

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, April 18, 2022. Present at City Hall were Mayor Elinor Carbone, City Councilors Armand Maniccia, Anne Ruwet, Paul Cavagnero, and Drake Waldron. Also present at City Hall was Economic Development Director Rista Malanca. Attending via Zoom was Corporation Counsel Victor Muschell, City Councilors David Oliver, and Keri Hoehne.

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

Public Comment

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

Mario Longobucco gave an update on the skate park.

Erik Wolfgang-Pinto from the Torrington Collective, which is powered by Curaleaf, was there to introduce himself to Council because he is interested in bringing a retail cannabis location to the City.

Michael Whitwick said that as a skateboarder he would offer his help with building and moving the skate park if needed.

Sharon Waagner said that she would like to see a more up-to-date skate park.

Fiber Optic Presentation by Frontier

Michael Cicchetti the Vice President of Government and External Affairs of Frontier Communications gave a brief presentation on the Fiber Optic installation that is going on in the City. He went over the various speeds that would be offered and the cost of those packages.

Tax Abatement Request: 129 Main Street

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to enter into a Tax Incentive Agreement, as described in the Economic Development Director's memo dated April 12, 2022, for certain real property and improvements located at 129 Main Street, in accordance with the City of Torrington's Tax Incentive Policy. Rista Malanca, Economic Development Director, introduced Mark Perbeck, Vice President & Security Officer of Torrington Savings Bank, who detailed the construction of 18 Mason St, 129 Main St & 123 Main Street properties and improvements that were made. Councilor Maniccia asked why they didn't apply for the Tax Abatement before construction, Mr. Perbeck said that they were under the impression that it had to coincide with the completion of the project.

Resolution #143-228

On a motion by Councilor Maniccia, seconded by Councilor Waldron, the Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #143-228 for a \$2,000,000 Brownfield Grant application for 70 North Street, the Torrington Company Standard Plant. See addendum.

ARPA Advisory Committee

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to approve an ad hoc ARPA Advisory Committee whose members will include Anne Ruwet – City Council, Laurene Pesce – Board of Finance, Molly Spino – Board of Public Safety, John Kissko – Board of Education, a vacancy to be filled by a member of the Parks & Recreation Commission, and a vacancy to be filled with a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

ARPA Funds: Community Impact Grants and Partnership Projects

On an amended motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Ruwet, the Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to release information to the public regarding the Community Impact Grants and Partnership Project Program and request the ad hoc committee bring back to the Council a recommendation on the protocol for review and weighing of the applications. Economic Development Director Rista Malanca went over the details of the Community Impact Grants and Partnership Projects application process, and exactly what the ARPA Advisory Committee will be looking for. The Council members voiced their concerns about the grading of applications and how they are weighed. Mayor Carbone stated that this is a rough draft of the criteria that the committee will be looking for. The committee will refine this plan to fit exactly what they are looking for in applicants.

ARPA Funds: Workforce Navigator RFQ/RFP

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to authorize the City to advance an RFQ/RFP to solicit a consultant to act as the City's Workforce Navigator as described in Economic Director Malanca's memo dated April 13, 2022. Economic Development Director Rista Malanca reviewed what the City would be looking for in the application for the City's Workforce Navigator consultant.

Building Department Report

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

Sewer Use Lien Release

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to release the sewer use liens in Corporation Counsel's memo of April 18, 2022.

Tax Collector Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the tax refunds indicated on the list dated April 18, 2022.

Sewer Usage Refunds

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Tax Collector and authorize the sewer usage refunds indicated on the list dated April 18, 2022.

Business by Dept. Heads

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by department heads. There were no department heads who wished to speak.

Business by Mayor & Members

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Maniccia, the Council voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and members of the City Council.

Councilor Cavagnero spoke about the skate park and the costs associated with moving the location or building a new skate park.

Councilor Hoehne requested a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss redoing the skate park rather than moving the old one.

Public Comment

On a motion by Councilor Waldron, seconded by Councilor Cavagnero, the Council voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public. No one present wished to speak.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilor Ruwet, seconded by Councilor Oliver, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Heather Abraham, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, CITY CLERK

Addendum:

Resolution #143-228

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
(AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER)
CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

I, Heather Abraham, Assistant City Clerk, certify that below is a true and correct copy of a
(Name of Official) (Title of Official)

resolution duly adopted by City of Torrington
(Name of the Applicant)

at a meeting of its City Council
(Governing Body)

duly convened on April 18, 2022 and which has not been rescinded or modified in

(Meeting Date)
any way whatsoever and is at present in full force and effect.

April 19, 2022
(Date)

[Signature] Asst. City Clerk
(Signature and Title of Official)

SEAL

WHEREAS, pursuant to 32-763

(State Statutory Reference)

the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and **WHEREAS,** it is desirable and in the public interest that the City of Torrington make an application to the State for

(Applicant)

\$ 2,000,000 in order to undertake the Torrington Industrial Park
(Name and Phase of Project)

70 North St. and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE

City Council
(Governing Body)

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by
32-763
(State Statutory Reference)

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by
City of Torrington
(Applicant)

in an amount not to exceed \$ 2,000,000 is hereby approved and that

Elinor Carbone, Mayor

(Title and Name of Authorized Official)

is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of

City of Torrington

(Name of Applicant)