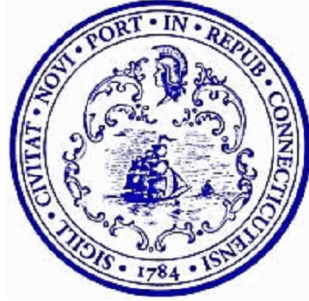


City of New Haven

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New Haven, CT 06510
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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2024

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 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Alders Chamber located at 165 Church Street, 2nd Floor; New Haven, CT to hold the following workshop:

-- WORKSHOP UPDATING THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS ON RECENT STATE LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING EARLY VOTING AND THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT IN CONNECTICUT AFFECTING THE UPCOMING 2024 ELECTIONS.

and hear and act on the following items:

- 1) [LM-2024-0044](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$999,000 AND TO PARTNER WITH ANCORA 265 S. ORANGE HOLDINGS, LLC TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 265 S. ORANGE STREET

- 2) [LM-2023-0603](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A MASTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A TEN YEAR PERIOD

- 3) [LM-2023-0619](#) RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (CT DEEP) AND SIGN ANY ASSOCIATED STATE AGREEMENTS, AGREEMENTS WITH CONTRACTORS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE DESIRABLE OR NECESSARY, INCLUDING ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO AGREEMENTS, CONCERNING THE 2023 STATE DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT (DERA) FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ELECTRIC STREET SWEEPING VEHICLE.

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, Room 202 at 200 Orange Street; New Haven, CT 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 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 6:02 p.m. Present were Alders Anna M. Festa, Chair, Kampton Singh, Vice-chair, Troy Streater, Amy Marx, Kiana Flores, and Caroline Tanbee Smith.

Non-committee members in attendance were Alders Sal Punzo and Richard Furlow.

WORKSHOP UPDATING THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS ON RECENT STATE LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING EARLY VOTING AND THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT IN CONNECTICUT AFFECTING THE UPCOMING 2024 ELECTIONS.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenters: May Gardner, Deputy City Clerk, and Shannel Evans, Democratic Registrar of Voters

May Gardner, Deputy City Clerk, reviewed the information from the Secretary of State's website regarding early voting. A copy of the handouts is on file in the Office of Legislative Services. Explained how the absentee ballot process has not changed. Reviewed how more locations require the secure transport of the ballots to a central location.

Shannel Evans, Democratic Registrar of Voters, discussed how early voting booklet has not been finalized, and they will post it on the city's website once it is finalized. Reviewed how early voting will be limited to the heart of the city at Ward 7's voting location starting with the presidential primary elections.

In response to Alder Festa, Deputy City Clerk Gardner confirmed that the information regarding early voting would be posted on the city's website after the local election and that absentee voting has not changed. Discussed how people can still apply by mail or in person for an absentee ballot. Democratic Registrar of Voters Evans discussed how they will have a list, like the absentee voting process, so residents will not be able to vote twice. Confirmed they intend to distribute information ahead of time.

In response to Alder Singh, Democratic Registrar of Voters Evans confirmed the postcards will go out at the end of February.

In response to Alder Marx, Democratic Registrar of Voters Evans confirmed that the April primary election is presidential and August primary election is for all federal and several local elections including Registrar of Voters.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Democratic Registrar of Voters Evans confirmed unaffiliated have until noon the day before the primary early voting election starts to change their party affiliation. Reviewed how there is no EDR for early voting for the November election, but people will be able to register and vote on the same day as the November Election Day at City Hall.

Janice Underwood, 73 Woodside Terrace, testified regarding wanting clarification about the people knocking on doors and the absentee voting process.

Aaron Goode, 702 Quinnipiac Avenue, clarified that regarding absentee voting, the state as redefined illness to include fear of contracting an illness. Discussed the importance of educating poll workers and voters. Spoke of the need to review the Public Act, which allows the legislative body to choose additional early voting locations for municipalities with population greater than 20,000. Stressed the importance of public education and outreach.

In response to Alder Marx, Mr. Goode spoke of the importance of having locations in the communities. Recommended having early voting locations in every branch library. Discussed if there is another EDR location, it should be held at Yale.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Mr. Goode recommended a citywide mailing to reach the most people. Confirmed there is no magic bullet solution.

In response to Alder Streater, Mr. Goode confirmed that the state law envisioned municipalities having multiple locations open for early voting.

In response to Alder Festa, Deputy City Clerk Gardner discussed how she has not heard the state discuss how the other states are handling early voting locations.

1. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$999,000 AND TO PARTNER WITH ANCORA 265 S. ORANGE HOLDINGS, LLC TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 265 S. ORANGE STREET.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenters: Steve Fontana, Deputy Director Economic Development, Helen Rosenberg, Economic Development Officer, and Peter Clakins, Ancora

Steve Fontana, Deputy Director Economic Development, 23 Angel Place, North Haven; Helen Rosenberg, Economic Development Officer; and Peter Clakins, Ancora, presented this item regarding the need for this grant to remediate 265 S. Orange Street, so the parking lot can be removed and the property developed.

In response to Alder Festa, Mr. Clakins discussed that the grant number was kept at below \$1 million to avoid additional bureaucratic steps they would need to complete if they request more than \$1 million that make it disadvantageous. Reviewed how the total remediation costs are expect to be between \$2-\$3 million and other funding will be available to assist with these costs. Discussed how the overall project cost is \$220 million, and if they do not receive the grant, the project will be able to move forward.

In response to Alder Flores, Mr. Clakins reviewed the layout of the building, and Ancora's commitment to sustainability.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 1, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the 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 MAYOR TO SIGN A MASTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenter: Giovanni Zinn, City Engineer

Giovanni Zinn, City Engineer, introduced the item. Explained how this agreement is a boilerplate agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation. Confirmed actual projects will need to come back to Board of Alders for approval.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Mr. Zinn explained that there were no material changes to this agreement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 2, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the Alders spoke in favor of the item. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed.

3. RESOLUTION OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (CT DEEP) AND SIGN ANY ASSOCIATED STATE AGREEMENTS, AGREEMENTS WITH CONTRACTORS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE DESIRABLE OR NECESSARY, INCLUDING ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO AGREEMENTS, CONCERNING THE 2023 STATE DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT (DERA) FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ELECTRIC STREET SWEEPING VEHICLE.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Presenter: Steve Winter, Director of the Office of Climate and Sustainability

Steve Winter, Director of the Office of Climate and Sustainability, presented this item. Discussed

that they are requesting it to be approved for a refuse vehicle rather than a street cleaner because a refuse vehicle is used all year. Reviewed how the grant qualifications required a vehicle that was used a lot, and the refuse trucks are used all year compared to the street cleaners, which are used only part of a year.

In response to Alder Festa, Director Winter reviewed how they are in the process of installing chargers for the city's electric vehicles including the electric refuse trucks. Discussed how the Level II charger should be able to sufficiently charge the refuse trucks due to the amount of time they are not used and are available for charging. Compared the Level II to Level III chargers and reviewed how the Level II chargers are relatively inexpensive to charge but Level III can cost tens of thousands of dollars.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Director Winter that comparative costs between diesel and electric vehicles, shows that electric vehicles have less moving parts and costs of upkeep as brakes need to be replaced less often and the vehicle does not need oil changes. Reviewed that the estimated cost savings is \$40,000 (fuel alone) per year. Discussed how the city is in the early stages of converting our vehicle fleet to electric.

In response to Alder Flores, Director Winter reviewed the timeline. CTDEEP would take approximately 2-3 months to confirm if New Haven has been selected to receive the grant. Then it would take approximately another year for the vehicle to be built. Estimated the vehicle should be on the road in approximately 18 months.

In response to Alder Tanbee Smith, Director Winter reviewed the idea to take the electric vehicle to schools to help educate students.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Alder Kampton Singh moved item # 3, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. Alder Kampton Singh moved to amend this item by substitution, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. All the Alders spoke in favor of the amended. The motion to amend was unanimously approved. All the Alders spoke in favor of the item as amended. The motion was unanimously approved, and the item passed as amended.

Alder Kampton Singh moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Alder Troy Streater. The motion was unanimously approved at 7:26 p.m.

Alder Troy Streater moved to adjourn, seconded by Alder Kampton Singh. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourned: 7:34 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