

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

May 1, 2023

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https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/share/wltX0svVY3HkyfkqSg5Q42OJiYIHLpIWEa27u922OX8e5SUIL1zi2JNvEN-VU_0.lQKO8AfxhSzASnKr

(Meeting starts at Time Code 00:54:52)

**** If you are reviewing a print copy of these minutes and wish to view the meeting recording, please visit the Agenda Center at www.hamden.com/agendacenter and click the MEDIA link found next to this agenda under the meeting date OR download the digital version of these minutes and click the link above.**

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, May 1, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:29 P.M. by Council President Dominique Baez. The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Sweet then read the Land Acknowledgement followed by a moment of silence.

Z= On Zoom P= In Person

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dominique Baez (P)	Abdul Osmanu (P)
Katie Kiely (P)	Jeron Alston (Z)
Justin Farmer (P)	Ted Stevens (Z)
Sarah Gallagher (P)	Paula Irvin (Z)
Laurie Sweet (P)	Lesley DeNardis (Z)
Bob Anthony (P)	Cory O'Brien (P)
Kristen Zaehring (Z)	

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betty Wetmore; Adrian Webber

PRESIDING: Dominique Baez, President

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Grace, Chief of Staff; Curtis Eatman, Finance Director; Sue Gruen, Town Attorney; Erik Johnson, Economic Development Director

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION: There was 1 speaker.

(Written comments can be sent to LCpublicinput@hamden.com)

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE: Mr. Farmer mentioned it was International Workers Day and thanked all workers.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:

Mr. Johnson introduced Larry Regan, President of Regan Development Corporation, and owner of affordable housing at 415 Mather Street, who has approached the Town about another project at 2890 State Street for new affordable housing units and infrastructure. Mr. Regan explained a little bit about his company before explaining this is a \$26,000,000 project for 64 workforce housing units and that they are looking for State assistance.

Mr. Farmer asked how many owner occupancy units? Mr. Regan said they're rentals and there's a long waiting list for these units. Mr. Farmer stated he would love a tour and then asked for the Neighborhood AMI. Mr. Johnson said he doesn't have that now. Ms. Gallagher asked how many were affordable at Mather Street. Mr. Regan said 15%.

Ms. Kiely stated she'd also like a tour and then said there are a few things she'd like them to take into consideration. 1. Make sure there are spaces in the neighborhood schools where the housing is going. 2. She would like to know what the tax is now, single home vs. development, and what the difference is. 3. Access to State Street, she would love to see that. Mr. Johnson said he'll answer the questions in reverse order. He said part of the application process and as part partnership, it was important to him to make sure they've established those kinds of pedestrian cross crossings, so he'll have something kind of conceptual that he'll share. In terms of the taxes and as part of their multiple report they'll get something that talks about what an income-based approach to taxes looks like for affordable housing development and what that looks like compared to other approaches that the assessor takes in terms of value and property. Lastly, he said the property management is onsite every day and they will work with Ms. Renta's office, as well as Council schedules, to see that it happens soon.

Mr. Anthony asked if we're going from commercial to residential. Mr. Regan said yes. Ms. Zaehring asked for the timeline of submission. Mr. Johnson said they're anticipating submitting the application in June and it will be completed by the Fall of 2025.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the meeting held April 17, 2023. Moved by Mr. Anthony, seconded by Ms. Kiely and approved with 1 abstention (Stevens)

Ms. Baez then requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the meeting held April 24, 2023. Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Ms. Sweet and approved with 1 abstention (Farmer)

CONSENT CALENDAR: Ms. Baez announced #2 was being pulled onto the regular agenda. She then requested a motion for approval of the consent calendar for items #1 and 3. Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Ms. Zaehring and approved with 1 abstention (Stevens)

- 1. Reappointment of David R. Schaefer to the Farmington Canal Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2025 (D-6)**

- 3. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to acquire by sale or eminent domain certain properties in the vicinity of 233 Skiff Street owned by the Regional Water Authority**

REGULAR AGENDA:

(item #2 from consent calendar)

- 2. Amendment to the appointment of Tanisha Thomas Asbery to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Commission (D-1) (to correct the expiration date from March 31, 2025 to March 31, 2026**
-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer thanked all those who serve on Boards and Commission to do that important work.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Stevens)

Information Item:

1. Accrued benefits/retirement – Crossing Guard – P.D. – Crossing Guard - \$2,500
-- Finance Director Eatman explained this contractual item and then said what is left in the account is \$297,000 which includes a \$200,000 transfer that this body authorized.

There being no further business, Ms. Baez closed the meeting at 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta
Clerk of the Council