



# WEST HARTFORD

## **West Hartford Virtual Town Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 7:30 PM**

**This meeting was conducted as a virtual meeting. The public had the ability to view the meeting in real-time on West Hartford Community Interactive: Comcast Channel 5, Frontier TV Channel 6098, and streaming on the WHCI website.**

### **1. Call to Order**

**Mayor Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM**

**Roll Call: Present: Councilors Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz and Town Council Zoning Alternate Mark Merritt; Absent: Councilor Fay**

### **2. Proclamations**

**A. Proclamation Recognizing Matthew W. Hart for his Service as West Hartford's Town Manager**

**This item was discussed under Item 10A.**

### **3. Public Forum**

**The following residents spoke in support of adoption of the Resolution Declaring a Climate Crisis: Madeleine Hexter, Kimberly Hughes, Henry Miller, Bernie Pelletier, Arlo Tucker, Corina Chang and Alex Rodriguez. The following residents sent written correspondence in support of adoption of the Resolution Declaring a Climate Crisis: Lee Gold, on behalf of A CT Party of West Hartford, Gloria Long, Heidi Green, Jacqueline Rubell, Linda Sacco, Michelle Souza, Susan Wilson, Diane Alexander, Jordanna Hertz, Marcy Balint, Jeremy Pressman, Joe Wilson, Mary Ellen Stanwick, Rachael Virgin, Elizabeth Vozzola, Joseph Wasserman, Emily Hofstatter, Matt Macunas on behalf of the Conservation and Environment Commission, Kate Powers, Jane Zande, Zoe Weissman and Sabina Cournoyer.**

### **4. Consent Calendar**

**A. Consent Calendar**

**WITHOUT OBJECTION, MOTION TO PLACE ITEMS 5A, 5B, 7D-7I AND 10B-10I ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (SWEENEY)**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**  
**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**MOTION TO ADOPT CONSENT CALENDAR (SWEENEY)**  
**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz**  
**NAY: (0)**

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

A. Town Council Meeting Minutes 01-11-2022

### **CONSENT**

B. Public Hearing Minutes 01-11-2022 - Ordinances Appropriating an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,500,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for the Construction of the Eisenhower Park Swimming Pool and Bath House and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds of the Town in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,500,000 to Finance the Appropriation and Pending the Issuance Thereof the Making of Temporary Borrowing for Such Purpose.

### **CONSENT**

## **6. Unfinished Business**

A. Application filed on behalf of Farmington Avenue Acquisitions, LLC, owner of 920 and 924 Farmington Avenue. The stated purpose of the Application is to request a change of the underlying zone for .98 acres currently split zoned BC (Central Business District) and RM-3 (Multifamily Residence District) to (CBDH) Central Business High Intensive District with a new Special Development District (SDD) designation for a proposed new mixed-use development.

### **MOTION TO APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (9 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (9) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz, Council Zoning Alternate Mark Merritt**  
**NAY: (0)**

B. Ordinance Extending the Moratorium on Certain Uses Not Supportive of Transit-Oriented Development

**MOTION TO ADOPT (SWEENEY)**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd,**

**Councilor Zydanowicz**

**NAY: (0)**

## **7. New Business**

A. Resolution Declaring a Climate Crisis

**MOTION TO APPROVE (SWEENEY)**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz**

**NAY: (0)**

B. Resolution Appropriating American Rescue Plan Act Grant Funds to Support Various Municipal Projects

**MOTION TO APPROVE (SWEENEY)**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz**

**NAY: (0)**

C. Resolution Appointing Richard C. Ledwith as the Acting Town Manager

**WITHOUT OBJECTION, MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD C. LEDWITH AS ACTING TOWN MANAGER**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**The Council entered Executive Session at 10:00 pm. The Council was joined by Town Manager Matt Hart, Corporation Counsel Dallas Dodge and Deputy Corporation Gina Varano. The Council exited Executive Session at 10:25 PM.**

**MOTION TO APPROVE (SWEENEY)**

**SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz**

**NAY: (0)**

D. Appointment of Ginny Kemp as a Member of the Commission on the Arts for a term to expire on December 31, 2024

**CONSENT**

E. Appointment of Nancy Grassilli as an Alternate Member of the Town Plan and

Zoning Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2023

**CONSENT**

F. Appointment of Matthew Lampkin as an Alternate Member of the Civilian Police Review Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2024

**CONSENT**

G. Appointment of Matthew Horowitz as a Member of the Civilian Police Review Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2022

**CONSENT**

H. Appointment of Gabriela Downey as a Member of the Civilian Police Review Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2022

**CONSENT**

I. Appointment of Kimberly Hughes as a Member of the Conservation and Environment Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2026

**CONSENT**

**8. Reports of Town Manager**

A. Town Manager's Report

**Town Manager Matthew W. Hart presented his report to Council.**

**9. Reports of Corporation Counsel**

A. Corporation Counsel's Report

**Corporation Counsel Dallas Dodge reported that there was no need for further Executive Session.**

**10. Communications**

A. Letter of Resignation from Town Manager, Matthew W. Hart

**WITHOUT OBJECTION, MOTION TO TAKE ITEM 10A OUT OF ORDER, PRIOR TO ITEM 7C.**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**Council members recognized Town Manager Matthew Hart for his commendable leadership during his tenure with the town of West Hartford. Councilors praised Mr. Hart's contribution to town initiatives, thanked him for his service to the Town and expressed their best wishes for his continued success in the capitol region.**

**MOTION TO RECEIVE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM TOWN MANAGER  
MATTHEW HART  
SECOND (DAVIDOFF)**

**MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**YEA: (8) Councilor Billings-Smith, Councilor Blanks, Mayor Cantor, Councilor Cortes, Councilor Davidoff, Deputy Mayor Sweeney, Councilor Wenograd, Councilor Zydanowicz**

**NAY: (0)**

B. Communication from Ginny Kemp resigning from the Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities effective January 12, 2022

**CONSENT**

C. Communication from Matthew Lampkin resigning from the Fair Rent Commission effective January 12, 2022

**CONSENT**

D. Community Planning and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2021

**CONSENT**

E. Finance and Administration Committee Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2021, and December 13, 2021

**CONSENT**

F. Human and Community Services Committee Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2021

**CONSENT**

G. Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2021

**CONSENT**

H. Communication from Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency - RECENT PLANNING ACTION - 10 Ridgebrook Drive; 40 Still Road; 920-924 Farmington Avenue

**CONSENT**

I. Communication from Town Plan & Zoning Commission - RECENT PLANNING ACTION Special Use Permit 840 North Main Street; Special Use Permit 228 Bloomfield Avenue (University of Hartford); Special Use Permit 119 Flagg Road (Westmoor Park)

**CONSENT**

**11. Announcements**

A. Announcements

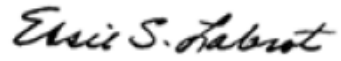
**NONE**

**12. Adjournment**

A. Adjourn

**MOTION TO ADJOURN (SWEENEY)  
SECOND (ZYDANOWICZ)  
MOTION CARRIES (8 YEA, 0 NAY)**

**The meeting adjourned at 10:42 PM.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Essie S. Labrot".

-Essie S. Labrot, Town Clerk/Council Clerk