

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL

March 30, 2009

THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONDUCTED A SPECIAL MEETING ON MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, 2725 MAIN STREET, STRATFORD, CT PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY POSTED.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:15 p.m.

PRESIDING: Council Chairman Michael Henrick

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Emma Brooks

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

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTED DURING MEETING

- Draft version of: Construction Project Management, Facility Use and Management Agreement (Shakespeare Theater) submitted by Attorney Buturla

II. AMENDMENT TO SENIOR CITIZEN TAX RELIEF ORDINANCE

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)

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 UNANIMOUSLY.

III. SHAKESPEARE THEATER FINAL CONTRACT

Mr. Buturla reviewed the summary of provisions stated within the previously disseminated draft contract.

IV. STRATFORD ARMY ENGINE PLANT

Attorney Buturla requests taking the foregoing item into executive session for the purpose of discussion regarding strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim of interest and potential for real property acquisition. Mr. Buturla would like that motion to include members of the Stratford Town Council, the Mayor, and himself.

STRATFORD ARMY ENGINE PLANT — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KUBIC, SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOREGOING ITEM FOR THE REASON STATED ABOVE WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE NAMED INDIVIDUALS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 7:40 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 8:35 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMSTRATFORD ARMY ENGINE PLANT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KUBIC SECONDED BY MR. STROOMER AS FOLLOWS:

To authorize the Town Attorney to prepare a proposed indemnification agreement regarding the fire suppression systems servicing the hangars operated by Bridgeport Airport Services, Inc.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 IN FAVOR AND 1, MR. FORRESTER, OPPOSED.

V. ADJOURNMENT — Hearing no further discussion in connection with the above agenda items or further business, Chairman Henrick called for a motion to adjourn. ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. O'NEAL, SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Cabral

Carol Cabral, Council Clerk

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND §191-5.3.A(1) OF
THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF STRATFORD
RE: SENIOR CITIZEN AND DISABLED PERSONS TAX RELIEF**

SPONSORED BY:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL that the code of the Town of Stratford be, and hereby is, amended by deleting §191-5.3.A(1) of the Town Code and replacing it with the following:

§191-5.3 Tax Relief

A. Any person eligible for tax relief under this article shall be entitled to choose one of the following types of tax relief to the exclusion of all other types of tax relief available under this article:

(1) Tax Credit

- (a) For applicants who elect to apply for tax credit under this article, said credit shall be on a graduated basis as follows:

Income Over	To	Tax Credit		
		Married	Unmarried	
Step 1	\$0	\$15,200	\$500	\$400
Step 2	\$15,200	\$20,500	\$450	\$360
Step 3	\$20,500	\$25,600	\$400	\$320
Step 4	\$25,600	\$30,500	\$350	\$280
Step 5	\$30,500	\$37,300	\$300	\$240
Step 6	\$37,300	\$42,300	\$250	\$160

- (b) This schedule shall apply to the taxes for all fiscal years beginning July 1, 2009. Thereafter, the amounts of qualifying income as provided in this article shall be adjusted annually in a uniform manner to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income with each such adjustment of qualified income determined to the nearest one hundred dollars.
- (c) The maximum allowable income shall be at least equal to the maximum allowable income as set by the State of Connecticut for elderly tax relief, however under no circumstances shall the Town income limit be reduced below the state maximum.

**Senior Citizen and Disabled Persons Tax Relief
Amended Ordinance**

The purpose of this amendment is to allow for an annual increase in the income limits. The tax credit program Steps 1 through 5 have in the past mirrored the tax relief program offered by the State of Connecticut. The revisions made for the 2007 Grand List did not include language needed to mirror the State program.

The second change to the ordinance is to allow for an annual increase of step 6 as well as increase the benefit for married for \$200 to \$250.

The estimated additional cost is approximately \$40,000. An increase to the 2010 budget is not needed since the amount provided in the current year budget would be adequate for next fiscal year including these changes.

