

# City of New Haven

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## Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, February 6, 2025**

**6:00 PM**

**Meeting can be viewed on Board of Alders YouTube.**

**Aldermanic Chamber**

**City Services and Environmental Policy**

(Board of Alders Notice New Haven) The City Services and Environmental Policy Committee of the Board of Alders will meet “in-person” on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Alders Chamber located at 165 Church Street, 2nd Floor, New Haven, Connecticut, to hear and act on the following items:

- 1) [LM-2024-0731](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE CERCLA 128(A) BROWNFIELD GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO REMEDIATE 0 GIBBS ST, AND TO ENTER INTO ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND CARRY OUT THE ASSOCIATED GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
- 2) [LM-2024-0718](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTIES AT 181 RUSSELL STREET AND 201 RUSSELL STREET NEW HAVEN FOR PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- 3) [LM-2024-0725](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTIES AT 71 SHELTON AVENUE AND 89 SHELTON AVENUE

Per Order: Hon. Anna M. Festa, Chair

Attest: Hon. Michael Smart, City/Town Clerk

These items are on file and available in the Office of the City Clerk located at 200 Orange Street, Room 202, New Haven, Connecticut 06510.

For accessibility related accommodations, please call (203) 946 7651 (V) or (203) 946 8582 (TTY/TDD).

Public comment/testimony may also be submitted via email to [publictestimony@newhavenct.gov](mailto:publictestimony@newhavenct.gov) before 2:00 pm on the day of the meeting.

This meeting may be viewed on the New Haven Board of Alders YouTube page.

## Minutes

Alder Anna M. Festa, Chair, called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Alders Anna M. Festa, Chair, Kampton Singh, Vice-chair, Amy Marx, Kiana Flores, Caroline Tanbee Smith, and Gary B. Hogan.

1. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE CERCLA 128(A) BROWNFIELD GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO REMEDIATE 0 GIBBS STREET AND TO ENTER INTO ASSOCIATED AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND CARRY OUT THE ASSOCIATED GRANT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

## PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenter: Steven Winter, Executive Director of Climate and Sustainability, 459 Dixwell Ave

Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) applied for this grant with the help of Helen Rosenberg. This grant would allow remediation of the contaminated soil on this site on Gibbs Street. The area has not had meaningful uses since the 1960s. Currently, the area is covered with asphalt and used for parking. If the fencing is removed, it would make a good space for a park off the Farmington Canal Greenway. These funds would allow the development of a remedial action plan to start remediation. Currently, they are unsure of the total costs to remediate. Working with Alder Streater, they have canvassed the community and received feedback supporting recreational use of this area. They presented design options to the community and received feedback to include charging stations and a dog park. A copy of the design is on file in the Office of Legislative Services.

In response to Alder Festa, Director Winter confirmed that they believe the gasoline storage tank is still underground. The area was used as a concrete mixing area and urban fill area. The plan is to remove the fence to combine the areas and accommodate more uses.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Director Winter discussed how young people are the guiding light for this area, as we need more areas that feel safe for families and young people in this area. Interests include open space, exercise equipment, places to sit, dog park, and playground equipment to include a jungle gym and swings.

In response to Alder Hogan, Director Winter confirmed this location would allow better connectivity in this area. The area once finished would be maintained by the Parks Department. The remedial costs are expected to be \$600,000 - \$800,000 with the park upgrades costing an additional \$100,000. They will need to apply for additional funding including possibly this grant again.

In response to Alder Marx, Director Winter confirmed the plan is to remove asphalt from this area. They received a grant from Winchester Green Development. Originally, they had requested \$1 million for this space and received \$250,000. They need to access this funding

before the Winchester Green Development is completed.

In response to Alder Singh, Director Winter reviewed how a splash pad was not requested by the community.

In response to Alder Festa, Director Winter confirmed there is not a city match required for this grant. Discussed how they have Plan B if this grant is not received. They are hopeful they can receive additional funding from state and local sources.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 1, seconded by Alder Caroline Tanbee Smith. All alders spoke in favor of the item. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed.

2. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTIES AT 181 RUSSELL STREET AND 201 RUSSELL STREET NEW HAVEN FOR PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

#### PUBLIC TESTIMONY

No public testimony.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

No committee action.

3. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTIES AT 71 SHELTON AVENUE AND 89 SHELTON AVENUE.

#### PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenters: Michael Piscitelli, Economic Development Administrator, 353 Summit Street; Helen Rosenberg, Economic Development Officer, 212 W Elm Street; and Schneur Katz, 480 Bellevue Road.

Director Piscitelli introduced the item and spoke in support of this remedial grant. Ms. Rosenberg reviewed the details of this project. Discussed how Mr. Katz supported marketing his parcels for residential use. This grant will allow testing and further investigation to

determine the remediation needs of these parcels. This funding would be for assessment, and the state seems to favor projects for remedial funding that have received funding for assessments.

In response to Alder Festa, Mr. Katz confirmed he owns the property but cannot move forward with developing the property without this funding. This grant would be used to determine the remedial costs of these parcels.

In response to Alder Hogan, Ms. Rosenberg confirmed that remedial grants are awarded up to \$4 million.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Ms. Rosenberg reviewed how a small area is used for artists and businesses. Confirmed current tenants have been notified, and some have already been relocated. Too early for specifications.

In response to Alder Festa, Ms. Rosenberg confirmed both the land and buildings need remediation.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 3, seconded by Alder Caroline Tanbee Smith. All alders spoke in favor of the item. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed.

Alder Kampton Singh moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alder Caroline Tanbee Smith. The motion was unanimously approved at 6:46 p.m.

Alder Kampton Singh moved to adjourn, seconded by Alder Caroline Tanbee Smith. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: 6:54 p.m.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed on the Board of Alders' YouTube channel here: <https://youtube.com/@boardofalders8363>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Misty Maza, J.D., Legislative Aide II