

**May 23, 2016**

**AMENDED**

The Regular Meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, May 23, 2016 in the Harriet North Courtroom, second floor, City Hall.

Present were Council Members O'Brien, Aldrich, Morrissey, Quagliani, Martone, Ronan, Russell, Dave Riccio , and Councilman Eberle. Absent were Council Members Stacie Riccio, and Forsyth. Mayor O'Brien was also absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

7:00 P.M. Legislative Matters Public Hearing  
– Ordinance Adopting a Senior Tax Freeze  
(See tape for Public Comments)

7:13P.M. Public Speaking Session  
(See tape for Public Comments)

8:19 P.M. Public Speaking Closed

8:20 P.M. Bill Lindsey presented an update on deficit reduction and bonding packages. Mr. Lindsey answered questions from the Council in regards to bonding and the City's deficit.

8:48 P.M. Michael Andreana discussed the mechanics of the Capital Plan financing and bonding Ordinances and answered questions from the Council.

9:14 P.M. Regular Council Meeting

Chairman James P. O'Brien called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:14 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF JOURNAL:**

Councilman Ronan presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of May 9, 2016 (with corrections – see tape) which was SECONDED by Councilman Forsyth and APPROVED by majority viva-voce with Councilman Riccio abstaining.

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**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Communication A. from West Haven Community House in regards to a fee waiver for a charitable event.

Communication B. from the Tax Collector attaching Over-Payment refunds for the month of May.

Communication C. (C-1 – C-5) from the Deputy Chief of Police in regards to donations.

Communication D. from City Council Clerk in regards to an invitation to bid on the RFP for (Schedule A) City owned properties.

Communication E. from Tax Collector in regards to the suspense list for personal property, motor vehicle, and supplemental motor vehicle taxes.

Communication F. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance adopting the 2017-2021 Capital Plan.

Communication G. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Deficit Obligations Pursuant to Chapter 117 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Communication H. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$9,636,035 Bonds plus Additional Financing Costs for Capital Budget Projects.

Communication I. from the Community Development Administration regarding 2016 Neighborhood Assistance Program.

Communication J. from Commissioner Riccio regarding the sale of City Property located at 528 Forest Road.

**RECESS: 9:16 P.M.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

**Legislative Matters Committee, Councilman Quagliani, Chairman**

Committee Members: Martone, Stacy Riccio, David Riccio and Ruickoldt  
Councilwoman Riccio – Absent

Committee Member Martone presented a MOTION to recommend the SECOND READING AND APPROVAL of Communication H. from the 3/28/16 Agenda to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member David Riccio and APPROVED unanimously by the Legislative Matters Committee.

**Tax Deferral Committee, Councilwoman Riccio, Chairman**

Committee Members: Eberle, Ruickoldt, Aldrich and David Riccio  
Councilwoman Stacie Riccio– Absent

Communication C. 3/28/16 Agenda - from Peter A. Defrancesco in regards to an abatement of Taxes and Interest – was held in Committee.

Communication D. from Ruth L. Arotsky in regards to an abatement of Taxes and Interest – was held in Committee.

Communication E. from Marvin Ogman in regards to an abatement of Taxes and Interest – was held in Committee.

**Finance Committee, Councilwoman Morrissey, Chairman**

Committee Members: Aldrich, Ruickoldt, Quagliani, and David Riccio

Committee Member Aldrich presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication A. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member David Riccio and APPROVED by majority of the Finance Committee with Committee Member Quagliani abstaining.

Committee Member David Riccio presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication C (C1-C5). to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Quagliani and APPROVED unanimously by the Finance Committee.

Communication F. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance adopting the 2017-2021 Capital Plan – was held in Committee.

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Communication G. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Deficit Obligations Pursuant to Chapter 117 of the Connecticut General Statutes – was held in Committee.

Communication H. from the Finance Director in regards to an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$9,636,035 Bonds plus Additional Financing Costs for Capital Budget Projects – was held in Committee.

Committee Member Aldrich presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication I. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member David Riccio and APPROVED by majority of the Finance Committee with Committee Member Quagliani abstaining.

**Public Lands Committee, Councilwoman Martone, Chairman**

Committee Members: Ruickoldt, Forsyth, Ronan, David Riccio  
Councilman Forsyth – Absent

Communication D. from City Council Clerk in regards to an invitation to bid on the RFP for (Schedule A) City owned properties – Bids were opened and read into the record (copy of all bids attached) – was held in Committee.

Committee Member Ronan presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication J. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Quagliani and APPROVED unanimously by the Public Lands Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RECONVENE: 10:26 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Clerk read Communication B. into the record.

Clerk read Communication E. into the record.

Councilman Quagliani, Chairman of the Legislative Matters Committee, presented a SECOND READING on an Ordinance adopting a Senior Tax Freeze. Councilman Quagliani presented the following MOTION which were DULY SECONDED by Councilman Ronan and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice:

RESOLVED: BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HAVEN, that Chapter 211 of the Code of the City of West Haven is hereby amended by the adoption of Article VIII, Elderly Tax Freeze which reads as follows:

ARTICLE VIII  
ELDERLY TAX FREEZE

Section 211-14 Purpose

Any owner of real property seventy (70) years of age or older who has resided in the City of West Haven for twenty (20) consecutive years shall be eligible to have the amount of taxes to be paid on their primary residence frozen at the rate payable at the date of application if qualified.

Section 211-15 Qualifications

To qualify for the tax freeze the applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- a) Applicant must be seventy (70) years of age or older and must be the owner of record of the property, only one person need apply if property is owned jointly.
- b) Applicant must have resided in the City of West Haven for at least twenty (20) consecutive years.
- c) Applicant's yearly income must not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for a couple or thirty five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) for a single person. Social Security payments are not counted toward income.
- d) There are no children residing in the property, under age 25, in which the taxes are to be frozen.
- e) The property on which the taxes are to be frozen must be the applicant's primary residence.

f) Applicant must provide documentations annually to prove eligibility.

g) If the property is owned jointly and only one owner meets the age criteria and dies the surviving owner(s) may keep the taxes frozen on the property so long as they reside in the residence, at least one surviving owner is age 65, and all of the other qualifications of this ordinance are met.

h) Applicant if qualified shall be entitled to pay tax at the amount frozen or such lesser amount as may be levied in any year.

Applications shall be approved and maintained in the office of the Assessor of the City of West Haven who shall be responsible for the implementation of this ordinance and program.

Councilwoman Morrissey Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the majority reports of the committee with regards to Communication A- from the West Haven Community House. Councilwoman Morrissey presented the following MOTION which were DULY SECONDED by Councilman Ronan and APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilman Quagliani abstaining:

Resolved: That the request from the West Haven Community House for a waiver of Building Department fees for the City Wide Community Anniversary Party (Saturday, June 18th) , be approved.

Councilwoman Morrissey Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the unanimous reports of the committee with regards to Communication C (C1-C5)- from the Deputy Chief of Police. Councilwoman Morrissey presented the following MOTION which were DULY SECONDED by Councilman Quagliani and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice:

RESOLVED: That the following donation to the Department of Police Service be approved and deposited into line item #1010000028285 Animal Shelter donations:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
United Way of Greater New Haven, Inc.	\$87.00
Martin Garcia	\$100.00
Career Training Specialists, LLC DBA Stone Academy	\$110.00

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Gerald Rice, Sr.	\$50.00
Performance Plus Studios LLC RVP Studios	\$750.00

Councilwoman Morrissey Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the applications with regards to Communication D. from the Community Development Administration and asked the Chair to set a Public Hearing Date.

Chairman O'Brien set a Public Hearing for June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:50 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Councilwoman Martone Chairman of the Public Lands Committee, presented the unanimous reports of the committee with regards to Communication J. from the from Commissioner Riccio in regards to the sale of City Property. Councilwoman Martone presented the following MOTION which were DULY SECONDED by Councilman Ronan and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice:

RESOLVED: That the City owned property at 528 Forest Road be sold for \$20,000 cash paid at the time of closing, to Mr. Arbelaez, be approved.

**ACTION ON ORDINANCE PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:40P.M.

**ATTEST:** Michael DiMassa, Clerk of the Council

**BY:** Michael DiMassa, Clerk of the Council

These minutes are subject to City Council approval.