

FINAL

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

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

Absent were: Councilors Wayne Hypolite and Joseph Merritt

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Schulman requested a Moment of Silence for James Thompson, Sr., father of Bloomfield Public Schools Superintendent, Mr. James Thompson, Jr. He also requested another Moment of Silence for Mr. Milton Howard, a well-known architect in the Greater Hartford area who spent most of his life designing projects that touched lives.

Proclamation for Community Planning Month

Mayor Schulman designated the month of October for “Community Planning Month”. This year’s theme is Healthy Communities, Healthy People. The theme underscores the impact that the built environment can have on residents' health. This proclamation was presented to our own Mr. Jose Giner, Director of Planning and Economic Development in recognition with the American Planning Association.

Proclamation for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Mayor Schulman read a proclamation for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in recognition of blood cancer awareness. As the month of September brings leukemia and lymphoma into focus, it’s time to increase public understanding of these diseases, including their prevalence, approaches

to screening and prevention, treatment options, and resources that offer updated leukemia and lymphoma information throughout the year.

CITIZEN STATEMENTS & PETITIONS

1. Rod Norwood, 27 Spring Hill Lane presented the Council with information regarding his non-profit organization focused on building a community arts program.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Services- Councilor Seldon gave a detailed report of upcoming activities and events for Social & Youth Services, Senior Services and Leisure Services.

Public Safety - Councilor Washington read a detailed report from the last meeting held on August 10, 2015.

Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor reminded residents of the official ground breaking ceremony at Filley Park, September 21, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. The streetscape will be under construction and next year plans are underway for the dredging of the pond. She also reported that the Wintonbury Mall sold for \$4,900,000 to the top bidder.

In addition, 1000 flyers were issued to University of Hartford students from the Business Merchant Association to promote businesses of interest for college student interest.

Deputy Mayor Gamble also attended an event held at Calvary Church of God. Pastor Lee gave a tour of south Blue Hills Avenue and expressed various concerns regarding renovations of the area.

Finance – Deputy Mayor Gamble gave a brief report regarding the review of Capital Improvement projects for the town.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

FY 15/16-14: Consider and Take Action Regarding Cancellation of Town Council meeting

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to add Item FY 15/16-14: Consider and Take Action Regarding Cancellation of Town Council meeting.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

FY 13/14-12: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding 97 Granby Street

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to refer to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission for recommendation, the possible sale of 97 Granby Street by the Town of Bloomfield, pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

FY 14/15-56: Consider and Take Action Regarding Release of Liens, Pursuant to CGS 17b-125

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded Councilor Neuwirth and voted unanimously to:

- Approve the release of the General Assistance Lien at 92 Boothbay Street recorded in Volume 140, Page 59 of the Bloomfield land records on May 31, 1972 without further payment.
- Authorize the Director of Social & Youth Services to release all General Assistance liens without further payment pursuant to review and approval by the Town Manager.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 15/16-9: Consider and Take Action Regarding Tax Refunds

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to approve tax refunds (per the attached list) be approved in accordance with the memorandum dated September 9, 2015.

SEPTEMBER 2015 REFUNDS

ADAMS PATRICIA	2014MV	\$277.25
ALLEN JEWELL	2014MV	\$43.08
ALLEN RHONDA	2014MV	\$19.22
ANDERSON WILLIE & HALLIE	2014RE	\$3,230.03
ATKINS IRIS	2014MV	\$36.72
BARNETT MARYLIN	2014MV	\$21.31
BULL MARIE BLARDO	2013SMV	\$79.56
BULLOCK JAMES	2014MV	\$17.86
CARDELLO LOUIS	2014MV	\$27.89
CONDE JENESIS	2014MV	\$97.37
CORELOGIC FOR 102 BOOTHBAY STREET	2013RE	\$1,789.02
DAIMLER TRUST	2014MV	\$1,011.91
EMKAY INC TRUST	2014MV	\$533.80
GREAT AMERICA LEASING CORP	2012PP	\$1,120.77
GREEN DEANNA R	2014MV	\$736.52
GRIGGS CHARLES	2014MV	\$28.88
HALLUMS LARRY JR	2013MV	\$128.18
HAWKINS MEGIEL	2014MV	\$14.55
HISCO INC	2013MV	\$80.18
HONDA LEASE TRUST	2013MVSUP 2014MV	\$1,378.89 \$793.95

JOHNSON CLAUDE OR FRANCES	2014MV	\$33.93
LEPPERT NUTMEG INC	2014MV	\$126.99
MCELROY VIVIAN	2014MV	\$6.88
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC	2013RE	\$1,793.74
NEAVERSON JULIANNE	2014MV	\$27.97
NISSAN INFINITI	2013MV	\$95.86
	2014MV	\$353.24
OCWEN LOAN	2014RE	\$4,725.46
PARRILLA-SCOTT ALICIA	2013MV	\$157.05
PENSKE LEASING	2014MV	\$792.72
PETERSON DL TRUST	2014MV	\$92.19
QUINN EMILY	2013MV	\$39.81
WEST STAR MORT	2014RE	\$2,220.30
RAMSDELL MARY	2014MV	\$17.29
RAMSEY BARBARA	2014MV	\$37.42
RAVE LEASING	2014MV	\$15.24
ROBINSON ALISHA	2014MV	\$11.59
SANDSTROM JONATHAN	2013MV	\$71.67
SUNDQUIST RALPH OR BERNITA	2014MV	\$51.97
TAYLOR ROLAND A	2014MV	\$8.86
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	2014MV	\$163.57
TRL DEVELOPMENT	2013RE	\$91.48
VAULT TRUST	2014MV	\$2,178.43
VW CREDIT	2013MV	\$1,325.18

WALLACE EVAN	2014MV	\$64.18
WEST FELICE	2014MV	\$13.82
WOMACK ROSE	2014MV	\$100.94
Total refunds		\$26,084.72

FY 15/16-10: Consider and Take Action Regarding Capital Non-Recurring Expenditures (CNRE) Fund Transfers

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Bloomfield Town Council authorizes the transfer of \$32,450 from the unencumbered balance from the previously approved capital improvement project “Leisure Services Mobile Stage Capital Project” #11714300 in the Town’s Capital Non-Recurring Fund to a new project “Community Parks, Gateway and Wayfinding Signage Design” as outlined below per the attached memorandum from the Director of Leisure Services dated August 24, 2015:

From:	Amount	To:	Amount
LeisureServices MobileStage Capital Project	\$32,450		
		Community Parks, Gateway and Wayfinding	\$32,450
Total	\$32,450	TOTAL	\$32,450

The entire Council commended Mr. Melesko and his staff on a job well done in reducing costs and redirecting cash flow for other worthy projects.

FY 15/6-11: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget Calendar

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Rivers and Neuwirth and voted unanimously to adopt the budget calendar for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

FY 15/16-12: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding 460 Tunxis Avenue (Farmington River Park)

Mayor Schulman referred this matter to the Land Use & Economic Development and Administration & Education Subcommittees for review, comments and recommendations.

FY 15/16-13: Consider and Take Action Regarding Pending Tax Appeals

This matter was deferred for discussion under Executive Session.

FY 15/16-14: Consider and Take Action Regarding Cancellation of Town Council meeting

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to cancel the Town Council meeting scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2015. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Schulman wished the Jewish community a Happy New Year for Rosh Hashanah.
- On August 15, 2015, a Walk a Thon was held at Rehoboth Church of God focused on women of Christ and violence in the local municipalities.
- On August 22, 2015, the Annual Back to School event was held. The weather was great and over 425 book bags were given to local Bloomfield students in preparation for the first day of school.
- On August 24, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended the Bloomfield High School convocation.
- On August 22, 2015, the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce will hold there networking "After 5" event at Auer Farm.
- On September 5, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended the Chili Cook off at Auer Farm.
- Also on September 5, 2015, Mayor Schulman and Councilor Washington attended a 65th Birthday celebration and the recognition of 25 years of service at DCF for Mrs. Bobb.
- On September 8, 2015, an Economic Development Committee meeting was held at Town Hall in Conference Room #5.
- On September 11, 2015, the Bloomfield Rotary held their event at Seabury Retirement.
- On September 12, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended the 30th Anniversary of Gethsemane Church and the 5th Anniversary for Pastor Holmes at the Hilton Hotel in Hartford.
- On September 25, 2015, Mayor Schulman attended a meeting of the Consortium of Chief Elected Officials.
- On September 29, 2015, the Annual Senior Expo will be held from 9:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Senior Services.

- Also on September 29, 2015, announced the departure of Mr. Desi Nesmith, Principal of Metacomet Elementary School. Mr. Nesmith accepted a new position at the State of Connecticut – Department of Education as the new Turnaround Chief.
- On September 19, 2015, the Wintonbury Land Trust will host their “Giant Tag Sale” at 22 Duncaster Road. Proceeds from this event will go towards renovating an old barn on site.
- On September 26, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., the Blue Hills Fire Department will sponsor a Lobster Fest at sponsored by J’s Crabshack in Hartford.
- On September 21, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., there will be groundbreaking ceremony at Filley Park to begin construction of the new streetscape.

Town Manager’s Report

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

- The town received a state grant notice from the Department of Transportation regarding the installation of rumble strips on Maple & Brown streets. This project has been postponed to 2016.
- It was noted that the Wintonbury mall sold for \$4,900,000. The town is not aware of the new buyer and expectations for this site.
- Mr. Schenck congratulated all who worked diligently on the Annual Back to School event held on Saturday, August 22, 2015. He also stated that he was pleased to be the Mister of Ceremonies along with Brad Davis. It was also noted that the new stage was great for community events and the expanded Concerts on the Green.
- Participants working with the Eastcoast Greenway project signed an agreement with a consultant for scope and scale for constructing Day Hill road to Hartford town line.
- Mr. Schenck Jr. stated that Blum Shapiro are currently conducting an internal Independent Audit.
- On October 1, 2015, a Tax Sale will be held for 11 properties. It was noted that estimated building fees were budgeted for \$800,000 during FY 15/16. Thus far, the town has received approximately \$300,000 in addition to incoming revenue of \$300,000 for CREC Museum Academy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of August 10, 2015.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo stated that is excited about Filley Park groundbreaking. He is hopeful to see other capital improvement projects underway. He also reminded residents to donate to the Bloomfield Food Bank.

Councilor Neuwirth wished all members of the Jewish community a Happy New Year!

Deputy Mayor Gamble commended town employees for their volunteer work after hours and at various weekend events within Bloomfield. In addition, she also thanked Pastor Lee and Mrs. Lee for their wonderful celebration of women at Calvary Church of God, 770 Blue Hills Avenue.

Councilor Washington thanked an employee on a superb job of customer service at the newly open Ace Hardware. In addition, on September 15, 2015, noted the worthy back to school event, in which men greeted students on their first day of school. He thanked Paul Guzzo and Mr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent for their support and participation.

Councilor Seldon commented on the Million Father March at Carmen Arace Intermediate/Middle School. There were over 100 men present to greet all students on the first day school.

Mayor Schulman commented on the concept of service for small businesses in town.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:50 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Pending Tax Appeals with the Town Attorney, Town Council, Town Manager and the Town Assessor.

At 9:20 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session A.

At 9:21 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon to enter into Public Session to approve that “the town attorney is authorized to enter into settlements in the tax appeals filed by:

- **Rosen, 9 Seminole Way**
- **Schnenga, 2 Seminole Way**
- **Borden, 33 Bay Hill Drive**
- **Rubin, 11 Seminole Way**
- **Bloomfield O.B. LLC, 1 Regency Drive**

At 9:22 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon to enter into Executive Session B. – Discussion Concerning Pending Claims and Litigation with the Town Manager, Town Attorney and Town Council.

At 9:34 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Seldon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gamble and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session B.

At 9:35 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session C. – Town Manager’s Goals and Objectives (8/1/15 – 7/31/16).

At 10:08 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to exit Executive Session C.

At 10:09 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to add Agenda Item (FY15/16-15: Town Manager’s Goals and Objectives for August 1, 2015 – July 31, 2016).

At 10:10 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Seldon and voted unanimously to accept the Town Manager’s Goals for 8/1/15 – 7/31/16 as amended. The Town Manager will provide revised copies to the Council, motion passes unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:11 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.