

Minutes of the May 12, 2025, Regular Meeting of the West Haven City Council in the Council Chambers 3rd floor, West Haven City Hall

The Regular Meeting of the West Haven City Council was held on Monday, May 12, 2025 at 7:00p.m. in the City Council Chambers 3rd floor. Chairman Pascale called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Council Members Present: Edward McMillian, Gary Donovan, Christopher Vargo, Jr., Dawn Callahan, Kathleen Mueller, Brian Laucks, Katherine Tucker, Ruby Melton, Meli Garthwait, and Steven Johnstone (7:34pm), Nicholas Pascale and Anne Heffernan. Absent: Sarah Ackbarali. Also present: Paul Dorsi, Corporation Counsel and Mike Ajello, Deputy Corporation Counsel.

7:00-7:01 p.m.-PUBLIC HEARING Legislative Committee- Communication B, from the April 28, 2025 agenda, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an ordinance amending Chapter 174 of the Code of the City of West Haven: Peddling and Soliciting. **No one present.**

7:01-7:02 p.m.-PUBLIC HEARING-Public Lands Committee-Communication E, from the April 14, 2025 agenda, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an offer of \$15,000.00 from the Estate of Richard Shippy to purchase city owned vacant lot located at 37 Myrtle Avenue, West Haven, CT. **See City's website for remarks.**

7:02-7:07p.m. PUBLIC SESSION

See City's website for remarks.

Chairman Pascale called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilwoman Melton made a **MOTION to APPROVE** the Regular Meeting minutes from the April 28, 2025, meeting, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Vargo. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.** Councilwoman Heffernan and Chairman Pascale abstained.

Councilwoman Heffernan made a **MOTION to APPROVE** the Regular Meeting minutes from the May 1, 2025, meeting, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Vargo. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

Communication A: from the Tax Collector regarding Overpayment of refunds for May 2025.

Communication B: from Deputy Chief Carl Flemmig regarding Animal Shelter Donations.

Communication C: from Michael Gormany, Finance Director, requesting the designation of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP to conduct the annual audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

III. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Finance Committee called to order at 7:09 p.m.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Vargo, Acting Chairman- Committee members: Councilwoman Ackbarali (absent), Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Laucks, and Councilman Johnstone (absent)

FINANCE UPDATES

1. Finance updates from Michael Gormany, Finance Director-None.
2. MARB Meeting update-None.

Councilwoman Tucker presented a **MOTION** to recommend the acceptance to the entire Council regarding **Communication B:** from Deputy Chief Carl Flemmig regarding Animal Shelter Donations, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Laucks. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY viva voce.**

Councilwoman Tucker presented a **MOTION** to recommend the acceptance to the entire Council regarding **Communication C:** from Michael Gormany, Finance Director, requesting the designation of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP to conduct the annual audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Laucks. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY viva voce.**

Finance Committee closed at 7:13 p.m.

Legislative Matters Committee called to order at 7:13 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE, Councilman Vargo, Chairman -Committee members: Councilman Laucks, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Melton and Councilman Johnstone (absent)

Councilwoman Tucker presented a **MOTION** to recommend the acceptance to the entire Council regarding **Communication B, from the April 28, 2025 agenda, Communication B:** from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an Ordinance amending Chapter 174 of the Code of the City of West Haven: Peddling and Soliciting, which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Melton. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY viva voce.**

Communication C, from the April 28, 2025 agenda, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an ordinance amending Chapter 178 of the Code of the City of West Haven: Posting of Bills. **HELD**

Legislative Matters Committee closed at 7:15 p.m.

Public Lands Committee called to order at 7:16 p.m.

Majority Caucus from 7:16p.m. to 7:26 p.m.

PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE, Councilman Donovan, Chairman -Committee members: Councilman Laucks, Councilwoman Callahan, Councilman Vargo and Councilman Johnstone (absent), Councilwoman Garthwait

Councilwoman Callhan presented a **MOTION** to recommend the acceptance to the entire Council regarding **Communication E, from the April 14, 2025 agenda,** from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an offer of \$15,000.00 from the Estate of Richard Shippy to purchase city owned vacant lot located at 37 Myrtle Avenue, West Haven, CT, which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Vargo. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY viva voce.** Councilman Laucks abstained. Councilwoman Garthwait did not vote as she was not put on the committee until after the vote.

Communication F, from the April 14, 2025 agenda, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding a proposal to sell North End Field, a 3.2-acre City owned former playground (comprising a 0.58-acre property located at 1101 Campbell Avenue and the 2.60-acre former Baggot Street playground), to the University of New Haven ("UNH") for five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). Public Hearing to be set for May 27, 2025 at 6:55 p.m.

Public Lands Committee resumed at 7:27 and closed at 7:31 p.m.

IV: UNFINISHED BUSINESS: -None.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS-7:31 p.m.

Clerk to read Communication A into record

FINANCE COMMITTEE, Councilman Vargo, Acting Chairman- Committee members; Councilwoman Ackbarali (absent), Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Laucks, Councilwoman Garthwait and Councilman Johnstone (absent)

Communication B: from Deputy Chief Carl Flemmig regarding Animal Shelter Donations. Councilman Vargo made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Tucker. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

Resolved: The West Haven Police Department has received the following donations, totaling **\$ 8,267.91**, to the Animal Shelter. Per Connecticut Statutes 7-148(c) (3) (A&B) and General Order 98-04, we are forwarding these donations for approval.

RESOLVED: The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the Animal Shelter Donations to be deposited into the Animal Shelter Donations account # 10100000-28285.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Kimberly Lucas	1134	\$25.00
2. Alinabal	007641	\$500.00
3. The Hometown Foundation, Inc.	4031	\$3,000.00
4. Garafalo Markets, LLC	6688437	\$4,742.91

Communication C: from Michael Gormany, Finance Director, requesting the designation of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP to conduct the annual audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Councilman Vargo made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Heffernan. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

BE IT RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves and authorizes PKF O'Conner Davies, LLP to conduct the annual audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Dorinda Borer, as Mayor of The City of West Haven, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents related to this Resolution on behalf of the City of West Haven and to do and perform all acts and things which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Communication B: from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an Ordinance amending Chapter 174 of the Code of the City of West Haven: Peddling and Soliciting. Councilman Vargo made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was which was **SECONDED** by Councilwoman Heffernan. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WEST HAVEN
CHAPTER 174 PEDDLING AND SOLICITING**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HAVEN, Chapter 174 of the Code of the City of West Haven is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 174-1 License Required.

It shall be unlawful for any person over 16 years of age to solicit orders of purchase for future delivery of any goods, wares or merchandise, including magazines and other printed matter, from door to door or on any street or highway within, or by telephone from and within the City of West Haven without first obtaining a license to solicit from the Police Department of the City of West Haven as provided in § 174-3 and 174-4 hereof.

§ 174-2. Entrance onto privately policed areas.

A license to solicit shall not constitute a permit to enter privately policed areas.

§ 174-3. License Application Required.

- A. An applicant must apply for a License to Solicit. Applications shall be available at the West Haven Police Department Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., excluding holidays.
- B. Application Requirements.
 - 1. Applications shall be completed in full and notarized.
 - 2. A background check authorization form shall be completed and submitted with the application.
 - 3. A solicitor violation acknowledgement form shall be signed and submitted with the application.
 - 4. An application fee of \$250 (Two Hundred Fifty Dollars) and a license fee of \$150 (One Hundred Fifty Dollars) shall be paid upon submission of the completed application.
 - 5. Identification satisfactory to the Police Department which shall contain a specimen of the applicant's signature and fingerprints.

C. Any single business or entity shall be limited to five (5) individuals so licensed to solicit on its behalf at any given time.

§ 174-4. Issuance of license.

Upon compliance with the provisions of § 174-3 hereof, the Police Department shall approve or deny the applicant's license to solicit based on the information so provided. If approved, the applicant will be provided with a 1 (one) year license to solicit in the City of West Haven, contingent upon adherence to all rules and regulations set forth herein and be issued a photo identification badge. The West Haven Police department shall have the discretion and authority to deny an applicant a license to solicit based on an unfavorable background check.

§ 174-5. Transferability of credentials; exhibition upon request.

A License to solicit shall be nontransferable and shall entitle the holder thereof, for the period indicated therein, unless revoked, to solicit orders within the City of West Haven between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to dusk for the purchase of the goods, wares or merchandise specified in his application, provided that the holder shall have their issued soliciting license photo identification badge in their possession at all times while soliciting orders and shall exhibit the same at any time upon request by any police officer of the City of West Haven or any purchaser or prospective purchaser.

§ 174- 6 Penalties for offenses; cancellation of credentials.

A. Unlicensed soliciting is a violation of the City of West Haven Code 174 and shall be punishable by a fine of \$250 (Two Hundred Fifty Dollars) for each residence solicited.

B. A license to solicit under this chapter shall be revoked upon any conviction of any crime or misdemeanor under this chapter, or involving moral turpitude, and such person shall not thereafter solicit orders in the city without reapplying for and obtaining a new license to solicit.

C. It shall be a violation of this chapter to solicit on a property that has a sign clearly posted "no soliciting or no sales," or with similar language to that effect, and such violation shall be punishable by a fine of \$250 for each such offense.

D. It shall be a violation of this chapter for any single business or entity to solicit at the same property more than one (1) instance during a period of six months between such solicitations, and any such violation shall be punishable by a fine of \$250 for each such offense.

§ 174-7. Exception.

This chapter shall not apply to salesmen selling goods to retail or wholesale stores for resale.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON: _____

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR: _____ DATE: __

Communication C, from the April 28, 2025 meeting, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an ordinance amending Chapter 178 of the Code of the City of West Haven: Posting of Bills. **HELD**

PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE, Councilman Donovan, Chairman -Committee members: Councilman Laucks, Councilwoman Callahan, Councilman Vargo and Councilman Johnstone

Communication E, from the April 14, 2025 agenda, from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding an offer of \$15,000.00 from the Estate of Richard Shippy to purchase city owned vacant lot located at 37 Myrtle Avenue, West Haven, CT. Councilman Donovan made a **MOTION to APPROVE** which was which was **SECONDED** by Councilman McMillian. All in favor. **MOTION passed by MAJORITY.** Councilman Laucks abstained. Councilwoman Garthwait opposed.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the sale of city owned property known as 37 Myrtle to the Estate of Richard Shippy for the sum of \$15,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Dorinda Borer, as Mayor of The City of West Haven, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents related to this Resolution on behalf of the City of West Haven and to do and perform all acts and things which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Communication F. from Mayor Dorinda Borer regarding a proposal to sell North End Field, a 3.2-acre City owned former playground (comprising a 0.58-acre property located at 1101 Campbell Avenue and the 2.60-acre former Baggot Street playground), to the University of New Haven ("UNH") for five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00). **Public Hearing to be set for May 27, 2025 at 6:55 p.m.**

VI. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Councilwoman Callahan spoke about a ceremony for Volunteer Firefighters including the Mayor's Proclamations. Councilwoman Heffernan stated that IMLS funding was not cut. Councilman Johnstone provided a Police Department staff report and thanked the officers for Police Appreciation Week.

See remarks on City's website.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

See remarks on City's website.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman McMillian made a **MOTION to ADJOURN** which was **SECONDED** by Councilman Laucks. All in favor. **MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.**

The City Council meeting was ADJOURNED at 7:41 p.m.

Nicholas Pascale
Chairman of the Council

Stacy Riccio
Clerk of the Council

Carlotta M. Serrini
City Council Administrator

****These minutes are subject to City Council approval.**