

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 29, 2021**

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https://zoom.us/rec/share/e39RoslS99wBTGKhqmxuXw38skX_wN8L3AuUao3iONydbUC-hCfGjM0nw0AMcn5c.3mupwYMvR8zbSfRt

**** If prompted for a password, enter: aK2CQS&a**

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A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, March 29, 2021. 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 (after roll call)
Valerie Horsley	Jeron Alston
Justin Farmer	Adrian Webber
Austin Cesare	Kristin Dolan
Marjorie Bonadies	Athena Gary (after roll call)
Kathleen Schomaker	

MEMBERS ABSENT: Berita Rowe-Lewis; Betty Wetmore

PRESIDING: Mick McGarry, President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Rick Galarza, Deputy Finance Director; Sue Gruen, Town Attorney; Adam Sendroff, Chief of Staff; Dave Cappelletti, Auditor; Julie Smith, Town/BOE Director of Projects

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION: No speakers

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: Mr. McGarry mentioned their upcoming public hearings on the budget are happening Tuesday and Wednesday, and Thursday the department schedule would be sent out.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS: Acting Finance Director Mr. Jackson couldn't make it tonight for the Finance Report. Mr. McGarry said he'd see about adding it to the next Finance Committee.

The 2019-2020 Audit Report was then given by Mr. Cappelletti and can be heard on the meeting recording at Time Code 00:23:25. Deputy Finance Director Mr. Galarza gave a brief report in Mr. Jackson's absence and can be heard on the meeting recording at TC 1:30:35.

There was then a BOE Guide providing constituent services given by Superintendent Jody Goeler and can be found on the meeting recording at TC 1:47:05. Lastly, there was an HDAC presentation which can be found on the meeting recording at TC 1:58:30.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS: None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held February 16, 2021. Moved by Ms. Horsley and Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and approved unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Mr. McGarry said the consent calendar includes items # 1 thru 15 all having passed unanimously in their committees. Mr. Macdowall asked to pull items #12, 13 & 14 and put them on the regular agenda. Mr. McGarry then said the consent calendar now includes items #1 thru 11 and #15 and asked if there was any discussion on these items.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer thanked all the people who serve and help them see the big picture while they focus on the smaller details. Mr. Macdowall said this is an incredible list of residents pitching in to help and he thanks them all. Mr. McGarry called for the vote on approving items #1 thru 11 and #15 and it passed unanimously.

- 1. Refund of Property Taxes collected prior to July 1, 2020 – (1) totaling \$260.56**
- 2. Refund of Property Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 – Overpayments on Current Grand List – (11) totaling \$22,224.98**
- 3. Refund of Motor Vehicle Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 - Overpayments on Current Grand List – (42) totaling \$11,080.15**
- 4. Appointment of Melissa Canham-Clyne to the Transit District of Greater New Haven for a term to expire March 31, 2023**
- 5. Appointment of Timothy L. McKee to the Energy Use & Climate Change Commission for a term to expire July 31, 2022**
- 6. Appointment of David W. Radcliffe to the Farmington Canal Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2023**
- 7. Reappointment of Daniel W. Kops, Jr. to the Transit District of Greater New Haven for a term to expire March 31, 2023**

- 8. Reappointment of Robin LaFrance to the Hamden Housing Authority for a term to expire December 31, 2025**
- 9. Reappointment of Susan Kulis to the Energy Use & Climate Change Commission for a term to expire July 31, 2023**
- 10. Reappointment of Steven R. Rolnick to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2026**
- 11. Reappointments of Phillip Nista, Richard A. Pearce, William L. Doheny, Jr. and Michael McManus to the Natural Resources & Open Space Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2025**

- 15. Order authorizing the Rain Garden Construction Project**

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Order to approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hamden and UPSEU/COPS (Police Union) – Officer Gabriel Garcia
-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Bonadies. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked if he could get more information from Personnel on this practice and how long we've been doing it. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 opposed (Dolan)

2. Order to approve Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hamden and UPSEU/COPS (Police Union) – Officer Enrique Rivera-Rodriguez
-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Bonadies and approved with 1 opposed (Dolan)

3. Order to approve amendment to agreement between the Town of Hamden and TSKP Studio, LLC for Architectural/Engineering Services – Hamden Middle School Renovation Project
-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Horsley. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer said he'll be supporting this tonight saying we came a long way with this 3-R Project and he hopes the Board of Ed continues to partner with us. Mr. Macdowall asked if this came from foresight. Ms. Smith said yes, from a pretty lengthy study of the need for a new 6th grade. Mr. Macdowall said it's nice to see an analyst, foresight and thought being put into these projects and he looks forward to supporting it and thanked everyone for their work on it. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 opposed (Bonadies)

(Pulled from consent)

4. **(12.) Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget - \$150,000 Police Dept. (Overtime) INTERNAL TRANSFER**
-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Horsley. DISCUSSION: Chief Sullivan went over some of the reasons this was needed such as staffing levels below minimum, injured officers out,

bad weather events, crimes, protests, motor vehicle accidents, and retirements. Mr. Farmer asked if he could have a breakdown of the list he just mentioned where this funding is going. Chief Sullivan said he'll have to get on TelSatff to get that info. Mr. Farmer said he looks forward to receiving that data. Mr. Farmer said in the spirit of this he would love to hear at the appropriate time our plan to litigate overtime and then our plan to restructure where appropriate so that we can have a proper amount of manning as well as be able to have funds to do overtime when necessary.

Mr. Macdowall said items #12 & 13 are within your own department correct? Chief Sullivan said yes, from the salaries. Mr. Macdowall thanked him for finding the money within his own budget. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

5. (13.) Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget – \$14,377 Police Dept. (Vehicle Replacement) INTERNAL TRANSFER

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Cesare. DISCUSSION: Chief Sullivan explained how they were replacing some very high mileage vehicles and laid out the positives in the lease. He also mentioned that one of these were a hybrid for them to test and if it's positive they'll move in that direction for more in the future. He then explained what the warranty would cover.

Mr. Macdowall said he is apprehensive to get any new vehicles until FuelMaster is working properly or replaced and until we have fleet management in place. He said he realizes the Chief is in a difficult position but he cannot support #14 for those reasons, but he will support this internal transfer.

Mr. Farmer said he sees the need but is concerned. He then asked about his capital plan and whether or not he'd be asking for them there as well. Chief Sullivan said he did ask in the capital as well in case this didn't pass, plus they're trying to get them on the road today and take advantage of this deal saying this purchase is over a 5 year period and capital is one lump sum.

There was some discussion on the police accountability bill and state funds.

Mr. Cesare said he'll support this and thinks it's a great plan for funding purposes and also said (after the Chief gave him some of the cars mileages) that we owe it to them to be safe.

Ms. Schomaker said she wants to let everyone know that by participating in the State wide Electric Vehicle Readiness Program we are going to access a very sophisticated Fleet Management tool and the plan is to try to inventory every vehicle in our fleet with a purpose of knowing when to plan those vehicles turnover. She said they'll be working on this over the next few months and hope by the fall we'll have a vehicle inventory.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

6. (14.) Order to approve a Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Ford Motor Credit Company LLC for five new vehicles for the Police Department

-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Bonadies. DISCUSSION: Mr. Macdowall said he's not opposed to vehicle acquisition, but because we have no Fleet Management or a working FuelMaster he'll be opposing this for those reasons. Mr. Macdowall then stated to the Administration that this is something he wants to see as we discuss Capital Plans in the future. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 opposed (Farmer)

There being no further business Mr. McGarry requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Gary and the meeting adjourned at 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta
Clerk of the Council