jazzmany Alvarez – Laborer
Gerold A Gillotte – Mason
Joshua Hossein – Carpentry
Widenson M Lema – Plumbing
Jesse Martin – Laborer
Elvis Orellana – Laborer
Wesley S Orellana – Laborer
Stephen J Phillip – Laborer
Noah Ponci – Plumber

Public Comment: (in-person only)

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public, in accordance with Section 4(e) of the City Council & WPCA Meeting Rules of Procedure. No one from the public wished to speak.

Approve Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Public Hearing minutes from November 14, 2022.

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Regular meeting minutes from November 14, 2022.

Parks and Recreation Commission

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to reappoint Michael Fritch (R) as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission for a 5-year term set to expire December 1, 2027.

Small Cities Subordination Request

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council, on the recommendation of the Small Cities Committee, voted unanimously to authorize the City of Torrington to subrogate their current Small Cities lien, in the amount of \$19,669, from second to the third position so that the property owner can acquire a \$15,000 Home Equity Loan from Torrington Savings Bank, as further explained in Treasurer Dan Farley's memo dated November 14, 2022. Councilor Waldron stated that with the owner's first mortgage, home equity, and the Small Cities lien there is still roughly \$80,000 in equity in the house.

THS/TMS Builders Risk Policy

On a motion by Councilor Hoehne, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Builders Risk Policy for the High School, Middle School, and Central Office construction project, including the existing high school, to Travelers Insurance Company, of Hartford, as further explained in the Building Committee Co-Chair's memo dated November 17, 2022, having been previously approved by the Building Committee and the Board of Education on November 17, 2022.

Building Department Report

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Building Department Report from September 2022.

Sewer Use Lien Release

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to release the sewer use liens in the Corporation Counsel's memo of November 21, 2022.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the tax refunds indicated on the list dated November 21, 2022.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by department heads.

Treasurer Dan Farley let the Council know that they will be working with the Department of Housing to audit and close out the 2015 Small Cities Loans.

Business by Mayor & Members

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Mayor and Members.

Councilor Waldron took a moment to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilor Hoehne was excited to have an auditorium full of people from Torrington, who are becoming apprentices to build the new school.

Councilor Maniccia Thanked Owen Quinn and Tom Kandefer for all their efforts in the City of Torrington for many years.

Mayor Carbone acknowledged the men and women who are being trained in trades to support themselves and their families.

Public Comment (in-person only)

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public to comment on agenda items only. No one from the public wished to speak.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Heather Abraham, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, CITY CLERK