

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT**  
**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**May 18/19, 2020**

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, May 18, 2020. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by the Council President. (This meeting also extended into the next day of May 19, 2020) The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Mick McGarry	Dominque Baez
	Harry Gagliardi	Justin Farmer
	Marjorie Bonadies	Valerie Horsley
	Berita Rowe-Lewis	Brad Macdowall
	Austin Cesare	Betty Wetmore
	Kristin Dolan	Kathleen Schomaker
	Athena Gary	

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mike Colaiacovo

**PRESIDING:** Mick McGarry, President

**PUBLIC HEARING:** There were 118 emails submitted and read by President McGarry, all against the borrowing of the TAN's.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There was 1 email submitted and read by President McGarry.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mr. McGarry said he would be creating the Policy Committee later tonight, but he will not be able to announce those members until after he does so as he ran out of time in contacting people before this meeting. Mr. McGarry also mentioned the hard, bad decisions in the budget process that they been making and said it won't be perfect but he hopes it has the least negative consequences for all.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:** Mayor Leng gave an update on 2020 and said he'd send a report once it's put together. He went on to say that for the TAN's on tonight's agenda he thinks the bond restructure is best for the taxpayers. He said the TAN's are exclusively for revenue shortfalls due to the deferment and cannot be used for FY 2020 and that a second wave (Covid-19) at the end of this year will impact us too, and again said this cannot be used for anything other than the FY 2021 shortfalls and also said he's recommending paying it off over 2 to 3 years.

Mr. McGarry asked Mayor Leng for a physical copy of his comments.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held My 7, 2020. Moved by Mr. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Horsley and approved unanimously.

Mr. McGarry then moved a motion to suspend their rules to approve everything tonight, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved with 2 opposed (Gagliardi) (Farmer)

**AGENDA:**

- 1. Ordinances amending and restating §154.49 (1) of the Town Code of Ordinances providing Real Property Tax Relief to certain homeowners age 65 or over or permanently and totally disabled (CGS§12-129n)**

-- Moved by Mr. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously.

- 2. An ordinance appropriating not exceeding \$20,000,000 to pay current expenses and obligations of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut and authorizing the issuance of not exceeding, \$20,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes of the Town to meet said appropriation**

**OR**

**An ordinance appropriating not exceeding \$20,000,000 to pay current expenses and obligations of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut and authorizing the issuance of not exceeding, \$20,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes and Bonds issued under §7-379 of the Connecticut General Statutes, or notes and bonds issued under any applicable provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or Executive Order of the Governor of the Town to meet said appropriation**

-- After an explanation of each ordinance by the Town's Financial Advisor, Barry Barnabe and the Town's Bonding Attorney, David Panico and both of their recommendation's for ordinance number 2 (the longer titled one) a vote was taken on the second one and it failed with 8 in favor (Bonadies) (Cesare) (Clouse) (Horsley) (Rowe-Lewis) (Schomaker) (Wetmore) (McGarry) and 6 opposed (Baez) (Dolan) (Farmer) (Gagliardi) (Gary) (Macdowall)

-- After some more discussion on ordinance one and some concerns by Council members with the language and where this money may be used Mr. Panico amended the ordinance with language to assure it can't be used to close out Fiscal Year 19-20 as well language to have the monies released only with Council approval a vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

- 3. Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2019-2020 FY Budget (Fire Dept. - Holiday Pay - \$50,000) FROM REG. SALARIES – TABLED ITEM**

-- Mr. McGarry moved a motion to take this item off the table. Seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved with 3 opposed (Dolan) (Gagliardi) (Horsley)

**\*At this point the meeting is now into midnight on May 19, 2020**

-- After a short discussion on this Mr. McGarry moved a motion for approval, seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved with 1 opposed (Farmer) and 4 abstentions (Cesare) (Gagliardi) (Horsley) (Wetmore)

**4. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2019-2 020 FY Budget (Multiple Dept. (3) - Accrued Benefits - \$62,550) FROM E&C ACCOUNT – TABLED ITEM**

-- Mr. McGarry moved a motion to take this item off the table. Seconded by Mr. Cesare and approved with 2 opposed (Dolan) (Macdowall)

**5. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2019-2020 FY Budget (Town Attorney/Leg. Council – Settlement Reserve) - \$130,000 FROM OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) – TABLED ITEM**

-- Mr. McGarry moved a motion to take this item off the table. Seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved with 3 opposed (Dolan) (Macdowall) (Farmer)

Mr. Macdowall said since it was mentioned there'd be no penalties for being late with this he'll be voting no.

Ms. Schomaker said we're obligated to pay this so she sees no reason to not vote for it.

Mr. Farmer said they don't have the tools to do their job so he'll be voting no.

Ms. Bonadies said she'd also be voting no on this as there's no other avenue to get what they ask for.

Ms. Baez asked why the money was coming from this account. Mr. Eatman said it's the only line they could find the money in.

After Ms. Gruen mentioned she'd be okay with it remaining tabled until they get further information Mr. McGarry moved a motion to table it, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and approved with 3 opposed (Farmer) (Rowe-Lewis) (Clouse) – **TABLED ITEM**

There being no further business Mr. McGarry requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Schomaker and adjourned at 12:35 A.M. on May 19, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta,  
Clerk of the Council