



Stratford, Connecticut

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONDUCTED A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008 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 Michael Henrick

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Michael Julian, Mr. Gavin Forrester, Ms. Emma Brooks, Mr. John Dempsey, Ms. Amy Wanamaker, Mr. William Stroomer, Mr. Thomas Moore, Mr. Joseph Kubic, Mr. Michael Henrick

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Alvin O'Neal

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor James Miron, Town Attorney Richard Buturla, CAO Suzanne McCauley, Director of Finance John Norko

INVOCATION PRESENTED BY FOURTH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER EMMA BROOKS FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Minutes of: Public Forum and Regularly scheduled meeting and executive session of November 10, 2008 and special meeting of November 24, 2008.

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. STROOMER SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Wanamaker — re: Shakespeare Theater, lines painted on Huntington Road, Wooster Park

Mr. Moore — re: Financial Advisory Committee, Pension issues, Holmes Street

Mr. Henrick — re: Prevailing wage for Shakespeare Theater renovations.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 LETTERS OF RESIGNATION — (letters previously forwarded)

3.1.1 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS — FROM: Virginia Murolo DATED: 11/10/08

RESOLVED: that the resignation of Virginia Murolo from the Board of Assessment Appeals be and is hereby accepted.

3.1.2 FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE — FROM: Chris Loban DATED: 11/17/08

RESOLVED: that the resignation of Chris Loban from the Financial Advisory Committee be and is hereby accepted.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. DEMPSEY TO ACCEPT THE FOREGOING TWO RESIGNATIONS (3.1.1 AND 3.1.2). THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

4.1 MAYOR’S REPORT

4.1.1 RESOLUTION RE: CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT

SPONSORED: Stratford Town Council

BE IT RESOLVED that James R. Miron, Mayor of the Town of Stratford, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town of Stratford a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant, along with any supporting or other necessary documents, amendments thereto, or rescissions thereof.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. STROOMER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.1.2 FIREFIGHTERS 100TH ANNIVERSARY — Firefighter Lupinacci presented a brief description of the arrangements and cost estimates for the 100th Anniversary Parade and Festival. The department requests \$10,000 for the event scheduled for April 25, 2009. The request will be forwarded to special Council meeting of December 15, 2008.

MAYOR’S REPORT — continued

4.1.3 COMMUNICATIONS — ACTION NOT REQUIRED.

- a. Memo Re: Stratford Library Association Board (dated November 17, 2008)
- b. Memo Re: Invitation – Town Hall Holiday Lighting Celebration (dated 11/19/08)
- c. Memo Re: Re-Appointment to the Stratford Library Board (dated 11/24/08)
- d. Memo Re: Re-Appointment to the Stratford Library Board (dated 11/26/08)

4.1.4 PROCLAMATIONS — ACTION NOT REQUIRED

- a. National Veterans Awareness Week (November 9-15, 2008)
- b. Stratford Old Timers Award Recipients (November 12, 2008)
- c. 2008-2009 “Friends of Sterling House” Campaign (November 20, 2008)

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING PROCEEDED IN THE ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

4.3.3 C.R.R.A. Contract — CRRA President Tom Kirk and Attorney Brian Stone briefly outlined the contract. Council members posed questions to the two aforementioned individuals. Ms. Suzanne McCauley and Mr. Gary Catalano, Sanitation superintendent, answered questions as well.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING OF A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF STRATFORD AND THE CONNECTICUT RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY AND THE GREATER BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

SPONSORED: Stratford Town Council

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Stratford as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford has an affirmative obligation to provide safe and sanitary disposal of all solid waste generated within the Town of Stratford; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford is party to a Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement with the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority (.CRRA.) which expires effective December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority has the responsibility and authority for implementing the State’s Solid Waste Management Plan, including by way of providing solid waste management services; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Stratford finds that it is in the best interest of the Town of Stratford to enter into a new Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement with the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority to provide for the safe and sanitary disposal of residential solid waste within the Town of Stratford; and

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING OF A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF STRATFORD AND THE CONNECTICUT RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY AND THE GREATER BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT — continued

WHEREAS, in addition to the Town of Stratford, the Cities of Bridgeport, Milford and Shelton and the Towns of Bethany, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Orange, Trumbull, Westport and Woodbridge (collectively the .Other Municipalities.) have or are about to similarly enter into Solid Waste Management Services Agreements with CRRA; and

WHEREAS, there is an interrelationship and interdependence between the Other Municipalities and the Town of Stratford in connection with the disposal of municipal solid waste to the Bridgeport Resource Recovery Facility in accordance with the Solid Waste Disposal Agreements; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town of Stratford to enter into an agreement with the Other Municipalities to form a committee to deal with all matters related to the disposal of municipal solid waste by the Town of Stratford and the Other Municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Town of Stratford enter into a Municipal Solid Waste Management Services Agreement with the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority for a term of five and a half years commencing January 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014 upon the terms and substantially upon the conditions and in the form as set forth in the .Execution Version. and presented to the Town Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Stratford enter into the Greater Bridgeport Regional Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement substantially upon the terms and in the form as set forth in the .FDH Draft 10/31/08. submitted to the Town Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any proper official of the Town of Stratford is authorized to certify as to the legality, validity and binding effect of these Resolutions.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. DEMPSEY TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 8 IN FAVOR AND 1, MR. FORRESTER, OPPOSED.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING OF A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF STRATFORD AND THE CONNECTICUT RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY AND THE GREATER BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL SOLID WASTE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT — continued

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the Town of Stratford is hereby authorized and empowered on behalf of the Town of Stratford to execute and deliver said Solid Waste Management Services Agreement and the Greater Bridgeport Regional Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement and to take such other action as he deems necessary and appropriate to give effect to the foregoing Resolutions; and

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. DEMPSEY TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION COMPONENT CONTINGENT UPON A NEED, SHOULD A NEED EXIST, FOR A PUBLIC HEARING. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 6 IN FAVOR AND 3, MESSRS. KUBIC AND FORRESTER AND MS. WANAMAKER, OPPOSED.

4.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.2.1 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE — The Ordinance Committee conducted a public hearing and the regularly scheduled meeting on November 24, 2008 with the following ordinances referred to Council without recommendation:

- A. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING ~~\$10,890,000~~ \$11,040,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 (#08-12)
- B. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF ~~\$10,890,000~~ \$11,040,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET THE APPROPRIATION FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE (#08-13)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. MOORE TO PLACE THE FOREGOING TWO ORDINANCES ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 7 IN FAVOR AND 2, MR. FORRESTER AND MS. WANAMAKER, OPPOSED.

- C. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING ~~\$11,087,000~~ \$11,687,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 (#08-14)

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE — continued

- D. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF ~~\$11,087,000~~ \$11,687,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET THE APPROPRIATION FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND EQUIPMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE (#08-15)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MS. BROOKS TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING TWO ORDINANCES (#08-14 AND #08-15). Council discussed obtaining the additional \$600,000 utilizing all monies swept from other bond ordinances.

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

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 9:40 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. DEMPSEY TO PLACE THE FOREGOING TWO ORDINANCES (#08-14 AND #08-15) ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 7 IN FAVOR AND 2, MR. FORRESTER AND MS. WANAMAKER, OPPOSED.

THE FOREGOING 4 ORDINANCES, #08-12, #08-13, #08-14, AND #08-15, WILL BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2008.

4.2.2 FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE — The Finance and Claims Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting of November 17, 2008 during which time the following claim was referred to Council with no recommendation:

CLAIM OF: James Feehan, Amount: \$41,000+

Summary of Claim: legal expenses incurred in defending himself against misdemeanor charges of result of false accusations made by Councilperson. Executive Session is recommended.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Finance and Claims Committee is accepted and the claim of James Feehan for an amount of \$41,000 be and is hereby granted/denied.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN, SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOREGOING PENDING CLAIM WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS, THE TOWN ATTORNEY, THE MAYOR, AND MR. FEEHAN AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVES. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 9:40 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 10:15 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS — continued

CLAIM OF: James Feehan — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. STROOMER SECONDED BY MR. KUBIC TO REFER THE FOREGOING CLAIM TO THE TOWN ATTORNEY FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.3 TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

4.3.1 AIRPORT PURCHASE — No business furnished

4.3.2 JOHN ORTIZ V JOHN RUSATSKY — Mr. Buturla reported that the Judge ruled in favor of the defendant.

4.3.4 QUESTIONS TO THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Forrester — re: No recall provisions in the Town Charter.

5. QUESTIONS TO MAYOR OR STAFF

Mr. Julian — re: Roadwork on Huntington Road

Mr. Forrester — re: appointment process to Commissions, fiscal measures during this recession, intradepartmental budget transfers, bid on fire truck, internal police investigation invoices

Ms. Brooks — re: report on fire truck, internal police investigation report

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MS. BROOKS TO FORWARD POLICE INVESTIGATION REPORT TO MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Wanamaker — re: fire trucks

Mr. Stroomer — re: correspondence from Ms. Haydu

Mr. Moore — re: Holiday lighting

Mr. Henrick — re: copy of new Charter, quarterly reports

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.3 TABLED ITEMS

6.3.2 LETTER re: request for abandonment of portion of property at North Town Center – Hawley Lane, Stratford FROM: Atty. Barry Knott DATED: Oct. 21, 2008 (abridged – request that the town abandon any rights it may have for all purposes, including public highway and public utility purposes for that portion of the property northwest of the area designated as “Conservation Easement 1”) TABLED during Council Meeting of November 10, 2008.

RESOLVED: that the foregoing communication be and is hereby accepted and refer the request for abandonment to the Planning Commission for a mandatory review pursuant to § 8-24 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

6.3.3 LETTER re: request for abandonment of terminus of Goodwin Place FROM: Atty. Barry Knott Dated: Oct. 30, 2008 (Letter previously forwarded) (abridged – request that the town abandon any rights that it may have to that portion of the road at the terminus of Goodwin Place.) TABLED during Council Meeting of November 10, 2008.

RESOLVED: that the foregoing communication be and is hereby accepted and refer the request for abandonment to the Planning Commission for a mandatory review pursuant to § 8-24 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. MOORE TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING TWO LETTERS OF REQUESTS FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. DEMPSEY TO REFER THE FOREGOING TWO REQUEST LETTERS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR § 8-24 REVIEW. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.5.3 ASSESSMENT APPEALS, BOARD OF, ALTERNATE MEMBER — 4-year term

RESOLVED: that BONNIE REYNOLDS of 224A AGAWAM LANE be and is hereby appointed an alternate member of the Board of Assessment Appeals. (term of Virginia Murolo expired March 13, 2008)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS — continued

TABLED APPOINTMENTS — continued

ASSESSMENT APPEALS, BOARD OF, ALTERNATE MEMBER — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MS. BROOKS TO APPOINT BONNIE REYNOLDS OF 224A AGAWAM LANE TO THE FOREGOING POSITION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS — None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.2 SUMMER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL – FINAL ACCOUNTING — Final accounting summary sheet was distributed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KUBIC SECONDED BY MS. BROOKS TO PLACE THE FOREGOING ITEM ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8.3 RAYMARK REMEDIATION —Raymark Ball field and potential acquisition, reconfiguration of Public Works Dept. property and storage area were discussed.

8.4 APPOINTMENTS

8.4.1 STRATFORD LIBRARY BOARD, 3-Year term appointed by Council

RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Stratford Library Board. (unexpired term of Doreen Jaekle scheduled to expire December 31, 2010)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DEMPSEY SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO PLACE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 STRATFORD BRAKETTETS — ACTION NOT TAKEN. Deferred to Special Council meeting of December 15, 2008.

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. FORRESTER, SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 11:30 P.M.

ATTESTED BY:

Carol Cabral, Council Clerk