

Meeting minutes of the Public Hearing of the West Haven City Council held on Monday, June 14, 2021 via zoom.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIT668J3Vbk>

Chairman Quagliani called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Quagliani asked Council Clerk Riccio to administer a Roll Call for attendance.

Present were Council Members: Donovan, O'Connor, Hoskie, Conlon, Johnston, Gallignano, Hamilton, Massaro, McGeé, Fanelli, Bruneau, Cohen and Councilman at large Quagliani. Mayor Nancy R. Rossi, Corporation Counsel Tiernan and Council Clerk Riccio were also present.

Council Clerk Riccio read into the record the call of the special meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Council Clerk Riccio read three letters into the record:

1. From Stanley Heller – 7 Norwalk St. – looking for a report regarding the July 5, 2020 incident when a driver on Saw Mill Road ran into protestors in support of Mubarak Soulemane and questions why the police felt the need to call in dogs and smash in a car window. Corporation Counsel Tiernan stated action by Torrington PD cannot be answered by West Haven. Arrests were made in the July 5th incident.
2. From Al Corsi, 20 Bungalow Lane – stated email and vmail is inconsistent in trying to contact West Haven officials. He is referencing the city's blight violation at 28 White St. Councilman Quagliani stated Councilwoman Johnston and the Councilman Bruno are working with city's officials to identify a remedy. Bungalow Lane is a private road. Corporation Counsel Tiernan stated he has been contacted by council members. He has met with the Police Chief and it is complicated because it is a private road, the car owner needs to be identified and the city just can't tow a car. An estimate is being worked on for the possible future paving of this road.
3. From Steven R. Mullins - 22 Oak Rd – submitted a revised new design for a standard flag for City of West Haven. He would like to know if the City Council has the authorization to adopt a new flag without state permission. Council Clerk will email this letter to all the council members.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES - Councilman Bruneau approved the meeting minutes from May 6, 2021, seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Discussion: Councilman Quagliani 5th line to be being changed from “temporary chair” to “temporary clerk”. Councilwoman O’Connor, page 2, stated her vote was Yes and not No. Council Clerk Riccio will confirm this and make the adjustment.

Favor – All

Opposed – None

Abstention - None

Minutes approved as corrected.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUES - May 24, 2021 - Continued

COMMUNICATIONS:

Council Clerk Riccio read the following into the record:

- A. From Mayor Nancy R. Rossi - Reappointment of Carrie Ann Maligone to the Redevelopment Agency – being assigned to Personnel and Civil Service Committee – Chairman Massaro
- B. From Taxpayer Anita Stewart - abatement of interest and penalties on taxes – assigned to Tax Deferral Committee – Chairman Massaro
- C. From Tax Collector – overpayment refunds for the month of May 2020 – filed with tonight’s minutes
- D. From Tax Collector – overpayment of refunds for the month of June 2020 – filed with tonight’s minutes
- E. From Abdul Quadhir – transfer for WPCA Board – being assigned to Finance Committee - Chairwoman Hoskie
- F. From CDA Manager Mark Bisaccia - Community Development Block Grant PY47 Budget – being assigned to Finance Committee – Chairwoman Hoskie
- G. From Tax Manager Leslie Naizby – Tax suspense list Grand List 2017 – being assigned to Finance Committee – Chairwoman Hoskie
- H. From Finance Director Frank Cieplinski – Tax Lien assignment list – being assigned to Finance Committee – Chairwoman Hoskie
- I. Mayor Nancy R. Rossi – 70 Hall St. – option to lease – being assigned to Public Lands committee – Chairman Donovan
- J. From Abdul Quadhir – transfer of funds for MS4 mandate –being assigned to Finance Committee – Chairwoman Hoskie
- K. Review and action of West Haven’s five year capital plan – being assigned to Finance Committee – Chairwoman Hoskie
- L. From Mayor Nancy R. Rossi – sale of 20 Helm St and 281 Front Ave rear - being assigned to Public Lands Committee - Chairman Donovan

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE – Chairwoman Hoskie – Councilwoman Hamilton, Councilman Massaro, Councilman Cohen, Councilman Bruneau and Chair Hoskie.

- 1. Communication E - From Abdul Quadhir – transfer for WPCA Board. Chairwoman Hoskie asked for a motion to bring it out favorably. Councilman Cohen made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Discussion: none
Favor – all
Opposed – None
Absention – None
Motion carries

2. Communication F - From CDA Manager Mark Bisaccia - Community Development Block Grant regarding PY 47 Budget – being held for Public Hearing
3. Communication G from Tax Manager Leslie Naizby – Tax suspense list Grand List 2017. Chairwoman Hoskie asked for a motion to bring this out favorably. Councilwoman Hamilton made the motion, seconded by Councilman Bruneau.

Discussion: Councilman Cohen asked if \$916,000 is the correct amount on the suspense list. Tax Collector Naizby stated that amount will still be collected but moved through the process. Councilman Quagliani stated the auditor requested that this amount be moved to the suspense column in the budget.

Favor – all
Opposed – none
Abstention – none
Motion carries

4. Communication G - From Finance Director Frank Cieplinski – Tax Lien assignment list. Chairwoman Hoskie asked for a motion to bring this out favorably. Councilman Bruneau made the motion, seconded by Councilman Cohen.

Discussion: Councilman Cohen asked about the firm and its location. Tax Collector Naizby stated it is a company located in California but they use a local processor in Hartford and it's the same bidder for the last two years.

Favor – all
Opposed – none
Abstention – none
Motion carries

5. Communication J From Abdul Quadhir – transfer of funds for MS4 mandate. Chairwoman Hoskie asked for a motion to bring this out favorably. Councilwoman Hamilton made the motion, seconded by Councilman Massaro

Discussion: none
Favor – all
Opposed – none

Abstention – none
Motion carries

6. Communication K - Review action of West Haven’s five year capital plan. Chairwoman Hoskie asked for a motion to bring this out favorably. Councilman Bruneau made the motion, seconded by Councilman Massaro.

Discussion: Councilman Bruneau questioned the cost of the fuel tank and repayment of that tank through purchasing the oil per gallon. Mr. Cieplinski stated this would be the preferred option. Councilwoman Hoskie congratulated Mayor Rossi and Mr. Cieplinski for their work with MARB. Councilman Quagliani stated the FY 22 capital plan is the start of funding for the new Washington Elementary School and very happy it will be started.

Favor – all
Opposed – none
Abstention – none
Motion carries

Finance Committee closed at 7:44 p.m.

PERSONNEL & CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE – Councilwomen Hamilton, O’Connor & McGeé, Councilman Bruneau and Chairman Massaro.

1. Communication A from Mayor Nancy R. Rossi - Reappointment of Carrie Ann Maligone, 40 Fenwick St., West Haven, to the Redevelopment Agency till 2024. Chair Massaro asked for a motion to bring this out favorably. Councilwoman Hamilton made the motion, seconded by Councilman Bruneau.

Discussion: Councilwoman O’Connor worked with Carrie on several projects and she is dedicated to the city. Councilman Bruneau congratulated Carrie knowing she will work hard. Councilwoman Hamilton also congratulated Carrie and gets things done with excellence and zeal.

Favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion carries

Personnel and Service closed at 7:46 p.m.

TAX DEFERRAL COMMITTEE – Councilmen Conlon, Galignano, Councilwoman O’Connor and Chairman Massaro

1. Communication B - From Taxpayer Anita Stewart, abatement of interest and penalties on taxes – Chair Massaro made a motion to deny because there is not enough information at this time, seconded by Councilman Conlon.

Discussion: none

All in favor: all

Opposed: none

Abstention: none

Motion carries

Tax Deferral Committee closed at 7:48 p.m.

PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE - Councilmen Galignano and Conlon, Councilwomen Fanelli and O’Connor and Chairman Donovan.

1. Communication I - Mayor Nancy R. Rossi – 70 Hall St. – option to lease. Chairman Donovan stated this is being held in committee since it needs a public meeting.
2. Communication L - From Mayor Nancy R. Rossi – sale of 20 Helm St and 281 Front Ave rear. Chair Donovan stated this is being held in committee since it needs a public meeting.

Public Lands Committee closed at 7:48 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

Council Clerk Riccio read Communication C and D into the record and will be filed with tonight’s minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of a transfer for the Water Pollution Control Board and reports that the committee met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the following inter-department line item transfers, Line item 301-40000-5500-17007 WPC pump upgrade be decreased by \$1,098,342, Line item 301-40000-5500-17008 WPC incinerator upgrades decreased by \$81,914, line item 301-40000-55000 New Line out fall pipe increased by \$1,180,283, seconded by Councilman Massaro.

Discussion: none
All in favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously.

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of the Community Block Grant PY 47 and met on June 14 2021 to consider said matter. Councilwoman Hoskie stated this is being held for a public hearing on June 28, 2021 at 6:55 p.m.

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of the Tax Suspense List and met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the suspense list for the 2017 City of West Haven Grand List, seconded by Councilwoman Johnston.

Discussion: none
All in favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously.

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of the Tax Lien Assignment List met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves a tax lien sale to Ram Financial Group, the highest bidder for the assignment list as of June 10, 2021 for \$1,309,394.31 or as amended for properties paid current to date, seconded by Councilman Gallignano.

Discussion: Councilman Quagliani wanted confirmation on the amount and Mr. Cieplinski stated the actual bid is the percentage and not the dollar amounts.

All in Favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously.

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of the transfer for the MS4 mandate met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the following inter-department transfer line item transfers. Line item 14100010-51000 Regular Wages

decreased \$71,246, Line item 355-00000-55806 Storm Sewer increased by \$71,246, seconded by Councilman Cohen.

Discussion: none
All in Favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously.

Councilwoman Hoskie reported that the committee on Finance was referred the matter of the City of West Haven's five year capital plan met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

The City Council of the City of West Haven hereby approves the City of West Haven's five year capital plan as submitted in communication K for the June 14, 2021 City Council meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Discussion: none
All in Favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously

PERSONNEL AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Chairman Massaro reported that the committee on Personnel and Civil Service was referred the matter of the reappointment of Carrie Ann Maglione to the Redevelopment Agency and met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

RESOLVED, the reappointment of Carrie Ann Maglione, 40 Fenwick St., West Haven, to the Redevelopment Agency effective immediately to expire September 30, 2024 be approved, seconded by Councilwoman Fanelli.

Discussion: Councilmen Massaro stated Carrie gets things done and congratulated her. Councilman Cohen congratulated Ms. Maglione on this appointment.

All in Favor: all
Opposed: none
Abstention: none
Motion passes unanimously

TAX DEFERRAL COMMITTEE

Chairman Massaro reported that the committee on Tax Deferral was referred the matter of abatement of interest and penalties on taxes met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter. It is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the following motion be presented:

RESOLVED, the request for the abatement of interest and penalties on the tax due from taxpayer Anita Stewart is hereby be denied, seconded by Councilman Conlon.

Discussion:

All in favor: all

Opposed: none

Abstention: none

Motion passes unanimously

PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

Chairman Donovan reported that the committee was referred the matter of 70 Hall St. and met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter and reported that a public hearing will be held on June 28,2021 at 6:50 p.m.

Chairman Donovan reported that the committee was referred the matter of the sale of 20 Helm St and 281 Front Ave and met on June 14, 2021 to consider said matter and reported that a public hearing will be held on June 28, 2021 at 6:45 p.m.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES – None

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS. – None

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Rossi informed the council that she partnered with Superintendent Cavallaro to assist children attending summer camp by offering one-time payment for the playground and Painter Park summer camp this year for children who sign up.

Councilwoman Hamilton invited everyone to Juneteenth day on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. located in Brentwood Park on Tyler St.

ADJOURNED: 8:02 p.m.

Councilman Conlon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman O'Connor and passed.