

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

**July 18, 2022**

**\*To view the recording, please click the following link and observe the instructions when/if prompted:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/o0iebJxsS\\_oDtpb9HcjZrNtziYZosA\\_8RQxqyDGaFUN35aBu0G\\_Tw8b95IEccX0zASI2phm56Vq0YbE1.IJ8uKZHtLSWhIkso?continueMode=true&x\\_zm\\_rt\\_aid=n5xo7hJjSGCKLwXWK\\_KZYA.1658506669025.62c7ad3315a2182421bdbe234f5f49db&x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=497](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/o0iebJxsS_oDtpb9HcjZrNtziYZosA_8RQxqyDGaFUN35aBu0G_Tw8b95IEccX0zASI2phm56Vq0YbE1.IJ8uKZHtLSWhIkso?continueMode=true&x_zm_rt_aid=n5xo7hJjSGCKLwXWK_KZYA.1658506669025.62c7ad3315a2182421bdbe234f5f49db&x_zm_rhtaid=497)

(Meeting starts at Time Code 01:09:35)

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A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday, July 18, 2022. This was a hybrid meeting held both electronically and in person. The meeting was called to order at 7:42 P.M. by Council President Dominique Baez. The Clerk took the roll.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dominique Baez	Kristen Zaehring
Katie Kiely	Sarah Gallagher
Jeron Alston	Paula Irvin
Abdul Osmanu	Adrian Webber
Laurie Sweet	Ted Stevens
Justin Farmer	Lesley DeNardis

\* Ms. Baez, Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Kiely and Mr. O'Brien were present in person and all others present were on Zoom.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Betty Wetmore; VACANCY

**PRESIDING:** Dominique Baez, President

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Sean Grace, Chief of Staff; Curtis Eatman, Finance Director; Town Engineer Stephen White

**PUBLIC INPUT SESSION:** There were no speakers and 4 written comments submitted which can be read here: <https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/6341/07-18-2022-Reg-Mtg>

(Written comments can be sent to [LCpublicinput@hamden.com](mailto:LCpublicinput@hamden.com))

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Ms. Sweet read the Land Recognition followed by a moment of silence.

**REPORTS OF BOARDS AND DEPARTMENTS:** There was a brief discussion on the Capital Budget. Ms. Sweet then explained the H.A.T. proposal asking for \$10,000 for a pilot program from ARPA funds to fund tree requests that the Town doesn't otherwise have money for. [https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/6336/07182022\\_Info-Item\\_Capital-Budget-FY2022-2023](https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/6336/07182022_Info-Item_Capital-Budget-FY2022-2023)

Ms. Baez then called for a break at 8:00pm – Back from break at 8:22pm

There was then an ARPA Presentation.

<https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/6352/July-ARPA-Presentation-PDF?bidId=>

Mr. Grace started by saying one thing in the plan is hybrid equipment for the Council Chambers. He went on to say that they had two public meetings and received dozens of emails of projects that residents advocated for.

Mr. Grace said the Administration is asking to start the process of building a new Community Center on the old Middle School property. He said they outgrew the Keefe Center and all departments from there would move to the new building including the Senior Center branch, the BOE administrative offices, and HCLC. He said they're anticipating \$24,000,000 but \$6,000,000 has been used by the previous administration so they have \$18,000,000 to spend and it has to be spent by 2026. There was then some back and forth discussion on the plan.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL LIAISONS:** None

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval of the minutes from the June 29, 2022 first meeting. Moved by Mr. Webber, seconded by Ms. Baez and approved unanimously.

Ms. Baez then moved a motion for approval of the minutes from June 29, 2022 second meeting. Seconded by Mr. Webber and approved unanimously.

Ms. Baez next moved a motion for approval of the minutes from July 5, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Sweet and approved with 1 abstention (O'Brien)

Ms. Baez lastly moved a motion for approval of the minutes from July 6, 2022. Seconded by Ms. Zaehring and approved with 1 abstention (Stevens)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval of the consent calendar. Mr. Farmer asked that item #'s 1, 6, and 7 be pulled to the Regular Agenda. Ms. Baez requested a motion for approval without those items. Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Ms. Sweet and

approved unanimously.

- 2. Reappointments of George Schneider (R-4), Kirk P. Shadle (U-9), and Michael G. Milazzo (D-6) to the Inland Wetlands Commission for terms expiring April 30, 2025**
- 3. Reappointment of Stephen A. Mongillo to the Representative Board of South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority District for a term to expire June 30, 2025 (D-4)**
- 4. Order authorizing the application and if offered the acceptance and expenditure of funds for the 2022-2023 Summer Youth Employment Grant DCF SYEPT (\$20,000)**
- 5. Order authorizing the application and if offered the acceptance and expenditure of funds for the 2022-2023 Summer Youth Employment Grant DOL SYEPT (\$67,000)**

#### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

1. Revised appointment of Paul V. Fioretti from an alternate to a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire **January 31, 2025**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Kiely. DISCUSSION: Ms. Baez stated that this was previously approved by both committee and Council but needed to be revised to correct the expiration date. Mr. Farmer thanked all who serve. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

**(from the Consent Calendar)**

- 1. Reappointment of Robert M. Bailin to the Natural Resources & Open Space Commission for a term to expire February 1, 2025 (U-9)**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Sweet. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer said that commissions are important and we couldn't do Town business without them. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

- 6. Resolution of the Legislative Council Medicare for All**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Osmanu. DISCUSSION: Ms. Baez said she is very happy to see this here. Mr. Farmer thanked the advocates for this and said it's the right time with Covid still out there as well as monkeypox. A vote was taken and the item passed with 2 abstentions (Zaehringer) (DeNardis)

- 7. Resolution authorizing the Town of Hamden to make application and to accept and expend funds if awarded from the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development, State Historic Preservation Office for a Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant**

-- Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Grace explained how this

was due to a change of Mayor and just needed to be updated to reflect that. Mr. Farmer asked what the funds go for. Ms. Gruen said it's for the Historic Properties Commission who have been working on this to recognize properties for consideration on the national register of historic places and she explained that the packet was given to them about a year ago with all of it in there and this was just because of the switch of Mayors. She said a consultant recognizes the properties. Mr. Grace gave an example of some facilities at Brooksvale that are considered historic are in need of repair. Mr. Farmer said he just wants to point his attention to the historic properties that need repair in the southern part of Hamden on the borderline saying he's pointed them out in the past.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

Ms. Baez then recessed the meeting at 9:18 P.M.

Ms. Baez called the meeting out of recess at 10:32 P.M.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ms. Baez moved a motion to add to the agenda the 3 sets of tax refunds from tonight's Finance Committee, as well as #2 from the Recreation Committee and #3 from the Municipal Planning Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** There were no speakers

1. Refund of property taxes collected prior to July 1, 2022 – (5) totaling \$1,653.00

-- Ms. Baez bundled numbers 1, 2 And 3 together and requested a motion for the refunds. Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and approved unanimously.

2. Refund of property taxes collected between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 – (1) totaling \$4,273.90

-- See #1

3. Refund of motor vehicle taxes collected between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 – (2) totaling \$705.04

-- See #1

4. Resolution authorizing the Town of Hamden to file an application for financial assistance from the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) and if offered accept and expend funds Community Investment Fund 2030 (Arts District project – (\$7,200,000)

-- Moved by Ms. Kiely, seconded by Ms. Sweet and approved with 1 abstention (Zaehringer)

5. Resolution authorizing the Town of Hamden to file an application for financial assistance from the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) and if offered accept and expend funds Community Investment Fund 2030 (Newhall Area Drainage System Project \$8,500,000)

-- Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. Accrued Benefits – Clerk Typist - Community Services Dept. - \$9,230.67
2. Accrued Benefits – Business Office Mngr. – Library - \$15,671.57
3. Accrued Benefits – Lieutenant – Police Dept. - \$47,348.86
4. Accrued Benefits – Chief – Police Dept. - \$67,846.09

Ms. Baez said the information items will go on the agenda for the 25<sup>th</sup> and at 10:40 P.M. she said she is ending this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta  
Clerk of the Council