



**West Hartford Town Council Meeting**  
**50 South Main Street Legislative Chambers, Room 314**  
**Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM**

**This meeting will be available live on West Hartford Community Interactive:  
Comcast Channel 5 and Frontier TV Channel 6098, YouTube as well as  
[www.whctv.org](http://www.whctv.org)**

**1. Call to Order**

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**2. Proclamations**

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A. Proclamations

**3. Public Forum**

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A. Any resident or taxpayer of the town may address the Council regarding any item on the agenda which is not otherwise subject to public hearing.

**4. Consent Calendar**

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A. Consent Calendar

**5. Approval of Minutes**

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A. Town Council Meeting Minutes June 23, 2026

B. Public Hearing Minutes June 23, 2026 - Ordinance Concerning Dog Leashes

C. Public Hearing Minutes June 23, 2026 - Resolution Directing the Town Manager to Submit an Amended Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Plan to the Connecticut Department of Transportation for Approval

D. Public Hearing Minutes June 23, 2026 - Ordinance and Resolution Dissolving the West Hartford Special Services District

**6. Unfinished Business**

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**7. New Business**

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A. Resolution Establishing an Annual Salary Range for the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Position

B. Resolution Accepting a Grant from North Central Area Agency on Aging to Support Behavioral Health Services

C. Resolution Accepting a Grant from Amplify, Inc. to Support an Underage Nicotine Prevention Program

D. Resolution Accepting a Grant from United Way of Connecticut to Support the Food Pantry

E. Resolution Appropriating a Donation to Support West Hartford's Back to School Bash Block Party

F. Resolution Appropriating Grant Funds Awarded under the Community Connectivity Grant Program

G. Resolution Appropriating Funds to Replace the Miracle League Field Pedestrian Bridge

H. Resolution Appropriating Municipal Tax Revenues from Cannabis Sales to Support the Interval House

I. Resolution Approving a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the West Hartford Local 1241 International Association of Firefighters for the Period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029

J. Appointment of Michael A. Cocca to the Sustainable West Hartford Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2027

## **8. Reports of Town Manager**

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A. Town Manager's Report

## **9. Reports of Corporation Counsel**

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A. Corporation Counsel's Report

## **10. Communications**

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A. Communication from Brian Clemow resigning from the Historic District Commission effective June 18, 2026

## **11. Announcements**

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A. Announcements

## **12. Adjournment**

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A. Adjourn

Anyone requiring auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or modification of policies or procedures to participate in a meeting, service, program, or activity of the Town of West Hartford should contact Yeraida Reinheimer, at [yeraida.reinheimer@westhartfordct.gov](mailto:yeraida.reinheimer@westhartfordct.gov) or (860) 561-7440, as soon as possible, preferably seven days beforehand.



**West Hartford Town Council Meeting Minutes  
50 South Main Street Legislative Chambers - Room 314  
Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 7:30 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:47 PM

Present: Mayor Cantor, Councilors Harris, Lazarus, Lyons, McGinnis, Deputy Mayor Polun and Walters; Absent: Councilors Wang and Wenograd

**2. Proclamations**

A. Proclamations

NONE

**3. Public Forum**

NONE

**4. Consent Calendar**

A. Consent Calendar

*Items Proposed for Consent: Items 5A, 5B, 7D*

Without Objection, Motion to Place Items 5A, 5B and 7D on the Consent Calendar (Polun)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

Motion to Adopt the Consent Calendar (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

**5. Approval of Minutes**

A. Town Council Meeting Minutes June 9, 2026

*Proposed Action: Consent*

CONSENT

B. Public Hearing Minutes June 9, 2026 - Resolution Approving Programs Eligible for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

*Proposed Action: Consent*

CONSENT

## **6. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Ordinance Concerning Dog Leashes**

*Proposed Action: Motion to Adopt*

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

### **B. Ordinance and Resolution Dissolving the West Hartford Special Services District**

*Proposed Action: Motion to Adopt*

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

## **7. New Business**

### **A. Resolution Directing the Town Manager to Submit an Amended Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Plan to the Connecticut Department of Transportation for Approval**

*Proposed Action: Motion to Adopt*

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

### **B. Resolution Appropriating an Historic Document Preservation Grant**

*Proposed Action: Motion to Adopt*

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

### **C. Resolution Revising the Schedule of Fees for Veterans Memorial Skating Rink**

*Proposed Action: Motion to Adopt*

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

### **D. Appointment of Alexander Ginis as a Council Zoning Alternate for a term to expire December 31, 2028**

*Proposed Action: Consent*

CONSENT

## **8. Reports of Town Manager**

### **A. Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager Richard Ledwith presented his report to the Council

## **9. Reports of Corporation Counsel**

A. Corporation Counsel's Report

Corporation Counsel Dodge announced that the Council would enter into Executive Session.

**10. Communications**

NONE

**11. Announcements**

A. Announcements

Mayor Cantor and Councilors announced upcoming events and information.

**12. Executive Session**

A. Executive Session pursuant to section 1-200(6)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation to wit: Jane Doe, PPA Jane Doe #2 v. Town of West Hartford, et al., Docket No. HHD-CV-24-5083682.

Without Objection, Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to a pending claim, to wit: Jane Doe, PPA Jane Doe #2 v. Town of West Hartford, et al., Docket No. HHD-CV-24-5083682.

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:24 PM. The Council was joined by Town Manager Richard Ledwith, Corporation Counsel Dallas Dodge, Deputy Corporation Counsel Gina Varano, Attorney Thomas Gerarde and Attorney Ashley Hoyt of the law firm Howd & Ludorf. The Council exited Executive Session at 8:57 PM.

Without Objection, Motion to add to the agenda a Resolution authorizing Corporation Counsel to settle: Pending Litigation: Jane Doe PPA v. Town of West Hartford, et al.

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

Motion to Adopt (Polun)

Second (McGinnis)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

**13. Adjournment**

A. Adjourn

Without objection, Motion to Adjourn (Cantor)

MOTION CARRIES (7 YEA, 0 NAY)

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CORPORATION COUNSEL TO SETTLE PENDING LITIGATION:  
JANE DOE PPA v. TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD ET AL**

**WHEREAS**, there is pending litigation against the Town of West Hartford captioned *Jane Doe PPA v. Town of West Hartford, et al.*, Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, Docket No. HHD-CV24-5083682-S; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plaintiff has extended an Offer of Compromise to resolve all claims asserted in the litigation in the amount of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00); and

**WHEREAS**, the Corporation Counsel has reviewed the matter and recommends acceptance of the Offer of Compromise as being in the best interests of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the settlement will require the Town to fund the remaining balance of its self-insured retention in the amount of \$195,000 from the Risk Management Fund, with the remainder of the settlement amount to be funded through the Town's excess liability insurance coverages;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the Corporation Counsel is authorized to settle the litigation captioned *Jane Doe PPA v. Town of West Hartford, et al.*, Superior Court, Judicial District of Hartford, Docket No. HHD-CV24-5083682-S, for the total settlement amount of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Town Manager is authorized to expend the remaining balance of its self-insured retention in the amount of \$195,000 from the Risk Management Fund in connection with such settlement, with the balance of the settlement proceeds to be funded by the Town's excess liability insurers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Corporation Counsel is authorized to execute and deliver any and all agreements, releases, stipulations, and other documents necessary or appropriate to effectuate and finalize the settlement.

(LEDWITH)  
June 23, 2026

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

June 23, 2026, 6:46 p.m.,

50 South Main Street

Legislative Chambers, Room 314

RE: Ordinance Concerning Dog Leashes

Reporter: Lisa L. Warner, CSR #061

1     A p p e a r a n c e s :

2

3             Council Members :

4                     MAYOR SHARI CANTOR

5                     DEPUTY MAYOR DEBRA POLUN

6                     JOHN LYONS

7                     DR. GAYLE HARRIS

8                     LISA LAZARUS

9                     TIFFANI MCGINNIS

10                    BARRY WALTERS

11

12             Town Manager :

13                    RICK LEDWITH

14

15             Corporation Counsel :

16                    DALLAS DODGE, ESQ.

17

18             Town Clerk/Council Clerk :

19                    LEON DAVIDOFF

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22             Public Speaker:   Elizabeth Keifer, page 7

23

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25



1 (Commenced at 6:46 p.m.)

2 PRESIDENT CANTOR: All right. I am  
3 calling the 6:45 public hearing to order. This is  
4 an Ordinance Concerning Dog Leashes.

5 And we will begin with roll call,  
6 Mr. Davidoff.

7 MR. DAVIDOFF: Good evening, Madam  
8 Mayor.

9 Mayor Cantor.

10 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Here.

11 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Harris.

12 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Here.

13 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lazarus.

14 COUNCILOR LAZARUS: Here.

15 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lyons?

16 COUNCILOR LYONS: Here.

17 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor McGinnis?

18 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: Here.

19 MR. DAVIDOFF: Deputy Mayor Polun?

20 DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Here.

21 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Walters?

22 COUNCILOR WALTERS: Here.

23 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Wang is  
24 absent, and Councilor Wenograd is absent. We do  
25 have a quorum.

1               PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you very much,  
2 Mr. Davidoff.

3               And we will begin with a presentation  
4 by the town manager.

5               MR. LEDWITH: Thank you, Madam Mayor.  
6 Good evening, everyone. For the record, Rick  
7 Ledwith, town manager. And tonight we are, as you  
8 know, presenting for consideration an ordinance  
9 that would require dogs to be leashed while on  
10 public streets, sidewalks and other town-owned  
11 property except within a designated enclosed dog  
12 park which we now house at 100 Mayflower.

13              West Hartford is a community that  
14 values its parks, sidewalks, trails and public  
15 spaces. We are also a community of pet lovers.  
16 And thousands of residents responsibly walk and  
17 care for their dogs every day. This proposed  
18 ordinance is not intended to discourage dog  
19 ownership or limit the enjoyment of public spaces;  
20 rather, it is intended to promote public safety,  
21 protect pets, and establish a clear and consistent  
22 standard for responsible dog control throughout  
23 town.

24              Currently, our town code prohibits dogs  
25 from roaming free in parks and playgrounds;

1 however, that prohibition does not extend to many  
2 other public areas, including sidewalks, streets,  
3 and other town-owned properties. As a result, our  
4 regulations are inconsistent and can create  
5 confusion regarding where dogs must be under  
6 leash.

7 Over the past several years, our animal  
8 control officer has responded to more than 100  
9 roaming dog calls. Approximately half of those  
10 incidents involved dogs on public property, and 64  
11 resulted in incident reports involving bites to  
12 another dog or a person. While many dogs are  
13 friendly and well trained, even the most obedient  
14 animals can become startled, distracted or react  
15 unpredictably to changing circumstances.

16 The proposed ordinance would create a  
17 simple clear rule. When a dog is on public  
18 property, it must be under the control of the  
19 person walking the dog, using a leash or similar  
20 physical restraint not exceeding 6 feet in length.  
21 The ordinance also recognizes the importance of  
22 providing opportunities for dogs to exercise off  
23 leash by exempting our town-designated enclosed  
24 dog park at 100 Mayflower.

25 The recommendation before you is based

1 on several considerations: First, it promotes  
2 public safety by reducing the risk of bites,  
3 attacks, and interactions that can lead to  
4 injuries. Second, it protects dogs themselves  
5 from hazards such as vehicle traffic and  
6 unexpected encounters with people or other  
7 animals. Third, it provides clear expectations  
8 for residents and a straightforward enforcement  
9 framework for our police department and animal  
10 control staff.

11 The ordinance establishes a graduated  
12 fine structure, beginning with a \$25 fine for a  
13 first offense, \$50 for a second offense, and \$99  
14 for the third offense and every offense  
15 thereafter, while also providing an appeal process  
16 consistent with other local ordinance violations.

17 At its core, this proposal is about  
18 balancing the enjoyment of public spaces with the  
19 responsibility we all share to ensure those spaces  
20 remain safe and welcoming for everyone.

21 As you know, we've discussed this  
22 ordinance twice during our Public Safety Committee  
23 meetings. We had Animal Control Officer Gulino  
24 join us at those meetings to share the information  
25 that I share with you this evening.

1                   But through you, Madam Mayor, we will  
2                   pause there and turn it back to the Council.  
3                   Thank you.

4                   PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you very much,  
5                   Mr. Ledwith. Yes, we have been talking about this  
6                   for quite some time. And we are, yeah, so we are  
7                   glad that we are finally at this point.

8                   We're going to go to public comment  
9                   first, and no one has signed up to speak.

10                  Is there anyone in the audience that  
11                  would like to speak? Please come up, state your  
12                  name and address for the record. And three  
13                  minutes, unless you represent a group.

14                  ELIZABETH KEIFER: My name is Elizabeth  
15                  Keifer, K-e-i-f-e-r, 1097 Farmington Avenue in  
16                  West Hartford.

17                  The first thing I want to say is, every  
18                  time this issue comes up and I tell people we  
19                  don't have a leash law in West Hartford, they  
20                  argue with me and say, "Of course we must have  
21                  one." And then I have to say, "Well, we do in  
22                  parks and ballparks -- only a 6 foot leash, as he  
23                  said -- because I have researched it," but they  
24                  are very surprised.

25                  And the most -- I did a tiny bit of

1 research and looked at what Glastonbury is doing  
2 because I think that's a town that seems similar  
3 in size and type of town that we have, and  
4 Glastonbury has one that is on town property. So  
5 I think it makes sense for us to move toward that.

6 And the last thing I want to say is,  
7 I'm somebody who's gone through three dog bites  
8 from off-the-leash dogs. The last time, I had to  
9 go to court in the State of Massachusetts. I was  
10 supposed to testify on behalf of the state -- I  
11 had been bitten -- against this dog owner who had  
12 a German Shepherd and a Weimaraner that were  
13 roaming the area in Amherst.

14 And finally what happened was the State  
15 of Massachusetts had a very young lawyer who  
16 didn't present the appropriate paperwork to the  
17 animal control officer. So, just as I was about  
18 to make my starring role as a witness on the  
19 stand, the bad guy's lawyer stood up and said,  
20 "Your Honor, some paperwork didn't go through,"  
21 bang, dismissed.

22 So, for the rest of the time, I was a  
23 graduate student taking the bus, going back and  
24 forth to my classes at UMass, and I had to carry a  
25 tennis racket with me because I'd already been

1 bitten by these dogs, but these dogs were allowed  
2 to be back on the street. So I'd get off the bus  
3 at night after a grad class in the dark and have  
4 to walk along with a tennis racket, hoping that I  
5 didn't run into those two dogs again. And in that  
6 neighborhood, one woman had a baby in a baby  
7 carriage and had to lift it up in the air with the  
8 baby in it because the German Shepherd of the duo  
9 was going after the baby.

10 So I just think for dog attacks, dogs  
11 attacking people, possible traffic issues, that  
12 this would be -- this is kind of a no-brainer and  
13 probably is long overdue for a town of this size  
14 with this number of dogs.

15 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you very much,  
16 Ms. Keifer.

17 Is there anybody else in the audience  
18 that would like to speak to this public hearing?

19 (No response.)

20 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Seeing none,  
21 Mr. Clerk, have you received any written comments?

22 MR. DAVIDOFF: No, Madam Mayor.

23 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. I'll now open  
24 it up to any questions from the Council. Again,  
25 we have been discussing this in committee. I

1 don't know if anybody wants to -- has any  
2 questions or input.

3 Okay. Mr. Lyons.

4 COUNCILOR LYONS: Thank you, Madam  
5 Mayor. Through you, I have to admit that I, too,  
6 when this came up several months ago, I said, "How  
7 do we not have a leash law?" So I feel you, and I  
8 hear you loud and clear there.

9 And the other thing not mentioned, I  
10 think my daughter has got a beautiful American  
11 Bully dog, but he can be reactive to other dogs,  
12 and I think the safety of other dogs is also  
13 paramount, and I think this helps address that.  
14 So I'll be voting in favor.

15 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you very much.  
16 Any other -- obviously, this will go to the  
17 Council for a vote. But are there any other  
18 questions for the public hearing?

19 (No response.)

20 PRESIDENT CANTOR: If not, we will  
21 close the public hearing. And we actually have  
22 five minutes, but one more round: Any questions?

23 (No response.)

24 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. This public  
25 hearing is closed, and our next public hearing



1 starts at 7.

2 (Whereupon, the public hearing  
3 concluded at 6:55 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 11 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype notes taken of the WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING IN RE: ORDINANCE CONCERNING DOG LEASHES, which was held before THE WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chambers, Room 314, on June 23, 2026.



Lisa L. Warner, CSR 061

Notary Public

My commission expires:

May 31, 2028

| <b>0</b>               | <b>a</b>              | <b>avenue</b> 7:15     | <b>carry</b> 8:24       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>061</b> 1:25 12:17  | <b>absent</b> 3:24,24 | <b>b</b>               | <b>certificate</b> 12:1 |
| <b>1</b>               | <b>accurate</b> 12:4  | <b>baby</b> 9:6,6,8,9  | <b>certify</b> 12:3     |
| <b>100</b> 4:12 5:8,24 | <b>actually</b> 10:21 | <b>back</b> 7:2 8:23   | <b>chambers</b> 1:6     |
| <b>1097</b> 7:15       | <b>address</b> 7:12   | 9:2                    | 12:9                    |
| <b>11</b> 12:3         | 10:13                 | <b>bad</b> 8:19        | <b>changing</b> 5:15    |
| <b>2</b>               | <b>admit</b> 10:5     | <b>balancing</b> 6:18  | <b>circumstances</b>    |
| <b>2026</b> 1:4 12:10  | <b>ago</b> 10:6       | <b>ballparks</b> 7:22  | 5:15                    |
| <b>2028</b> 12:19      | <b>aided</b> 12:4     | <b>bang</b> 8:21       | <b>class</b> 9:3        |
| <b>23</b> 1:4 12:10    | <b>air</b> 9:7        | <b>barry</b> 2:10      | <b>classes</b> 8:24     |
| <b>25</b> 6:12         | <b>allowed</b> 9:1    | <b>based</b> 5:25      | <b>clear</b> 4:21 5:17  |
| <b>3</b>               | <b>american</b> 10:10 | <b>beautiful</b> 10:10 | 6:7 10:8                |
| <b>31</b> 12:19        | <b>amherst</b> 8:13   | <b>beginning</b> 6:12  | <b>clerk</b> 2:18,18    |
| <b>314</b> 1:6 12:9    | <b>animal</b> 5:7 6:9 | <b>behalf</b> 8:10     | 9:21                    |
| <b>35326</b> 12:16     | 6:23 8:17             | <b>bit</b> 7:25        | <b>close</b> 10:21      |
| <b>5</b>               | <b>animals</b> 5:14   | <b>bites</b> 5:11 6:2  | <b>closed</b> 10:25     |
| <b>50</b> 1:5 6:13     | 6:7                   | 8:7                    | <b>code</b> 4:24        |
| 12:8                   | <b>anybody</b> 9:17   | <b>bitten</b> 8:11 9:1 | <b>come</b> 7:11        |
| <b>6</b>               | 10:1                  | <b>brainer</b> 9:12    | <b>comes</b> 7:18       |
| <b>6</b> 5:20 7:22     | <b>appeal</b> 6:15    | <b>bully</b> 10:11     | <b>commenced</b> 3:1    |
| <b>64</b> 5:10         | <b>appropriate</b>    | <b>bus</b> 8:23 9:2    | <b>comment</b> 7:8      |
| <b>6:45</b> 3:3        | 8:16                  | <b>c</b>               | <b>comments</b> 9:21    |
| <b>6:46</b> 1:4 3:1    | <b>approximately</b>  | <b>c</b> 2:1           | <b>commission</b>       |
| <b>6:55</b> 11:3       | 5:9                   | <b>call</b> 3:5        | 12:18                   |
| <b>7</b>               | <b>area</b> 8:13      | <b>calling</b> 3:3     | <b>committee</b> 6:22   |
| <b>7</b> 2:22 11:1     | <b>areas</b> 5:2      | <b>calls</b> 5:9       | 9:25                    |
| <b>9</b>               | <b>argue</b> 7:20     | <b>cantor</b> 2:4 3:2  | <b>community</b>        |
| <b>99</b> 6:13         | <b>attacking</b> 9:11 | 3:9,10 4:1 7:4         | 4:13,15                 |
|                        | <b>attacks</b> 6:3    | 9:15,20,23             | <b>complete</b> 12:4    |
|                        | 9:10                  | 10:15,20,24            | <b>computer</b> 12:4    |
|                        | <b>audience</b> 7:10  | <b>care</b> 4:17       | <b>concerning</b>       |
|                        | 9:17                  | <b>carriage</b> 9:7    | 1:10 3:4 12:7           |
|                        |                       |                        | <b>concluded</b> 11:3   |

|                        |                        |                         |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>confusion</b> 5:5   | 3:17,19,21,23          | <b>enclosed</b> 4:11    | <b>five</b> 10:22      |
| <b>consideration</b>   | 4:2 9:22               | 5:23                    | <b>foot</b> 7:22       |
| 4:8                    | <b>day</b> 4:17        | <b>encounters</b> 6:6   | <b>foregoing</b> 12:3  |
| <b>considerations</b>  | <b>debra</b> 2:5       | <b>enforcement</b>      | <b>forth</b> 8:24      |
| 6:1                    | <b>department</b> 6:9  | 6:8                     | <b>framework</b> 6:9   |
| <b>consistent</b> 4:21 | <b>deputy</b> 2:5 3:19 | <b>enjoyment</b> 4:19   | <b>free</b> 4:25       |
| 6:16                   | 3:20                   | 6:18                    | <b>friendly</b> 5:13   |
| <b>control</b> 4:22    | <b>designated</b>      | <b>ensure</b> 6:19      | <b>g</b>               |
| 5:8,18 6:10,23         | 4:11 5:23              | <b>esq</b> 2:16         | <b>gayle</b> 2:7       |
| 8:17                   | <b>discourage</b>      | <b>establish</b> 4:21   | <b>german</b> 8:12     |
| <b>core</b> 6:17       | 4:18                   | <b>establishes</b>      | 9:8                    |
| <b>corporation</b>     | <b>discussed</b> 6:21  | 6:11                    | <b>glad</b> 7:7        |
| 2:15                   | <b>discussing</b> 9:25 | <b>evening</b> 3:7 4:6  | <b>glastonbury</b>     |
| <b>council</b> 1:3 2:3 | <b>dismissed</b> 8:21  | 6:25                    | 8:1,4                  |
| 2:18 7:2 9:24          | <b>distracted</b> 5:14 | <b>exceeding</b> 5:20   | <b>go</b> 7:8 8:9,20   |
| 10:17 12:6,8           | <b>dodge</b> 2:16      | <b>except</b> 4:11      | 10:16                  |
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TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

June 23, 2026, 7:05 p.m.,

50 South Main Street

Legislative Chambers, Room 314,

and via Teams

Re: Resolution Directing the Town Manager to  
Submit an Amended Automated Traffic Enforcement  
Safety Device Plan to the Connecticut Department  
of Transportation for Approval

Reporter: Lisa L. Warner, CSR #061



1     A p p e a r a n c e s :

2             Council Members:

3                     MAYOR SHARI CANTOR

4                     DEPUTY MAYOR DEBRA POLUN

5                     JOHN LYONS

6                     DR. GAYLE HARRIS

7                     LISA LAZARUS

8                     TIFFANI MCGINNIS

9                     BARRY WALTERS

10            Town Manager:

11                     RICK LEDWITH, Town Manager

12            Corporation Counsel:

13                     DALLAS DODGE, ESQ.

14            Town Clerk/Council Clerk:

15                     LEON DAVIDOFF

16            Town Project Team:

17                     ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF LAWRENCE TERRA

18                     DUANE MARTIN, Director of Community  
                          Development

19                     PARKER SORENSON, P.E.

20

21     Also present:

22                     Joseph C. Balskus, PE, PTOE, VHB (Consultant)

23                     Gregory Sommer, P.E. (Via Teams)

24                     Police Chief Vernon Riddick

25

1 (Commenced at 7:05 p.m.)

2 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Calling the 7 p.m.  
3 public hearing to order. This is the Resolution  
4 Directing the Town Manager to Submit an Amended  
5 Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Plan  
6 to the Connecticut Department of Transportation  
7 for Approval.

8 Roll call, Mr. Davidoff.

9 MR. DAVIDOFF: Good evening, Madam  
10 Mayor.

11 Mayor Cantor.

12 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Here.

13 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Harris.

14 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Here.

15 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lazarus.

16 COUNCILOR LAZARUS: Here.

17 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lyons.

18 COUNCILOR LYONS: Here.

19 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor McGinnis.

20 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: Here.

21 MR. DAVIDOFF: Deputy Mayor Polun.

22 DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Here.

23 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Walters?

24 COUNCILOR WALTERS: Here.

25 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Wang is

1 absent. Councilor Wenograd is absent. We have a  
2 quorum.

3 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Davidoff.

5 We will begin with a presentation,  
6 Mr. Ledwith.

7 MR. LEDWITH: Thank you, Madam Mayor.  
8 And good evening, everyone. For the record, my  
9 name is Rick Ledwith, town manager. And tonight's  
10 public hearing concerns a resolution directing the  
11 town manager to submit the Town's Amended  
12 Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Device Plan  
13 to the State of Connecticut and Federal Highway  
14 Administration for their review and approval.

15 You will recall that this past  
16 December, the Council adopted our original ATESD  
17 plan, which was subsequently submitted to and  
18 approved by both the State of Connecticut and  
19 Federal Highway Administration. Tonight, we will  
20 discuss our amended plan, which will now include  
21 red light cameras in addition to speed cameras,  
22 which were in our original plan. This program is  
23 a direct extension of the town's Vision Zero  
24 commitment, our shared goal to eliminate all  
25 traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by

1 focusing on safer streets, safer speeds, and safer  
2 behaviors.

3           Speeding and red light running are one  
4 of the most consistent factors in serious crashes,  
5 and addressing it is a necessary component of  
6 protecting pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers  
7 alike, particularly in areas with a history of red  
8 light running and crashes.

9           Importantly, this amended plan reflects  
10 extensive public input. Prior to bringing this  
11 resolution forward, the town hosted a public  
12 information session to explain the program and  
13 outline where and how the cameras would be used  
14 and hear questions and concerns from residents.  
15 This amended program has also been before the  
16 Community Planning and Economic Development  
17 Committee which has helped shape the framework  
18 before you this evening. That feedback was  
19 reinforced -- has reinforced the importance of  
20 transparency and an emphasis on safety, not  
21 revenue.

22           Mr. Town Clerk, if you could move  
23 forward to the next slide. Thank you.

24           I'd like to begin by acknowledging the  
25 dedicated team behind this effort. We have in the

1 audience, Chief Riddick, who is in the audience;  
2 and at the table we have Assistant Chief Terra; we  
3 have our Director of Community Development, Duane  
4 Martin; we have our engineer, Parker Sorenson; we  
5 also have our consultant, Joe Balskus, who will be  
6 presenting shortly; and we have our town engineer  
7 watching from home, Greg Sommer. And together,  
8 we've all been working, along with others, to  
9 develop a comprehensive and thoughtful plan to  
10 improve traffic safety in West Hartford.

11 Mr. Town Clerk, if you can move forward  
12 to the next, one more slide. Thank you.

13 Why red light cameras? Red light  
14 running poses a serious risk to pedestrians,  
15 cyclists, and drivers alike. And we are committed  
16 to the principle that traffic deaths and serious  
17 injuries are unacceptable and preventable. That's  
18 why we're proposing the implementation of a red  
19 light camera program as part of our Vision Zero  
20 strategy. Studies show that automated enforcement  
21 can reduce fatal and serious injury crashes by up  
22 to 40 percent. These devices are proven tools to  
23 encourage safer driver behavior.

24 If you can move one more. Thank you.

25 The foundation of this initiative is

1 House Bill 5917, signed into law in June of '23,  
2 which authorizes the use of speed and red light  
3 camera runnings in specific locations: Traffic  
4 signals for red light running, school zones for  
5 speeding, pedestrian safety zones for speeding, as  
6 well as other locations for speeding.

7 As we know, the devices record  
8 violations of speeding or running red lights.  
9 Images capture license plate, date, time, and  
10 location of violation. It does not capture video  
11 imagery of anyone driving the car or in the car.

12 Next screen, please.

13 As part of our -- both of our programs,  
14 we received a Federal Safe Streets and Roads for  
15 All (SS4A) grant which will support an 18-month  
16 pilot program for our red light enforcement at  
17 eight locations which is the topic of tonight's  
18 public meeting.

19 We also received, as we know, a  
20 separate Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All  
21 (SS4A) grant to support an 18-month speed  
22 management pilot program for 15 locations.

23 And as I mentioned before, and as you  
24 know, that plan has been approved by the  
25 Connecticut Department of Transportation and

1 NEPA-approved by the Federal Highway  
2 Administration. We are presently out to bid to  
3 hire a vendor who will manage both programs for us  
4 and expect to have our speed cameras installed  
5 this fall, and the red light cameras, should the  
6 Council approve tonight, we would hope to have  
7 those installed earlier this winter.

8 Next slide, please.

9 Requirements for adoption for  
10 implementation include the ordinance. As you  
11 recall, we adopted, the Council formally adopted  
12 our ordinance back in April, April of 2025, and  
13 before you this evening is a plan that amends that  
14 original plan to add the red light running. So we  
15 have our public hearing tonight followed by a  
16 Council vote. And then we would package our plan  
17 up and send it off to the Connecticut Department  
18 of Transportation for their approval and then off  
19 to, at the same time, to the Federal Highway  
20 Administration for their approval.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So the Council approved an ordinance,  
23 as I mentioned, on April 8th, consistent with the  
24 requirements of state law. And that plan included  
25 the speed cameras, which violations covered under

1 that ordinance were exceeded, speeds exceeding the  
2 posted speed limit by 10 miles an hour or more,  
3 failure to stop at a steady red traffic signal.

4 And as we discussed then, and we'll  
5 discuss again this evening, violations are  
6 municipal citations issued to the owner of the  
7 motor vehicle, not to the driver. So it's very  
8 similar to receiving a parking ticket.

9 And per state law, citations are not a  
10 moving violation and is not reflected on the  
11 driver's record.

12 Next slide, please.

13 So, under the review process, the West  
14 Hartford Police Department sworn officer or  
15 authorized town employee will review and approve  
16 recorded images before issuing citations. And the  
17 fines include \$50 for the first violation and \$75  
18 for each subsequent violation within one year.  
19 Similar to the speed camera program, a 30-day  
20 warning period will be in place before fines are  
21 issued for each camera location.

22 So, as I mentioned, this fall we'll be  
23 rolling out the speed enforcement camera program.  
24 That will include a 30-day period of issuing  
25 warnings. And then, once we ultimately put our



1 red-light camera program in place, that will also  
2 include that same 30-day period.

3 There are online payment options  
4 available with a processing fee not to exceed \$15.  
5 And vehicle owners may appeal the fine within the  
6 10-day fine -- appeal period.

7 Next slide, please.

8 As required by state law, funds  
9 collected from fines will be invested directly  
10 back into the West Hartford community by  
11 supporting transportation safety and mobility  
12 improvements and infrastructure enhancements. So  
13 essentially anything associated with Vision Zero,  
14 we will be utilizing these funds to help pay for  
15 all of the infrastructure changes as we move  
16 forward to get us closer to zero serious injuries  
17 and zero deaths within a 10-year period which is,  
18 under our plan, was 2033. Also, costs associated  
19 with automated enforcement programs. So, any  
20 personnel costs within the police department,  
21 within our engineering department can be offset by  
22 these fines as well.

23 And under vendor payment, vendor fees  
24 for installation, operation or maintenance of  
25 ATESD cannot be contingent on the number of

1 citations issued or fines paid. So again, this  
2 isn't a financial incentive for someone to come in  
3 and issue ticket after ticket after ticket for  
4 them to be incentivized by issuing more tickets  
5 than necessary. For us, again, as I stressed at  
6 the beginning, this is about safety for us. This  
7 isn't about revenues. So we need to make our  
8 streets safer, and we believe these two programs,  
9 in addition to all of the engineering and  
10 infrastructure changes that we are implementing,  
11 will get us to Vision Zero.

12 Next slide, please.

13 As I mentioned, no personal  
14 identifiable information shall be disclosed by the  
15 Town except where disclosure is made in connection  
16 with the charging, collection, and enforcement of  
17 the fines.

18 No personally identifiable information  
19 shall be stored or retained by the Town or camera  
20 vendor unless the information is necessary for the  
21 charging, collection, and enforcement of the  
22 fines.

23 This will not be shared with any  
24 outside companies. The Town or vendor shall  
25 destroy any retained portion of personally

1 identifiable information not later than one year  
2 after the date of such person's most recent  
3 violation.

4 Next slide, please.

5 State Law and Safe Streets for All  
6 grant agreements both require reporting to measure  
7 effectiveness of ATESDs, including the number of  
8 violations, the crash data at an ATESD site and at  
9 similar location without a camera, number of  
10 hearings requested and the results of those  
11 hearings, the amount of revenue from the fines and  
12 fees, and the percentage of fines collected from  
13 residents and non-residents. And then we will  
14 report the cost to the Town of West Hartford to  
15 use our camera program. And then a list of  
16 engineering and educational measures undertaken by  
17 the municipality to improve safety, which we are  
18 well versed in already under our Vision Zero  
19 Action Plan, with our annual reports that we  
20 provide every year.

21 Next slide, please.

22 Notification requirements. State Law  
23 requires signs at every camera location. We are  
24 also required to notify all navigation  
25 applications such as Google Maps, Waze, Apple

1 Maps, et cetera.

2 And the town is required to implement  
3 an awareness campaign 30 days prior to camera  
4 operation. So there will be a lot of public  
5 outreach and education coming up prior to the  
6 implementation of the camera program.

7 Next slide, please.

8 So, as folks may remember, this is an  
9 18-month pilot program. And our ATESD vendor  
10 contract will include an option to extend the  
11 camera program by an additional 18 months for a  
12 total of 36 months, if approved.

13 And then, per State Law, an ATESD plan  
14 is only valid for three years from the date the  
15 first camera becomes operational. Continuing the  
16 program beyond that three years will require a  
17 renewal of our ATESD plan with a new public  
18 hearing, similar to what we're doing this evening,  
19 with approval by the Town Council. And it is our  
20 hope within that three-year period we will see a  
21 demonstrably changed driver behavior in town with  
22 reduced speeds and fewer, much fewer red light  
23 running town wide.

24 Next slide, please.

25 This is a summary going back to April

1 8th of 2025. We had our public hearing to  
2 implement our ATESD ordinance. And then last  
3 summer, we held two public information meetings  
4 for our speed cameras on July 30th and September  
5 3rd. We had two separate Community Planning and  
6 Economic Development Committee meetings, one in  
7 September, one in October, followed by a public  
8 hearing on and formal adoption of our plan on  
9 December 17th of 2025. We held a red light  
10 running public information meeting on April 28th  
11 of this year at Elmwood Community Center, followed  
12 by a presentation to our Community Planning and  
13 Economic Development meeting on May 20th. And  
14 then, of course, we have our public hearing  
15 tonight. And we've received outreach from our  
16 Vision Zero email address as well and have been on  
17 virtually every news organization out there as  
18 well as the Hartford Courant and We-Ha. And  
19 everywhere we can, we get a chance to speak about  
20 this plan, we do, and I think folks have  
21 appreciated that type of outreach.

22 So next slide, please.

23 And at this point, I will turn things  
24 over to Joe Balskus, who will talk a little bit  
25 about the process of identifying our locations

1     that will be included in our plan.

2                 So Mr. Balskus.

3                 MR. BALSUS: Can you hear okay? Joe  
4     Balskus, professional engineer with VHB. We've  
5     been involved with speed cameras, as Rick  
6     mentioned. So I'm going to run through just  
7     what's involved with red light running cameras,  
8     how we studied the locations, to come up with the  
9     final locations for consideration.

10                Rick mentioned we had the April 28th  
11     meeting, and we had public comments on that, and  
12     we note them there, nine individual comments from  
13     the public meeting. We actually thought we'd see  
14     more people attending actually, but it was good.  
15     We also had emails we responded to as well. Next.

16                So we basically did a town-wide  
17     analysis of the signals. These are red light  
18     running cameras at traffic signals. So we looked  
19     at all the signals in the town to see which ones  
20     are viable for red light running cameras, and we  
21     looked at the data involved with them. We  
22     collected data from the town from our previous  
23     studies and information required as part of the  
24     Office of the State Traffic Administration  
25     requirements for red light running cameras, and we

1 developed a plan for that, and we finalized the  
2 locations. And as Rick said, there's an amendment  
3 to the previous ATESD plan for approval. Next.

4 So how did we do this? We looked at  
5 both town signals and DOT signals. Obviously,  
6 Albany Avenue has DOT signals. OSTA has these  
7 guidelines, the Office of the State Traffic  
8 Administration. They promulgated all these ATESD  
9 requirements. One of the basic tools that we use  
10 is the CT-REDV Tool. Basically, they have a tool  
11 on their website for red light running crashes.  
12 And that's a foundational aspect of this is that  
13 we need to have at least two crashes caused by red  
14 light running to even be on this list to start  
15 with.

16 So we started with that, we used that  
17 tool. We looked at those crashes. We looked at  
18 also bike, vulnerable road user crashes, bike/ped  
19 injury crashes. Obviously traffic volumes, that's  
20 part of it too, to kind of give us, to weigh in  
21 between each one of them. We looked at Vision  
22 Zero focus areas, which we did similarly to the  
23 speed cameras and police citations, working with  
24 Assistant Chief Terra and the Chief on what they  
25 have for citation data. And finally pedestrian

1 areas. So we kind of put it all together. We  
2 start with those two crashes that were caused by  
3 red light running and put it into our screening  
4 methodology that we use, that tool that we  
5 developed, and that gave us the locations. So we  
6 worked with town staff, Duane, Parker and AC Terra  
7 on this as well. Next.

8 So this is the list of locations that  
9 we have to develop the data. And showing the  
10 primary intersections as the blue dots, those are  
11 our primary eight we're talking about. Those are  
12 the highest. Based on the tool we used, those are  
13 the locations with the highest crashes, the  
14 highest criteria. And then we have the alternates  
15 which are the yellow dots as you see there. And  
16 there's a whole list there for both blue and  
17 yellow on the map as well. Next slide.

18 And these intersections are nothing  
19 that you don't expect. I've been coming to West  
20 Hartford. I grew up in East Hartford. I've been  
21 coming to West Hartford for probably 50 years now.  
22 My uncle and aunt live in town, so I know it very  
23 well.

24 So this is the top half of the town  
25 showing the locations of primary and alternate



1 locations, the major corridors, the ones that we  
2 know, you know, Albany Avenues, Trout Brook  
3 Drives, all those we know are on the list. Next  
4 slide.

5 So, we are going to put together the  
6 plan amendment, as was talked about, and this is  
7 an excerpt from the plan amendment showing how  
8 we're going to do that. This is the table of  
9 contents. We're going to add to these speed  
10 cameras to add these locations to that. Next  
11 slide.

12 We have a map here as well. Is it  
13 showing up?

14 This is some of the data we collected I  
15 mentioned before. This is the crash data. You  
16 see the number of crashes, red light running  
17 crashes. One has -- this one has Trout Brook at  
18 Albany Avenue. We just talked about that. It has  
19 five red light run crashes. So that's some of the  
20 data we used. Next slide.

21 Then this is the plan we put together  
22 that kind of shows the data, shows the location.  
23 There's the intersection right there, the red is  
24 kind of like the area of the intersection between  
25 the stop bars. And the key issue is the stop bars

1 where the stop bar is. And if a vehicle is beyond  
2 a stop bar during a red light, then there's a  
3 ticket issue there -- or reviewed, I should say.

4 This shows the signs. And the key part  
5 is the signs, what you have for signs around the  
6 location. Now, this map here is showing cameras  
7 on each approach. It may not be on each approach,  
8 but for purposes of the approval, that is what  
9 we're doing. So you have signs associated with --  
10 the approach is shown. There's a photo  
11 enforcement ahead from the signal, those two  
12 signs, that's required on each approach wherever  
13 you have a camera. Next slide.

14 And that is the presentation. Do you  
15 have any questions? Thank you.

16 MR. LEDWITH: Thank you, Joe. And  
17 thank you to our Town Council for really moving  
18 our Vision Zero initiative, even going back to  
19 2022, when this first became the idea of our team  
20 working together to get us to zero deaths and zero  
21 serious injuries in ten years. And, you know,  
22 between the speed camera program and our red light  
23 camera program, we have the opportunity to utilize  
24 technology to assist us in that endeavor.

25 And I quote the chief often with this,

1 This becomes a force multiplier for us. So we  
2 have an outstanding police department, outstanding  
3 traffic division. So with our eight red light  
4 cameras and our 15 speed cameras, we are now able  
5 to deploy our traffic division into other areas of  
6 town, ultimately getting us to that safer place  
7 sooner rather than later.

8 So, we look forward to your questions.  
9 We have a great team here ready to respond to your  
10 questions and any questions that may come up from  
11 the public. And we look forward to moving  
12 forward. Thank you.

13 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you very much,  
14 Mr. Ledwith. Thank you, Mr. Balskus, appreciate  
15 it very much. We obviously have been talking a  
16 lot about this for a long time. So great to be  
17 here tonight to actually vote on moving it  
18 forward.

19 I don't know if anybody has any  
20 questions or comments. Just one minute. We're  
21 doing the sign-up sheet. There's nobody signed  
22 up.

23 Is there anybody in the audience that  
24 wants to speak to this?

25 (No response.)

1           PRESIDENT CANTOR: Mr. Davidoff, were  
2 there any written comments?

3           MR. DAVIDOFF: No, Madam Mayor.

4           PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. All right.  
5 I'm going to go to Mr. Walters first out of your  
6 committee just because you did discuss this  
7 multiple times.

8           COUNCILOR WALTERS: Thank you, Madam  
9 Mayor. And through you, it was discussed a couple  
10 times. And, you know, the bottom line is, we need  
11 to make our streets safer, and part of that is the  
12 responsibility of the drivers, and we share  
13 responsibility in making them safer as well. And  
14 the red light cameras will be that extra man, so  
15 to speak, and help us make our streets safer.  
16 Lord knows that me honking at red light runners  
17 hasn't been working, so I'm quite optimistic that  
18 this will. And I do urge my fellow councilors to  
19 vote in the affirmative of it. Thank you.

20           PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Walters.

22           Ms. Polun.

23           DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Thank you.  
24 Through you, Madam Mayor, I think the public will  
25 want to know things like what does it mean to go

1 through a red light, what counts? So I think I  
2 heard you say that if you are past the stop line  
3 when the light turns red, then you have gone  
4 through the red light. And a lot of people will,  
5 you know, try to hit through the yellow and it  
6 turns red while they're going through. And so  
7 those folks should know, like, that's a red light,  
8 you're running a red light there.

9 Can you just, like, clarify that I'm  
10 correct about that piece?

11 MR. LEDWITH: Chief, do you want to  
12 handle that, please?

13 MR. TERRA: Through you, Madam Mayor.  
14 So most people when -- I shouldn't say my age  
15 here, but when I went to driving school, they  
16 taught you what the white line was at the  
17 intersection. Many people don't know what that  
18 is, even though there's a sign that says stop  
19 here. So, if you go beyond the white line with a  
20 red light, that's a violation. You are allowed,  
21 if you're stopped in the intersection -- a lot of  
22 traffic -- if you're stopped there, you're allowed  
23 to clear the intersection, right. But we all see  
24 people who they know it's going to change to red,  
25 and what do they do? They push into the

1 intersection to stay there. Again, the rule is,  
2 if you pass the white stop line with a red light,  
3 that's a violation.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Thank you.

5 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you,  
6 Ms. Polun.

7 Ms. McGinnis.

8 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: Through you, Madam  
9 Mayor. So actually this is a question that just  
10 came to my head from Deb's question. If a red  
11 light is down because it went down or whatever,  
12 what happens, do the cameras automatically stop  
13 giving tickets? Because I know that should become  
14 a stop sign, but we know that people don't know  
15 that, and they think, oh, if I'm in the main way,  
16 that means I get to keep going. But I just  
17 wondered what would happen if the red light --  
18 also, I drove through one in Hartford today that  
19 was down, and I had to deal with that.

20 MR. TERRA: That's why we have the  
21 cameras, but we also have the human element  
22 reviewing it, right? So some situations that most  
23 people don't know about is, number one, what if  
24 there's a construction job going on, the light is  
25 cycling, but you have an officer pulling you

1 through the intersection? You're not going to get  
2 a ticket for that because the officer is telling  
3 you to do that.

4 So, what if there's an accident or a  
5 detour, something like that? There's so many  
6 things that come into play. If the light is down,  
7 we all -- I hate to say it again -- we all know  
8 that it means a four-way stop, but not everybody  
9 stops, right? Again, it depends on the situation.  
10 But that's why we review it.

11 And other things that we look at is, if  
12 we can't make out the license plate on there,  
13 you're not going to get a ticket because that's  
14 unfair. So certain things have to be in order for  
15 you to be issued a ticket, if that makes sense.

16 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: So would that mean  
17 that it would -- let's say there was construction  
18 and there was an officer flagging people through  
19 and the light was red, if someone was given a  
20 ticket, would that be caught on the end of  
21 reviewing it before it went out?

22 MR. TERRA: Well, what happens is we'll  
23 get a photo of the intersection, and we can see  
24 what's going on.

25 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: Okay.

1           MR. TERRA:   And again, what if an  
2   emergency vehicle is coming through and it's a red  
3   light, what are you supposed to do?  Most people  
4   don't, you pull over to the right.  That may make  
5   you violate the intersection.  You're not going to  
6   get a ticket for that.

7           COUNCILOR MCGINNIS:  Okay.  Thank you.

8           PRESIDENT CANTOR:  Thank you, Ms.  
9   McGinnis.  And that was actually my question about  
10  an emergency vehicle.  But I think -- so is there  
11  review before the ticket goes out?  So that a  
12  violation occurs, technically, and then it's  
13  reviewed, and within how long does the review take  
14  place?  You're getting it live but --

15          MR. SORENSON:  To you, Madam Mayor.  So  
16  I'm just pulling from the ordinance.  So it states  
17  a citation shall be invalid unless mailed to an  
18  owner not later than 60 days after the alleged  
19  violation, so 60 days.

20          PRESIDENT CANTOR:  Thank you.  But for  
21  internal expectation maybe is it -- would it be  
22  sort of every day, they are reviewed for that day,  
23  or would it be by week or how do we envision --

24          MR. SORENSON:  So to you, Madam Mayor.  
25  So I guess just the expectation with the vendor.



1 So there's going to be two reviews essentially for  
2 this process. The first level of review will be  
3 with the vendor, and then the second level is with  
4 town staff before those are submitted. So that  
5 will be an ongoing process throughout normal  
6 business.

7 PRESIDENT CANTOR: And the windows of  
8 those times have not been specified yet, like a  
9 week for the vendor from when a violation and then  
10 another week or two weeks, or how does that -- I  
11 know we have 60 days overall.

12 MR. SORENSON: Yeah. I suppose we'd  
13 have to wait to --

14 MR. MARTIN: Duane Martin, director of  
15 community development. We don't know that yet.  
16 When we select a vendor, we'll have discussions  
17 with them to determine that. I don't want to put  
18 anything on the record and then we don't meet  
19 those goals or what is stated. It depends on the  
20 volume of citations that are being reviewed and  
21 availability of staff. There's a lot of factors  
22 involved.

23 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Sure. Yeah. I  
24 would think the beginning is going to be a little  
25 bit challenging. But one of the things that I,

1 out of the questions that I heard, is to have  
2 adequate time, right, to make sure that it's  
3 reviewed, and it does sound like that that will  
4 happen.

5 Any other questions?

6 Dr. Harris.

7 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Thank you. Through  
8 you, Madam Mayor. I had a question regarding the  
9 vendor program. Do we have any sense of what that  
10 might be costing the town? I know we have a  
11 grant, like, for the first 18 months. But after  
12 that, what would the cost of the vendor be?

13 MR. LEDWITH: So, through you, Madam  
14 Mayor, to Councilor Harris's question, Mr. Martin,  
15 is that -- I mean, that's something we'll  
16 determine through the RFP process and the  
17 selection of the vendor?

18 MR. MARTIN: That's correct, yes.  
19 There's still some things to understand when we go  
20 through this process. My understanding is we  
21 obviously have a grant that we're working on, and  
22 that includes getting this program off the ground  
23 and into where the cameras are actually out and  
24 working. Beyond that, we expect the revenue that  
25 will be generated by the citations will make the

1 program self-funded.

2 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Okay. And if I can  
3 just follow up with that. You said, town manager,  
4 that there would be no incentive to the vendor to  
5 issue tickets. I didn't quite understand how that  
6 would even work with an incentive, assuming this  
7 is all going to be sort of automated based on -- I  
8 wasn't sure how they would --

9 MR. LEDWITH: So the reason -- through  
10 you, Madam Mayor, to Councilor Harris. So the  
11 reason for the comment was there could be the  
12 perception out there that these companies are just  
13 out there, you know, being incentivized by, you  
14 know, issuing 5,000 tickets in a month, they get,  
15 you know, some kind of extra fee for something  
16 like that. There's no -- this is straight, you  
17 know, issue a ticket, someone is speeding or  
18 someone is running through a red light, and then  
19 we're issuing the \$50 violation.

20 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Thank you.

21 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Dr.  
22 Harris.

23 Mr. Lyons.

24 COUNCILOR LYONS: Thank you, Madam  
25 Mayor. Through you, and I'll try to remember

1 we're in a hearing and not Council, so thank you.

2 A couple questions. I noticed there  
3 were a couple of 84 locations, not what I would  
4 call the big one, 84 and Park Road near the  
5 center. Does the data, I guess, because it's  
6 usually stopped up -- but I see a lot of people  
7 run red lights at that intersection. Is the crash  
8 data, that's kind of driving the decisions here so  
9 that it just didn't meet the threshold?

10 MR. LEDWITH: Through you, Madam Mayor,  
11 to Councilor Lyons' question. Yes. And that did  
12 actually come up during one of our CPED meetings.  
13 So that's exactly why that location was not  
14 selected, it didn't make that initial two-crash  
15 criteria.

16 COUNCILOR LYONS: And in spite of this  
17 morning's accident, Mountain Road and Albany, same  
18 category or is that because it's Mountain Road and  
19 Albany?

20 MR. LEDWITH: I believe that crash was  
21 further up Albany Avenue.

22 COUNCILOR LYONS: Was it? Okay.

23 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Yes.

24 MR. LEDWITH: Yeah. It wasn't at the  
25 red light.

1 COUNCILOR LYONS: Thank you. And then  
2 finally, and this is a question I did ask in CPED,  
3 but kind of a variation of the question is, I know  
4 the system is smart enough to recognize a right on  
5 red and not ticket somebody, but if somebody does  
6 kind of a rolling right on red, does it delineate,  
7 can it differentiate?

8 MR. LEDWITH: Through you, Madam Mayor,  
9 to my team. Does it differentiate the rolling  
10 red, Chief?

11 MR. TERRA: Through you, Madam Mayor.  
12 I will be honest. If you do that now with an  
13 officer behind you, you're going to get stopped.

14 COUNCILOR LYONS: Yeah, of course.

15 MR. TERRA: Because you have to stop  
16 like a stop sign and then make your turn unless  
17 there's a sign that says no turn on red.

18 COUNCILOR LYONS: I'll take that as a  
19 yes, sir. Thank you.

20 MR. TERRA: I'll give you that as a  
21 yes.

22 COUNCILOR LYONS: Thank you, Madam  
23 Mayor.

24 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you,  
25 Mr. Lyons.

1 Any other questions on this?

2 Dr. Harris.

3 COUNCILOR HARRIS: If I could ask one  
4 more through you, Madam Mayor. This may be a  
5 variation of what one of my colleagues asked, but  
6 if somebody goes into an intersection, assuming  
7 that they're trying to make a left turn and  
8 they've got a stream of traffic coming the other  
9 way and they're kind of waiting there until the  
10 traffic, you know, stops so that they can make  
11 that left, and then the light changes before they  
12 can make the left, according to what I think you  
13 said, that would be considered a violation?

14 MR. TERRA: No.

15 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Not a violation,  
16 okay.

17 MR. TERRA: No.

18 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Okay. Maybe you  
19 could just clarify that for me.

20 MR. TERRA: Sure. Through you, Madam  
21 Mayor. So, remember, it's the stop line that  
22 we're looking at. If they get into the  
23 intersection and waiting to make a left turn,  
24 they're already in the intersection, they're  
25 allowed to clear that just like they would now.

1 But if it's a red light and they're trying to beat  
2 the light, they pass the stop line and then make  
3 their left turn, that's a violation.

4 COUNCILOR HARRIS: So, if they moved  
5 into there while there was not a red light but  
6 they didn't make it because there was traffic  
7 coming the other way, and by the time they tried  
8 to make the left turn they're still in that  
9 intersection but they couldn't make it because  
10 there was too much traffic coming the other way,  
11 so --

12 MR. TERRA: They're allowed to clear  
13 the intersection because they're already in the  
14 intersection. If I see that now as a police  
15 officer, they're allowed to clear it.

16 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Okay. So you can  
17 see that probably on the data?

18 MR. TERRA: When they set the cameras  
19 up. Again, the triggering event is passing the  
20 white line, the stop line, while it's a red light.

21 COUNCILOR HARRIS: All right. Thank  
22 you. Appreciate that.

23 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Dr.  
24 Harris.

25 Okay. Any other questions?

1 (No response.)

2 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. I hope our  
3 fellow councilor comes back. Okay. Good. All  
4 right. If there are no other questions, going  
5 once, going twice, I am closing this public  
6 hearing, and I'm thanking you all. I hope you're  
7 going to be here for the Council meeting. Are  
8 you? No. Okay.

9 Then I actually before -- I'm not  
10 completely closed then. I just wanted to thank  
11 you all very much for the tremendous amount of  
12 work to get to this point.

13 And Greg, I know you're remote, but I  
14 appreciate you.

15 Parker, you've done incredible work on  
16 Vision Zero.

17 And Duane, you've led this process all  
18 the way through.

19 And Chief Terra, thank you for your  
20 thoughtful consideration and leadership on this.  
21 I think we're going to see a big change.

22 And thank you to the town manager. I  
23 know you're going to be here for the Council  
24 meeting.

25 But thank you all very, very much.



1                   And thank you to our consultant too.

2       Thank you so much, Mr. Balskus.

3                   (Whereupon, the public hearing  
4       concluded at 7:40 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 34 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype notes taken of the WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING IN RE: RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN AMENDED AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICE PLAN TO THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR APPROVAL, which was held before THE WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chambers, Room 314, and via Teams, on June 23, 2026.



Lisa L. Warner, CSR 061  
Notary Public  
My commission expires:  
May 31, 2028

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TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

June 23, 2026, 7:41 p.m.,

50 South Main Street

Legislative Chambers, Room 314

Re: Ordinance and Resolution Dissolving the  
West Hartford Special Services District

Reporter: Lisa L. Warner, CSR #061

1     A p p e a r a n c e s :

2

3             C o u n c i l   M e m b e r s :

4                     MAYOR SHARI CANTOR

5                     DEPUTY MAYOR DEBRA POLUN

6                     JOHN LYONS

7                     DR. GAYLE HARRIS

8                     LISA LAZARUS

9                     TIFFANI MCGINNIS

10                    BARRY WALTERS

11

12             T o w n   M a n a g e r :

13                    RICK LEDWITH

14

15             C o r p o r a t i o n   C o u n s e l :

16                    DALLAS DODGE, ESQ.

17

18             T o w n   C l e r k / C o u n c i l   C l e r k :

19                    LEON DAVIDOFF

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 (Commenced at 7:41 p.m.)

2 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Calling the 7:15  
3 public hearing to order. This is an Ordinance and  
4 Resolution Dissolving West Hartford Special  
5 Services District.

6 Roll call, Mr. Davidoff.

7 MR. DAVIDOFF: Good evening, Madam  
8 Mayor.

9 Mayor Cantor.

10 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Here.

11 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Harris.

12 COUNCILOR HARRIS: Here.

13 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lazarus.

14 COUNCILOR LAZARUS: Here.

15 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Lyons.

16 COUNCILOR LYONS: Here.

17 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor McGinnis.

18 COUNCILOR MCGINNIS: Here.

19 MR. DAVIDOFF: Deputy Mayor Polun.

20 DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Here.

21 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Walters.

22 COUNCILOR WALTERS: Here.

23 MR. DAVIDOFF: Councilor Wang is  
24 absent. Councilor Wenograd is absent. We have a  
25 quorum.

1               PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Davidoff.

3               We will begin with a presentation by  
4 the town manager. Thank you.

5               MR. LEDWITH: Thank you. Good evening  
6 again, everyone. For the record, Rick Ledwith,  
7 town manager. And tonight we're presenting an  
8 ordinance and resolution to formally dissolve the  
9 West Hartford Special Services District.

10              The district was created over 20 years  
11 ago. Its purpose was to support and oversee a  
12 unique public-private partnership that ultimately  
13 led to the development of Blue Back Square and the  
14 continued revitalization of West Hartford Center.  
15 At the time, this structure provided a mechanism  
16 for financing and managing public investments that  
17 helped make this transformative project possible.

18              One of the district's primary  
19 responsibilities was recommending the tax levy  
20 necessary to service the debt associated with  
21 bonds issued to support the Blue Back Square  
22 development. And I'm pleased to report that those  
23 bonds have been fully retired and the district has  
24 successfully fulfilled the purpose for which it  
25 was originally established.

1 Over the past two decades, Blue Back  
2 Square has become one of Connecticut's most  
3 successful public-private partnerships. Together  
4 with West Hartford Center, it has transformed our  
5 community into a premier destination for dining,  
6 shopping, entertainment and culture. The  
7 development has strengthened our tax base,  
8 attracted significant private investment, created  
9 jobs, and enhanced the quality of life enjoyed by  
10 residents and visitors alike.

11 As the district's responsibilities have  
12 diminished, the town has assumed direct management  
13 and maintenance of our Isham and Memorial Parking  
14 Garages, which were among the district's primary  
15 assets. With the bonds paid off and the  
16 operational functions now being performed by the  
17 town, maintaining a separate taxing entity is no  
18 longer necessary.

19 The ordinance repeals the section of  
20 the town code establishing the Special Services  
21 District, and the accompanying resolution  
22 recognizes the success of Blue Back Square  
23 Partnership while expressing our gratitude to the  
24 many commissioners who have served the district  
25 over the years. Their stewardship, commitment,

1 and volunteer service played an important role in  
2 ensuring the success of this effort and the  
3 long-term vitality of our center.

4 While tonight marks the end of the  
5 Special Services District, it also serves as an  
6 opportunity to reflect on what has been  
7 accomplished. What began as a bold vision has  
8 become one of the defining success stories of West  
9 Hartford's economic development efforts. And the  
10 benefits of that vision continue to be felt  
11 throughout our community today.

12 So through you, Madam Mayor, I know we  
13 discussed this at a Finance and Administration  
14 Committee meeting, and we also discussed it during  
15 our budget process as well during the spring, but  
16 through you, Madam Mayor, happy to answer any  
17 questions that the Council has regarding the  
18 dissolving of the district.

19 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Ledwith. I'm going to actually go to public  
21 comment first, which I really don't think there's  
22 any. And I'm a little surprised that there is not  
23 one or two members of Heritage here, but that's  
24 okay.

25 And Mr. Clerk, while Mr. Dodge is

1 checking, have you received any written comment?

2 MR. DAVIDOFF: No, Madam Mayor.

3 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. Terrific.

4 All right. I'm going to go to Ms. Polun first  
5 because we did discuss this in Finance and  
6 Administration and just to add anything that you  
7 would like to.

8 DEPUTY MAYOR POLUN: Thank you, Madam  
9 Mayor. There's really not much to add. This is  
10 self-explanatory. I appreciate the work of those  
11 who have served as members of the Special Services  
12 District, and we are ready to move forward.

13 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Thank you, Ms.  
14 Polun.

15 Any questions or comments?

16 (No response.)

17 PRESIDENT CANTOR: Okay. Seeing none,  
18 we're making up some time. We can close the  
19 public hearing.

20 (Whereupon, the public hearing  
21 concluded at 7:46 p.m.)

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 7 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype notes taken of the WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING IN RE: ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION DISSOLVING THE WEST HARTFORD SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT, which was held before THE WEST HARTFORD TOWN COUNCIL, 50 South Main Street, Legislative Chambers, Room 314, on June 23, 2026.



Lisa L. Warner, CSR 061

Notary Public

My commission expires:

May 31, 2028



|                       |                        |                        |                        |
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| 3:21,22                |                        |

**To:** Town Council

**From:** Rick Ledwith, Town Manager

**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026

**CC:** John Phillips, Director of Public Works; Lisa Lazarus, Committee Chairperson

**Subject:** Resolution Establishing an Annual Salary Range for the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Position

**Background:** The Town of West Hartford Recycling Coordinator position was created by Town Council in 2019 as an unclassified part-time position. The Recycling Coordinator role was designed with a narrow focus on recycling programs and basic waste diversion efforts. Over time, the needs of the Town have evolved, and with them, the scope of the position. What started as a recycling-centric role has grown into a multi-faceted position that supports the Town's broader environmental strategy.

Today, an Environmental Sustainability Coordinator (ESC) would be better aligned to support the Town's comprehensive waste management and sustainability initiatives by balancing ecological responsibility and economic practicality to address the ever-changing climate and resource constraints.

## **WHAT DOES AN ESC DO?**

An ESC serves as the strategic driver of the Town's in its efforts to establish and promote long-term ecological stewardship. This work centers on waste reduction, resource conservation and pollution control, grounded with practical and cost-conscious solutions. Key responsibilities would include:

- Analyzing current practices and recommending opportunities to improve the management of solid waste materials and diversion tactics.
- Coordinating with other departments and disciplines to embed sustainable practices that comply with environmental regulations and standards.
- Educating community members across all sectors on principles and practices of sustainability through the use of social media, press release and public outreach to amplify the impact.
- Engaging with external partners including local, state and national stakeholders to advocate for credible and effective solid waste management policies.
- Participating with the overseeing of the Recycling Center to ensure

compliance with operating standards and local, state and national regulations.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** This position will be funded by temporary payroll within contractual services of the Public Works Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration.

**Attachments:**

1. Res - Sustainability Coordinator

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN ANNUAL SALARY RANGE  
FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR POSITION**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 30, Article 1, §30-5 of the Code of Ordinances specifies that the Town Manager shall determine the terms and conditions of employment of all non-elected, non-union employees; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 30, Article 1, Section 30-2(B) of the Code of Ordinances specifies that the Town Council shall, by resolution, establish an annual salary range for classified and unclassified positions not covered by collective bargaining agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council authorized funding for the creation of a new unclassified part-time position titled Recycling Coordinator in the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Recycling Coordinator position was designed with a narrow focus on recycling programs and basic waste diversion programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the environmental needs of the Town have evolved over the last few years from a recycling centric role to a multi-faceted position that supports and promotes long-term comprehensive waste management and sustainability initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Manager recommends the creation of a new unclassified part-time position titled Environmental Sustainability Coordinator with a salary range commensurate with the expected duties and functions of the position to meet the Town's environmental needs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD** that the annual salary range for the unclassified part-time position Environmental Sustainability Coordinator shall be as set forth below.

|                                                         | Minimum<br>Hourly | Maximum<br>Hourly |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Environmental Sustainability Coordinator<br>(Part-Time) | \$45.00           | \$55.00           |

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Richard Ledwith, Town Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026  
**CC:** Helen Rubino-Turco, Director of Leisure and Social Services; Pattie Lewis, Interim Director of Financial Services

**Subject:** Resolution Accepting a Grant from North Central Area Agency on Aging to Support Behavioral Health Services

**Background:** The North Central Area Agency on Aging (NCAAA) assists communities to enhance the quality of life for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers in North Central Connecticut by ensuring that they have access to quality, cost-effective services. The Town of West Hartford applied for and was awarded a grant from the North Central Area Agency on Aging in the amount of \$5,000 to provide community education and support.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** The grant money is to be used for expenses as indicated in the grant agreement, providing a community education event and support group based on the Buried in Treasures book, which focuses on decluttering and hoarding disorder. Town Council adoption of this resolution will have a direct impact on the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget in Social Services.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Project Schedule:** The expenditures will be made upon adoption of the resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration and adoption.



**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM NORTH CENTRAL AREA AGENCY ON AGING TO  
SUPPORT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Area Agency on Aging assists communities to enhance the quality of life for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers in North Central Connecticut by ensuring that they have access to quality, cost-effective services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Hartford applied for and was awarded a grant from the North Central Area Agency on Aging in the amount of \$5,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town intends to utilize the grant in the current fiscal year to help fund a community education event and support group.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the grant funds are accepted and the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget is amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                     |         |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 01-40160061-9022 | Miscellaneous Grant | \$5,000 |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations:

|                  |                |         |
|------------------|----------------|---------|
| 01-40160061-2508 | Special Events | \$5,000 |
|------------------|----------------|---------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Richard Ledwith, Town Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026  
**CC:** Helen Rubino-Turco, Director of Leisure and Social Services; Pattie Lewis, Interim Director of Financial Services

**Subject:** Resolution Accepting a Grant from Amplify, Inc. to Support an Underage Nicotine Prevention Program

**Background:** Amplify, the Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization (RBHAO) for North Central CT, in partnership with CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) offered a community mini-grant opportunity focused on Underage Nicotine Prevention Programs (UNPP) to help communities build capacity and advance community-led efforts aimed at preventing underage nicotine initiation, educating on the harms of nicotine use, and enhancing access to nicotine cessation services. West Hartford Social Services/Prevention Partnership applied for and received a grant of \$9,600 to conduct activities focused on the grant objectives including providing information and education to the community, distributing nicotine quit-kits, and other activities.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** The grant money is to be used for expenses as indicated in the grant agreement, providing supplemental services to West Hartford residents. Town Council adoption of this resolution will have a direct impact on the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget in Social Services.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Project Schedule:** The expenditures will be made upon adoption of the resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration and adoption.

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM AMPLIFY, INC. TO SUPPORT AN UNDERAGE  
NICOTINE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Amplify, Inc., the Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization for North Central CT, in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, offered a community mini-grant opportunity focused on Underage Nicotine Prevention Programs to help communities build capacity and advance community-led efforts aimed at preventing underage nicotine initiation, educating on the harms of nicotine use, and enhancing access to nicotine cessation services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Hartford applied for and was awarded a grant from Amplify, Inc. in the amount of \$9,600; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town intends to utilize the funds for grant-based activities, such as providing information and education to the community, distributing nicotine quit kits, and creating additional support services for West Hartford residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the grant funds are hereby accepted and the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                      |         |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|
| 01-40160061-9022 | Miscellaneous Grants | \$9,600 |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations:

|                  |                      |         |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|
| 01-40160061-2106 | Boards & Commissions | \$9,600 |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Richard Ledwith, Town Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026  
**CC:** Helen Rubino-Turco, Director of Leisure and Social Services; Pattie Lewis, Interim Director of Financial Services

**Subject:** Resolution Accepting a Grant from United Way of Connecticut to Support the Food Pantry

**Background:** United Way of Connecticut, in partnership with Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) offered funding for Emergency Food Assistance for Non-Foodshare Pantries in Connecticut for those pantries who do not have a purchasing partnership with Connecticut Foodshare. West Hartford Social Services applied for and received a grant of \$15,343 to purchase consumable food.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** The grant money is to be used for expenses as indicated in the grant agreement, purchasing consumable food for West Hartford residents. Town Council adoption of this resolution will have a direct impact on the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget in Social Services.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Project Schedule:** The expenditures will be made upon adoption of the resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration and adoption.

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM UNITED WAY OF CONNECTICUT TO SUPPORT THE  
FOOD PANTRY**

**WHEREAS**, United Way of Connecticut, in partnership with the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, offered funding through the Emergency Food Assistance for Non-Foodshare Pantries in Connecticut Program to support food pantries who do not have a purchasing partnership with the Connecticut Foodshare Agency Network; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Hartford applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$15,343 to fund the purchase of food for the Town-operated food pantry.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the grant funds are hereby accepted and the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues

|                  |               |          |
|------------------|---------------|----------|
| 01-40210021-9340 | Contributions | \$15,343 |
|------------------|---------------|----------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations

|                  |      |          |
|------------------|------|----------|
| 01-40210021-2538 | Food | \$15,343 |
|------------------|------|----------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council

**From:** Rick Ledwith, Town Manager

**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026

**CC:** Adrienne Billings-Smith, Manager, Office of Employee Development & Community Engagement

**Subject:** Resolution Appropriating a Donation to Support West Hartford's Back to School Bash Block Party

**Background:** The Town of West Hartford is dedicated to fostering a welcoming and supportive community by hosting events such as the annual Back to School Bash Block Party, which encourages positive social engagement while connecting students and families with educational and community resources. Backpacks filled with school supplies are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to Town students as part of the event.

Peoples Bank has generously donated \$1,000.00 toward backpacks and other school supplies to be distributed during the Back to School Bash.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** Town Council acceptance of the donated funds of \$1,000.00 will support West Hartford's Back to School Bash backpack event, and the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 General Fund budget will be amended.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration.

**Attachments:** See attached resolution.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING A DONATION TO SUPPORT WEST HARTFORD’S BACK TO  
SCHOOL BASH BLOCK PARTY**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Hartford is dedicated to fostering a welcoming and supportive community by hosting events such as the annual Back to School Bash Block Party, which encourages positive social engagement while connecting students and families with educational and community resources; and

**WHEREAS**, backpacks filled with school supplies are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to West Hartford students during the event; and

**WHEREAS**, Peoples Bank has donated \$1,000.00 to support the purchase of backpacks and other school supplies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 is accepted and the fiscal year 2026-2027 General Fund budget is amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                       |            |
|------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 01-91100000-9075 | Miscellaneous Revenue | \$1,000.00 |
|------------------|-----------------------|------------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations:

|                  |                      |            |
|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 01-11010001-2506 | Community Engagement | \$1,000.00 |
|------------------|----------------------|------------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Richard C. Ledwith, Town Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026  
**CC:** Pattie Lewis, Interim Finance Director;  
Duane Martin, Director of Community Development; Greg  
Sommer, Town Engineer

**Subject:** Resolution Appropriating Grant Funds Awarded under the Community Connectivity Grant Program

**Background:** In November of 2025, the Town was awarded a Community Connectivity Grant for the West Hartford Center to Trout Brook Trail Bicycle Connector Project, totaling \$384,552.00. The project will enhance multi-modal access between West Hartford Center and the Trout Brook Trail by adding an approximately 10-ft two-way separated bike lane on the north side of Farmington Avenue between Trout Brook Drive and North Main Street. The bike lane will connect to bicycle infrastructure (covered bicycle parking, e-bike charging, and a bike connection to the Brace Road parking lot), which is funded and underway as part of the Town's West Hartford Center Infrastructure Roadway Reconstruction Project. To accommodate the bike facility, this project includes lane modifications (via restriping), signal modifications, a raised bus platform, and a curb extension at Farmington and North Main St. Design work is ongoing, with construction starting in the summer of 2026. [Click here to](#) view conceptual plan.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** The State of Connecticut awarded a grant in the amount of \$384,552.00 to the Town of West Hartford for the construction of a bike lane; Town Council approval will allow for construction of the bike lane, and the fiscal year 2026-2027 Capital Projects Fund budget will be amended.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Project Schedule:** Expected project completion by December 2026.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends Town Council approval.

**Attachments:** See attached resolution.



**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING GRANT FUNDS AWARDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY  
CONNECTIVITY GRANT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation administers the Community Connectivity Grant Program which funds projects designed to improve accommodations and make conditions safer for pedestrians and bicyclists; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Hartford was awarded a grant in the amount of \$384,552 to fund the West Hartford Center to Trout Brook Trail Bicycle Connector Project (the “Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, the grant funds will be used to enhance multi-modal access between West Hartford Center and the Trout Brook Trail by adding an approximately 10-ft two-way separated bike lane on the north side of Farmington Avenue between Trout Brook Drive and North Main Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the new bicycle facility will connect to bicycle infrastructure currently under construction as part of the West Hartford Center Infrastructure Roadway Reconstruction Project, which includes covered bicycle parking, e-bike stations, and a bicycle connection to the Brace Road parking lot; and

**WHEREAS**, the Project also includes lane modifications through restriping, signal modifications, construction of a raised bus platform, and a curb extension on the northeast corner of the intersection of Farmington Avenue and North Main Street.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** grant funds in the amount of \$384,552 awarded under the Community Connectivity Grant Program are accepted and the 2026-2027 Capital Projects Fund budget is amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                      |           |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 41-87275783-9071 | Miscellaneous Grants | \$384,552 |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|

Increased Estimated Expenditures:

|                  |                                     |           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 41-87275783-3999 | Trout Brook Trail Bicycle Connector | \$384,552 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Richard Ledwith, Town Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 12, 2026  
**CC:** Helen Rubino-Turco, Director of Leisure and Social Services; Pattie Lewis, Interim Director of Financial Services

**Subject:** Resolution Appropriating Funds to Replace the Miracle League Field Pedestrian Bridge

**Background:** The Miracle League/Little League recreation complex, located at 1700 Asylum Avenue, offers youth baseball fields, a special field for children with disabilities, basketball courts, and handicapped accessible restrooms and playgrounds. It is owned by the Town of West Hartford. A footbridge connects the fields to a parking lot on the north side of the parcel. This bridge requires replacement. The State of Connecticut earmarked \$171,100 in its FY2027 budget to cover the footbridge's design, construction and landscaping.

**Operational & Financial Impact:** The funds will be used to replace the Miracle League Field Bridge. The resolution will have a direct impact on the fiscal year 2026-2027 Capital Improvement Fund budget.

**Legal Review:** Corporation Counsel's office has reviewed and approved the form and legality of the proposed resolution.

**Project Schedule:** The expenditures will be made upon adoption of the resolution.

**Recommendation:** This resolution is presented for Town Council consideration and adoption.

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO REPLACE THE MIRACLE LEAGUE FIELD  
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**

**WHEREAS**, the Miracle Field/Little League Complex, located at 1700 Asylum Avenue, is a recreation complex comprised of three youth baseball fields, a special field for children with disabilities, basketball courts, handicapped accessible restrooms and playgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the pedestrian footbridge that connects the field complex to the parking lot has degraded over time and needs to be replaced; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut appropriated funds to the Town in the amount of \$171,100 which will be utilized to support the design, construction and landscaping elements of the Miracle League Field Bridge Replacement Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the funds in the amount of \$171,100 from the State of Connecticut are accepted and the fiscal year 2026-2027 Capital Projects Fund is amended as follows:

**CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                             |           |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 41-83276184-9071 | Miscellaneous State Revenue | \$171,100 |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations:

|                  |                       |           |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 41-83276184-3999 | Miracle League Bridge | \$171,100 |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MUNICIPAL TAX REVENUES FROM CANNABIS SALES TO  
SUPPORT THE INTERVAL HOUSE**

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the State of Connecticut adopted comprehensive cannabis legislation that authorized, among other things, the imposition of a 3% municipal tax on the sale of cannabis in the Town of West Hartford in addition to the 6.35% state sales tax; and

**WHEREAS**, eligible uses for the municipal tax revenue can be used to fund streetscape improvements and general neighborhood developments where cannabis businesses are located, education or youth employment and training programs, services for justice-involved residents, mental health or addiction services, youth service bureaus and municipal juvenile review boards, and community civic engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, Interval House is Connecticut's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to ending domestic violence, providing free emergency shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, legal advocacy, safety planning, and supportive services across 24 municipalities, including West Hartford; and

**WHEREAS**, Interval House served nearly 200 West Hartford residents during the past year by providing critical counseling, emergency shelter, court advocacy, and safety planning services to support paths to safety, stability, and self-sufficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Social Services Department requests an appropriation of \$15,000 from the cannabis sales tax fund to strengthen the Town's partnership with Interval House; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town receives the municipal tax revenue from the sale of cannabis on a quarterly basis which funds will be available to support eligible uses in the future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD** that \$15,000 from the cannabis sales tax fund is appropriated for Interval House, and the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget of the General Fund budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increased Estimated Revenues:

|                  |                       |          |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| 01-40160061-9075 | Miscellaneous Revenue | \$15,000 |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------|

Increased Estimated Appropriations:

|                  |               |          |
|------------------|---------------|----------|
| 01-40160061-2185 | Contributions | \$15,000 |
|------------------|---------------|----------|

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE WEST  
HARTFORD LOCAL 1241 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS FOR THE PERIOD  
JULY 1, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2029**

**WHEREAS**, two tentative agreements, the first one regarding salary and the second one regarding other benefits and working conditions, have been reached with the West Hartford Local 1241 International Association of Firefighters (the “Association”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Association ratified the tentative agreements on February 17, 2026 and June 1, 2026, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Manager recommends that the tentative agreements be approved.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WEST HARTFORD THAT** the tentative agreements with the West Hartford Local 1241 International Association of Firefighters are approved and the Town Manager is authorized to execute and implement their terms.

(LEDWITH)  
August 12, 2026