

FINAL

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 23, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

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

Absent was: Councilor Derrick Seldon

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

Guest present were: Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent Bloomfield Board of Education, Mr. Donald Harris, Chair of the Bloomfield Board of Education and Mr. Daniel Moleti, Principal – Bloomfield High School

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of Certificate to Ciaran Carr (Toys for Tots Tournament)

Councilor Rivers presented Mr. Ciaran Carr, General Manager of the Wintonbury Hills Golf Course with a certificate in recognition for his dedication to the Bloomfield community. The Bloomfield Town Council congratulated Mr. Carr on a successful Toys to Tots donation to Bloomfield Social & Youth Services, in which 100 toys and \$810.00 was collected for this holiday season. In addition, Mr. Carr was thanked for his dedication and tremendous efforts in implementing the Junior Golf Program at Carmen Arace Middle School.

Presentation by the Board of Education - CAPT

A presentation was made by the Board of Education to highlight the achievements to closing the achievement gap regarding the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). The district highlighted the success of Bloomfield High School's reform initiatives. In addition, they also provided comparison data on student performance between Bloomfield High School students and their state peers.

The Bloomfield Town Council thanked the Board of Education for their hard work and dedication to the students of the Bloomfield community.

CITIZEN STATEMENTS & PETITIONS

There were no citizens' statements and petitions.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Finance – Councilor Hypolite reported on the last meeting held, November 16, 2015. The committee discussed and reviewed the monthly financial report, current revenues and expenditures. Thus far in FY 2015/2016, a total increase in revenues of \$426,000, including a decrease in \$107,000 of state aid. The committee also discussed the increase in building permits, evaluating additional personnel to assist the Building department. The audit report evaluated the town's healthy fund balance and current level of debt service.

Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Schulman reported that the committee met on November 16, 2015 to discuss an overview of Filley Pond Park project – Phase I, which is the newly constructed streetscape. The project will continue onto Phase II beginning in Spring 2016. In addition, the committee also discussed funding alternatives and option for town infrastructure. In Economic Development, status updates were reviewed for Wintonbury Mall, a potential new build for a water bottling company as well as plans for building a new high school for CREC – Farmington River Park location.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

FY 15/16-21: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Council Subcommittees Meeting Schedules

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Hypolite and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Administration & Education Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting on November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Community Services Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting on November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Schulman, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Economic Development & Land Use Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting, November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Councilor DeLorenzo, seconded by Councilor Hypolite and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Finance Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting, November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Hypolite and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Golf Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting, November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Public Safety Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting November 23, 2015.

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adopt and approve the schedule for the Committee on Committees Subcommittee as presented at the Town Council meeting November 23, 2015.

FY 15/16-22: Consider and Take Action Regarding Cancellation of December 28, 2015 Town Council Meeting

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to cancel the regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council scheduled for December 28, 2015.

FY 15/16-23: Consider and Take Action Regarding Appointment to the Library Board of Trustees

It was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to appoint Mrs. Joan Geetter to the Bloomfield Library Board of Trustees.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

On November 22, 2015, Mayor Gamble, Deputy Mayor Schulman and Councilor Neuwirth attended a Celebration of Thanksgiving at St. Stephens Episcopal Church. Mayor Gamble read a proclamation as the official National Day of Thanksgiving.

Town Manager's Report

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

- Bloomfield Police Department received their National Accreditation from Communication Assistance Law Enforcement Act.
- All residents in Bloomfield are urged to utilize the CCM Prescription Savings Plan. Since the conception of the program, residents have saved over \$35,500 with each script averaging savings of approximately \$29.00. For more information, please contact Bloomfield Social & Youth Services.
- The Festival of Lights on the Town Green will be held December 3, 2015 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- The local food drive at Stop & Shop supermarket was very successful.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 9, 2015.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

The Bloomfield Town Council wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

Councilor DeLorenzo congratulated the Police Department for their National Accreditation in addition to an accredited Senior Center. He also thanked the Board of Education for their presentation in closing the achievement gap. Councilor reminded all residents to donate to the local food and fuel banks.

Councilor Merritt encouraged residents to get involved in local boards and commissions. The Conservation, Energy and Environment Commission meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The town also received a Global Designation Award for clean energy standards.

Deputy Mayor Schulman suggested that Hartford Courant write on the notable community related stories such as: an update in closing the achievement gap for Bloomfield students, police department accreditation and energy savings statewide recognition.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.