



TOWN OF STRATFORD

CONNECTICUT
06615

MINUTES OF MEETING

THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONDUCTED A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2007 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, 2725 MAIN STREET, STRATFORD, CT PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY POSTED.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:00 p.m.

PRESIDING: Council Chairman James Feehan

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Michael Julian, Mr. Alvin O'Neal, Mr. Gavin Forrester, Mr. Angelo Stavola, Mr. Raymond Barker, Mr. John Miranda, Mr. William Stroomer, Mr. Robert Camillo, Mr. Jim Feehan, Mr. Michael Henrick

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: — none

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor James Miron, Town Attorney Richard Buturla

INVOCATION BY FIFTH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER RAYMOND J. BARKER FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 8:06 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 8:16 p.m.

Recognition Awards presented to:

- Lordship School Students
- Becky Simon
- 4 students re: Saving a life on Parkway Drive
- Two students from Bunnell Allstate Swim Team
- Officer Bobby Ramos with the Blue Heat Basket ball team

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Minutes of: Regularly scheduled meeting, public forum, and executive session of March 12, 2007.

RESOLVED: That the reading of the foregoing minutes be dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously provided to each Council Member and the same be and are hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Barker — re: Success Ave. Co-op, Clover Field

Mr. Camillo — re: replacement of equipment from Public Works Dept., Board of Education
Budget, Senior Tax Relief

Mr. Henrick — re: Board of Education budget, Senior Tax Relief

3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 FROM: CONNSULT WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC on behalf of National Grid Wireless
DATED: Feb. 15, 2007 *(detailed communication previously forwarded)*
re: Request to lease small portions of land at Bunnell High School and Wooster Park or
Wooster Middle School to develop and operate these wireless facilities.

RESOLVED: that the foregoing communication is accepted and the proposal from National
Grid Wireless, Inc. be referred to the Planning Commission for a mandatory review pursuant
to § 8-24 of the Conn. Gen. Stats.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. BARKER TO REFER
THE FOREGOING COMMUNICATION AS STATED ABOVE. THE MOTION PASSED 10 - 0.

3.2 HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSESSMENT — Document from Housatonic Valley
Association forwarded Feb. 16, 2007
FROM: Ronald A. Skurat – River Steward
Mr. Skurat and assistant gave a short presentation.

3.3 LETTER OF RESIGNATION — re: Beautification Committee
From: Rosemary Harrison Dated: April 3, 2007

RESOLVED: that the letter of Resignation from Rosemary Harrison of the Beautification
Committee be and is hereby accepted.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. STAVOLA SECONDED BY MR. O’NEAL TO ACCEPT
THE FOREGOING RESIGNATION. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO WAIVE
THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER TO ADD TWO ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE AGENDA.

(1) ASHCROFT RETIREES
(2) BSA EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT.
THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

(1) ASHCROFT RETIREES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO REFER THE FOREGOING REQUEST FROM ASHCROFT RETIREES TO THE BOOTHE PARK COMMISSION. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

(2) BSA EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CAMILLO SECONDED BY MR. BARKER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING PROJECT. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

4. MAYOR’S REPORT, COMMITTEE REPORTS, TOWN ATTORNEY’S REPORTS

4.1 MAYOR’S REPORT

4.1.1 RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN STRATFORD CITIZENS, VOLUNTEERS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND EMPLOYEES. — Recognitions previously awarded.

4.1.2 QUESTIONS TO MAYOR OR STAFF

Mr. Julian — re: 2007-2008 budget, progress with Team Stratford

Mr. Camillo — re: e-mailing of previous questions, hiring a consultant

Mr. Stroomer — re: Wilcoxson School “Reading to Class Day”

Mr. Henrick — re: cost of Town Hall renovations

4.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.2.1 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE — The Ordinance Committee conducted a public hearing and a meeting on March 26, 2007 and referred the following to Council without recommendation:

ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR THE CREATION FOR A DOG PARK / EXERCISE AREA (#07-01)

RESOLVED: that the second reading of the above entitled Ordinance be dispensed with as copies thereof have been received by all Council Members and the foregoing be and is hereby approved effective thirty days from passage. (*Ordinance appended as page 15-17*)

COMMITTEE REPORTS — continued

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE FOR FINAL PASSAGE VIA ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: MR. JULIAN — YES, MR. O’NEAL — YES, MR. FORRESTER — YES, MR. STAVOLA — YES, MR. BARKER — YES, MR. MIRANDA — YES, MR. STROOMER — YES, MR. CAMILLO — YES, MR. HENRICK — YES, MR. FEEHAN — YES. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

4.2.3 FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE — The Finance and Claims Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting of March 19, 2007 and referred the following to Council with favorable recommendation:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF 2002 ARREARS TAX ACCOUNTS TO THE TAX SUSPENSE ACCOUNT PENDING FURTHER ACTION

WHEREAS; The Town of Stratford Town Charter Chapter 14, Article VII specifies the tax collection policies of the Town for the collection of arrears taxes and,

WHEREAS; The Tax Collector has followed the policy by providing required notices of taxes due and made several attempts to contact arrears taxpayers as required by local and state law and,

WHEREAS; Certain accounts have been in arrears since 2002 and all efforts to date to collect on these accounts have produced no response for at least the past two years and,

WHEREAS; Continued expenditure of public funds to collect these accounts is not a cost effective use of public funds and, therefore, the Tax Collector recommends that Town Council approve the transfer of the accounts to suspense pending further collection of said accounts.

RESOLVED: Town Council of the Town of Stratford authorizes the Tax Collector to transfer to the Tax Suspense Account accounts totaling \$350,852.03 for the 2002 Grand Lists amounts shown below.

GRAND LIST YEAR	TYPE	AMOUNT
2002	Motor Vehicle	\$208,235.65
2002	Supplemental Motor Vehicle	49,988.14
2002	Personal Property	<u>92,628.24</u>
	Total	\$350,852.03

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CAMILLO SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS — continued

- 4.2.4 BUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE — This Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting of March 19, 2007 at which time the following was referred to Town Council with favorable recommendation:

Application for State Grant for floor covering at Franklin and Nichols Schools

RESOLVED: that the Stratford Town Council authorize the Board of Education to file State Form ED-042 for the abatement of Floor covering at Franklin and Nichols Elementary School.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. BARKER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. O'NEAL SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO WAIVE THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER TO ADD: BIRDSEYE COMPLEX HVAC SYSTEM. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

BIRDSEYE COMPLEX HVAC SYSTEM

After discussion re: Warped, dried ceiling tiles in classroom; release of funds to HVAC contractor, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. O'NEAL SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO REFER THE FOREGOING ISSUE TO BUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 9:20 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 9:28 p.m.

MR. O'NEAL WITHDREW HIS MOTION. Mayor's office will handle issue.

- 4.2.7 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE — Public Works Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting of March 19, 2007.

Barnum Avenue Streetscape — Work is in progress on the contract modification for the design for the street tree installation project. The consultants revised their proposal to redesign the project for \$41,625 with the alternate to add decorative street lighting at select intersections, based on the ability to work on this project concurrently with the King Street project. This is a reduction of \$1,850 from their last proposal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS — continuedBarnum Avenue Streetscape — continued

RESOLVED: that modification to redesign the Barnum Avenue Streetscape project for an amount of \$41,625 with alternate to add decorative street lighting at select intersections based on the ability to work on this project concurrently with the King Street project be and is hereby approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. STROOMER SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MODIFICATION. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

4.2.21 Longbrook Park Commission — This Commission's regularly scheduled meeting of March 28, 2007 was conducted.

Mr. Forrester, Chairman of the Commission, announced that Longbrook Park Cleanup will take place on Earth Day, April 22.

4.2.23 Beautification Committee — The Beautification Committee did not conduct the regularly scheduled meeting on March 6, 2007.

Mr. Stavola, Chairman of the Committee, reported that Project Greensweep will go forward May 19.

4.3 TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT4.3.1 WEST LONG BEACH COTTAGES

Attorney Buturla requests taking the foregoing item into executive session for the purpose of discussion regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or litigation toward the town or a member thereof as a party. Mr. Buturla would like that motion to include members of the Stratford Town Council, the Mayor, and himself.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MIRANDA, SECONDED BY MR. STAVOLA TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF THIS MEETING AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO DISCUSS THE FOREGOING ITEM FOR THE REASON STATED ABOVE WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE NAMED INDIVIDUALS. THE MOTION CARRIED 10 TO 0.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT — continued4.3.2 SHAKESPEARE THEATER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. STAVOLA SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO APPROVE THE PLAN FOR PROPOSED WORK AND BUDGET TO REPAIR, REFURBISH AND RESTORE THE THEATER AND PREPARE IT FOR OPERATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. HVAC. Estimated cost \$100,000.
 - a. Replace four condenser coils on the two existing 50-ton carrier rooftop units. Replace one air filter. Start and test the two systems for proper operations.
 - b. Remove and replace existing Trane 10-ton package system. Repair and reconnect ductwork. Reconnect electrical power and gas.
 - c. Remove and replace damaged outdoor ductwork, insulate and weather seal.
 - d. Repair and replace as necessary existing control systems.
2. Roofing. Estimated cost \$75,000
 - a. Cover existing flat roofs with replacement insulation, roof sheeting and roofing system.
 - b. Repair and replace flashing as necessary.
 - c. On shingled roofs, remove loose or fallen shingles, install base sheet where needed and overlay with new shingles.
3. Exteriors. Estimated cost \$105,000
 - a. Power wash Theater exterior.
 - b. Sand and scrape as required and prepare surfaces as required.
 - c. Prime and stain exterior walls.
 - d. Prime and paint exterior trim.
4. Plumbing. Estimated cost \$35,000
 - a. Clean sanitary and storm sewer lines. Pump out pump station.
 - b. Repair and replace lavatory fixtures, water lines, etc. as needed.
5. Seating. Estimated cost \$278,000
 - a. Purchase 1140 replacement seats.
 - b. Installation of 1540 seats.
6. Flooring. Estimated cost \$45,000
 - a. Remove existing tile in lobby entrance, stairwells, conference room in lower level and stage rooms.
 - b. Prepare surfaces.
 - c. Install ceramic tile, grout and seal.
7. General conditions. Estimated cost \$100,000
 - a. Remove trash and worn, damaged or defective material from the Theater.
 - b. Repair and replace interior walls and surfaces as required.
 - c. Prepare and paint interior walls and trim.
 - d. Repair and replace as necessary stage equipment and rigging.
 - e. Other General maintenance and repair.
8. Miscellaneous expenses. Estimated cost \$85,000
 - a. Insurance

SHAKESPEARE THEATER — continued

- b. Utilities
- c. General materials
- d. Equipment for permanent staff
- 9. Contingencies. Estimated cost \$100,000

Total estimated cost: \$923,000

THE MOTION CARRIED 10 TO 0 VIA ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: MR. JULIAN — YES, MR. O’NEAL — YES, MR. FORRESTER — YES, MR. STAVOLA — YES, MR. BARKER — YES, MR. MIRANDA — YES, MR. STROOMER — YES, MR. CAMILLO — YES, MR. HENRICK — YES, MR. FEEHAN — YES.

4.3.3 QUESTIONS TO THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Camillo — re: Report of 12/29 - hiring a consultant for SAEP, Warranty of Police Department Roof.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.2 ABANDONMENT OF WASHINGTON AVE, §8-24 REVIEW CONDUCTED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION. — Tabled from Council meeting of March 12, 2007.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Planning Commission is accepted and the abandonment of the segment of Washington Avenue be and is hereby granted with the stipulations put forth by the Waterfront Harbor Management Commission and the Zoning Commission re: public access and fence.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. O’NEAL TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING ITEM FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

After questions posed to Attorney Proto, Attorney for Harborside, LLC, were satisfied, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. BARKER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING ABANDONMENT WITH STIPULATIONS OF THE ZONING COMMISSION RE: PUBLIC ACCESS AND FENCING. MR. JULIAN MADE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE STIPULATIONS FROM THE WATERFRONT HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION. MESSRS. FORRESTER AND BARKER ACCEPT MR. JULIAN’S FRIENDLY AMENDMENT. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0 AS AMENDED.

5.4 TABLED ORDINANCES

5.4.2 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND §§5-69 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF STRATFORD RE: THE SHORT BEACH COMMISSION (#06-25)

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

After posing an amendment to the Ordinance, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO STRIKE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE FROM THE AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

5.5 TABLED APPOINTMENTS

5.5.2 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS — appointed by Town Council per ordinance #00-6 dated 3/12/00.

5.5.2.1 ADDITIONAL, TEMPORARY MEMBERS — 2-year term for year before and year after revaluation

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT. MR. FEEHAN INSTRUCTED THE CLERK TO STRIKE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT FROM THE AGENDA.

6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

6.1 ORDINANCE RE: ALLOCATION OF FUNDS COLLECTED AS A RESULT OF CLAIMS OR FINES LEVIED FOR ILLEGAL REMOVAL OR DAMAGE TO TOWN OF STRATFORD OWNED TREES. (#07-10)

Sponsored by: Gavin B. Forrester III – 3rd Dist.

§ 1) Statement of Purpose

Provide the enabling ordinance to allocate any funds received from either fines levied by the Town of Stratford against person(s) or entities for the illegal removal of Trees owned by the Town of Stratford or reimbursements from insurance carriers as a result of a compensate able loss, be set aside in

ORDINANCE #07-10 — continued

the Budget of the Town of Stratford for the purchase of replacement trees, to be planted in accordance with guidelines established by the Director of Public Works.

§ 2) Rationale

Where as the Tree population within the Town of Stratford is aging and becoming more difficult to maintain; and it is generally viewed as important to maintain a healthy stock of Tree's thought out the Town; and the financial constraints on the Municipal Budget are such that replacement of removed trees is difficult; and where by the illegal removal of any tree is subject to fine as imposed by the Town of Stratford against the offending party; be it therefore resolved that any funds derived from said fines be specifically designated to plant replacement trees in areas deemed appropriate by the Director of Pubic Works. This Ordinance will also encourage the enforcement of existing legislation which enables the imposition of a fine for the illegal removal or damage to a Town of Stratford Owned Tree and will encourage the Town of Stratford to pursue claims of property damage against any person who may cause such damage as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO REFER THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

6.2 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF STRATFORD FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2007, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2008, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$174,116,769 IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH. (#07-11) (Printed in full on page 18)

sponsored by: Hon. Alvin O'Neal, Second District Council Member

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO REFER THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

6.3 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A TAX RATE OF 30.88 MILLS ON THE DOLLAR ON THE GRAND LIST OF TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT, ON THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2006. (#07-12)

sponsored by: Hon. Alvin O’Neal, Second District Council Member

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.
(Printed in full on page 19)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO REFER THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

Councilman Forrester, Chairman of the Ordinance Committee, announced that the Public Hearing for Ordinance #07-10 and #07-11 will be conducted 6:30 p.m. May 1 at Bunnell High School and to be continued at Stratford High School on May 3.

6.4 ORDINANCE RE: CREATION OF ENTERPRISE ZONES (#07-13)

sponsored by: Hon. Gavin B. Forrester, Council Member District Three

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.
(Appended as pages 20-23)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. HENRICK TO REFER THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AND TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR REVIEW. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

6.5 ORDINANCE RE: Proposal for Fiscal Responsibility and Tax Relief (#07-14)

Sponsored by: Hon. Michael Henrick, Tenth District Council Member

RESOLVED: That the first reading of the above entitled Ordinance be and is hereby dispensed with as copies thereof have been previously furnished to each member of the Town Council, and that the same be adopted as a first reading and referred to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing.
(Appended as pages 24-25)

ORDINANCE #07-14 — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. STROOMER TO REFER THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

6.6 AIRPORT RESOLUTION

sponsored by: The Stratford Town Council

WHEREAS the future quality of life and economic development of the Town of Stratford is explicitly tied to the use and operation of Sikorsky Memorial Airport owned by the City of Bridgeport but located entirely within the Town of Stratford; and,

WHEREAS any further development and/or expansion of the airport would have a negative impact on the Town's south end and our natural resources; particularly the Great Salt marsh; and,

WHEREAS the City of Bridgeport has approached the Connecticut General Assembly to purchase the airport, which has held discussions on such subject.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Stratford Town Council that Mayor James R. Miron, be requested to begin formal discussions with the City of Bridgeport for the Town of Stratford to explore purchase of the Sikorsky Memorial Airport from the City of Bridgeport and to negotiate a right of first refusal with the City of Bridgeport on any sale of the airport property to any third party.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Mayor James R. Miron shall be requested to provide monthly status reports to the Stratford Town Council once the formal discussions commence until such time that the discussions conclude.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. MR. FORRESTER MADE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THE VERBIAGE "BE REQUESTED TO" IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH TO READ "...Miron shall be requested to provide...." THE MOTION PASSED, AS AMENDED, 8 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA AND MR. CAMILLO ABSENT.

6.7 RESOLUTION RE: SIKORSKY MEMORIAL AIRPORT

Sponsored by: Hon. Gavin Forrester – 3RD District Council Member

WHEREAS the future of economic development; preservation of natural resources; and maintenance of the quality of life in Lordship section of Stratford is explicitly tied to the future use of Sikorsky Memorial Airport;

AND WHEREAS the Airport is located within the boundary of the Town of Stratford and is owned and operated by the City of Bridgeport;

AND WHEREAS discussions have taken place within the House of Representatives of the State of Connecticut expressing an interest in the purchase of the Airport from the City of Bridgeport;

AND WHEREAS other interested parties have expressed an interest in the acquisition of the Airport from the City of Bridgeport;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Stratford Town Council that the Chief Elected Official of the Town, Mayor James R. Miron, be requested to begin formal discussions with the City of Bridgeport regarding inquiring on the intent to sell the Airport, for the Town of Stratford to explore a purchase of the Sikorsky Memorial Airport from the City of Bridgeport, and to negotiate a right of first refusal with the City of Bridgeport on any sale of the Airport to any third parties.

MR. FORRESTER WITHDREW THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION FROM THE AGENDA.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 NICHOLS AND FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS — The Stratford Board of Education to approved the following and asks the Stratford Town Council to approve:

sponsored by: Hon. Michael Henrick, Tenth District Council Member

RESOLVED, that the Stratford Town Council authorizes the Stratford Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the abatement of floor covering for Franklin and Nichols Elementary Schools.

RESOLVED, that the Building Needs Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regards to the abatement of floor covering for Franklin and Nichols Elementary Schools.

RESOLVED, that the Stratford Town Council hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the abatement of floor covering for Franklin and Nichols Elementary Schools.

NEW BUSINESS — continuedNICHOLS AND FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. CAMILLO TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED 8 TO 0 WITH MESSRS. STAVOLA AND FORRESTER ABSENT.

7.2 APPOINTMENTS7.2.1. RE: BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE — term concurrent with Council

RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Beautification Committee. (term of Linda Ficano expires December 2007)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO PLACE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 10:55 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 11:04 p.m.

ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION4.3.1 LONG BEACH WEST COTTAGES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. STAVOLA TO ACCEPT THE TOWN ATTORNEY'S RECOMMENDATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

ADJOURNMENT — Hearing no further discussion in connection with the above agenda items or further business, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. HENRICK, SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER, IT WAS VOTED 10 TO 0 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

Carol Cabral
Carol Cabral, Council Clerk

Ordinance – Allowing for the Creation for a Dog Park / Exercise Area (#07-01)

Sponsors – Hon. Gavin B. Forrester III – 3rd District
Hon. Michael Julian – 1st District
Hon. Alvin O’Neal – 2nd District
Hon. Robert Camillo – 8th District

A. Except as expressly allowed in subsection B hereof, it is unlawful for any person to allow or permit any dog or other pet to run at large in any park, or to permit any dog or other pet with or without a leash, except Seeing Eye or Hearing Ear dogs or dogs used by public law enforcement agencies and under control of a law enforcement officer, to enter any public beach, swimming or wading area, pond, fountain, stream, organized athletics area or designated children's play area. The Superintendent of Parks or the Animal Control Officers may ban dogs and other pets, or a specific dog or other pet, from areas of any park where he or she determines the same may be a nuisance.

B. Dogs may be allowed to run at large only in the following areas hereby designated as off-leash areas:

1. To be determined based upon recommendations from the Town Council Parks and Recreation Committee in conjunction with the Animal Control Officer.
2. Dog Exercise Area Rules & Regulations.
 - All dogs must be accompanied by an owner or handler at all times.
 - Owners must remain in the Dog Exercise Area at all times and keep their dogs in sight and under their control.
 - Owners are responsible for the behavior of their dogs and shall be held responsible for any injuries or damage caused by their dogs.
 - Any dog showing aggression toward people or other dogs must be immediately leashed and removed from the Dog Exercise Area by its owner.
 - Dogs with a known history of aggressive or dangerous behavior and/or dogs that have displayed aggressive or dangerous behavior at any municipal facility are prohibited.
 - Any dog barking continuously or uncontrollably must be removed from the Dog Exercise Area.
 - Owners shall carry a leash at all times, and dogs must be leashed when entering and leaving the Dog Exercise Area.
 - Owners are responsible for securely latching any gates as they enter or exit.
 - Owners must pick up and properly dispose of their dog's feces.
 - Any dog using the Exercise Area must be currently vaccinated against rabies; legally licensed to residents of the Town of Stratford; and current on all applicable fees or

Ordinance – Allowing for the Creation for a Dog Park / Exercise Area (#07-01) — continued

fines. Non-Resident's can obtain a permit to use a Town of Stratford facility by paying a user fee of \$25.00 annually and must provide vaccination and current license information to the Animal Control Officer from their current town or city of residence on an annual basis.

- Dogs shall not be allowed to dig. Any holes created by a dog shall be immediately filled by the dog's owner.
- Children must be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult that will be accountable for the behavior and well being of the child. Children should be discouraged from approaching or playing with strange dogs.
- Puppies using the Dog Exercise Area must be four (4) months of age or older.
- No female dog "in heat" or "in season" is allowed in the Dog Exercise Area at any time.
- No eating or smoking is allowed inside the Dog Exercise Area. No dog food treats or toys from home, except tennis balls or Frisbee's, are allowed in the Dog Exercise Area.
- Professional dog trainers may not conduct their business inside the Dog Exercise Area. There shall be no dog grooming inside the Dog Exercise Area.
- People who violate these rules are subject to removal from the Dog Exercise Area and may be prohibited from using the facility.
- No bare feet allowed in the Dog Exercise Area.
- No spiked dog collars are allowed in the Dog Exercise Area.
- Failure to comply with any of the rules and regulations will result in a \$100.00 fine.

3. Dog Exercise Areas as Described.

Dog Exercise Areas are Municipally-designated, membership-only, fence-enclosed facilities owned or operated by the Town of Stratford specifically intended for dogs to acquire owner/custodian supervised "off leash" exercise.

(a) It shall be unlawful to:

1. Enter or remain on the facility at hours other than the City-designated hours of usage.
2. Enter or remain on the facility with more than two dogs per individual.
3. Fail to immediately remove from the facility any dog showing aggression toward people or other dogs in the facility.
4. Fail to immediately remove from the facility any dog that barks continuously or uncontrollably.
5. Enter or remain on the facility with a female dog "in estrus."
6. Enter or remain on the facility with a dog not currently vaccinated against rabies.
7. Enter or remain on the facility with a dog younger than four months of age.

Ordinance – Allowing for the Creation for a Dog Park / Exercise Area (#07-01) — continued

8. Fail to immediately leash and restrain a dog in the facility when advised to do so by a City official.
9. Fail to abide by the Rules and Regulations posted at the entrance of the facility.
10. Fail to immediately depart the facility when ordered to do so by a Municipal official.
11. Enter on or remain upon the facility without a valid Town of Stratford membership tag or a valid Town of Stratford pet license properly displayed on each dog or a current Town of Stratford - authorized guest pass.

(b) Dog Exercise Areas require a valid membership to use each facility. Every owner that is a nonresident of the Town of Stratford shall acquire a membership or guest pass for each dog that wishes to enter onto and remain in a Dog Exercise Area. Such membership shall be obtained from a person designated by the Mayor of Stratford to issue such membership. Applications for such membership shall include photo identification for each dog using the facility. Membership fees shall be established by resolution by the Mayor and Town Council. Membership tags shall expire on the last day of the month one year from the month it was issued. A membership tag must be properly displayed on each said dog while it is inside a facility. Town residents must acquire a Town of Stratford pet license that needs to be displayed on the dog while it is in a facility. It shall be unlawful to transfer a membership tag or to deface the tag in any manner. A membership tag shall become invalid with the transfer of the dog to a new owner. The Mayor or his designee may revoke a membership at any time if an owner fails to abide by the rules and regulations of the facility or is in violation of any other provision of this chapter. Failure to comply with these directives shall constitute grounds for the temporary or permanent banning of an individual and/or dog from the facility.

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF STRATFORD FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2007, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2008, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$174,116,769 IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; (#07-11)

WHEREAS, the Mayor has prepared and submitted to the Town Council the annual operating budget for the Town of Stratford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008, in accordance with the Stratford Town Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has given consideration thereto and has conducted public hearings in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the estimated amount of current expenses, permanent improvements, and other lawful charges of the Town of Stratford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008, is \$174,116,769.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STRATFORD:

That the budget attached hereto and made a part hereof be and is hereby adopted as the operating budget for the Town of Stratford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008; and

That the sum of \$174,116,769 is hereby appropriated for the current expenses, permanent improvements, and other lawful charges for each department and each division thereof of the Town of Stratford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008, all in accordance with the provisions of the budget attached hereto and made a part hereof.

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A TAX RATE OF 30.88 MILLS ON THE DOLLAR ON THE GRAND LIST OF TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT, ON THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2006. (#07-12)

WHEREAS, the Mayor has prepared and submitted to the Town Council the annual operating budget for the Town of Stratford for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008, according to law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has given consideration thereto and has conducted public hearings in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the estimated revenues of the Town of Stratford other than by taxation for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008, are \$38,280,490; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has adopted an operating budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, a tax levy at the rate of 30.88 mills on the dollar on the Grand List of taxable property in the Town of Stratford on October 1, 2006, is necessary to meet the appropriations, less the estimated amount of revenue from other sources as permitted by law to be raised;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STRATFORD:

That a tax rate of 30.88 mills on the dollar on the Grand List be and is hereby levied against all taxable property in the Town of Stratford on the Grand List of October 1, 2006;

That said tax shall be due and payable in two equal installments, one half thereof on July 1, 2008, and the second half thereof on January 1, 2006, provided, however, that any tax, the aggregate amount of which shall not exceed \$100.00 shall be due and payable in one payment on July 1, 2007.

ORDINANCE RE: CREATION OF ENTERPRISE ZONES (#07-13)

Sponsored by: Gavin B. Forrester III – 3rd Dist.

§ 1) Statement of Purpose

Provide the enabling ordinance to create Economic Development Incentives within a specific geographic boundary to promote commercial development and re-development within that area designated. The Economic Incentives will include local property tax abatements as formulated by the Town Council upon the creation of a specific enterprise zone and will also include expedited processing of all Town of Stratford permitting applications and fees for development within the designated zone.

§ 2) Rationale

The creation of an Enterprise Zone is an economic development tool that allows Stratford to partner with new or expanding businesses to provide an incentive to locate, or remain, within the Town of Stratford and promote growth of the Grand List of Taxable Property. It recognizes the highly competitive market place of municipalities to attract and maintain commercial development within a specific designated area which is already designated a commercial region within Stratford. The purpose of the creation of the Enterprise Zone would be to encourage development and expansion opportunities for employment in the private sector, stimulate development of business opportunities as a direct result of the growth, provide local residents with an increase in job opportunities, reallocation of a part of the municipal tax burden from residential property owners, and to stimulate the overall economic climate of the Town of Stratford.

§ 3) Definitions

Definitions: As used in this Ordinance shall be the following: "Town" means the Town of Stratford. "Enterprise Zone" means an area within the Town of Stratford has been declared an enterprise zone in accordance with the terms of the Ordinance contained herein. "Qualified business" means a business enterprise that meets the specific requirements as established by the designated Enterprise Zone. "Council" means that Stratford Town Council.

§ 4) Designation of Enterprise Zones

The mayor, with the concurrence of a majority vote of the council, or the council, with the concurrence of the mayor, may initiate the process to have an area declared to be an enterprise zone; provided that such designation may only be ratified upon its approval by the council by ordinance. The ordinance shall expressly set forth the area to be included in the enterprise zone; those incentives which the Town of Stratford proposes to offer in the enterprise zone; and the requirements for applicant eligibility within the zone.

ORDINANCE #07-13 — continued**§ 5) Amendment or Termination of Zones**

(a) The mayor, with the concurrence of the majority vote of the council, or the council, with the concurrence of the mayor, may initiate a request to amend an enterprise zone.

(b) (1) The mayor, with the concurrence of a majority vote of the council, or the council, with the concurrence of the mayor, may initiate a request to terminate an enterprise zone when there is evidence of lack of reasonable progress toward implementation of the goals and objective of the zone. Lack of reasonable progress shall be determined by the council after review of the status report and recommendation submitted in accordance with subdivision (2).

(2) By June 30 of each year, the director of economic and community development shall submit to the council a status report on any designated enterprise zones. For each designated enterprise zone, the status report shall include the name and type of each business receiving enterprise zone benefits, the name and type of new businesses attracted to the enterprise zone subsequent to enterprise zone designation, and the number and type of jobs created in the zone by each business receiving enterprise zone benefits. The status report shall also assess the progress made toward implementation of each designated enterprise zone, and shall make a nonbinding recommendation regarding continuance or termination of each zone.

(c) A request to amend or terminate an enterprise zone may only be accomplished thru means of an Ordinance.

§ 6) Provision of Town Incentives

The Town may provide incentives and allow regulatory flexibility as permitted by ordinance only in those enterprise zones delineated by the council.

(a) Local incentives may include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) Reduction of permit fees;
- (2) Reduction of user fees; and
- (3) Reduction of real property taxes.

(b) Regulatory flexibility may include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) Special zoning districts; plan review use approvals; zoning district variances, conditional use permits and special use permits;
- (2) Permit process reform;
- (3) Exemptions from local ordinances; and
- (4) Other public incentives.

ORDINANCE #07-13 — continued

- (c) Town incentives for an enterprise zone may apply retroactively provided that the council authorizes retroactive application of the benefits by resolution or ordinance.

§ 7) Penalties and Reversion Clause

Any person or entity who files a fraudulent claim or attests to any false statement with intent to defraud the Town or to evade the payment of taxes or any part thereof, or who in any manner intentionally deceives or attempts to deceive the Town, shall be fined not more than \$10,000.00, shall forfeit any and all property tax incentives associated with the commercial development or both.

Any individual or entity that fails to meet the standards as set forth by the designated enterprise zone will have any and all property tax incentives associated with the commercial development declared null and all the property tax incentives granted shall be immediately due and payable to the Town.

Any individual or entity that falls into tax arrears will automatically lose designated enterprise status, regardless if the commercial concern remains within the legal boundary of an enterprise zone, and will not be eligible for further incentives as they may be provided until all outstanding tax obligations and penalties has been satisfied.

§ 8) Administration

(a) The director of community and economic development shall prescribe the appropriate form or forms necessary for application to the Town for incentives within the designated zone. For each tax year in which a claim is filed, the director shall require proof of the applicant's certification, that the qualified business remains eligible to receive any incentives in the form of property tax reductions in that tax year, and shall require proof of the applicant's status as a property owner as of the date of said certification. The director shall request such proof as the director shall deem necessary to verify the applicant's qualification, including but not limited to proof that the real property for which the incentive is made is used for the activities of the qualified business, and that the applicant paid the applicable taxes and assessments for the previous years.

(b) The applicant may refuse to provide any such proof requested by the director; provided that the director may deny the application upon such refusal. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, there shall be no appeal from the director's denial due to such refusal of the applicant.

(c) Upon review and verification of each application, the director shall determine eligibility of status within 45 days of the director's receipt of a duly submitted request. If an applicant is found ineligible, the director shall notify the applicant and the council within 45 days after the applicant has been found ineligible by the director. If an applicant's claim is approved, the director shall issue certification by warrant in the name of the applicant and shall be issued within 45 days after the applicant has been found eligible by the director. All warrants issued shall be subject to audit.

ORDINANCE #07-13 — continued§ 9) Appeal

(a) An applicant may appeal the director's denial of a claim to the council in any matter other than the noncompliance of the applicant with respects to sec 8 (b). The appeal shall be filed with the council within 30 days of the applicant's receipt of the notification of ineligibility from the director. The council shall establish the procedure for an appeal.

ORDINANCE RE: Proposal for Fiscal Responsibility and Tax Relief (#07-14)

The lack of growth in Stratford's Grand List over the last few years has placed a significant burden on our taxpayers. The Mayor and the Town Council need to work together to develop a comprehensive plan that will address our need to expand or create tax relief programs. We must confront the problems faced by our needy taxpayers and our seniors who are living on fixed incomes.

We also need to be sure that we don't attempt to provide a "solution" that merely shifts an unreasonable tax burden to another segment of our population. Accordingly, a critical component of any plan must include reasonable guidelines for controlling expenses while maintaining our Town's services. We firmly believe that such a plan, in order to provide a lasting solution, must avoid quick fixes and "Band Aids." It must identify our Town's strengths and weaknesses and offer a practical plan of action. We must avoid proposing piecemeal fixes that do little to solve underlying problems and avoid answering the tough questions.

Accordingly, we are calling for the formation of a bi-partisan Economic Task Force ("ETF"). A committee to address the pressing economic issues facing the Town. The ETF should include a representative from the Mayor's office, one Town Councilman from each party, the Director of Finance, a member from the Planning Department, a representative from the Economic Development Commission and three citizens selected from the community.

The ETF's charge will be to review our existing senior tax relief plan, compare it to plans from other communities and ultimately offer a comprehensive affordable plan that will allow us to proceed forward on a path of sustained growth.

Suggested topics of discussion for the ETF include:

- 1) Overhauling our tax relief program to ensure it meets the needs of all segments of our population. Such a review should include a workable tax freeze / deferral program that would be self-funding and self-sustaining. A deferral plan, structured properly, might be expanded to include many of our seniors who are currently ineligible due to income limitations that are no longer reasonable.
- 2) Link tax relief programs to spending benchmarks. For example, Stratford's annual debt service obligation is reduced by \$4.7 million in Fiscal 2009. A portion of this reduction could be earmarked for tax relief programs, thereby eliminating the need to increase some people's property taxes to pay for tax relief programs.
- 3) Link spending programs, capital expenditures, and tax relief programs to increases in the Grand List and successful development programs. For example, as development proceeds on Lordship Boulevard or at the Army Engine Plant, allocate a portion of increased property tax revenue to reduce other tax burdens. A surcharge on tickets at our newly-renovated Shakespeare Theater could be used to fund needed capital expenditures or expand tax relief programs.

ORDINANCE RE: Proposal for Fiscal Responsibility and Tax Relief (#07-14) — continued

- 4) Analyze our unfunded pension liability and provide recommendations to reduce this burden on future generations.
- 5) Review existing capital budgets and offer suggestions as to how we can most efficiently fund expenditures in the future.

In summary, we are interested in developing a comprehensive, long-range solution to some of the significant financial issues facing Stratford. We want to ensure that no residents are forced out of town by unreasonable taxes but we also want to be sure that we don't engage in an irresponsible shell game that merely reassigns our property tax burden to other segments of our population. We want to encourage sustainable growth and pay for programs as they are needed.

There are some great things happening in Stratford and we look forward to moving through the 21st century with a long-term plan that meets everyone's needs.

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, April 9, 2007

"PONY" DISTRIBUTION

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS (10)
TOWN ATTORNEY
MAYOR
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER
PRESS - BARD
PRESS - CT POST
PRESS - STAR

INTEROFFICE DISTRIBUTION

BALDWIN CENTER — DIRECTOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUILDING DEPT.
COMMUNITY SERVICES — P. NAYLOR
COUNCIL CLERK
ENGINEERING OFFICE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
EMS
FINANCE DEPT.
FIRE DEPT. (4)
LIBRARY
PLANNING/ZONING OFFICE
POLICE DEPT.
PUBLIC HEALTH — DIRECTOR
PUBLIC WORKS
RECREATION — P. PATUSKY
TOWN ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
TOWN CLERK

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL CLERK

Memorandum

To: Council Members

From: Council clerk

Date: 6/16/2008

Re: **SUPPLEMENTAL MEMO TO COUNCIL AGENDA OF May 8, 2006**

F.Y.I.

Prior to Council meeting of March 9, 2007, the Mayor will be presenting proclamations to the Girl Scouts and Bunnell High School Band.

Time approximate: 7:50 p.m.