

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT**  
**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**July 8, 2020**

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by the Council President. The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brad Macdowall	Dominique Baez
Mick McGarry	Jody Clouse
Valerie Horsley	Berita Rowe-Lewis
Harry Gagliardi	Justin Farmer
Betty Wetmore	Marjorie Bonadies
Kathleen Schomaker	

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mike Colaiacovo; Austin Cesare; Kristin Dolan; Athena Gary

**PRESIDING:** Mick McGarry, President

**PUBLIC HEARING:** There were no speakers

**PUBLIC INPUT SESSION:** There were 4 public comments submitted for tonight and comments left over from the June 25, 2020 special meeting

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mr. McGarry said the administration is working with several groups working on the resolution for Public Safety issues against racism. He also said that the Charter Revision Commission resolution is on tonight's agenda and anyone who is interested in serving on this commission should contact Ms. Renta.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:** None

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Mr. McGarry moved a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved unanimously.

Mr. McGarry moved a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 15, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved unanimously. (Ms. Bonadies stated these minutes reflect her being absent and she was present)

Mr. McGarry moved a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Horsley and approved unanimously. (Mr. Macdowall asked for the spelling of his name to be corrected in these minutes)

**REGULAR AGENDA:** Mr. McGarry moved a motion to suspend their rules for tonight's meeting, seconded by Ms. Bonadies and approved unanimously.

Mr. McGarry stated since there are representatives here for item #3 he will do that first.

**3. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden and the Hamden Board of Education to commit to a Budget Stabilization Program with Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency for Liability-Auto-Property Pool Coverage**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Ms. Schomaker. DISCUSSION: Ms. Colleen White, (Senior CIRMA Underwriter for Hamden since 2002) gave a brief of the next 3 years rates saying year 1 there would be 0% increase and years 2 and 3 both with a 3% increase rate that cannot go higher, but can go lower. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Gagliardi)

**1. Order designating businesses that provide programs to the community for participation in the 2020 Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. DISCUSSION: Mr. Kroop explained the application process for this item and stated the Town pays out no money for this it simply processes the paperwork.

Mr. Farmer asked how the applicants are picked. Mr. Kroop said we send out and ask those who are eligible to apply and they apply but no one is picked, they just have to qualify and all that qualify are sent to Council. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Baez)

**2. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Connecticut Fund for the Environment, Inc. for storm water best management practice implementation at Town Center Park and accept and expend grant funds up to \$186,000**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Ms. Schomaker. DISCUSSION: Mr. Morton gave an overview of this project saying the grant money will do as it says, the location is behind the middle school and will tie in to a school program when completed. He also said it doesn't cost us money to implement.

Ms. Bonadies asked if any of this work can be done by our Public Works Dept. Mr. Austin said yes, Public Works will do some of the physical work, the Engineering Dept. will do some of the administration work, and the funds will cover materials and planting.

Mr. Farmer asked about the flooding being an issue back there and is there work that will need to be done later or volunteer based maintenance. Mr. Austin said what floods will continue but this will not add to it. He said it will require some maintenance but it's supposed to be self-sustaining and we may need to get in there maybe one or two times.

Mr. Gagliardi said this was said to cost us nothing but if we're using Public Works etc. it does cost us indirect funding. Mr. Austin said it's a cost of in-kind services.

**4. Resolution confirming commitment and participation in a Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Ms. Wetmore. DISCUSSION: Mr. Morton explained this is a 3 year extension of a current contract and that the \$40,000 was already budgeted for this year. Ms. Bonadies asked if the \$40,000 was just for this year or the 3 years. Mr. Morton said it's \$40,000 per year. Ms. Bonadies then asked if we had reports from past years on the usage of this. Mr. Morton said he doesn't have any information like that before him now but he'll see if he can get something.

Mr. Gagliardi said he's also interested in a report and cost analysis.

Mr. McGarry asked if this was timely or can it be tabled. Mr. Morton said the contract expires June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gruen said she imagines it can wait until the next meeting until Council gets the information.

Mr. Macdowall asked this contract is expired? Mr. Morton said yes, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Macdowall said so we're getting it 9 days after it expired and that this is a consistent thing. He said they're always late and it's obnoxious and embarrassing and that they should be seeing these things months in advance.

Mr. Gagliardi moved a motion to postpone this until the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and approved unanimously. – **POSTPONED ITEM**

**5. Order authorizing the application and if offered the acceptance and expenditure of funds for the 2020-2021 Summer Youth Employment Grant (\$63,500)**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: After an explanation of this item from Ms. Rubino Mr. Farmer asked if this was for Middle School or High School kids. Ms. Rubino said High School. Mr. Farmer asked if this was part of the Career Center? Ms. Rubino said it's separate but with connections. Ms. Rubino said on Monday's and Wednesday's they have speakers and she would love someone from the Council to come and speak and she'll send out more information on that.

Ms. Baez said she'd love to go and speak and then asked if they were still taking applications. Ms. Rubino said the deadline was last week and she thinks they're more than full but it may be flexible. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

**6. Order authorizing the application and if offered the acceptance and expenditure of funds for the 2020-2021 Summer Youth Employment Grant DCF (\$12,000)**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Gagliardi. DISCUSSION: Ms. Rubino said the only difference with this one from the other is that these youths must be in the DCF system. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

**7. Resolution of the Legislative Council Re: Mandatory periodic review of the Charter and creation of a Charter Revision Commission for the town of Hamden**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Gagliardi. DISCUSSION: Mr. McGarry went over the layout of the commission and said they'd have to do a lot of community outreach and that anyone interested should contact Ms. Renta with a letter. He said there's a lot of work to be done

and that this would be on the ballot in November of 2021.

Mr. Farmer said he wants to make sure this happens and wants to be sure there's equal representation and wants to be sure there are Independent voices as well and not just R's and D's and said we should reach out and encourage some of the Independents on our Boards and Commissions to apply.

Ms. Bonadies asked who was responsible for the final choices on the commission. Mr. McGarry said the Council will vote on it and that he'd check with Attorney Mednick on the process. Ms. Schomaker stated there are journalists in the attendees and maybe they'd help us advertise.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. McGarry moved a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Farmer and the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta  
Clerk of the Council