

AMENDED Minutes of the June 21, 2022 Special Meeting of the City Council – City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City West Haven City Hall

The Special Meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, West Haven City Hall. Chairman Massaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call Members Present were Councilmembers Gary Donovan, Colleen O’Connor, Ronald Quagliani, Bridgette Hoskie, Meli Garthwait, Sarah Ackbarali, Robbin Watt Hamilton, Katherine Tucker, Robert Bruneau, Steven Johnstone and Peter Massaro.

Absent: Councilmembers: Mitchell Galignano & Victor Borrás

Communication M from the June 13, 2022 Agenda from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi regarding the Municipal Restructuring Fund Agreement between the State of Connecticut’s Office of Policy and Management and the City of West Haven.

Councilwoman Hoskie made a Motion to **APPROVE** the original Communication without the Amendment in accordance with the attached Agreement. This Resolution will supersede all previous resolutions on this matter. Councilwoman O’Connor **SECONDED** the Motion. All were in favor. Motion passed **UNANIMOUSLY** via Roll Call Vote:

Donovan – Yes

O’Connor – Yes

Quagliani – Yes

Hoskie – Yes

Garthwait – Yes

Ackbaralli – Yes

Hamilton – Yes

Tucker – Yes

Bruneau – Yes

Johnstone – Yes

Massaro - Yes

Ken Carney was present to speak about the remaining ARPA Projects and to give updates on jobs in progress.

Communication A-10 – Housing Crisis Grant Funds - \$1,000,000

Discussions took place with Ken Carney explaining that they City would still own the building(s), however, they would be run by a 3rd party, HUD & donations as is done by other communities.

Councilman Quagliani asked for further data and what resources are already in place. Councilwoman O'Connor expressed concerns with security. Councilwoman Hoskie asked about some ideas of location of where this property would be.

This Communication was **HELD**

Communication A-22 – Camp/Summer Youth Employment Opportunities

Discussions took place with Councilwoman Hoskie stating that she has spoken with the Superintendent of Schools and others and in that it is late in the year for camps, a program that the students would benefit from would be with a summer youth jobs program. Ken Carney explained that the kids would be supervised by the Board of Education staff and \$30,000 could be spent this summer and employ 25-30 kids immediately this summer. Councilwoman Hoskie noted that this program would be income based/based on need and at-risk youth.

Councilman Donovan made a Motion to **APPROVE** the following additional language to the previous Resolution on this project, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Bruneau. All were in favor. Motion passed **UNANIMOUSLY** via Roll Call Vote:

Donovan – Yes

O'Connor – Yes

Quagliani – Yes

Hoskie – Yes

Garthwait – Yes

Ackbaralli – Yes

Hamilton – Yes

Tucker – Yes

Bruneau – Yes

Johnstone – Yes

Massaro - Yes

RESOLVED: that the following language be added to the Resolution pertaining to Camps/Summer Youth Employment Opportunities:

Funds will be used to create summer employment opportunities for high school aged students who are West Haven residents whose families meet certain criteria (such as income, free lunch status, and other proof). Final approval is subject to approval by either the City of West Haven or the West Haven Board of Education.

Communication A-4 – EMS Premium Pay - \$960,000

Discussions took place on this ARPA plan. Councilwoman Hoskie indicated that the dates should reflect the beginning of the pandemic 3/15/2020-3/15/2021 – those on duty firefighters / first responders should receive \$5,000 one-time stipend and 3/16/2021-3/15/2022 – those on duty firefighters / first responders should receive \$5,000 one-time stipend.

Councilman Quagliani made a **MOTION** to add EMS Premium Pay \$960,000 to the ARPA Plan with the understanding that the 3 Fire Chiefs (West Shore, Center, Allingtown) are to come back with a draft plan on the appropriation of the funds and how they will be distributed, which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Hoskie. Motion passed by a **MAJORITY** via Roll Call Vote:

Donovan – Yes

O'Connor – Yes

Quagliani – Yes

Hoskie – Yes

Garthwait – Yes

Ackbaralli – Yes

Hamilton – Yes

Tucker – Yes

Bruneau – Yes

Johnstone – No

Massaro – Yes

Ken Carney gave updates on some of the ARPA projects:

Broadband Access – Library – they are asking for use of the funds for a statewide program called Navigator wherein laptops & portable wifi units would be given to families. They can service 75 families

Food Bank – Advertisement was put in The Voice.

Johnson Community Center Roof – The architect is designing.

Senior Center – There will be a meeting on June 30, 2022.

Sidewalks – have been started at Washington School – before/after photos will be coming soon – contractor has marked the areas.

Windows – Hoffman will start designing

\$2,000,000 – paving project – money has all been spent.

Art Center – RFP is going out for an Arts Organization to take the building over with some space to be available to the community for community center.

Aid to Small Business – no update as of yet.

Flooding – requires 3rd party evaluation study.

Councilman Quagliani asked if the spread sheet will be put on the City's website showing what has been spent so far. Mr. Carney indicated that task will be taken over by the Accounting Firm

Public Health Outreach – Mr. Carney will be talking with the Health Dept.

Mr. Carney also brought up an additional project involving the current bandstand and that we could purchase one similar to the one in Milford which would have sound system, generator, etc... with an approximate cost of \$191,000 which would pay for itself over a 2 year period with income opportunities and expense savings.

Communication A-20 – First Responder Relief Fund \$200,000

Councilwoman Hoskie made a Motion to **DENY** which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Tucker. All were in favor. Motion passed **UNANIMOUSLY** via Roll Call Vote:

Donovan – Yes

O'Connor – Yes

Quagliani – Yes

Hoskie – Yes

Garthwait – Yes

Ackbaralli – Yes

Hamilton – Yes

Tucker – Yes

Bruneau – Yes

Johnstone – Yes

Massaro - Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Hoskie made a MOTION to Adjourn which was SECONDED by Councilman Bruneau. All were in favor. Meeting was Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Peter Massaro

Chairman, City Council

Stacy Riccio

Clerk of the City Council

Diane Ascenzia

Admn. Asst. City Council

These minutes were approved by the City Council on June 27, 2022.