

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council & WPC Authority was held at the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, February 4, 2019.

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

Also present were Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell, Director of Personnel and labor Relations Atty. Mark Dumas, Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, Water Pollution Control Administrator Rey Drew, and Elderly Services Director Joel Sekorski.

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

Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 22, 2019.

Open to the Public

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

Edwin Socha expressed his support for reassigning the PSA for Emergency Medical Services within the City to the City.

Sharon Waagner expressed her gratitude, on behalf of the Torrington Trails Network, for the volunteers who assisted with the Winter Festival that was held on Saturday, February 2, 2019.

Mayoral Appointments

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Travis Lipinski and Jonathan Ryan to the Economic Development Commission for 5-year terms to expire February 9, 2024.

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ray Drew as Public Works Director for a 4-year term effective May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2023. Mayor Carbone discussed the importance of having a succession plan. Mr. Drew thanked the City Council, Mayor Carbone and Jerry Rollett for their support and outlined some of his goals for the Department of Public Works.

Rural Independent Transportation Service (RITS)

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Director of Elderly Services' execution of a memorandum of understanding entitled "Northwest Hills Council of Governments and Sullivan Senior Center for the Implementation of the Rural Independent Transportation Service". Mr. Sekorski explained the advantages of RITS and how it will serve the needs of the elderly community in Torrington.

WPCA Vehicle Purchase

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the WPCA Administrator, Fleet Manager and Purchasing Agent to waive the City's bid process and authorize the Mayor to award the purchase of one (1) Ford F-550 Cab and Chassis for the WPCA from MHQ Municipal Vehicles of Middletown, CT. (RFP #GBPC 2019 Vehicles) through State Contract #12PSX0194, for the estimated price of \$42,653.20, and have the Mayor act on behalf of the WPCA regarding the execution of the contract and its administration.

WPCA Invoice

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority voted unanimously to approve a payment from Fund #490 Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement to Weston & Sampson for \$4,240 for the East Basin Sewer Rehab project.

Release of Liens

On a motion by Councilor Rubino, 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 February 4, 2019.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the ten tax refunds indicated on the list dated February 4, 2019.

On a motion by Councilor Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council acting herein as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the five sewer usage refunds indicated on the list dated February 4, 2019.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Mr. Drew updated the Council on the progress of the Water Treatment Facility upgrade. Atty. Dumas updated the Council on progress being made with the Fire Department and Public Works Collective Bargaining Units. Mr. Sekorski announced that the Sullivan Senior Center will be hosting a Valentine's Day celebration.

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. The Council congratulated Mr. Drew on his promotion to Public Works Director. Mayor Carbone announced that there will be a retirement party for Jerry Rollett on February 5, 2019.

Open to the Public for Agenda Items Only

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, 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 Simon, seconded by Councilor Cogswell, the Council voted unanimously to enter executive session with Attys. Muschell and Dumas at 7:04 p.m., pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(b) regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation, specifically City of Torrington v. Crovo, Cooling v. City of Torrington, and Fabiaschi v. City of Torrington.

Open Session


On a motion by Councilor Rubino, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to enter open session at 7:40 p.m.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Cogswell, seconded by Councilor Simon, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK