

Minutes of the June 26, 2023 Regular Meeting of the West Haven City Council City Council Chambers 3rd floor, West Haven City Hall

The Regular Meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers 3rd floor, West Haven. Chairman Massaro called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Members Present were: Gary Donovan, Colleen O’Connor, Ronald Quagliani, Bridgette Hoskie, Meli Garthwait, Robbin Watt Hamilton, Katherine Tucker, Victor Borrás, Steven Johnstone and Peter Massaro. Absent, Sarah Ackbarali, Mitchell Galignano, and Robert Bruneau. Also present: David Taylor, Acting Finance Director, Mike Ajello, Deputy Corporation, Abdul Quadir, City Engineer.

6:54 p.m. – 6:55 p.m. – Public Hearing – Finance Committee: **Communication J:** from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer, regarding Ordinance appropriating \$6,956,000. For the cost associated with upgrades to Oyster River waste water pumping station. See the video on the City’s website.

6:55 p.m. – 7:02 p.m. – Public Hearing – Finance Committee: **Communication F:** from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Maureen Lillis, MPH, Director of Health Department regarding changes to the fee schedule. See the video on the City’s website.

7:03 p.m. Public Session – 8:06 p.m.

See Video on the City’s website for comments.

Chairman Massaro called the Regular Meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman O’Connor made a **MOTION to APPROVE** the Regular Meeting minutes of June 12, 2023 which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Donovan. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY**

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

Communication A: from the Tax Collector regarding Overpayment refunds for June, 2023

Communication B: from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer regarding a request for inter departmental transfer of funds

Communication C: from David Taylor, Acting Finance Director in regarding an Ordinance appropriating \$13,694,100 from the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Capital Plan and Authorizing the issuance of \$13,694,100 Bonds. First Read

III. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Council-As-A-Whole

Called to order at 8:08 p.m.

1. ARPA Updates- Ken Carney, Chairman of the ARPA Committee – NONE

Council-As-A-Whole closed at 8:08p.m.

Finance Committee called to order at 8:08 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Quagliani, Acting Chairman – Committee members: Councilwoman O’Connor, Councilwoman Hoskie and Councilwoman Hamilton. Absent Councilwoman Ackbarali

1. YTD Budget Review – David Taylor, Acting Finance Director – Gave updates see video on the City’s website

2. MARB Meeting update – Councilwoman O’Connor gave updates: David Taylor gave an update of the Budget changes. (The same presentation we received). There were a few comments and some discussion:

Mr. Hamilton – Happy to see all the changes and the mitigation.

Ms. Weisberg liked the budget.

Mr. Waxenberg was concerned about open positions, overtime (police, fire and public works) No apparent rational for the overtime budgeted. We need police overtime. Mr. Hamilton debated Mr. Waxenberg’s opinion.

Mr. White was happy with the budget. He had a few questions: When will Whittlesey’s Phase #2 come out, concerned about the fires districts mill rate. He gave props to the Council, David Taylor and Whittlesey

The Budget passed!

The 5 year plan was tabled for 30 days to allow the City to work on it some more. What will the Grand List be in 2025 and what are we bonding, and the debit service information from Whittlesey.

Tier IV action plan – It was said that the team has done a great job the past 30 days. The Whittlesey report will be made available once all the high-risk items are taken care of.

The Financial Manager that OPM is hiring is going through the final stages and we should have that person in West Haven soon.

The removal and replacement of the rear dump truck body was approved.

Purchase of 6 police vehicles was approved.

Purchase of Public Works Skid Steer was approved. Skid steer is any class of compact heavy equipment with lift arms that can attach to a wide variety of buckets and other labor-saving tools or attachments.

Purchase and installation of Overhead Lube System for Public Works Garage – Approved

Purchase of 2023 Read Loading Garbage Truck – Approved.
Pre-Approval of Mini Sidewalk Sweeper Machine – Approved. We needed pre-approval because when they come up for sale, we must act fast. Nip bottle money
Monthly financial statements for April were given by David T. and Matt C. from BOE
FY 2022 Audit is postponed while the auditors catch up with other things. They have all the information that they need right now.
Open item list was gone over it is a work in progress.
All and all it was a good meeting.

3. Police Pension Study update – **NONE**

Councilwoman Hoskie presented a **MOTION** to recommend approval to the entire Council of **Communication B:** from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer regarding a request for inter departmental transfer of funds which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Hamilton and Councilwoman O'Connor. All in favor. **MOTION** passed **UNANIMOUSLY viva voce**

Communication C: Adjustments - few items not needed to bond for: Playground repairs \$50,000 and Police body cameras \$864,000.

Councilman Quagliani presented a **MOTION** to amended **Communication C:** from David Taylor, Acting Finance Director in regarding an Ordinance appropriating \$12,780,100 from the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Capital Plan and Authorizing the issuance of \$12,780,100 Bonds. First Read which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Hoskie. All in favor. **MOTION** passed **UNANIMOUSLY viva voce**

Communication F: from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Maureen Lillis, MPH, Director of Health Department regarding changes to the fee schedule. **HELD**

Councilwoman Hamilton presented a **MOTION** to recommend approval to the entire Council of **Communication J:** from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer, regarding Ordinance appropriating \$6,956,000. For the cost associated with upgrades to the Oyster River waste water pumping station which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman O'Connor. All in favor. **MOTION** passed **UNANIMOUSLY viva voce**

Communication K: from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi regarding NEBCO Pilot Proposal/NEBCO Lease Agreement- **WITHDRAWN**

Finance Committee closed at 8:41 p.m.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Garthwait- The City is not following our own code and we need to update Code 170-2 to allow items other than food and beverage - use of park areas for Commercial uses. Mike Ajello Deputy Corporation Counsel. Will look into this and get an opinion together.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Clerk read Communication A into record

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Quagliani, Acting Chairman – Committee members: Councilwoman O'Connor, Councilwoman Hoskie and Councilwoman Hamilton. Absent Councilwoman Ackbarali.

Communication B: from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer regarding a request for inter departmental transfer of funds Councilman Quagliani made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman O'Connor. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY**

RESOLVED: The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the following inter-department line-item transfers:

<u>Line Item 14100010-51000 Regular Wages</u>	<u>Decrease (\$72,671.00)</u>
<u>Line Item 305042000-52480 Professional Services</u>	<u>Increase \$72,671.00</u>

Communication C: from David Taylor, Acting Finance Director in regarding an Ordinance appropriating \$12,780,100 from the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Capital Plan and Authorizing the issuance of \$12,780,100 Bonds. First Read. Councilman Quagliani Schedule a Public Hearing for July 24, 2023 at 6:55 p.m.

Communication F: from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Maureen Lillis, MPH, Director of Health Department regarding changes to the fee. **HELD**

Communication J: from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Abdul Quadir, City Engineer, regarding Ordinance appropriating \$6,956,000. For the cost associated with upgrades to the Oyster River waste water pumping station Councilman Quagliani made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman O'Connor. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

RESOLVED:

Pursuant to the City Charter at Chap. IV "City Council" sec. (7) (c) the following is a Summary of the Proposed Ordinance concerning waste water upgrades;

The City Council approves the appropriation of \$6,950,000.00 for the necessary upgrades to the Oyster River Wastewater Pumping Station and empowers the Mayor and the Finance Director to expend these funds for this purpose; and

The City Council further approves and empowers the Mayor and the Finance Director to fund and pay for the Oyster River Wastewater Pumping Station upgrade with funds from the sale of municipal bonds in the amount of \$6,950,000.00; and

The City Council empowers the Mayor the Finance Director to receive and utilize funds from the "Clean Water Fund" for this Oyster River Wastewater Pumping Station upgrade; and

The City Council requires as part of this ordinance that all funds for this purpose are spent with the supervision and approval of the City Engineer; and

This ordinance is subject to the review and approval of the City Corporation Council; and

The communication known as communication J is incorporated by reference as part of this summary as if fully read herein; and

The ordinance in its entirety is available for review on the City Website and upon request.

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City Council of the City of West Haven that it is in the best interests of the City of West Haven to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. In furtherance of the resolution Nancy R. Rossi, the Mayor is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts on behalf of the City of West Haven, Connecticut. The Mayor is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute other documents as may be required by the state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto.

The Mayor is authorized to impress the seal of the City of West Haven, Connecticut on any such document, amendment, rescission or revision.

Communication K: from the June 12, 2023 agenda from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi regarding NEBCO Pilot Proposal/NEBCO Lease Agreement- **WITHDRAWN**

VI. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED:

NONE

VII. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:

NONE

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Garthwait- Morse Park clean up July 22, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sandy Point Neighborhood Association picnic reschedule date July 22, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Hamilton- Juneteenth at Brent Watt Park is reschedule for July 22, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Garthwait made a **MOTION** to have Council consider a curfew for all Juveniles under the age of 18 years old at the beach area which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Johnstone.

After a discussion Attorney Ajello will look into this matter.

Councilman Johnstone took back his **SECONDED**. Councilwoman Garthwait withdrew her **MOTION**.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilwoman Hamilton made a **MOTION to ADJOURN** which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Tucker. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY**.

The City Council meeting was ADJOURNED at 9:01 p.m.

Peter Massaro

Chairman of the Council

Stacy Riccio

Clerk of the Council

Diane Ascenzia

Admin. Asst. City Council

These minutes are subject to City Council approval