

**April 13, 2020**

The regular meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 7:09 P.M. via electronic means pursuant to City Council Rule #30.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

7:09 P.M. Public Information Session

(No Comments Submitted by the Public)

Chairman Quagliani called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF JOURNAL:**

Councilman Cohen presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of the March 23, 2020 regular meeting which was SECONDED by Councilman Donovan and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

Councilman Cohen presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of the April 2, 2020 special meeting which was SECONDED by Councilman Conlon and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to selection of a City Auditor.
- B. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to a memorandum of agreement between the City of West Haven and the State of Connecticut Office of Policy & Management.
- C. Communication from the Tax Collector in regards to overpayment refunds for April 2020.
- D. Communication from Corporation Counsel in regards to the sale of the Allingtown Library.
- E. Communication from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to a Public Works current year budget transfer.
- F. Communication from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to multiple current year budget transfers.
- G. Communication from Corporation Counsel in regards to a resolution for the Elderly Tax Freeze Program.

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**RECESS: 7:18 PM**

**Finance Committee, Councilwoman Hoskie, Chairwoman**

**Committee Members Present: Hamilton, Bruneau, Massaro, Cohen**

- Update on F.Y. 20 Budget, Audit Review, Cash Flow  
Finance Director Frank Cieplinski

(See Tape)

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 Cohen and APPROVED unanimously by the Finance Committee.

Communication B. was held in Committee.

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

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

**Tax Deferral Committee, Councilman Massaro, Chairman**

**Committee Members Present: Hamilton, Conlon, Galignano, O'Connor**

Communication G. Committee Member Donovan presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication G. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member O'Connor and APPROVED unanimously by the Finance Committee.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Update on Haven Project (Attorney Lee Tiernan) (See Tape)
- Update on Covid-19 (Attorney Lee Tiernan) (See Tape)

**RECONVENE: 8:31 PM**

Clerk read Communication C. into record.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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 a selection of a City Auditor.

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

**RESOLVED:** The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the hiring of BlumShapiro of 25 South Main Street, West Hartford, to perform the annual audit for F.Y.21.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication E. from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to a Public Works current year budget transfer.

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

**RESOLVED:** The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the following current year budget transfer:

Line Item 11900012-51000 Regular Wages Decrease \$5,000.00

Line Item 14706010-53445 Safety Supplies Increase \$5,000.00

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication F. from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to multiple current year budget transfers.

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

**RESOLVED:** The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the following current year budget transfer:

**TO ASSIGN UNIDENTIFIED SAVINGS (per MARB)**

19009990-56000	Not Otherwise Classified	Increase	\$1,245,267
18109982-54110	Health Insurance Premiums	Decrease	\$1,000,000
19009990-56010	Medical Runoff (3%)	Decrease	\$45,267
14606075-52110	Maintenance Electricity	Decrease	\$100,000
14704010-52160	Street Lighting	Decrease	\$100,000

**MOVE REMAINING RUNOFF HEDGE TO HEALTH INSURANCE**

18109982-54110	Health Insurance Premiums	Increase	\$274,340
19009990-56010	Medical Runoff (3%)	Decrease	\$274,340

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**COVER ELECTION EXPENSES FROM UNUSED CONSULTING**

11250010-52290	Election Day Expense	Increase	\$2,500
12100010-56210	Services/Marb	Decrease	\$2,500

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

11300010-51500	Overtime	Increase	\$2,800
11300010-51400	Temporary Payroll	Decrease	\$2,800

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

12300010-52280	Map Printing	Decrease	\$3,000
12300010-52210	Printing	Increase	\$3,000

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

13100010-52630	Rental of Vehicles	Increase	\$3,000
13100010-53210	Automotive Fuel & Fluids	Decrease	\$3,000

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

13100030-52780	Uniform Allowance - Full Time	Increase	\$9,500
13100030-51801	Workers' Comp. Pay	Decrease	\$9,500

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

14509971-52915	Trash Pickup-City Buildings	Increase	\$37,000
14509971-52910	Trash Pickup	Decrease	\$37,000

**FUND BAILEY SCHOOL ROOF REPAIR WITH UNUSED WAGES**

14606075-52530	Building Maintenance/Repair	Increase	\$63,553
14100010-51000	Regular Wages	Decrease	\$63,553

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

14706076-52130	Water	Increase	\$3,500
14706076-52110	Electricity	Decrease	\$3,500

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

14704010-51500	Overtime	Increase	\$30,000
14704010-51550	Snow Removal	Decrease	\$30,000

**COVER ELECTION EXPENSES FROM UNUSED CONSULTING**

19009990-56360	Bank Service Fees	Increase	\$24,000
12100010-56210	Consulting Services/Marb	Decrease	\$24,000

**INTRADEPARTMENT TRANSFER**

19009990-56140	Primary Expense	Increase	\$9,000
19009990-56305	Election Expense	Decrease	\$9,000
19009990-56220	Actuarial Valuation	Increase	\$15,400
19009990-56010	Contingency	Decrease	\$15,400

**MOVE UNNEEDED PENSION CONTRIBUTION TO CONTINGENCY (per actuary report)**

18109982-54141	Pension Police	Decrease	\$294,683
19009990-56010	Unallocated Contingency	Increase	\$294,683

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Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Tax Deferral Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication G. from Corporation Counsel in regards to a resolution for the Elderly Tax Freeze Program.

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

**RESOLVED:** WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut declared a public health emergency and a civil preparedness emergency for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states; and,

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Connecticut issued Executive Order Number 7, limiting the number of individuals that may convene, meet or otherwise gather throughout the State, to no more than 250 people or more for social and recreational activities including, but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency to combat the coronavirus that is currently infecting the population of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to combat the transmission of Coronavirus which poses a substantial threat to the public health of the City of West Haven, the City promotes and encourages residents to stay home whenever possible, and additionally encourages residents to conduct business with the City and make payments to the City, such as tax payments, via online services; and,

WHEREAS, it is known that certain populations are more vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, such as the elderly and disabled; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that, consistent with the guidelines of the Federal Government and pursuant to the powers and duties granted in the Connecticut General Statutes and the Charter of the City of West Haven, in response to the civil preparedness and public health emergency now facing the City of West Haven, and in accordance with advice from City officials, that:

Applications approved during fiscal year 2018-2019 for relief applied to July 2019 tax bills for tax relief pursuant to City Ordinances - Property tax relief; senior tax freeze program for certain elderly and/or disabled homeowners, shall automatically renew for a one-year period only, and said relief shall be considered approved and applied to tax bills due on July 1, 2020.

**Council As A Whole, Councilwoman Hamilton, Majority Leader**

Communication D. – held by the Council

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:** None

**COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:** Councilwoman Johnson reported that the Board of Education is on Spring Break but she spoke with Chairwoman Waterfield and wanted to thank the teachers and staff for all the

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hard work they are doing to make online learning work. She also thanked the P.T.A. and Kim Kenny for her work on multiple initiatives.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilman Donovan reported that on Friday at 3 P.M. – 6 P.M. Johnny’s Gill will be distributing care packages to restaurant workers who have been heavily impacted by COVID-19. He asked the Council to consider donating. Darryl Cummings is matching donations.

Councilwoman Hoskie presented a MOTION to Adjourn SECONDED by Councilman Bruneau and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:20 PM

**ATTEST:** Stacy Riccio, Clerk of the Council

**BY:** Michael A. DiMassa, Administrative Assistant

These minutes are subject to City Council approval.