



TOWN OF STRATFORD

CONNECTICUT
06615

MINUTES OF MEETING

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL JANUARY 8, 2007

THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONDUCTED A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2007 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, 2725 MAIN STREET, STRATFORD, CT.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:03 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, Attorneys Will Clark and Warren Holcolm.

INVOCATION BY SECOND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER ALVIN O'NEAL FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Minutes of: Regularly scheduled meeting, public forum, and executive session of December 11, 2006.

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. BARKER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 8:10 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 8:31 p.m.

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Henrick — re: Proposed I-95 access/egress, SAEP, Investigation and background check for new CAO

Mr. Miranda — re: D.A.R.E. Program, quality of life issues

Mr. Barker — re: crosswalks on Success Avenue

Mr. Stavola — re: Shakespeare Theater, Animal Shelter

Mr. Forrester — re: Proposed Exit 33 on I-95, Longbeach West, D.A.R.E.

Mr. O’Neal — re: D.A.R.E.

Mr. Julian — re: Proposed Exit 33 on I-95, CAO background check

Mr. Miron — re: proposed exit 33 on I-95, CAO background check. Mr. Miron read the following letters into the record: (letters on file in Council Clerk’s Office):

- From Thomas P. Tighe, Chief of Police for Jamestown, RI. Dated January 8, 2007
- From Christina Collins, Finance Director, Jamestown, RI. Dated January 8, 2007
- Richard D. Montiminy, former Selectman, Littleton, MA. Dated January 8, 2007
- David J. Long, President Jamestown Town Council, Dated January 8, 2007

Mr. Feehan — re: D.A.R.E., Avalon Bay, CAO background check

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. HENRICK TO WAIVE THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER TO DISCUSS THE BACKGROUND CHECK PROCEDURE FOR CAO, MR. HADDAD. THE MOTION FAILED WITH 4 IN FAVOR AND 6 OPPOSED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS RE: CAO HADDAD. MR. FORRESTER MAKES A POINT OF ORDER CITING SECTION OF STRATFORD TOWN CHARTER.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 9:30 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 9:50 p.m.

MESSRS. HENRICK AND JULIAN WITHDRAW THE MOTION AND SECOND RESPECTIVELY.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

A. ARTS COMMISSION (LETTER PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED)

FROM: Lois Smith

DATED: Sept. 16, 2005, Received: Dec. 26, 2006

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION, ARTS COMMISSION — continued

RESOLVED: that the resignation of Lois Smith, member of the Arts Commission, be and is hereby accepted. (Term expires April 2007)

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

B. ETHICS COMMISSION (LETTER PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED)

FROM: Rt. Reverend Anthony Kopka DATED: Dec. 5, 2006

RESOLVED: that the resignation of Rt. Reverend Anthony Kopka, member of the Ethics Commission, be and is hereby accepted. (Term expires July 10, 2007)

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

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Feehan forwarded a letter to the Town Attorney re: WPCA

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

4.1 MAYOR’S REPORT

4.1.1 CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE OF STEVE WANG TO SHELL STATION RESTAURANT, LLC — The change is from a DBA to an LLC.

RESOLVED: that consent to assignment of lease of Steve Wang from D.B.A. to Shell Station Restaurant, LLC is hereby approved.

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

4.1.2 UNITED ILLUMINATING LEASE — UI proposed to build a small structure at the Huntington Road Fire Station for storage and will allow Stratford to store items also.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. HENRICK TO PLACE THE FOREGOING ITEM ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 6 IN FAVOR AND 4 OPPOSED VIA ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: MR. JULIAN — YES, MR. O’NEAL — NO, MR. FORRESTER — NO, MR. STAVOLA — NO, MR. BARKER — NO, MR. MIRANDA — YES, MR. STROOMER — YES, MR. CAMILLO — YES, MR. HENRICK — YES, MR. FEEHAN — YES.

MAYOR'S REPORT — continued4.1.3 SAVOY LINENS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ADJUSTMENT DUE TO FIRE LOSS

RESOLVED: that a personal property tax adjustment due to fire loss is hereby approved for Savoy Linens in the amount of \$168.65.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING TAX ADJUSTMENT. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 9 IN FAVOR, NO ONE OPPOSED, AND ONE, MR. STAVOLA, RECUSING HIMSELF FROM VOTING DUE TO A CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 10:08 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 10:20 p.m.

4.1.4 EXECUTIVE RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROPOSAL — RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford has long-standing Executive Level Employees who have worked in their current position for in excess of five years;

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford wished to recognize the service and dedication of these Executive level employees over their many years of service;

WHEREAS, the Town has determined that it is prudent from a financial perspective to offer a 2006-2007 Executive Employee Retirement incentive to such long-standing Executive Level Employees such that as retirees they will receive specific benefits in addition to their regular retirement benefits;

WHEREAS, through this 2006-2007 Executive Employee Retirement Incentive the Town will recognize a net savings associated with the manner in which such additional benefits are paid and through the hiring of successor employees to fill the vacated positions;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town of Stratford shall hereby adopt, confirm and ratify the 2005-2007 Executive Employee Retirement Incentive.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. JULIAN SECONDED BY MR. HENRICK TO PLACE THE FOREGOING ITEM ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION FAILED WITH 4 IN FAVOR AND 6 OPPOSED.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 10:45 p.m.

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

MAYOR'S REPORT — continuedEXECUTIVE RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROPOSAL —continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. O'NEAL SECONDED BY MR. STAVOLA TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING INCENTIVE PROPOSAL. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 6 IN FAVOR AND 4 OPPOSED VIA ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS: MR. JULIAN — NO, MR. O'NEAL — YES, MR. FORRESTER — YES, MR. STAVOLA — YES, MR. BARKER — YES, MR. MIRANDA — YES, MR. STROOMER — NO, MR. CAMILLO — YES, MR. HENRICK — NO, MR. FEEHAN — NO.

QUESTIONS TO MAYOR OR STAFF

Mr. O'Neal — (1) Was a traffic study conducted re: proposed exit 33 on I-95? (2) Can CAO Haddad be allowed to address the Council?

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. O'NEAL SECONDED BY MR. STAVOLA TO ALLOW CAO HADDAD TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 11:15 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: 11:20 p.m.

MESSRS. O'NEAL AND STAVOLA WITHDRAW THE MOTION AND SECOND RESPECTIVELY.

Mr. Stavola — Soundview Avenue is in disrepair.

Mr. Miron — Soundview Avenue is on the list to be paved.

Mr. Barker — re: Crosswalks on Success Avenue that was previously mentioned.

Mr. Miron — That item is on the Traffic Authority agenda.

Mr. Miranda re: 55 Sheppard Street, drainage overflowing

Mr. Camillo — I have e-mailed my questions to you, Mr. Miron.

Mr. Miron — Thank you. I will address them all.

Mr. Feehan — re: (1) proposed budget, plan and time-schedule (2) Airport Noise Committee Chairperson.

4.2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.2.8 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE — Public Works Committee conducted the regularly scheduled meeting of December 18, 2006 at which time the following was referred to Council with favorable recommendation:

COMMITTEE REPORTS — continuedPUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE — continued

Selection of Engineering Firm for the design of the Culvert from King Street to Main Street

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Public Works Committee is accepted and the Engineering Firm of STV is hereby approved/~~denied~~ for design of the Culvert from King Street to Main Street.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STROOMER SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING ENGINEERING FIRM. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 9 IN FAVOR AND 1, MR. BARKER, OPPOSED.

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

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. FORRESTER, 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.

4.3.2 WARRANTY ON ROOF AT POLICE STATION — (forwarded from Council meeting of December 12, 2006) — Atty. Buturla referred this item to the Building Needs Committee.

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. STAVOLA TO WAIVE THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA ENTITLED "TERM LIMITS". THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

TERM LIMITS — Informational item. Action not required.

Attorney Buturla disseminated two letters from Board of Education requesting opinion on term Limits; one letter to Kevin Kelly, Esq. dated July 19, 2005, the second letter to Richard Buturla, Esq. dated December 27, 2006.

QUESTIONS TO THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Mr. Henrick — re: Asst. Town Attorneys attending meetings.

Mr. O'Neal — re: Town emblem

Mr. Camillo — re: Warranty on roof at Police Station.

WAIVER OF COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO WAIVE THE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA ENTITLED "CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY". THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY — Correspondence dated January 8, 2007 to Chairman of the Stratford Town Council J. Feehan was disseminated during LRA Meeting of January 8, 2007.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FORRESTER, SECONDED BY MR. O'NEAL TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FOREGOING ITEM AS IT IS AN ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY MATTER WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION TO INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL, THE MAYOR AND HIMSELF. THE MOTION CARRIED 10 TO 0.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS5.2 TABLED ITEMS

5.2.3 HIGH SCHOOL HEATING SYSTEMS – Status, action plan and cost estimates. (tabled during Council meeting of September 11, 2006 — Mayor's report)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING ITEM FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT. After discussion, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO PLACE THE FOREGOING ITEM ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

5.4 TABLED APPOINTMENTS

5.4.7 BUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE — appointed by Council, term concurrent with Council

RESOLVED: that JAMES BONFIETTI of 2364 NICHOLS AVENUE be and is hereby appointed a member of the Building Needs Committee. (term of Edward Matosian to expire December 2007)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS — continuedTABLED APPOINTMENTS — continuedBUILDING NEEDS COMMITTEE — continued

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO REMOVE THE FOREGOING APPOINTMENT FROM THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. STAVOLA ABSENT.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA TO APPOINT JAMES BONFIETTI OF 2364 NICHOLS AVENUE TO THE FOREGOING POSITION. THE MOTION PASSED 10 TO 0.

6. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS — None**7. NEW BUSINESS****7.1 APPOINTMENTS****7.1.1 LIBRARY ASSOCIATION** — 3-year terms, appointed by Council

A. RESOLVED: that JUDITH CRUDO of 725 STRATFORD ROAD be and is hereby appointed a member of the Stratford Library Association. (Term of Judith Crudo expired Dec. 31, 2006)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. O'NEAL SECONDED BY MR. JULIAN TO REAPPOINT JUDITH CRUDO OF 725 STRATFORD ROAD TO THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. CAMILLO ABSENT.

B. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Stratford Library Association. (Term of Joel F. Pleban expired Dec. 31, 2006)

C. RESOLVED: that _____ of _____ be and is hereby appointed a member of the Stratford Library Association. (Term of Kathleen Ritchie expired Dec. 31, 2006)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HENRICK SECONDED BY MR. FORRESTER TO PLACE THE FOREGOING TWO APPOINTMENTS (B. AND C.) ON THE TABLE. THE MOTION PASSED 9 TO 0 WITH MR. CAMILLO ABSENT.

Stratford Town Council meeting recessed: 11:55 p.m.

Stratford Town Council meeting reconvened: Tuesday, January 9, 2007 at 12:13 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT — Hearing no further discussion in connection with the above agenda items or further business, Chairman Feehan called for a motion to adjourn. ON A MOTION MADE BY MR. FORRESTER, SECONDED BY MR. MIRANDA, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2007 AT 12:15 P.M.

STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION

JANUARY 8, 2007

The Stratford Town Council entered into executive session during regularly scheduled Council meeting of Monday, January 8, 2007 into room 217 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT.

The following item was taken 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:

4.3.1 LONGBEACH WEST

The following item was taken into executive session for the purpose of discussion regarding the acquisition of property:

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

EXECUTIVE SESSION COMMENCED: 11:57 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Julian, Mr. O'Neal, Mr. Forrester, Mr. Stavola, Mr. Barker, Mr. Miranda, Mr. Stroomer, Mr. Camillo, Mr. Feehan, Mr. Henrick.

OTHERS ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor J. Miron; Town Attorney R. Buturla

EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDED: Council members and all other persons exited from executive session on Tuesday, January 9, 2007 at 12:14 a.m.

ATTESTED BY: Carol Cabral
Carol Cabral, Council Clerk