

TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

June 22, 2021

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A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M. by the Council President Pro Tem. The Clerk took the roll followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Macdowall	Valerie Horsley (approx. 7:50pm)
Berita Rowe-Lewis	Athena Gary (approx. 7:45pm)
Dominique Baez	Jeron Alston (after roll call)
Justin Farmer	Adrian Webber
Austin Cesare	Kathleen Schomaker
Marjorie Bonadies	Betty Wetmore (after roll call)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jody Clouse; Kristin Dolan; Mick McGarry, President

PRESIDING: Kathleen Schomaker, President Pro Tem

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Scott Jackson, Finance Director; Sue Gruen, Town Attorney; Adam Sendroff, Chief of Staff

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION: There were no speakers and 8 written ones which can be read here:

<https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/4266/PUBLIC-COMMENTS--06-22-2021>

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: Ms. Schomaker said announced on Tuesday, June 29th there would be a demonstration of an electric school bus in the parking lot of the Library for anyone who may be interested.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS: Brendan Smith, Vice-Chair of the Energy Use & Climate Change Commission gave a presentation of a plan.
<https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/4237/Hamden-Energy-Plan-2021-FINAL-06-18-2021>

REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS: None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 5, 2021. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved unanimously.

Ms. Schomaker moved a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Cesare and Ms. Wetmore and approved with 2 abstentions (Rowe-Lewis) (Alston)

Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2021. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Ms. Wetmore. Ms. Schomaker requested the minutes be amended to reflect the month of May saying they were showing as March. The clerk took note to change it. A vote was taken and the minutes passed with 1 abstention (Schomaker)

Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2021. Moved by Ms. Bonadies, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved with 2 abstentions (farmer) (Alston)

Ms. Schomaker moved a motion to approve the minutes of June 8, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved with 1 abstention (Alston)

Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the minutes of June 14, 2021. Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Mr. Webber and approved with 4 abstentions (Bonadies) (Alston) (Cesare) (Webber)

Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021. Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved with 1 abstention (Schomaker)

CONSENT CALENDAR: Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Mr. Farmer asked for numbers 4, 6, 13, 14 and 15 to be pulled. **DISCUSSION:** Mr. Macdowall thanked all the volunteers who serve on the Boards and Commissions. Ms. Schomaker then took the vote on approving the Consent Calendar without the items listed above and it passed unanimously.

1. Refund of Property Taxes collected prior to July 1, 2020 – (4) totaling \$3,555.51
2. Refund of Property Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 – Overpayments on Current Grand List – (2) totaling \$222.27
3. Refund of Motor Vehicle Taxes collected between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 – Overpayments on Current Grand List – (25) totaling \$7,690.45
5. Appointment of Margaret Craft to the Arts Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2023
7. Appointment of Vaughn Willis to the Community Development Citizen Advisory Commission for a term to expire March 31, 2024
8. Appointment of Lewis J. Beilman, III to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a term to expire January 31, 2023
9. Appointment of Paula Irvin to the Clean & Green Commission to fill a vacancy with a term expiring November 1, 2022
10. Reappointment of Kurt Bauknecht to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2024

11. Reappointment of Edward Peterson to the Building Board of Appeals for a term to expire December 31, 2025
12. Reappointments of Lisa Jackson and Peter Carbine to the Human Services Commission for terms expiring March 1, 2024
16. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden on behalf of the Youth Services Bureau to accept and expend a donation from Phi Sigma Sigma for school supplies
17. Order to approve 2021-2022 Agreement between Connecticut Department of Agriculture and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Local Coordinating Agency
18. Order authorizing the Mayor to accept and expend additional grant funds from the State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood for a Child Day Care Program for the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022
19. Order authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept and expend grant funds in an amount of \$286,500 and to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for the removal and rehabilitation of Bridge No. 061-041 Woodin Street over Belden Brook
20. Order authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept and expend grant funds in an amount of \$172,999 and to enter into an agreement with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for the removal and rehabilitation of Bridge No. 04896 Willow Street over Willow Brook
21. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget - \$10,000 Town Attorney Prof./Tech. Services (From LC Settlement Reserve)
22. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden on behalf of the Hamden Public Library to accept and expend \$5,000 from an Institute of Museum and Library Services Library Technical Services Act Grant through the State Library of Connecticut

REGULAR AGENDA:

1. Resolution approving and authorizing the Board of Education to file an SCG-049 with the State of Connecticut for the Expansion and Renovation Project at Hamden Middle School pursuant to the 3R Restructuring Plan

-- THIS ITEM WAS PULLED

2. Commercial truck Traffic Ordinance

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Mr. Macdowall. DISCUSSION: Chief Sullivan said he would like to postpone the Davis Street aspect of this and move forward with Todd Street.

Ms. Schomaker then moved a motion to divide the question for Todd Street and Davis Street. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis and approved with 2 opposed (Farmer) (Macdowall)

Ms. Schomaker then requested a motion for the Todd Street ordinance. Moved by Ms. Bonadies, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. DISCUSSION: Mr. Macdowall said he has procedure concerns. He then said he thinks the item on the floor is a good start and urges his colleagues to support it and said he appreciates the work of those who put it together.

The chief then gave a brief over of the ordinance and there was some discussion on grants, as well as discussion on the process leading up to this ordinance with the Chief saying they had months of meetings.

Ms. Bonadies said she's in favor of this ordinance and thinks it will help the residents get some peace on their street.

Mr. Farmer asked the Chief for the next meeting to give him the process of notices. Ms. Schomaker told him to send his request in writing.

Ms. Wetmore said she hopes this is enforced and that people get some peace.

Mr. Cesare said he supports this. He said he thinks it's an important issue and it makes Hamden safer.

A roll call vote was taken and the item passed with 1 opposed (Farmer) and 1 abstention (Gary)

Ms. Schomaker moved a motion for the Davis Street ordinance, seconded by Ms. Wetmore. DISCUSSION: Ms. Schomaker said she thinks they need to clarify what they want to see happen. There was then some discussion on postponing it until a later date. Chief Sullivan said he will see about putting it on their next meeting agenda for public input.

After some more discussion on postponing Ms. Baez said she thinks 4 months is good for the process it needs to go through. Ms. Schomaker said she likes that.

Ms. Baez then moved a motion to postpone this item until the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved with 1 abstention (Rowe-Lewis)

(from Consent Calendar)

4. Appointment of Kim Washington to the Police Commission to fill a vacancy with a term expiring December 31, 2021

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Mr. Webber. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked who seat she is filling and talked about party representation. Ms. Schomaker told him who resigned and that she's sure party affiliation was considered. Mr. Sendroff said yes it was.

Mr. Cesare said he's pleased to support this and that she'll do a phenomenal job. He said she's very active in the community and works very hard and he's happy to support her. Ms. Schomaker said she concurs.

Mr. Farmer thanked all who take the time to serve on the Boards & Commissions.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 2 opposed (Baez) (Farmer)

6. Appointment of Jacob Marrandino to the Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire October 31, 2023

-- Moved by Mr. Cesare, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer said it means a great deal to him to see young community members be selfless at such a young age. Mr. Macdowall said he's poised to do incredibly well and he's excited to see someone so young get involved. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

13. Resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to the Tax Abatement Contract with the Davenport Residences, Inc. (Dunbar and Davenport Residences)

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Ms. Bonadies. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked why we were bumping the timeline another decade. Mr. Jackson said they are seeking additional mortgages and that needs to align with the abatement. Mr. Farmer said he is glad we do this. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

Ms. Horsley and Ms. Gary are now absent (approx.. 8:30pm)

14. Order authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Women and Families Center, Hamden Police and Quinnipiac University in an effort to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking on campus program

-- Moved by Ms. Schomaker, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. DISCUSSION: Chief Sullivan explained the grant and what it does. He said it doesn't affect their normal training and there is no cost to us at all for this program. Mr. Macdowall stated it's a great program but wants to be sure we're mindful and thoughtful of the process in adjusting the metrics and data. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

15. Order authorizing the Town of Hamden to accept a donation of a Maple Tree from Alphabet Academy North Campus in honor of its kindergarten student

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Rowe-Lewis. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer thanked those involved for this donation. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution approving and authorizing the Board of Education to file an SCG-049 with the State of Connecticut for various renovation projects at Hamden Middle School pursuant to the 3R Restructuring Plan

-- THIS ITEM WAS PULLED

There being no further business Ms. Schomaker requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Ms. Bonadies, seconded by Mr. Macdowall and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta
Clerk of the Council