

June 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 7:05 P.M. via electronic means pursuant to City Council Rule #30.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for Fire Chief William Johnson and Barbara Morrissey.

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

Councilman Cohen presented a MOTION to appoint Councilwoman Hamilton temporary Chair for the City Council Meeting SECONDED by Councilwoman Hoskie and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

7:02 P.M Finance Committee Public Hearing: C.D.A. COVID-19 Federal Funding Amending Budget Allocations.

(No Public Speakers)

7:03 P.M. Public Information Session

(See Tape for Public Comments)

Chairwoman Hamilton called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:21 P.M.

Councilwoman Hoskie presented a MOTION to suspend the City Council Rules and add a Communication from Mayor Nancy Rossi in regards to the appointment of Christopher Suggs to fill a vacancy on the West Haven Police Commission to tonight's agenda SECONDED by Councilwoman Fanelli and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

Chairwoman Hamilton designated the item Communication E. and assigned it to the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL:

Councilman Cohen presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of the May 20, 2020 committee special meeting which was SECONDED by Councilwoman Hoskie and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice with the following correction, omitting 59 Lee Street which the City does not own.

Councilman Bruneau presented a MOTION to APPROVE the Journal of the May 26, 2020 regular meeting which was SECONDED by Councilman Cohen and APPROVED unanimously viva-voice.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Communication from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to Tax Lien Sales.

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B. Communication from C.D.A. Manager Mark Bisaccia in regards to amending the Citizen Participation Plan.

C. Communication from the Tax Collector in regards to the Suspense List for Grand List Year 2016.

D. Communication from the Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to an inter-departmental transfer for Public Works.

E. Communication from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Christopher Suggs to fill a vacancy on the West Haven Police Commission.

RECESS: 7:25 PM

Finance Committee, Councilwoman Hoskie, Chairwoman

Committee Members Present: Hamilton, Bruneau, Massaro, Cohen

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

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

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

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

Personnel & Civil Service Committee, Councilman Massaro, Chairman

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

Communication E. Committee Member McGeé presented a MOTION to recommend the APPROVAL of Communication E. to the entire Council which was SECONDED by Committee Member Bruneau and APPROVED unanimously by the Personnel & Civil Service Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

RECONVENE: 7:36 PM

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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 Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to Tax Lien Sales.

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

RESOLVED: the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the Tax Lien Sale and awards the sale to the highest bidder, Ram Financial Group, for the amount of \$1,577,114.65.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication B. from C.D.A. Manager Mark Bisaccia in regards to amending the Citizen Participation Plan.

Councilwoman Hoskie presented the following MOTION which was SECONDED by Councilman Massaro and was APPROVED by majority viva-voice with Councilwoman O'Connor abstaining.

RESOLVED: the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the amended City of West Haven participation plan to include the \$442,726.00 in Federal Funds to address COVID-19 related issues.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication C. from the Tax Collector in regards to the Suspense List for Grand List Year 2016.

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 Suspense List for the 2016 Tax Year Grand List.

Councilwoman Hoskie Chairwoman of the Finance Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication D. from Finance Director Frank Cieplinski in regards to an inter-department transfer for Public Works.

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 transfer of funds:

Account #14704010-51550 Overtime	Reduce \$24,500.00
Account #14704010-52550 Grounds Maintenance	Increase \$24,500.00

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Councilman Massaro Chairman of the Personnel & Civil Service Committee presented the unanimous reports of the committee in regards to Communication E. from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi in regards to the appointment of Christopher Suggs to fill a vacancy on the West Haven Police Commission.

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

Councilman Donovan – Yea
Councilwoman O’Connor – Yea
Councilwoman Hoskie – Yea
Councilman Conlon – Yea
Councilwoman Johnston – Yea
Councilman Gallignano – Yea
Councilwoman Hamilton – Yea
Councilman Massaro – Yea
Councilwoman McGeé – Yea
Councilwoman Fanelli – Yea
Councilman Bruneau – Yea
Councilman Cohen – Yea
Councilman Quagliani – Absent

Yea 12 | Nay 0 | Abstain 0 | Absent 1

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Christopher Suggs of 152 Terrace Avenue, to fill a vacancy on the West Haven Police Commission to expire on January 31, 2022, be approved.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED: None

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Donovan asked that the Commissioner of Economic Development attend the next meeting to update the City Council on progress.

Councilwoman Johnston stated she had been working on the Bungalow Lane concerns with residents. The Mayor said she would follow up with Attorney Lee Tiernan.

Councilwoman Johnston stated that other roads are also potential affected by the condition of Bungalow Lane.

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Councilman Bruneau stated without the objection of the City Council he would like to work with the City and the Police Department on addressing parking concerns along the beach.

Councilwoman Hoskie asked that the Boat Ramp also be addressed.

Councilman Donovan said he was onboard and would like to partner up with Councilman Bruneau.

Councilman Conlon asked that the Council make sure to examine the entire beachfront and not just one area of town.

Councilwoman Fanelli echoed the sentiments of Councilman Conlon.

Councilman Cohen inquired on the status of the Traffic Division and if residents have been notifying the Police Department on these issues. Councilman Cohen offered any assistance he can provide to Councilman Bruneau.

Councilman Massaro reminded the Council some new homeowners have New York Plates in his neighborhood.

Mayor stated that for now Beach parking is residents only.

Councilwoman Fanelli inquired about the lots being full only 50% capacity.

Mayor stated she does not know when the 50% capacity might change.

Councilwoman Hoskie inquired about the opening of City Hall.

Mayor says she is meeting weekly with her reopening committee and is taking things step by step with the advice of Maureen Lillis and Joe Soto.

Councilwoman Hoskie inquired about the parking Study and the Police Pension Study and if Attorney Tiernan had a turnaround timeframe.

Councilman Massaro stated he is available to help Councilman Bruneau (with the parking concerns) if needed.

Councilman Conlon inquired from the Mayor about any information on the Campbell Avenue State Police Shooting.

Mayor stated it was under investigation, she would confer with Attorney Tiernan.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated we should all be proud to be Westies, this weekend's march went off without any issues.

Councilwoman Fanelli reported that she received a complaint about the length of long leashes and people letting their dogs defecate on private property. She also reported she has received concerns from residents upset with the condition of roads ripped up by the Gas Company.

Mayor Rossi stated she would check with Attorney Tiernan to see what recourse the City may have to pursue.

Councilman Bruneau stated he had an issue with the Gas Company on Botte Drive and that he was able to get the Gas Company to repave the road.

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

ADJOURNMENT: 8:22 PM

ATTEST: Stacy Riccio, Clerk of the Council

BY: Michael A. DiMassa, Administrative Assistant

These minutes are subject to City Council approval.