

TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 17, 2021

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https://zoom.us/rec/share/jVAaO0MnBI7SEGT_jxWeYqQLgiwWj8gemYvsLr16eC5ziavAHmlnocj7OVtwxUp.SODDkshRSHtuegMK

**** If prompted for a password, enter: yB2%SfD9**

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A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, May 17, 2021. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 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 (approx. 8:20pm)
Athena Gary	Marjorie Bonadies (approx. 8:15pm)
Justin Farmer	Adrian Webber
Austin Cesare	Kristin Dolan
Betty Wetmore	Berita Rowe-Lewis
Kathleen Schomaker	

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeron Alston; Valerie Horsley

PRESIDING: Mick McGarry, President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Scott Jackson, Finance Director; Sue Gruen, Town Attorney; Adam Sendroff, Chief of Staff; Craig Cesare, Public Works & Parks Director

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: Mr. McGarry thanked a bunch of people in reference to the budget process and then said they'd be starting CivicsClerk again now that they're through with that. He also said they'd be starting the NCJJ program again as well as he'd be checking in with Public Safety to see about returning to meeting in person but still continuing a hybrid.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:

Finance Update: Mr. Jackson said the last report to the State revenue was down 8.8 million, expenses were down 8.2 million so we had a \$600,000 Delta. Since then they collected \$100,000 in tax dollars and the Delta is now \$500,000.

He said with Covid money coming in he has confidence we'll end the year in the black with a significant number.

Ice Rink Update: Mr. Jackson said he has documents he was not able to provide because of account numbers, names and addresses but he would have them available in his office and the Town Attorney's office tomorrow.

Mr. Jackson then went on to say that the rink loses money because we chose for it to lose money by subsidizing activities. He said the cost for BOE Schools is \$194,000 and Youth Hockey is \$40,000 saying we charge \$325 hr. for hockey but nothing to the BOE so the Council would have to address this for the results to go from negative to positive. He mentioned 2 choices of subdividing the parcel and selling the rink, or engage in a capital expenditure to add another sheet of ice as a second floor.

Ms. Dolan said she wants to see deposits, the audit, and the income coming in. Ms. Schomaker said she'd like a balance sheet report, what's subsidizing costs, utilities, staffing, the Towns costs. Ms. Dolan read from an email of the things they have asked for and asked when they can expect to get that. Mr. Jackson said he could put something together tonight for them.

There was the some discussion on different emails that have been sent, seen or not seen.

Ms. Wetmore stated this should all be on a spreadsheet and that she wants to see profits and losses. Mr. C. Cesare gave a brief history of the rink problems. He then said we're paying \$300,000 out of pocket to the vendor to operate the rink. Ms. Wetmore said she thinks there are a lot of things in the contract that she doesn't think are being done. Mr. Cesare said he too is disappointed they didn't get a report tonight.

Mr. Farmer asked about the leasing of equipment and what the utilities cost. Mr. Jackson said utilities are about \$113,000 and the total cost to run the rink is \$450,000.

Mr. Webber expressed his concern with the reporting from the vendor to the Town. Ms. Bonadies asked if they were receiving monthly reports stated in the contract. Mr. Jackson said yes.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS: None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held April 19, 2021. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and approved with 1 abstention (Rowe-Lewis)

CONSENT CALENDAR: Mr. McGarry said he's going to pull items #3, 4, 7 and 8 so the Consent Calendar now includes items #1, 2, 5, 6, and 9 through 18. He then requested a vote for approval. Moved by Ms. Baez, seconded by Mr. Farmer. **DISCUSSION:** Ms. Schomaker thanked all those that step up and serve on our Boards and Commissions. A vote was taken and approved unanimously.

- 1. Refund of Property Taxes collected prior to July 1, 2020 – (1) totaling \$459.23**
- 2. Refund of Property Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 – Overpayments on current Grand List - (2) totaling \$265.14**
- 5. Appointment of Gabor Kautzner to the Veterans Commission for a term to expire April 3, 2024**

- 6. Appointment of Julie Smith as an alternate to the Transit District of Greater New Haven for a term to expire March 31, 2023**
- 9. Appointment of Charles Elbert to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2023**
- 10. Reappointment of Ted Stevens as an alternate to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2024**
- 11. Reappointment of Andrew Houlding as an alternate to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2025**
- 12. Reappointment of Candace Birks to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Commission for a term to expire March 31, 2024**
- 13. Reappointment of Municipal Agent for Elderly Persons – Suzanne Burbage**
- 14. Reappointments of Sean T. Cardwell, Wanda Anderson Harris and Tracy Bowens to the Human Rights & Relations Commission for terms to expire April 30, 2024**
- 15. Reappointments of Timothy S. Mack, Lauren M. Wholey, Kristin Morico and Jonathan Clapp to the Inland Wetlands Commission for terms to expire April 30, 2024**
- 16. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to participate in the State of Connecticut Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Municipal Grant Program and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding**
- 17. Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget - \$16,000 Fire Dept. (Holiday Pay) INTERNAL TRANSFER**
- 18. Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget - \$40,000 Fire Dept. (FLSA/Garcia) INTERNAL TRANSFER**

REGULAR AGENDA:

1. Resolution with respect to the authorization, issuance and sale of not exceeding \$18,000,000 Town of Hamden, Connecticut General Obligation Refunding Bonds
-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved unanimously.

Pulled from Consent:

3. Refund of Motor Vehicle Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021
- Overpayments on current Grand List - (21) totaling \$4,165.82
-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Macdowall. DISCUSSION: Mr. McGarry moved a motion to amend the amount to \$3,798.49 (due to a refund being pulled from the list). The motion was seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved unanimously. Mr. McGarry then called for the vote on the item as amended and it passed unanimously.

4. Resolution authorizing the donation of a street name sign and brackets and placement at the corner of Woodin Street and Mueller Drive in memory of Councilman Michael Colaiacovo, Jr.

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Webber. DISCUSSION: Mr. McGarry thanked those who provided this donation. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

7. Appointment of Community Development Manager – Julie Smith

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. McGarry said he's pleased to see Ms. Smith in this role and he looks forward to seeing the great work she'll bring. A vote was taken and approved unanimously.

8. Appointment of Chief of Staff – Adam Sendroff

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. McGarry thanked Mr. Sendroff and said he looks forward to seeing all the great work he'll do. Mr. Farmer also thanked him and said he's happy to see him appointed. Ms. Schomaker said she's very pleased with the appointments and moving around of people. A vote was taken and approved unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. McGarry requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Ms. Baez, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and the meeting adjourned at 9:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta
Clerk of the Council