

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, June 23, 2014
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 of Recognition Certificates to Bloomfield High School's Valedictorian Julise Marsh & Salutatorian Erika Porras
 - B. Presentation of Recognition Certificates to the Bloomfield Post Office and Cub Scouts Troop 1154, Bethel A.M.E. Church for their assistance with the 2014 Letter Carriers' Food Drive
- 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**
 - 13/14-98: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution (2013 State Homeland Security Grant Program)
 - 13/14-99: Consider and Take Action Regarding Authorization to Accept Grant for Hybrid Vehicles
- VII. Report from Mayor and Town Manager

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A. June 9, 2014

IX. Council Comments

X. Executive Session

A. Discussion Concerning Personnel Matter Regarding the Town Manager

XI. Adjournment

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council

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

DATE: June 20, 2014

RE: FY 13/14-98 – ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION (2013 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

Please see the attached Resolution. A Memorandum of Agreement and Resolution are required from each municipality by the Federal Department of Homeland Security in order to access regional Homeland Security Grant funds.

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

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bloomfield may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Philip K. Schenck, Jr., as Town Manager of the Town of Bloomfield, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield and to do and perform all acts and things which he/she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE
Town of Bloomfield, Town Council

CERTIFICATION:

I, Marguerite Phillips, the Town Clerk of the Town of Bloomfield, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by Town of Bloomfield at its duly called and held meeting on June 23, 2014, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bloomfield may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Philip K. Schenck, Jr., as Town Manager of Town of Bloomfield, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield and to do and perform all acts and things which he/she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that Philip K. Schenck, Jr. now holds the office of Town Manager and that he/she has held that office since July 30, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this ____ day of

_____.

Marguerite Phillips, Town Clerk



MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council

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

DATE: June 20, 2014

RE: FY 13/14-99 – STATE OF CONN. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION –
GRANT FOR ALTERNATIVE FULE VEHICLES

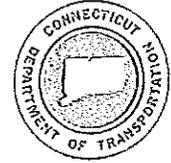
On June 10th the Town was informed that our request for funding under the 2014 Connecticut Clean Fuel Program was approved for three hybrid vehicles for our Senior Center. At this time, I am asking Council for authorization to accept this funding so that we can move forward with the completion of the program confirmation.

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

Move to authorize acceptance of the funding for the three hybrid vehicles.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546
Phone: (860) 594-2830

June 10, 2014

Ms. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell
Director, Senior Services
Town of Bloomfield
330 Park Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Dear Ms. Huyghue-Pannell:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Department of Transportation (Department) has approved the Town of Bloomfield's request to receive funding under the 2014 Connecticut Clean Fuel program. The Department has approved the request for the following alternative fuel vehicle(s) at the following maximum incremental cost per vehicle:

- One (1) Goshen Coach Corp. Bus/Conf. (H) Hybrid Electric B.O.C. Bus @ \$45,890
- One (1) Goshen Coach Corp. Bus/Conf. (E) Hybrid Electric B.O.C. Bus @ \$45,890
- One (1) Goshen Coach Corp. Bus/Conf. (D) Hybrid Electric B.O.C. Van @ \$45,890

Please complete and return the attached program confirmation form to the Department by July 11, 2014. Also please make a copy for your records. The information on the program confirmation form will be used to prepare the project Agreement, which will detail the program requirements.

Program participants will be reimbursed only for the vehicle(s) specified in the Agreement at the maximum amount specified per vehicle in the Agreement. If the required dealer's invoice indicates a lesser incremental cost per vehicle, the program participant will be reimbursed that lesser amount.

If you have any questions, Kevin Peak, the Department's contact person for this program, can be reached at (860) 594-2807 or by e-mail at kevin.peak@ct.gov.

Very truly yours,

Michael A. Sanders
Transit Administrator
Bureau of Public Transportation

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2014 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

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

Absent were: Councilors Joseph Washington and Patrick DeLorenzo

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC HEARING

There was a public hearing held seeking input concerning applications to the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program.

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

Mr. Philip Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that five proposals were submitted for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program:

- Duncaster Foundation
- Duncaster, Inc.
- Duncaster Residents Association
- Independent Transportation Network (ITN)
- Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

The public hearing closed at 7:38 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Schulman requested a Moment of Silence for Dr. Maya Angelou who passed in May at the age of 86. Dr. Angelou was a symbol of resilience and boundless creativity. She will be sorely missed.

Presentation on Alternative Energy by Professor Larry Gould

Professor Gould presented information on alternative energy resources as well as issues in going solar. He reviewed issues with solar panel programs, statistics, warranties, bankruptcies and overall problems with evaluating alternative sources.

Councilor Rivers inquired about going in the right direction to install solar panels at this time.

Councilor Hypolite inquired about other expert documented opinions of scientific evidence regarding solar and alternative energy resources.

Recognition of the Bloomfield Senior Center Staff on their recent Re-Accreditation

Mayor Schulman presented a Certification of Recognition to Mrs. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell and the Senior Center staff on their recent Re-Accreditation. It was noted that the Marilyn Michaelson Senior Center is one out of 200 in the nation to be accredited.

CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS

1. **Attorney Aaron Romano, 45 Wintonbury Avenue (business) and 56 Wintonbury Avenue (home)** expressed concerns regarding disciplinary policies and actions of Public Schools. He expressed his discontent of the district to improve discipline and performance of its students.

Deputy Mayor Gamble asked if the actions of the school district will affect his acceptance of his chosen university. It was noted that once education requirements are met, the disciplinary actions would be expunged from the record.

Councilor Hypolite reiterated that the Council has no authority over the Bloomfield Board of Education regarding their policies and procedures. He stated his discontent regarding the inappropriate presentation to Council.

Attorney Romano expressed that he wanted to the Council to be aware of the disciplinary policies regarding expulsion hearings.

Mayor Schulman explained to Attorney Romano the statutory role of Council.

At 8:45 p.m., Mayor Schulman called a 5 minute recess.

At 8:55 p.m., Mayor Schulman called the meeting to order.

Ms. Juanita Bayer, 600 Apartments, expressed concerns about the attentiveness and actions of Councilors during the presentation by Attorney Aaron Romano.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Services – Councilor Seldon gave a brief update of the last meeting held on June 3, 2014. He reviewed various events of the Beautification Committee, Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee and Human Services departments. Committee members also received a brief update from Donna Banks regarding the Back to School Fun Fair.

Administration/Education – Councilor Rivers gave a brief update of the last meeting held on June 2, 2014. Members of the Bloomfield of Education were no present at the meeting to discuss the issues of school reimbursement. Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager presented his Administrative report.

Golf – The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room #5.

Land Use & Economic Development – The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room #5.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

FY 13/14-92: Consider and Take Action Regarding Approval of Application(s) for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to approve application(s) for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, as received by the Town of Bloomfield.

FY 13/14-93: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Policy on Tax Incentive Options

This item was referred to the Finance Subcommittee as well as the Land Use & Economic Development Subcommittee for further discussion and recommendations.

FY 13/14-94: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Abatement for Interfaith Homes

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble to approve the following amounts to be abated:

777 Park Avenue (Interfaith Homes)	\$70,711.36
9 Mountain Avenue (Interfaith Homes)	<u>\$36,909.64</u>
TOTAL:	\$107,621.00

FY 13/14-95: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Refunds

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to approve tax refunds in accordance with the memorandum dated June 3, 2014 from Tax Collector Jean Kitchens.

FY 13/14-96: Consider and Take Action Regarding Certificate of Authority for Town Manager Philip K. Schenck, Jr.

It was moved Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to approve the following Certificate of Authority (see attached – full version):

RESOLVED that Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, is hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield any and all contracts relevant to the Town of Bloomfield, and to execute and approve on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield other instruments, a part of or incident to such contracts, effective until November 10, 2015 or as otherwise ordered by the Bloomfield Town Council.

FY 13/14-97: Consider and Take Action Regarding Eminent Domain Proceedings

This item was referred for discussion under Executive Session.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

On May 29, 2014, Mayor Schulman, Deputy Mayor Gamble, Councilor Rivers and Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager attended a breakfast at First Cathedral with United States Senator Chris Murphy.

On May 31, 2014, the 1st Annual Grub Crawl was held on the Town Green. This event was co-sponsored by the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Commission. The event was very successful with over 400 individuals in attendance.

On June 3, 2014, there was a Volunteer Reception was held for seniors and youth by Bloomfield Social & Youth Services.

Also on June 3, 2014, a meeting promoting Solarize Bloomfield was held at the P. Faith McMahon Library.

On June 7, 2014, Habitat for Humanity dedicated six homes on Marguerite Avenue and Packard Street.

On June 11, 2014, the Wintonbury Historical Society will have their Annual Meeting.

On June 12, 2014, the Bloomfield High School Band will perform on the Town Green for the Kickoff event of the Summer Concert Series.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Philip Schenck, Jr., Town Manager reported the following updates:

The Lisa Lane property transition is underway with the collaboration of the Wintonbury Land Trust moving forward with mapping out trails, repairing parking areas, signage, etc.

The Bloomfield Police department participated in the First Cathedral Career Fair. There were over 20 individuals interested in working for the town. Most of them were interested in Administrative positions.

Various personnel at the town participated in Hurricane Preparedness training sponsored by the State of Connecticut – Department of Homeland Security.

There are several job openings available with the town such as: Senior Center Mini Bus Driver, Part-Time Youth & Family Assistant. Please contact Human Resources or visit the website for additional information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and to approve the minutes of May 27, 2014.

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

The motion passes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no Council comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:11 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Merritt to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Pending Claims and Litigation with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager and the Town Attorney.

At 9:17 p.m., Executive Session discussions began with the Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant to the Town Manager and the Town Attorney

At 9:49 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session.

At 9:50 p.m., it was then moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble to enter into public session.

At 9:51 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to direct the Town Attorney to pursue Eminent Domain proceedings on 30 Southwood Road (see attached resolution).

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:52 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Merritt to adjourn the meeting.