

**MINUTES OF MEETING
ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
February 22, 2022**

To view the meeting's recording, please click the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/gXut4qs20afdaIT7W2Vpg7yOD0ZW10wFx53waF9AO7r9dMBvKvAUfd0c8LKyChBcyOCh002k_jmQz6yt.dhJyQ1VjnA81KW9E?continueMode=true&xzmrtaid=mDVP8LNSDOcUTCSK804JQ.1646756080574.5d19c99e25f6d50b18191bbb781c5bf6&xzmrtaid=998

(Meeting starts at Time Code 01:08:40)

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A meeting of the Environment & Conservation Committee was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, electronically via Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:53 P.M. by the Chair, Laurie Sweet.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurie Sweet, Chair; Paula Irvin, Vice-Chair; Ted Stevens; Abdul Osmanu

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lesley DeNardis; Cory O'Brien; Marjorie Bonadies

PUBLIC HEARING: (Item #2) – There were 3 speakers in favor of the ordinance and 5 written comments in favor of the ordinance which can be read here:

<https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/5437/02-22-2022>

PUBLIC INPUT: (Any agenda item) - None

The following items were addressed:

1. Order authorizing the Town to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Illuminating Company Community Partnership Initiative

-- Moved by Mr. Stevens, seconded by Mr. Osmanu. DISCUSSION: Mr. Stevens asked if the incentives were realistic and if there are any obligations to the funds. Mr. Grace said they're very attainable and they will work together to be sure. Town Attorney Sue Gruen said any funding has to be used for energy purposes. Mr. Stevens said he thinks putting that wording in the MOU would be helpful. Ms. Gruen said she'd work with UI on this.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

2. Hamden Tree Ordinance

-- Moved by Mr. Osmanu, seconded by Ms. Irvin. DISCUSSION: Mr. Stevens asked if there was wording anywhere else in our Code that would cause conflict and asked if UI is an agent of the Town. Assistant Town Attorney Brendan Sharkey said there are 2 State Statutes and one governs

UI to what they can and cannot do and they must provide notice and go through the Tree warden. He said if the tree is not in overhead wires but in the Town's Right-of-Way the Tree Warden has the ability to remove the tree and provide notice.

Ms. Sweet said she is very happy to support this. She said it's a great first step but they also need to make sure that they can fund replacing trees.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
for Laurie Sweet