



# City of New Haven

## Meeting Minutes Human Services Committee

165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510  
(203) 946-6483 (phone)  
(203) 946-7476 (fax)  
cityofnewhaven.com

---

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

7:00 PM

Alder Chamber

---

(Please scroll down)

## Minutes

Human Services Committee

12-11-19

Chair Brackeen called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Alder Chamber.

Present were Alders Furlow, Roth, Decker, and Rodriguez.

First and only heard was:

From the Acting Director of Health submitting Resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$208,509 in new funding from Gilead Sciences, Inc. for the period of September 1, 2019 to November 30, 2020 to support the Hepatitis-C (HCV) testing initiative for the City of New Haven.

Appearing on behalf was Brian Weeks epidemiologist for the city Health Department, and Pam DeZutter, that department's finance assistant. They gave an overview of the proposed Hepatitis-C testing program that the grant from the pharmaceutical company will fund. It will include community outreach and engagement, and follow-up with clients who test positive. The money is being donated by the company in return for blind test data.

In response to Alder Roth, Weeks said the grant will fund the hiring of two health outreach workers. He said the city can reapply for the grant to continue the program and the workers' employment. DeZutter noted that all special funds employees are contingent upon continued funding for their programs. They discussed the city's capability for maintaining confidentiality of the clients' HIPA information.

Alder Rodriguez noted that the grant was delayed for several months for corporation counsel review. She said that various local health centers also provide the service. Weeks said the city will collaborate with these providers.

There was a discussion of the program's expenses, such as fringe benefits and medical supplies.

In deliberations. Alder Brackeen said he is concerned that the money is coming from a publicly traded company. Alder Decker shared these concerns but still feels the disease is serious enough to warrant the approval.

There was a discussion of the indemnity clause. In response to the Alder Furlow, staff said that Corporation Counsel did not issue a legal opinion but lent its expertise to rewriting the indemnity clause. Alder Furlow said he would be more comfortable with a legal opinion, but it was uncertain whether that could be accomplished before the grant expires on December 31.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Alder Furlow moved to adjourn, seconded by Decker. Staff was instructed to file a motion to discharge the matter for immediate action at the December 16 Board of Alders meeting, with no recommendation for approval or disapproval. The committee voted by voice to adjourn.

Adjourn: 8:05 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Mercier  
Legislative Aide  
Office of Legislative Services

#### BOARD OF ALDERS NOTICE - NEW HAVEN

The Human Services Committee of the New Haven Board of Alders will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11 in the Alder Chamber of City Hall, 165 Church St., re:

\* From the Acting Director of Health, a Resolution authorizing acceptance of \$208,509 in new funding from Gilead Sciences, Inc for the period of September 1, 2019 to November 30, 2020 to support a Hepatitis C (HCV) testing initiative for New Haven. (Submitted 8/5/19).

This item is on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 202, 200 Orange Street, New Haven. Per order: Hon. Darryl J. Brackeen, Jr., Chair; attest: Hon. Michael B. Smart, City Clerk.

For a disability-related accommodation, please call (203) 946-7833 (V) or (203) 946-8582 (TTY) prior to the meeting.