

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW LONDON

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of New London was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2012, in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 181 State Street, New London, Connecticut.

Present

President Passero, presiding
President Pro Tem Hyslop
Councilors Friess-McSparran
Maynard
Nolan
Sprecace

Absent:

Councilor Macrino

2.0 Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

President Passero led the Pray and Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Council recognized the New London Whalers High School Band for their outstanding performance May 4, 2012 at the *Music in the Parks Festival* in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The NLHS concert band won 1st place in their division and best overall concert band.

3.0 Public Hearings

There were no public hearings held.

4.0 Minutes of Previous Meetings

A motion made by President Pro Tem Hyslop, seconded by Councilor Maynard, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of May 21, 2012. The motion passed 6-0.

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by President Pro Tem Hyslop, to accept the minutes of the special meeting of May 29, 2012. There were several edits; the item was tabled until later in the meeting allowing Council members the opportunity to review edits. A motion made by Councilor Sprecace, seconded by Councilor Maynard, to table the matter. The motion passed 6-0.

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5.0 a) Public Comment

Dennis Downing, Mahan Street, addressed Council concerning the proposed Charter Revision Commission.

Peter Lynch, Sander Street, a former member of the New London firefighter, addressed Council concerning the Mayor's letter in The Day, providing information entitled, " Pertinent Demographics for Comparative Analysis of the City of New London Fire Service." (Information on file with the City Clerk)

Laura Natusch, Mountain Avenue, addressed Council concerning revisionist history relative to the FY 2012-1013 budget.

Kathleen Mitchell, Pequot Avenue, voiced her support for the members of the New London Police and Fire Departments.

Mike Leonard, Vauxhall Street, thanked Council members for their work last week on the budget; spoke concerning firefighter layoffs and FSLA laws.

Al Mayo, Russell Road, Norwich, a member of the NLFD having been sworn in Friday, thanked Council for their work last week and asked that they continue to support the firefighters.

b) Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

c) Response to Public Comment

Council members responded to comments made by the speakers.

d) Reports & Communications

1) **Director of Law** - Council members had questions for the Law Director.

(2) **Council Committee Reports** – The Finance Chair stated the Finance Committee has been preoccupied with the FY 2012-2013 budget, but will schedule a meeting to review the FY 2010-2011 audit.

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e) **Mayor's Office Communications**

Jane Glover, Chief Administrative Officer stated she asked the permission of the Mayor that he not attend tonight's meeting as the Administration is in the beginnings of negotiations with both Police and Fire unions. One of the ground rules set with the Fire Union is not to go public with matters being discussed; ground rules have not been set with the Police union. Meetings are scheduled with both unions; it has been quite convivial; and we are hoping to have a pleasant outcome.

A motion made by President Pro Tem Hyslop, seconded by Councilor Spreccace, it was unanimously voted to add to the agenda, namely **8.1 Marketing Grants – Ocean Beach Park.**

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, it was unanimously voted to add to the agenda, namely **10.0 Executive Session,** CAM: Sometime during the meeting, Council will meet in executive session to discuss an employment and personnel matter regarding the position of Administrative Assistant to City Council, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6).

6.0 Consent Agenda:

A motion made by President Pro Tem Hyslop, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, That the Consent Agenda Proposals set forth at the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2012 are either (1) accepted for the record; (2) Referred to the Committee named; (3) Waived from Committee to be acted upon as proposed; or (4) Consented to as proposed.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 For the information of Council to be received for the record and/or referred to Committee:

- a) Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of April 30, 2012 (with edits)
- b) New London Main Street, May 2012 Report
- c) May 25, 2012 correspondence to Chairman of the Water & Water Pollution Control Authority regarding appointments to commission (Referred to Administration Committee of Council)

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7.1 For the information of Council to be received for the record and/or referred to Committee (Continued):

- e) May 18, 2012 correspondence from Kenté Cultural Center thanking Council for Community Development Block Grant funding
- f) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee meeting held May 21, 2012
- g) Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held May 21 and 29, 2012
- h) Minutes of the Administration Committee meeting held May 21, 2012
- i) Minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting held May 29, 2012

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: That the foregoing matters, 7.1 a) through 7.1 c) and 7.1 e) through 7.1 i), are received for the record and/or referred to Committee.

7.4 Actions of the Public Welfare Committee at its Meeting of June 4, 2012

Council took no formal action.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Marketing Grants – Ocean Beach Park

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Council approves resolution number 060412-1 authorizing Daryl Justin Finizio, Chief Executive Officer of the City of New London, to execute an agreement with the State of Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism in the amount of \$10,000 to promote the park. The Clerk reads the resolution by title only, all Councilors having copies, and the subject resolution is adopted by Roll Call Vote.

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RESOLUTION NUMBER 060412-1

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

I, Nathan Caron, City Clerk, City of New London, a Connecticut corporation, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the New London City Council, duly held on June 4, 2012, at which meeting a duly constituted quorum of the City Council was present and acting throughout and that such resolution has not been modified, rescinded or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

Resolved, that Daryl Justin Finizio, Chief Executive Officer of the City of New London New London, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this corporation a certain contract in the amount of \$10,000 with the State of Connecticut, Commission on Culture & Tourism, and to affix the corporate seal if any.

In witness whereof, the undersigned has affixed his seal and the corporate seal of this corporation, if any.

A motion made by President Pro Tem Hyslop, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, All items having the unanimous support of the City Council are hereby adopted with a single Roll Call Vote. The Chair called the roll and declared the motions to be unanimously voted and adopted.

A motion made by Councilor Spreace, seconded by President Pro Tem Hyslop, to lift from the table – discussion of the minutes of the Special meeting of May 29, 2012. The motion passed 6-0.

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by President Pro Tem Hyslop, to accept the minutes of the special meeting of May 29, 2012 with edits (Pages 4 and 9). The motion passed 6-0.

Statement made by Councilor Nolan: The minutes indicate that President Passero and Councilor Nolan left the Chambers. He believes that is because there was a discussion where it would have been a conflict for him to stay in Chambers. Going forward, if he can vote on something that is not a conflict, such as Fire Department issue, he would appreciate Councilors not saying they are going to vote on something that deals with the Police Department and then it turns out not to be so. He also asked that if Councilors are going to vote on something that they separate the items that are Police related; do not combine police and non-police related items thus causing him to miss voting. If he can vote, he wants to vote. If there is a conflict, he will remove himself from the area at the time of the conflict.

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7.1 d) Memorandum dated May 30, 2012 from the Mayor's Office regarding appointments to the Water & Water Pollution Control Authority (Refer to Administration Committee of Council)

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, to accept the communication for the record.

An amendment made by President Passero, seconded by Councilor Sprecace, to refer the matter to the Administration Committee of Council. The amendment passed 5-1. Those voting in favor: Hyslop, Passero, Sprecace, Friess-McSparran, Nolan. Those voting against: Maynard.

The motion as amended passed 6-0. To accept the communication for the record and refer to the Administration Committee of Council.

7.2 Actions of the Finance Committee at Its Meeting of June 4, 2012

A) CREC Proposal

A motion made by President Passero, seconded by Councilor Maynard, Council authorizes the Law Director to negotiate a contract with CREC to be forwarded to the School Administration for comment and returned to the Finance Committee.

An amendment made by Councilor Sprecace, seconded by President Passero, to add *to support its meeting to be scheduled for June 18, 2012*. The amendment passed 6-0.

The motion as amended passed 6-0. Council authorizes the Law Director to negotiate a contract with CREC to be forwarded to the School Administration for comment and returned to the Finance Committee to support its meeting to be scheduled for June 18, 2012.

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7.3 Actions of the Administration Committee at Its Meeting of June 4, 2012

A) Discussion on the Appointment of a Charter Revision Commission to complete the review of the Charter

A motion made Councilor Maynard, seconded by President Pro Tem Hyslop, That the City Council establish a Charter Revision Commission consisting of seven members. Councilors will provide recommendations [1 each] for potential Commission members, recommended areas of the Charter for possible changes, and recommended dates by which the Commission is to submit its draft report. Said recommendations will be provided to the Council Administrative Aide by the close of business on Thursday, June 14, 2012 for inclusion on the agenda for the June 18, 2012, City Council meeting when final Charter Revision Commission details will be set.

An amendment made by President Passero, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, to increase the number of members to 14. The amendment failed 1-5. Those voting in favor: Passero. Those voting against: Maynard, Hyslop, Sprecace, Friess-McSparran, Nolan.

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by President Passero, to table the matter. The motion to table failed 3-3. Those voting in favor: Maynard, Passero, Friess-McSparran. Those voting against: Hyslop, Sprecace, Nolan.

The vote on the main motion was 4-2. Those voting in favor: Maynard, Passero, Sprecace, Friess-McSparran. Those voting against: Hyslop, Nolan. Per State Statute Section 7-188, two-thirds of the entire membership of the appointing authority (five-sevenths) is required to pass this motion; therefore, the motion failed.

9.0 Appointments

A) Beautification Committee

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by Councilor Sprecace, to appoint Donna Vendetto (D) as a member of the Beautification Committee, term to expire December 2014. The motion passed 5-0. (President Passero was out of Chambers.)

B) Historic District Commission

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by Councilor Nolan, to reappoint Sara Chaney as a member of the Historic District Commission (D), term to expire November 2017. The motion passed 5-0. (President Passero was out of Chambers.)

Council took a brief recess.

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10.0 Executive Session

A motion made at 8:55 p.m. by President Passero, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, that Council meet in executive session with the Director of Law to discuss an employment and personnel matter regarding the position of Administrative Assistant to City Council, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200(6). The motion passed 6-0.

Council reconvened its regular session at 9:22 p.m. There were no motions made, nor votes taken during executive session.

7.3 Actions of the Administration Committee at Its Meeting of June 4, 2012

B) Proposed Resolution regarding Corporate Personhood

A motion made by Councilor Maynard, seconded by Councilor Friess-McSparran, the New London City Council supports the Proposed resolution regarding Corporate Personhood. The motion passed 4-2. Those voting in favor: Maynard, Hyslop, Passero, Friess-McSparran. Those voting against: Sprecace, Nolan.

Proposed Resolution Regarding Corporate Personhood (respectfully suggested for the New London, Connecticut City Council)

Whereas, the city of New London celebrates freedom of speech as a voice for each person.

Whereas, the city of New London has grave concerns about the health of our country following the United States Supreme Court's Citizens United ruling regarding the constitutional rights of corporations.

Whereas, the city of New London finds leadership is best when it engages citizens, not money.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of New London, Connecticut.

Section 1 The city of New London is calling for an amendment to the Constitution to provide that corporations are not entitled to the entirety of protections or "rights" of natural persons, specifically so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech.

Section 2. Furthermore, the city of New London is calling on Congress to begin the process of amending the Constitution for said purpose.

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11.0 Adjournment

A motion made at 9:27 p.m. by President Pro Tem Hyslop, seconded by Councilor Nolan, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 6-0.

Attest: _____
Nathan M. Caron, City Clerk

grm

Approved 6/18/2012