

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, September 19, 2022. Present at the City Hall auditorium were Mayor Elinor Carbone, City Councilors Drake Waldron, Keri Hoehne, David Oliver, and Anne Ruwet. City Councilor Armand Maniccia joined via Zoom. Also present at City Hall were, City Planner Jeremy Leifert, WPCA Administrator Ed Tousey, and Treasurer Dan Farley. Councilor Paul Cavagnero was absent.

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

Public Comment: (in-person only)

On a motion by Councilor Oliver, seconded by Councilor Hoehne 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.

Steven Ivain spoke about World Clean Up Day and thanked Tom Kandafer for all his efforts in cleaning up the trails. He went on to thank Assistant City Planner Nate Nardi-Cyrus for planning the day.

Approve Minutes

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Regular meeting minutes from September 6, 2022.

Appointment

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Mayor's appointment of Debra Iannacito as a Regular Member of the Board of Finance, to fill the remainder of a six-year term to expire December 15, 2023. Mayor Carbone let the Council know that Board of Finance Member Lance Boynton resigned as he sold his house and will be moving out of the state.

Torrington 2022-2027 Housing Affordability Plan

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Waldron on the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Planner, the Council voted unanimously to adopt the "City of Torrington Housing Affordability Plan 2022-2027" as the official Affordable Housing Plan for the City of Torrington, as further explained in the City Planner's letter dated September 6, 2022. Councilor Maniccia joined at 6:38 p.m. Councilor Hoehne asked if there are any considerations in the plan to account for the increase in school-age children that they have seen over the years, City Planner Jeremy Leifert explained that they can reevaluate the plan at any given time with new data that comes out in census reports. Councilor Hoehne asked how the City planned to account for additional costs with more affordable housing, like safety, traffic, and educational costs, Mr. Leifert let her know that a big portion of the plan is rehabbing old construction as well as adding new construction for affordability. The plan is based on making existing buildings, structures, and houses usable as well as adjusting the plan as they move forward. Mayor Carbone explained to the Council that this is an outline of where we are, what opportunities exist, and where gaps exist in the City for affordable housing. Councilor Oliver asked how many vacant 2-3 family homes exist, which make up 30% of the housing stock in the City, Mr. Leifert said that not all the multi-family homes are vacant and that it may just be one unit in that house that is not rented. Mayor Carbone reminded the Council that the City had set aside \$200,000 in ARPA Funds to help landlords with lead abatement. She went on to say that the City has had multiple meetings with the Torrington Area Health District and with the Connecticut Children's Hospital which has a Healthy Homes Initiative to see how they can best utilize those funds to not only include lead abatement, but also asbestos and mold.

Police Interceptors

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to utilize State Contract #12PSX0194 and purchase two Utility ½ cage Police Interceptors for \$48,780.65 per unit plus \$7,230 per unit radio up-fit for a total cost of \$112,021.30, from MHQ Municipal Vehicles, of Marlborough, MA to be paid from the Vehicle Replacement Account, as further explained in the Purchasing Agent's letter dated September 1, 2022, having been previously approved by the Board of Public Safety on September 13, 2022.

Preapproval to Purchase Used Roll-Off Truck

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Oliver, the City Council herein acting as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the WPCA Administrator and the Fleet Manager to preapprove the purchase of a used roll-off truck not to exceed the amount of \$70,000, as further explained in the WPCA Administrator's memo dated September 13, 2022. WPCA

Administrator Ed Tousey explained that the WPCA is looking for a yard truck to move sludge, he said therefore they are looking for a used truck instead of a new one, as it won't be on the road. Councilor Ruwet asked if this purchase had gone through the Vehicle Replacement Committee, Mr. Tousey said that the WPCA is not a part of the Vehicle Replacement Committee. Councilor Hoehne asked where the funds would be coming from for this purchase, Mr. Tousey let Council members know that it will be from the WPCA Capital Fund.

2022 Ford Ranger XL or Equivalent

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Vehicle Replacement Advisory Board and the Fleet Manager to authorize the purchase of a 2022 Ford Ranger 4X4 from Stoneham Ford of Stoneham, MA for \$36,899, funded from the Vehicle Replacement Fund, as further explained in the Fleet Manager's memo dated September 13, 2022. Councilor Waldron asked what department this vehicle would be for, Mayor Carbone told him it would be for the Public Works department.

Plowing Senior Center Facility

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to act on behalf of the City to award, execute and administer a contract for Snowplowing services for the Senior Center Facility to Roberts Property Management of Thomaston CT, for the estimated amount of \$9,150, as further explained in the Purchasing Agent's letter dated September 13, 2022.

Police Department Uniforms

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council on the recommendation of Lt. Thomas Rouleau, Training Officer Nicole Santiago, Chief William Baldwin, and Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, voted unanimously to award the contract to the Fairfield Uniform Co. of Bridgeport, CT at the annualized estimated cost. Funding for these purchases is budgeted in the Police Budget uniform allowance line item, \$42,000. This was previously approved by the Board of Public Safety on September 13, 2022.

Payment Authorizations

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Oliver, the City Council herein acting as the Water Pollution Control Authority, voted unanimously to approve the following payments from Fund #490 Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement.

DATE	INVOICE	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
9/19/2022	0000222754	Wright Pierce	\$6,191.18	Pre-Design Study/report Toro Road Siphon Invoice-0000222754
9/19/2022	0000222565	Wright Pierce	\$4,600.63	Winsted Road Pedestrian Tunnel: FM Repair invoice -0000222565

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Tax Collector and authorize the tax refunds indicated on the list dated September 19, 2022.

Sewer Usage 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 sewer usage refunds indicated on the list dated September 19, 2022.

Business by Department Heads

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by department heads.
City Planner Jeremy Leifert let the Council know that the City had applied for the Bronze Certification through Sustainable CT. He went on to say that with this Certification the City could get preferential treatment when applying for grants through the State.
City Clerk Carol Anderson said that the Deputy Republican Registrar of Voters resigned and Republican Registrar Edward Wilmot, appointed Janice Colangelo to fill the remainder of the term.

Business by Mayor and Members

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

Councilor Hoehne said how excited she is for Oktoberfest downtown this weekend. She also said that with dropping her children off at various schools in the City that the process has gone smoothly. **Mayor Carbone** reminded Council that Nate Nardi-Cyrus did file the grant application for the Safe Streets for All, along with planning the Clean Up the World Day. She went on to say that the Economic Development office is in the process of finalizing two grant applications. She also mentioned that there are multiple other grant applications that the City is waiting to hear back on.

Public Comment

On a motion by Councilor Oliver, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public for comment on agenda items only. No one present wished to speak.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Oliver, seconded by Councilor Hoehne, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Heather Abraham, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, CITY CLERK