

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**April 23, 2020 cont'd on April 24, 2020**

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on April 23, 2020 and recessed until April 24, 2020. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 P.M. by the Council President. The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brad Macdowall	Dominique Baez
Mick McGarry	Jody Clouse
Valerie Horsley	Berita Rowe-Lewis
Harry Gagliardi	Justin Farmer
Austin Cesare	Kristin Dolan
Betty Wetmore	Marjorie Bonadies
Kathleen Schomaker	Athena Gary

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mike Colaiacovo

**PRESIDING:** Mick McGarry, President

**PUBLIC INPUT SESSION:** There were 2 public comments submitted

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:**

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:** Finance Director Curtis Eatman gave an update.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 meeting. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Bonadies and approved with 2 abstentions (Schomaker) (Rowe-Lewis).

Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting held March 14, 2020. Moved by Mr. Gagliardi, seconded by Mr. Cesare and approved with 2 abstentions (Schomaker) (Rowe-Lewis)

Mr. McGarry requested a motion to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2020 meeting. Moved by Mr. Gagliardi, seconded by Mr. Cesare and approved unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA:** Mr. McGarry requested a motion to suspend their rules for tonight's meeting. Moved by Mr. Gagliardi, seconded by Ms. Schomaker and approved unanimously.

**A. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to accept and expend donations related to the COVID-19 pandemic**

-- Moved by Ms. Wetmore, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. DISCUSSION: Mr. Gagliardi expressed his concerns of these donations being used for things like overtime, robocalls, signs and things like that rather than helping the residents. Mr. Eatman gave a rundown of some of the things it may be used for. Mr. Macdowall also expressed his concerns of its uses for lawn signs and those types of things and said he'd like a list of the expenses. Ms. Dolan agreed and asked Mr. Eatman if he could put together a list of expenses and get it to them by noon the next day.

Mr. Gagliardi moved a motion to amend this for the donations to go to the food bank. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. Ms. Horsley asked Mr. Gagliardi if he'd accept a friendly amendment to add PPE to the allowables for his motion to read "food bank for Hamden and PPE related to COVID-19. Mr. Gagliardi said he would accept the friendly amendment.

Ms. Schomaker expressed her concerns on tying hands on spending. Mr. Cesare said agrees with Ms. Schomaker.

The Council recessed this meeting until Friday, April 24, 2020 at 5:00pm (due to a budget public hearing).

April 23, 2020 - Recessed at 7:05 PM

April 24, 2020 –Out of recess at 5:04 PM (No roll needed for a recessed meeting per Town Attorney Sue Gruen)

### **Continuation of item A. above**

Mr. Gagliardi withdrew his previous amendment to this item and Ms. Rowe-Lewis withdrew her second.

Mr. Gagliardi moved a motion to add the addition language to the first listed paragraph and to add an additional paragraph (all in bold):

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that such funds shall be deposited into the Hamden COVID-19 Pandemic Gift Fund to be used for public purposes. Such funds may not be used to pay or reimburse any salary or overtime account and shall not be used for any operating or program expense unrelated to COVID-19. Unless specifically designated for use only towards COVID-19 Pandemic purposes, any remaining funds in the COVID-19 Pandemic Gift Fund may be re-distributed by the Legislative Council to another Gift Fund designated for public social services. Any donated items shall be redirected by the Emergency Management Director for use towards public social services.**

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that effective as of the date of approval of this Order, all expenditures from the COVID-19 Pandemic Gift Fund and use of donated items shall be approved in writing by the Town's Emergency Management Director.**

The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Macdowall said he doesn't think his concerns have been addressed as far as signs. Mr. Morton said those expenses came out of the Mayor's budget from the Prof./Tech. line and Town Events line totaling \$3,380.

Ms. Schomaker thanked Mr. Gagliardi for getting the clarification on this and thanked Chief Merwede for overseeing this.

Mr. Farmer said he supports this and would also like to see where there's money left in departments and see what they may have for Covid-19.

Ms. Horsley said she thinks signs are supportive of our workers and she appreciates the small amount that was spent on this.

Ms. Bonadies suggested asking people to make a small donation to our food bank in return for a lawn sign.

Mr. McGarry took a vote on this amendment and it passed unanimously.

Mr. McGarry then requested a motion for approval of this item as amended. Moved by Mr. Gagliardi, seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. McGarry requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Horsley. Mr. Macdowall requested a roll call vote on adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farmer. A roll call vote was taken and the meeting was duly adjourned at 10:15 P.M. with 3 opposed (Farmer) (Macdowall) (Gagliardi) and 1 abstention (Baez)

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta  
Clerk of the Council