

A **REGULAR MEETING** was held by the Small Cities Committee of the City Council & WPC Authority on Monday, April 16, 2018 at the City Hall in Room 215.

Mayor Elinor Carbone, Chairwoman Marie Soliani, Councilman Frank Rubino, Councilman Fred Simon, and Mayoral Aide Tim Waldron were present. Atty. Debra Brown and the property owner at 521 New Litchfield Street were also present.

Chairwoman Soliani called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

Subordination Agreement Request: 521 New Litchfield Street

Atty. Brown presented revised loan information for the property at 521 New Litchfield Street and requested clarification regarding the process for making a decision on the subordination agreement request.

Mayor Carbone and Chairwoman Soliani explained that the Small Cities subcommittee would present their recommendation to the City Council and the Council would vote on the request.

Councilman Rubino stated that a decision would be made that night.

Atty. Brown and the applicant exited the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Councilman Simon expressed his concerns regarding the City's ability to recover its investment in the property if the request was approved.

Mayor Carbone stated that the purpose of the Small Cities grant loans is to help people age in place and stay in their homes.

On a motion by Councilman Rubino, seconded by Chairwoman Soliani, the committee voted to recommend the approval of the subordination agreement request for 521 New Litchfield Street to City Council, with two votes in favor and one opposed (Councilman Simon).

Community Development Stipend Program Awards

Mayor Carbone explained the formula used to calculate the revised Stipend Program awards, based on the committee's previous recommendation for all applicants to receive a portion of the available funds. She explained the original intent of the Stipend Program and cautioned against awarding the funds to tax-exempt entities that own property in Torrington, as they already receive large tax breaks from the City.

Mayor Carbone explained the importance of the project to preserve the Revolutionary War veteran grave site on Norfolk Road and stated that the site could become a tourist destination. Chairwoman Soliani expressed her concern regarding the cost of tree removal for the proposed project and Councilman Simon suggested looking for someone who would be willing to donate the service.

The committee discussed the other Stipend Program applicants and Mayor Carbone suggested looking for alternative funding to purchase the speakers for Main Street or to support the grave site preservation project.

Mayor Carbone offered to present additional revisions to the Stipend Program awards at the next meeting of the Small Cities committee, which would eliminate the \$3,322.00 requested for speakers on Main Street, provide the full \$2,800.00 requested for the Revolutionary War grave site preservation, and reflect a distribution of the remaining funds to other applicants.

On a motion by Councilman Rubino, seconded by Councilman Simon, the committee voted unanimously to table the discussion of Community Development Stipend Program awards.

Adjournment

On a motion by Councilman Rubino, seconded by Councilman Simon, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. Clerk

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK