BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, July 13, 2015
Council Chambers – 7:30 p.m.

Sydney T. Schulman, Mayor
Joan Gamble, Deputy Mayor
Patrick A. DeLorenzo Wayne Hypolite
Joseph P. Merritt Joel J. Neuwirth
E. Leon Rivers Derrick A. Seldon
Joseph Washington

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call

III. Announcements and Presentations

A. Presentation by Eversource Energy on Bloomfield's Business Energy Solutions Initiatives

IV. Citizens' Statements and Petitions
Statements by members of the public may be oral or written and shall start with the speaker's name and address and shall continue for no longer than five (5) minutes, unless permitted by the Mayor or councilor presiding.

V. Report from Council Subcommittees

A. Community Services – Councilor Derrick Seldon

B. Administration & Education – Councilor Leon Rivers

C. Golf – Councilor Leon Rivers

D. Public Safety – Councilor Joe Washington

E. Committee on Committees – Councilor Joe Washington

F. Finance – Councilor Wayne Hypolite

G. Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble

VI. Council Business

New Business

FY 15/16-1: Consider and Take Action on the Initiatives of an Energy Savings Program for Bloomfield's Businesses

VII. Report from Mayor and Town Manager

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A. June 22, 2015

B. June 24, 2015 (Special Meeting)

IX. Council Comments

X. Adjournment

TO: Town Councilors

FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager

DATE: July 9, 2015

RE: FY 15/16-1 – INITIATIVES OF AN ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM FOR BLOOMFIELD'S BUSINESSES

Eversource, at the request of the CEEC, will make a presentation on Business Energy Solutions with Victory Energy Solutions (VES) and Paquette Electric Company. In an effort to assist consumers save money, this initiative will educate business owners on the benefits of energy efficiency and provide tools to become energy-efficient businesses.

As with the current residential initiative [HES], for every project completed, a donation will be made to the Bloomfield Fuel Bank.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

> *Move to support the initiative of an energy savings program for Bloomfield's businesses.*

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Sydney Schulman, Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Joseph Merritt, Wayne Hypolite, Joel Neuwirth, Derrick Seldon, Leon Rivers, Joseph Washington and Patrick DeLorenzo

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Deputy Mayor Gamble requested a moment of silence for all of the victims killed in the church massacre in Charleston, SC.

Presentation of Recognition Certificate to Caruso's Auto Body Service

Deputy Mayor Gamble presented Caruso's Auto Body Service with a recognition certificate for their 50 years of service in the Town of Bloomfield.

Presentation of Recognition Certificate to Connecticut Auto Body Shop

Deputy Mayor Gamble presented Connecticut Auto Body Shop with a recognition certificate for their 45 years of service to the Bloomfield and Greater Hartford community.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Bloomfield Town Council held a public hearing for review and approval of the applications to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program.

The public hearing opened at 7:35 p.m.

1. Mr. Ronald DeJohn, 61 Arrow Road, Wethersfield, CT is representative from the National Association for the Prevention of Teenage Addiction, Inc. He gave a brief presentation of this organization and the effectiveness of their preventive services for teens with addiction.

The public hearing closed at 7:42 p.m.

CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS

1. Kevin Gough, 5 Bear Ridge Drive spoke in regarding to the East Coast Greenway – Bike Way. Mr. Gough stated that he has been involved with this project since 2010. He is very concerned about lack of progress thus far with building the bike way. He also reiterated the importance to prioritize this project for the town as well as the connectivity to neighboring towns.

Councilor Hypolite inquired about the status update of the overall process of the East Coast Greenway project. It was noted that this project is a key foundation for the town and economic development. Councilor Hypolite recommended further discussion in the Land Use and Economic Development subcommittee.

Deputy Mayor Gamble stated that this project is imperative to the town as well as building the new bike way as a part of economic growth for Bloomfield.

Mayor Schulman stated that this project with be a priority for the FY 2015/2016 capital project list as well as further discussions with the Land Use & Economic Development and Community Services subcommittees.

Councilor Rivers inquired about funding be used for a section to be built in Bloomfield. It was noted that an alternative route would not be in compliance federally with ADA requirements.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager gave a status update of the overall project. He stated that paperwork has been submitted of all final design criteria to the State of Connecticut – Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration for review. Approximately

$1.5 million available for this project, which requires a 20% match totaling $600,000 appropriated from the town.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Services – Councilor Seldon read a detailed report from the last meeting held on June 3, 2015.

Administration & Education – The next meeting of this subcommittee will be held on Monday, July 6, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety - Councilor Washington read a detailed report of the last meeting held on Monday, June 8, 2015.

Committee on Committees – Councilor Washington deferred this subcommittee report for approval of recommendations under Council business.

Golf – Councilor Rivers gave a brief report of the status of Wintonbury Hills Golf Course. The course is doing great financially and has seen an increase in pass holder sales. Management will continue to book outings as well as promotion of the Tap Inn Restaurant to non-golfers residing in the community. Councilor Rivers also noted a generous donation in the amount of $5,700 from Duncaster, in support of the middle school golf team. In addition, Wintonbury Hills Golf Course ranked 5th in the country as a municipal course.

Finance – Councilor Hypolite gave a brief report of the last meeting held on June 18, 2015. Councilor Hypolite stated as a reminder that tax bills are due for auto and residential. It was noted that most homeowners will see a slight decrease in residential taxes due to re-evaluation. The committee has discussed the State of Connecticut budget process.

Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Gamble gave a brief report of the last meeting held on June 18, 2015. It was noted that an auction for Wintonbury Mall is tentatively scheduled for August 8, 2015. CREC recently purchased land in town to a themed based school. The committee also discussed the status of the Bloomfield Apartments on Jerome Avenue as well as the closure of Gillett Ridge Golf Course. Deputy Mayor Gamble also stated that an Urgent Care Center is interested in opening a practice on Seneca Road. The Valco building will be demolished by the end of the month.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

FY 14/15-66: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Application (s) for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program (following the public hearing)

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to adopt the following approve the following applications for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, as received by the Town of Bloomfield:

- GHPA Youth Basketball Program, Inc.
- Nutmeg Senior Rides, Inc.
- Rough Edges Art Productions, Inc.
- National Association for the Prevention of Teenage Addiction, Inc.
- Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc.

FY 14/15-67: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointments to the Fair Rent Commission

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to appointment the following individuals to the Fair Rent Commission with a term ending June 22, 2016, no disclosure required:

- Joy Chance
- Abraham Ford
- Barbara Thornton
- Gus Walek
- 1 Republican vacancy

FY 14/15-68: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointment to the Beautification Committee

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to appoint Mrs. Toni Clark to the Beautification Committee with a term ending in November 2015, no disclosure required.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

- On June 14, 2015 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., a Mayor's Brunch will be held at the Wintonbury Hills Golf Course honoring Mrs. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director of the Senior Center. Tickets are $50.00. Proceeds from the brunch will be donated to Bloomfield High School seniors as book awards given by the Democratic Town Committee.

- On June 16, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended the Annual Meeting of Capital Region Council of Government (CRCOG).

- On June 18, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended a breakfast at St. Thomas Seminary to discuss the status update of Bloomfield Public Schools.

- On June 18, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., Mayor Schulman attended the Greater Hartford Transit District – 100th Anniversary Celebration.

- In addition on June 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Schulman attended a prayer vigil at Bethel AME Church for victims murdered in Charleston, South Carolina.

- On June 19, 2015, Mayor Schulman spoke at the Annual Father's Day breakfast at the Senior Center

- On June 21, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended a going away lunch for Rev. Deborah Blood of First Congregational Church. Rev. Blood is leaving Bloomfield and relocating to Maine.

- On June 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Bloomfield High School will have their annual graduation of high school seniors at the Bushnell.

- On June 24, 2015, Mayor Schulman will attend a meeting of consortium of elected officials.

- On June 25, 2015, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Auer Farm.

- Mayor Schulman encouraged residents to enjoy the Summer Concerts on the Town Green. The next concert will be held on June 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager reported the following updates to the Town Council:

- Tax bills should be paid no later than August 3, 2015.
- The Public Works Department is currently in summer repavement program.
- The Bloomfield Police Department reported that the CALEA accreditation review has been completed. A five year report is due in November 2015. It was reported that the department has seen nothing but positive reviews of the CALEA process.
- There are several job vacancies within the Town of Bloomfield. Residents are encouraged to check with the Human Resources Department and the town website for more details.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington to approve the minutes of June 8, 2015.

VOTE: **AYE: S. Schulman, J. Gamble, W. Hypolite, L. Rivers, J. Washington, D. Seldon, J. Neuwirth, J. Merritt**
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: P. DeLorenzo

Motion passes, 8-0-1

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo reminded residents to support the local Food Bank. He also thanked Mr. Kevin Gough for his commitment to the East Coast Greenway – Bike Way project.

Councilor Merritt appreciated Council comments and their renewed interest in the East Coast Greenway project.

Deputy Mayor Gamble stated that the new Greater Hartford Transit District has been transformed to the state of the art facility that is secure and welcoming.

Councilor Hypolite applauded the graduates who gave speeches at the Bloomfield High School graduation. They were eloquent and poised in their presentations. He also extended his thoughts and prayers to the victims of the church massacre in Charleston, South Carolina.

Councilor Washington also commented on the success of the graduates of Bloomfield High School. It was noted that 91% of students with attend college and 67% of graduates with attend a four year university. He also commended Aduke Williams who sang an original song entitled, "I Love My Life".

Councilor Rivers commented on the recent Bloomfield High School awards ceremony held on June 2, 2015. He stated that approximately $625,000 was given in scholarship to fellow graduates. In addition, at the athletic awards banquet several students received scholarships to play sports in college.

Councilor Seldon participated in the Bloomfield High School graduation ceremonies. Approximately 134 students graduated from the high school and 25% of graduates receive high honors or honors recognition. Overall, Councilor Seldon praised the Bloomfield Board of Education for their commitment in education and increased test scores.

Mayor Schulman also congratulated two young ladies who sang at the Bloomfield High School graduation ceremony.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:00 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session I. – Discussion Concerning Evaluation of the Town Manager.

Councilor Rivers suggested to halt the vote for the original motion due to further review of evaluations submitted regarding the Town Manager.

Mayor Schulman requested that the original motioner and seconder withdraw their motion. Councilor Neuwirth and Washington agreed to withdraw.

Mayor Schulman requested a special meeting (Executive Session only) of the Town Council to be scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the evaluation of the Town Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:03 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a special meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Mayor Sydney Schulman, Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Wayne Hypolite, Joel Neuwirth, Joseph Merritt, Joseph Washington and Patrick DeLorenzo, Leon Rivers and Derrick Seldon

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:13 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session: Evaluation of the Town Manager.

At 7:39 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to exit into Executive Session.

At 7:40 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Hypolite and voted unanimously to give Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr, Town Manager a 3% raise and $6,000 bonus based on superior performance; has done a wonderful job; Mayor Schulman authorized to write a letter to the Town Manager with notification of raise and bonus.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.