

February 10 2020

The regular meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:05 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, third floor, City Hall.

Present were Council Members: Donovan, O'Connor, Gallignano, Johnston, Hamilton, Massaro, McGeé, Fanelli, Bruneau, Cohen, Hoskie, Conlon, and Quagliani. Mayor Nancy R. Rossi was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance

6:50 P.M. - Finance Committee Public Hearing – Ordinance amending Chapter

206 of the City Ordinances – Streets and Sidewalks (Article V – Street Excavations).

(See Tape for Comments)

6:55 P.M. - Finance Committee Public Hearing – Ordinance amending Chapter

81 of the City Ordinances – Building Construction (Article II –Fees).

(No Speakers)

7:01 P.M. Public Information Session

(See tape for Public Comments)

Chairman Quagliani called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:50 PM.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL:

Councilman Massaro presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of the January 27, 2020 regular meeting which was SECONDED by Councilman Cohen and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Christopher E. Vargo, Jr. to replace Gary Donovan on the Ethics Board.
- B. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Ibett K. Rivero-Cerezo to replace Mia Sumra on the Energy Commission.
- C. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Victor M. Borrás to fill a vacancy on the Energy Commission.
- D. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the re-appointment of Kathleen Hendricks to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

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- E. Communication from the Tax Collector in regards to Overpayment refunds for January 2020.
- F. Communication from Commission Beth Sabo in regards to a tentative agreement between the City of West Haven and the West Haven Police Local #895 UPSEU.
- G. Communication from City Council Administrative Assistant in regards to mandatory authorizations for the Emergency Management Director.
- H. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to a Transfer of Funds to the Department of Police Services.

RECESS: 7:53 PM

Redevelopment Committee, Councilwoman O'Connor, Chairwoman

Committee Members Present: Hamilton, Johnston, Gallignano, Donovan

Commissioner Fred Messore – Economic Development Update
(See Tape)

Finance Committee, Councilwoman Hoskie, Chairwoman

Committee Members Present: Hamilton, Bruneau, Massaro, Cohen

Communication F. Committee Member Massaro presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication F. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Bruneau and APPROVED unanimously by the Finance Committee.

Communication A. Committee Member Hamilton presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication A. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Bruneau and APPROVED unanimously by the Finance Committee.

Communication B. Committee Member Massaro presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication B. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Bruneau and APPROVED by majority of Finance Committee with Committee Member Cohen opposed.

Health, Welfare, & Safety Committee, Councilman Bruneau, Chairman

Committee Members Present: Donovan, McGeé, Fanelli, Cohen

Communication G. Committee Member Cohen presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication G. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Donovan and APPROVED unanimously by the Health, Welfare, & Safety Committee.

Personnel & Civil Service Committee, Councilman Massaro, Chairman

Committee Members Present: Hamilton, McGeé, Bruneau, O'Connor

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Communication A. Committee Member O'Connor presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication A. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Hamilton and APPROVED unanimously by the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

Communication B. Committee Member O'Connor presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication B. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Hamilton and APPROVED unanimously by the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

Communication C. Committee Member Hamilton presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication C. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member O'Connor and APPROVED unanimously by the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

Communication D. Committee Member O'Connor presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication D. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Hamilton and APPROVED unanimously by the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Charter Revision Discussion regarding Referendum date and question.

Councilwoman Hamilton presented the following question to the City Council:
Shall the City of West Haven amend its current Charter as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission in its final report submitted on September 27, 2019, which changes include but are not limited to: (1) changing to a City Council/Town Manager form of government; (2) establishing minimum qualification requirements for management positions; (3) changing the Tax Collector, City Clerk, and Treasurer from elected to appointed positions; (4) changing from biennial to quadrennial elections for all elected officials; (5) reducing the number of local voting districts from 10 to 3; (6) the Board of Education will consist of nine members three from each district; (7) changing from mandatory to permissible appointments of department heads, boards and commissions?

Councilwoman Fanelli presented an AMENDMENT to include in item (6) that members will consist of two majority and one minority political party members in each district, SECONDED by Councilwoman Hoskie and APPROVED by majority with Councilman Conlon opposing.

Chairman Quagliani called the vote on the question as amended which was APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

Councilwoman Hamilton presented a motion to set the Charter Revision Referendum for November 3, 2020, SECONDED by Councilwoman McGeé and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

RECONVENE: 9:10 PM

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Clerk read Communication E. into the record.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication F. from Commissioner Beth Sabo in regards to a tentative agreement between the City of West Haven and the West Haven Police Local #895 UPSEU.

Councilwoman Hoskie presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilman Gallignano and was APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilman Cohen opposed and Chairman Quagliani abstaining.

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves and authorizes the City to enter into the agreement between the City of West Haven and the West Haven Police Local #895 UPSEU.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the majority reports of the committee in regards to Communication B. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to amending Chapter 81 of the City Ordinances – Building Construction (Article II –Fees).

Councilwoman Hoskie presented the SECOND READING which was SECONDED by Councilman Gallignano and was APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilman Cohen and Councilman Donovan opposed.

RESOLVED: Be it resolved that the Code of the City of West Haven – Chapter 81 – Building Construction (Article II – Fees 81-8 Fee Schedule Section A) be amended by the following:

- Building Permit (includes mechanical, electrical, and plumbing) \$20 would be amended to \$30 per first \$1,000.00 of value or a fraction thereof up to a value of \$1,000; \$20 fee for every value of \$1,001 to \$500,000; And \$25.00 for every \$1,000 value above \$500,000.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication A. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to amending Chapter 206 of the City Ordinances – Streets and Sidewalks (Article V – Street Excavations).

Councilwoman Hoskie presented the SECOND READING which was SECONDED by Councilman Massaro and was APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilman Cohen abstaining.

RESOLVED: Be it resolved that the Code of the City of West Haven – Chapter 206 – Streets and Sidewalks (Article V - Street Excavations) be amended by the following:

From Existing Language:

“A fee of \$15.00 will be charged for each license issued” to:

New Language:

- \$75.00 for 50 square feet or less or single opening driveway repaving

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- \$75.00 for each additional 200 square feet

Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Personnel & Civil Service Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication A. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Christopher E. Vargo, Jr. to replace Gary Donovan on the Ethics Board.

Councilman Massaro presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilman Gallignano and was APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

RESOLVED: That the appointment to the Ethics Board of Christopher E. Vargo, Jr. of 31 Hilltop Lane, West Haven, effective immediately, and to expire on January 31, 2023 to replace Gary Donovan be approved.

Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Personnel & Civil Service Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication B. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Ibett K. Rivero-Cerezo to replace Mia Sumra on the Energy Commission.

Councilman Massaro presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilman Gallignano and was APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

RESOLVED: That the appointment to the Energy Commission of Ibett K. Rivero-Cerezo of 323 Third Avenue, West Haven, effective immediately, and to expire on February 25, 2022 to replace Mia Sumra be approved.

Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Personnel & Civil Service Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication C. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Victor M. Borrás to fill a vacancy on the Energy Commission.

Councilman Massaro presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilman Cohen and was APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilwoman Hoskie and Johnston voting no.

RESOLVED: That the appointment to the Energy Commission of Victor M. Borrás of 170 Shingle Hill Road, West Haven, effective immediately, and to expire on February 25, 2021 be approved.

Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Personnel & Civil Service Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication D. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the re-appointment of Kathleen Hendricks to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilman Massaro presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilwoman Hamilton and was APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

RESOLVED: That the re-appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission of Kathleen Hendricks of 107 Union Avenue, West Haven, effective immediately, and to expire on January 31, 2025 be approved.

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ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED: None

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS: Councilwoman O'Connor reported on the Community Development Administration's meeting. She briefed the City Council on the Allingtown Green grant application as well as the City Sewer application. (See Tape)

Councilman Cohen briefed the City Council on the recent Economic Development Committee Meeting.

Councilman Bruneau advised the City Council he spoke with the Chief of Police in regards to the item under New Business and was ready to brief the City Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

Communication H. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to a Transfer of Funds to the Department of Police Services.

Councilman Cohen presented a MOTION to go into Executive Session to discuss Communication H. which was SECONDED by Councilwoman Hamilton and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

Executive Session 9:40 P.M. – 10:01 P.M.

Councilman Donovan presented a MOTION to APPROVE Communication H. which was SECONDED by Councilman Bruneau and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves and authorizes the following transfer for necessary equipment repairs within the West Haven Police Department's current year budget:

Line Item: 13100030-51000 Regular Wages – Reduction \$62,500.00

Line Item: 13100010-52570 Other Repairs & Maintenance Upgrades Increase \$62,500.00

ADJOURNMENT: 10:06 PM

ATTEST: Stacy Riccio, Clerk of the Council

BY: Michael A. DiMassa, Administrative Assistant

These minutes are subject to City Council approval.