

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**April 4, 2022**

**\*To view the recording, please click the following link and observe the instructions when/if prompted:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/dROkwpqZ1JflJ9gHmuSfVjacK75irOMxr87LoplmgUte26COILbJ8guTmXFajxCvppx-yyVjKuEr9n3.ZmrA3UedIGCNB\\_ZF](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/dROkwpqZ1JflJ9gHmuSfVjacK75irOMxr87LoplmgUte26COILbJ8guTmXFajxCvppx-yyVjKuEr9n3.ZmrA3UedIGCNB_ZF)

**\*\* If you are reviewing a print copy of these minutes and wish to view the meeting recording, please visit the Agenda Center at [www.hamden.com/agendacenter](http://www.hamden.com/agendacenter) and click the MEDIA link found next to this agenda under the meeting date. OR download the digital version of these minutes and click the link above.**

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A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, April 4, 2022. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Council President Dominique Baez. The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dominique Baez	Jeron Alston
Sarah Gallagher	Katie Kiely (after roll call)
Paula Irvin	Kristen Zaehring (after roll call)
Abdul Osmanu	Adrian Webber
Ted Stevens	Laurie Sweet
Betty Wetmore	Lesley DeNardis (after roll call)
Marjorie Bonadies	Justin Farmer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cory O'Brien

**PRESIDING:** Dominique Baez, President

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Sean Grace, Chief of Staff; Curtis Eatman, Finance Director; Sue Gruen, Town Attorney; Steve White, Town Engineer

**PUBLIC INPUT SESSION:** There was 1 speaker

(Written comments can be sent to [LCpublicinput@hamden.com](mailto:LCpublicinput@hamden.com))

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Ms. Baez had Ms. Sweet read the Land Recognition followed by a moment of silence.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:** None

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the meeting held March 21, 2022. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Sweet and approved unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval of the consent calendar. Moved by Ms. Mr. Webber, seconded by Ms. Zaehringer and approved unanimously.

- 1. Appointment of Deborah Smith to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2025**
- 2. Order authorizing an agreement with CivicPlus, LLC**
- 3. Capital Transfer of \$600,000 to address local cost sharing increase for roofing and windows at Dunbar Hill and West Woods Schools**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**1. Order regarding the waiver of Building Permit Fees and Planning & Zoning Permit and Application Fees – Laurel View Golf Course**

-- Moved by Ms. Wetmore, seconded by Mr. Stevens. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked if there was a timeline for this. Mr. Grace said no timeline was given from Laurel View. Mr. Farmer asked if we could get one. Ms. Gruen said she doesn't have the agreement with her but she thinks there were timelines in there and she would get that information and pass it on.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 3 opposed (Sweet) (Osmanu) (Farmer) and 1 abstention (Irvin)

**2. Order amending the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget (Community & Youth Services)**

-- Ms. Baez moved a motion to bundle numbers 2 & 3 together. The motion was seconded by Mr. Webber and approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor (Alston) (Bonadies) (DeNardis) (Kiely) (Webber) (Wetmore) (Zaehringer) (Baez) – 5 opposed (Farmer) (Irvin) (Osmanu) (Stevens) (Sweet) – 1 abstention (Gallagher) – 1 absent (O'Brien)

Ms. Baez then moved a motion for approval of items 2 & 3 seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Ms. Wetmore said she will be voting against both positions saying this should be done at budget season. She also said she doesn't think those department heads need another layer of supervision and that they already run their departments really well. As far as the \$45,000 savings she said it won't be a savings until you add in overtime for attending meetings, etc. Mr. Abdul moved a motion to postpone this until budget. Seconded by Mr. Farmer. They both then withdrew their motions to allow discussion to continue.

Ms. Gallagher said she thinks this is part of budget discussion and agrees with postponing until then.

Ms. Kiely asked when this would go into effect if done at budget time. Mr. Grace said July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Kiely asked if it got approved tonight and then they cut it from the budget will someone lose a position. Mr. Grace said yes. He also stated that this person would not receive additional pay to attend LC meetings.

Mr. Alston asked what wouldn't get done for planning if this isn't approved tonight. Mr. Grace said they are prioritizing that and summer planning will get done and that they may have to use stipends in the budget.

Mr. Farmer asked who is doing the work currently for Special Projects, FEMA reimbursement, etc. Mr. Grace said the Finance Dept.

Mr. Farmer said he doesn't know how to vote on this because he hasn't gone through the budget yet so he's glad they're postponing this because he couldn't vote for these now.

Ms. Wetmore asked why are we paying department heads if they're not going to be department heads and represent their own departments. She doesn't understand why there has to be so many layers.

Ms. Irvin asked why the Arts, Recreation and Wellness position is appointed. Mr. Grace said that created positions usually are.

Ms. Gallagher asked what happens if they vote on this during deliberations, could it be enacted faster than the budget. Ms. Gruen yes, by making a motion and acting on it at that time.

Mr. Osmanu moved a motion to postpone this until the budget deliberation night that would take up this matter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved with 1 abstention (Wetmore)

**3. Order amending the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget (Planning, Economic Development)**  
-- SEE ITEM NUMBER 2

There being no further business Ms. Baez adjourned the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta  
Clerk of the Council