

**MINUTES OF MEETING
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
January 3, 2023**

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https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/play/gti8FaLMIMYMi_9PonQiswvoArgUNxRHPMiqtyoMQH9XfL_s9vj8Yx8oqLVbe9zoDnf1s8OhDcLRm4Cj.6Hht049G8-TZhk0R?continueMode=true&x_zm_rtaid=a5RC6vKzS22CS2braurbFw.1673016077838.0a2ff04195906461be488b3e5398f1a1&x_zm_rhtaid=752

(Meeting starts at Time Code 00:48:00)

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A meeting of the Human Services Committee was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via ZOOM due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:41 PM by Sarah Gallagher, Chair.

Z = On Zoom P = In person

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sarah Gallagher, Chair (P); Adrian Webber, Vice-Chair (Z); Laurie Sweet (P); Katie Kiely (P), Cory O'Brien (Z); Bob Anthony (Z)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betty Wetmore

Public Hearing: (Item #1) Opened-7:44 PM

Speakers: Patricia Vener-Saavedra (Zoom), Gina Bianchi (In Person)

Ms. Gallagher recessed the Public Hearing at 7:56 PM until January 10, 2023 at 6:00PM

Public Input: None

The following items were addressed:

1. Fair Rent Ordinance amendment

-- This item was recessed until January 10, 2023

2. Order to accept and expend grant funds from Connecticut Humanities Council, Inc. (\$10,600)

--Moved by Ms. Sweet and seconded by Ms. Kiely. DISCUSSION: Ms. Bivens said this is a grant we were awarded for Arts Programming specifically a production of Death by a Thousand Cuts a Requiem for Black and Brown Men in the late Spring.

The item passed unanimously.

3. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget - Community Services Department (\$150,000 – from E&C)

--Moved by Ms. Sweet and seconded by Ms. Kiely. DISCUSSION: Ms. Bivens said Community Services is doing a great job helping people with Rental Assistance, Relocation and Food Bank. We have seen an increase in need and a rise in inflation. Due to this and looking at the budget mid-year, we realized we needed to ask for more money to assist the community. We are looking to transfer \$60,000 to the Food Bank, \$25,000 to Relocation, \$60,000 in General Assistance and \$5,000 to Evictions.

Mr. Anthony asked if this would get us through the year. Ms. Bivens said she cannot guarantee that. The request is based on what they have spent so far. Mr. Anthony asked if General Assistance covers Warming Center. Ms. Bivens said that General Assistance covers Fuel, Utility, and Rental Assistance. Warming Center is covered in another line.

The item passed unanimously.

4. Order approving agreement, amendment #1 and Memorandum of Understanding and authorizing the execution of such agreements with Connecticut Violence Intervention Program–Hamden Youth Services Bureau-Juvenile Review Board

--Moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Anthony. DISCUSSION: Ms. Rubino explained this this contract is for the Connecticut Violence Intervention Program. They have been running our Juvenile Review Board for the past year. The contract is for three years for \$75,000 per year. There is also a Memorandum of Understanding for \$23,000 which is an amendment- an enhancement grant that from Connecticut Youth Services Association will help provide additional staffing and funding for pro-social activities. Ms. Gallagher asked how many youth do we hope to reach out to? Ms. Rubino said approximately 75 youth and that varies from year to year.

The item passed unanimously.

5. Order approving agreement and authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Connecticut Violence Intervention Program-Hamden Police Department

--Moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Anthony. DISCUSSION: Ms. Gallagher asked if the Administration wished to address the item. Police Chief Wydra said this is the Street Outreach Worker Program. We have contracted for several years with Mr. Leonard Jahad found his work to be extremely helpful with trying to reduce violence with high risk youth 13 to 24 years of age. He recommends continuing this. Mr. Jahad's group is available all the time and they show up all the time to hospitals, community events and whenever they are asked to help.

The item passed unanimously.

The meeting was recessed until January 10, 2023 at 6:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
Rose Lion, Secretary

for Sarah Gallagher