

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2019

Honorable Mayor, Mark D. Boughton, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sean Hatch. Councilman DiGilio led all in prayer.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Roberto Alves, Emile Buzaid, Mike Esposito, Colleen Stanley, Warren Levy, Frank Salvatore, Robert Taborsak, Irving Fox, John Priola, Vinny DiGilio, Joseph Cavo, Paul Rotello, Elmer Palma, Chris Arconti, John Esposito, Farley Santos, Duane Perkins, Fred Visconti, Ben Chianese, Nancy Cammisa, Richard Molinaro.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

PRESENT: 21, ABSENT: 0

ALSO PRESENT: Robert J. Yamin, Corporation Counsel; Les Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Dan Garrick, Deputy Finance Director; and Jean Natale, Legislative Assistant.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Jacqueline Trofa, 152 Brushy Hill, Danbury, discussed Item 6.
- Barbara Savo, 15 Lower Lake Road, Danbury, discussed Item 6.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Boughton made the announcements for the month of December.

MINUTES - Minutes of the Council Meetings held November 7, 2019 and The Special Meeting held on November 14, 2019

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilman Perkins, to waive the reading of the Minutes, as all members have copies and copies are on file for review in the office of the Legislative Assistant. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. COMMUNICATION – Appointments to Governmental Entities Revue Commission

Receive the communication and confirm the appointments of City Council Members Warren Levy, Vinny DiGilio and Paul Rotello, as well as confirm the reappointments of citizens Alan T. Boyce and Mark S. Chory to serve on the Government Entities Review Committee.

4. RESOLUTION – 2019/2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant

Receive the communication and adopt the Resolution authorizing Mayor Mark D. Boughton, or Paul D. Estefan, Director of Civil Preparedness, as his designee to apply for and accept funds made available through the State of Connecticut Emergency Management Performance Grant Program for the Emergency Operations Center in an amount not to exceed \$43,000.00, the required local match will be met with in kind services.

5. RESOLUTION – Memorandum of Agreement-Use of 2019 Homeland Security Funding

Receive the communication and adopt the Resolution authorizing Mayor Mark D. Boughton, or Paul D. Estefan, Director of Civil Preparedness, as his designee to adopt the Region 5 Memorandum of Agreement and accept funds from the United States Department of Homeland Security through the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security 2019 Grant Program. This Memorandum requires authorization to engage in the regional cost sharing and allocation of funds for the purposes of this program, no local match is required.

7. RESOLUTION – PD ‘Click it or Ticket’ Grant

Receive the communication and adopt the Resolution authorizing Mayor Mark D. Boughton, or Patrick Ridenhour, Chief of Police, as his designee to apply for and accept grant funding made available through the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Division of Highway Safety "Click it or Ticket" Seatbelt Enforcement Program in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.00, no local match is required.

A motion was made by Councilman Fox, and was seconded by Councilman Perkins, to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

1. COMMUNICATION – Request for an Ad Hoc – Withdrawn

2. COMMUNICATION – Olive Garden Lease – 36 Backus Avenue

A motion was made by Councilman Priola, seconded by Councilman Rotello, to receive the communication and approve the Olive Garden Lease at 36 Backus Avenue for the third amendment to the Net Ground Lease. The motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMUNICATION – Appointments to Governmental Entities Revue Commission

****CONSENTED*** - as received.

4. RESOLUTION – 2019/2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant

****CONSENTED*** - as received.

5. RESOLUTION – Memorandum of Agreement-Use of 2019 Homeland Security Funding

****CONSENTED*** - as received.

6. RESOLUTION – Approval – Funding Pension Provisions – BOE and Paraeducators

Mayor Boughton stated for the record that this is only for those currently enrolled in the pension plan going forward; this is not adding a new pension to another bargaining group. He responded to Council questions along with Mr. Pinter and Mr. Garrick.

A motion was made by Councilman Levy, seconded by Councilman Visconti, to ratify the agreement between the Danbury Board of Education and the Danbury Paraeducators, the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 for a period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022; and authorize Mayor Mark D. Boughton to sign any documents necessary to effectuate in funding and to execute on behalf of the City of Danbury all documents, contracts, letters, agreement, amendments and to take any other action necessary to effectuate the proposed hereof.
The motion carried unanimously.

7. RESOLUTION – PD ‘Click it or Ticket’ Grant

***CONSENTED** - as received.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Police, Fire, Health-Housing & Welfare, Public Works, Permit Center, UNIT, Elderly, Library, Dream Homes

In response to Councilman Chianese, Police Chief Ridenhour discussed issues taking place at the schools, noting he is having discussions with Dr. Sal. He responded that he will keep the Council informed. Chief Ridenhour also congratulated newly elected Councilmembers.

Ms. Morrissey responded to Councilmember Taborsak's request to include bed nights used in the reports going forward. She commented on ways to address homelessness in conjunction with State efforts.

Mr. Iadarola responded to Councilman Perkins with regard to paving goals for this and next year.

Councilman Santos thanked the Police for work on speeding in his ward and the Public Works Department for their work at Shelter Rock and Crow's Nest.

Councilman Cavo thanked Public Works and City and Highway crews for their work on the roads.

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilman Perkins, to waive the reading of the Departmental Reports, as all members have copies and copies are on file for review in the office of the Legislative Assistant. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Add-On - Election of Council President

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilman Rotello, to add on Item 9, the Election of Council President. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman DiGilio, and was seconded by Councilman Rotello, to open nominations for Council President. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman DiGilio, and was seconded by Councilman Molinaro, to nominate Councilman Joe Cavo as Council President. The motion carried 16-4, Councilmen Perkins, Santos, Salvatore, and Alves dissenting; Councilman Taborsak abstaining.

A motion was made by Councilman DiGilio, and was seconded by Councilman Palma, to close nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Perkins commented he would like to provide input earlier in the budget process going forward. Councilman Taborsak noted he would abstain as a vote should involve a contest as a matter of principal. Councilman Chianese noted the importance of open communication. Councilman John Esposito concurred with the need to work together. Various Councilmembers commented on the need to work together and in support of Councilman Cavo.

A motion was made by Councilman Levy, and was seconded, to move the question. The motion carried 17-4, Rotello, Santos, Perkins, Chianese, and Taborsak, dissenting.

Councilman Cavo thanked the Council and noted that he is always available to talk to anyone on any issue at any time and has been for the past 10 years noting the number one goal is the City and citizens of Danbury.

10. Add-On - RESOLUTION – Regular Meeting Dates of the Council

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilman Rotello, to add on Item 10. the Resolution setting the regular meeting dates of the City Council for the next two years. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilwoman Cammisa, to adopt the Resolution setting the regular scheduled (City Council meeting) dates for the year 2020 and 2021 as listed. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Add-On - RESOLUTION – Special Meeting of the Council

A motion was made by Councilman Cavo, and was seconded by Councilman Santos, to add on Item 11. Special Meeting dates of the Council. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Fox, and was seconded by Councilman Taborsak, to adopt the Resolution regarding Special Meetings of the City Council of the City of Danbury as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT Copies of Agenda Items are available in the Legislative Assistant's Office

Mayor Boughton extended all committees and noted several members will be replaced in January. He congratulated the Council and wished the citizenry a Happy Holiday Season.

A motion was made by Councilman Rotello, and was seconded by Councilman Taborsak, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Goor
Recording Secretary

Attest,
Mark D. Boughton, Mayor