

City of New Haven

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 22, 2019

6:00 PM

Aldermanic Chambers

Aldermanic Affairs Committee

(Board of Alders Notice-New Haven) - The Aldermanic Affairs Committee of the New Haven Board of Alders will meet on Monday, July 22, 2019 at 6 PM in the Board of Alders Chamber located on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 165 Church Street, New Haven, CT to hold a public hearing to hear and act on the following items:

[LM-2019-0453](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN ABBAGNARO TO THE PORT AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

[LM-2019-0454](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S REAPPOINTMENT OF ISA MUJAHID TO THE FOOD POLICY COUNCIL.

[LM-2019-0449](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF STEPHEN HAMM TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0448](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT PROTO TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0445](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF JEWU RICHARDSON TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0446](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NINA FAUCETT TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0450](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF JAYUAN CARTER TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0442](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF CHRIS BARNARD TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0443](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF DONALD SPENCER TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0452](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF RYAN KNOX TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0444](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF IVA L. JOHNSON TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0447](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD CROUSE TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

[LM-2019-0451](#) ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF JEAN C. JENKINS TO THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD.

Per Order: Hon. Evelyn Rodriguez, Chair: Attest: Hon. Michael Smart, City Clerk

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

For accessibility related requests please contact (203) 946-7833 (v) or (203) 946-8582 (tty/ttd).

Minutes

Alder Evelyn Rodriguez, Chair, called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present were Alders Evelyn Rodriguez, Gerald M. Antunes, Evette Hamilton, Rosa Ferraro Santana, Jill L. Marks, Kenneth Reveiz, and Hacibey Catalbasoglu.

Non-committee members present were Alders Furlow, Decker, DeCola, Crespo, Marchand, Roth, and Winter.

1. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of John Abbagnaro to the Port Authority Board of Commissioners

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

2. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Isa Mujahid to the Food Policy Council.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

3. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Stephen Hamm to the Civilian Review Board.

Stephen Hamm, 42 Academy Street, # 3, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

4. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Robert Proto to the Civilian Review Board.

Robert Proto, 42 Beecher Street, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

5. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Jewu Richardson to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Jewu Richardson, 160 Frank Street, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

6. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Nina Faucett to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Nina Faucett, 420 Huntington Street, #1, spoke in favor of her appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

7. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Jayuan Carter to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Jayuan Carter, 106 Popular Street, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

8. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Chris Barnard to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chris Barnard, 946 Elm Street, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

9. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Donald Spencer to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Donald Spencer, 1423 Quinnipiac Avenue, #203, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

10. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Ryan Knox to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Mr. Knox did not attend.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

11. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Iva L. Johnson to the Civilian Review Board

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Iva L. Johnson, 113 Rock Creek Road, spoke in favor of her appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

12. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Richard Crouse to the Civilian Review Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Richard Crouse, 194 Dwight Street, spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

13. Order of the New Haven Board of Alders approving the appointment of Jean C. Jenkins to the Civilian Review Board

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Jean C. Jenkins spoke in favor of his appointment to the Civilian Review Board. Please see Attachment A on file in the Office of Legislative Services for how he responded to questions asked by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee took no action.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Kerry Ellington, 1375 Chapel Street, spoke about how she felt that for an Alder to start a question that the candidate would be able to knock it out of the park was not okay and showed there was no neutrality. Ms. Ellington requested that the first two candidates be denied, as she was not clear on the process on how the candidates were chosen. Reviewed how 25+ people had been killed by police in New Haven. Spoke about how she felt there were better candidates such as Elizabeth Larkin and Attorney Alex Taubes were not picked. Her main concern with Stephen Hamm was that he did not mention structural racism and structural issue with policing. Ms. Ellington feels that there are more qualified candidates to sit on the Civilian Review Board than Stephen Hamm. Reviewed how it is not about good and bad apples – that is not how the system of policing works in this country. Regarding Robert Proto, Ms. Ellington does not feel that it is the job of the Civilian Review Board to develop trust with the New Haven Police Department but with the community. Also, Robert Proto was involved in the Billie White case.

Sade Billie spoke regarding Robert Proto and how the homeless do not need books but clothes, food, and blankets. Asked that his application be denied, as de-escalation does not work.

Norman Clement, 977 State Street, reiterates that the entire process has been flawed because there has been no transparency. Mr. Clement spoke about how he has not encountered a DEA agent that has de-escalated a situation. Spoke about how DEA agents broke into his home to search for drugs, breaking down his door, injuring his roommate; even though, no arrests were made.

Allan Brison, 149 Canon Street, Hamden, spoke about the blue code of silence. Regarding Robert Proto, he does not feel he should serve on the Civilian Review Board as he is a retired police officer. Doesn't feel like the community can have confidence in the Civilian Review Board if it is police investigating police.

Chris Graffa, 76 Mechanic Street, spoke regarding how Robert Proto should not serve on the Civilian Review Board.

Anstress Farewell spoke about the creation of the Civilian Review Board, how her management team and others were involved, reviewed how she thought it was going to be difficult and controversial, and how it is important to have a diverse group from varied backgrounds to serve on the Civilian Review Board. Reviewed how her management team submitted three (3) names to the Mayor's Office.

Greg, 942 Litchfield Turnpike, spoke against Robert Proto serving on the Civilian Review Board because he is a retired police officer. Spoke about how he had a police officer pull a gun on him because he ran a stop sign.

Caroline Smith, 558 Orange Street, spoke of the importance of the process in selecting the nominees, and how she did not think it could not be separated from the nominees themselves, as it is such an important part.

John Shively, 413 Temple Street, spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto because he did not feel he had the confidence of the community. Spoke about how it was unclear what measures were used to vet these appointees.

Aaron Jafferis, 12 Clifton Street, spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Spoke against the Civilian Review Board being in collaborative with the police department. Reviewed how the Civilian Review Board should be independent. Spoke about how the Mayor's Office has refused to discuss the process of selecting appointees for the Civilian Review Board with them as they have requested for the past two months.

Name inaudible, 76 Mechanic Street, spoke against the appointments of both Stephen Hamm and Robert Proto. Spoke about how the Civilian Review Board needs more objective members. Spoke about how the Committee members should listen and not interrupt the speakers. Spoke about how the Civilian Review Board should go back to the drawing board, so that the appointee selection process is transparency. Spoke about how she holds a criminal justice degree and has

been harassed by the police for being an organizer and being trans.

Chris Gonzalez spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Reviewed how the City of New Haven and West Haven settled case regarding Robert Proto and Billy White regarding the execution of a search warrant. Reviewed how Robert Proto had been involved in other cases of police brutality and misconduct. Spoke about how someone with a police background should not serve on the Civilian Review Board.

Jamar Farmer, 6 Mountain Ridge Terrace, spoke against Robert Proto being appointed to the Civilian Review Board because he is a retired police officer. Spoke about how he does not feel that former police officers or family of police officers should be appointed to the Civilian Review Board. Spoke about how they need more people of color to serve on the Civilian Review Board. Reviewed the need to start the process over to get the

Roberto Eyzaguirre, 35 Springside Avenue, #1B, spoke about how he has been racially profiled by East Haven police officers. Requested Civilian Review Board appointments be delayed because the process of selecting the appointees has not been clear. Spoke against the two appointees, as they do not represent the demographics of New Haven.

Brittany, 361 Elm Street, spoke against the appointment of both appointees. Does not feel that Stephen Hamm is qualified.

Angela Clinton, 306 Alden Avenue, spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Spoke about the Civilian Review Board will only succeed if trust has established. Spoke about the need to work collaboratively to delay the appointments and fix the process.

Meagan R., Milford, spoke about her concern that the process should be delayed. Spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Spoke of the importance of having police officers live in the communities they serve. Reviewed how it was important to have impartial people serve on the Civilian Review Board. Spoke about how the process was important.

Laura Snell, 196 Mansfield Street, spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Spoke against having a retired career police officer serve on the Civilian Review Board.

Matthew S., 179 Mansfield Street, spoke against the appointment of Robert Proto. Does not feel he is fit to serve on the Civilian Review Board. Questions how he got this far in the process.

Emma Jones, 286 James Street, spoke in support of Jewu Richardson. Spoke of the background of the Civilian Review Board and need for everyone to show respect and spirituality.

Kim Harris, 29 Lander Street, Chair of Newhallville Management Team, spoke in support of Nina Faucett.

Sade Billie spoke in support of Jewu Richardson.

Chris Graffa, 76 Mechanic Street, spoke in support of Jewu Richardson.

Verna Norman, 1400 Ella Grasso Boulevard, #A, spoke in support of Richard Crouse on behalf of Dwight Center Management Team. Spoke of his passion for New Haven communities and community involvement.

Ava Carol, 130 Wilmot Road, spoke in support of Iva L. Johnson and Donald Spencer.

Olivia Mortson, 228 Dwight Street, spoke in support of Richard Crouse.

Nina Silva, 133 Henry Street, Dixwell Management Chair, spoke in support of Jean C. Jenkins.

Aaron Jafferis, 12 Clifton Street, spoke against Chris Barnard, as he felt there was a better candidate that should have been considered.

Name inaudible, 361 Elm Street, spoke against Chris Barnard.

Sarah T., 12 Clifton Street, spoke in support Donald Spencer and Iva L. Johnson and against Robert Proto, Stephen Hamm, and Chris Barnard. Spoke against Chris Barnard because Christian Carlton, a Latino born and used New Haven father was not considered. Asks for a delay in the process to rebuild trust.

Angela Clinton, 306 Alden Avenue, asks for a delay in the process. Spoke in support of Jayuan Carter and Donald Spencer.

Kerry Ellington, 1375 Chapel Street, advocates for a delay in the process. Spoke in favor of Jewu Richardson, Jayuan Carter, Donald Spencer, and Iva L. Johnson and spoke against Stephen Hamm and Robert Proto.

Amber Kelly, 275 Central Avenue, spoke in favor of delaying the process. Spoke against Stephen Hamm and Robert Proto and spoke in support of Jewu Richardson, Jayuan Carter, Donald Spencer, Richard Crouse, and Iva L. Johnson.

Florita Gillespie spoke in support of the Dwight Central Management Team's choice, Richard Crouse.

Alder Antunes moved to adjourn, seconded by Alder Catalbasoglu. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourn: 10:55 p.m.

A recording of this meeting is on file in the Office of Legislative Services.

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