CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti called the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was deferred as they had already recited it at the beginning of the Public Hearing which was held immediately prior to the Special Meeting.

ROLL CALL

Alderman John F. Anglace, Jr., President – present
Alderman Lynne Farrell - present
Alderman John “Jack” Finn - present
Alderman Stanley Kudej - present
Alderman Noreen McGorty - present
Alderman John P. Papa - present
Alderman Eric McPherson - present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti - present

ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti

AGENDA ITEM

1. MAYOR’S SALARY SURVEY

Alderman Kudej MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Committee, to approve the Mayor’s Salary Survey Agreement as submitted by David J. Dunn with funding in an amount of $4,200 to come from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00. Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace stated: What you have here is the proposal that we received from David Dunn. We discussed it with him and we said that we would review it with Counsel and just today we got the final contract from Counsel which we will get David Dunn to sign and then we can get to work and it will be back in October. We will have his recommendations for the regular meeting.
A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7-1. Alderman Finn opposed.

2. BUDDINGTON ROAD/HUNTINGTON STREET – P&Z 8-24 REFERRAL OVERRIDE

Alderman Anglace MOVED to override Planning & Zoning’s unfavorable 8-24 Referral passed at P&Z’s October 12, 2010 meeting regarding Buddington Road and Huntington Street Intersection Improvements as shown on Map entitled “Intersection Reconstruction Plan” prepared by James R. Swift and dated September 2, 2010. Seconded by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

3. #54, #56, #61 BROC TERRACE STREET NAME CHANGE

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the change of #54, #56, #61 Broc Terrace to Broc Terrace Extension effective immediately. Seconded by Alderman Papa.

Discussion:

You will notice on the backup page you have a photo of the new signage and this is a longstanding issue. They hadn’t pursued it but they have been wanting a name change. So we will change the name of the street and start from scratch.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

4. WAIVER OF BIDDING PROCESS – CONVERSION OF 1 HB SMITH BOILER AT SHELTON SCHOOLS TO LIQUID PROPANE

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent, to waive the bidding process for the conversion of 1 HB Smith boiler at various Shelton schools to Liquid Propane. Further approve the proposal from Santa Buckley Energy with funding in amount of $97,870 to be provided by bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter and authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate same. Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

Discussion:

Alderman Finn asked: Mr. Mayor, what schools are we looking at as far as the conversion of the boilers?

Mayor Lauretti responded: There are four of them - Long Hill, Booth Hill, Elizabeth Shelton and Mohegan.

Alderman Finn replied: Mr. Mayor, with the liquid propane, naturally there is going to be a savings with liquid propane or natural gas, but with liquid propane there will be additional costs associated with it and we will probably have to do what we did on Riverdale Avenue,
they will probably have to be filled every other day and in front of Long Hill School, Elizabeth Shelton School and just down the street from Mohegan School we have natural gas in the road and it seems to be less costly to taxpayers if we just hook up those three schools to natural gas in the road. As you know, natural gas is less expensive than propane.

Mayor Lauretti responded: I couldn’t disagree with you more. The number of $97,000 is the total price out the door. It includes everything.

Alderman Anglace stated: It includes the tanks and everything.

Mayor Lauretti stated: I will get to an explanation and tell you what this is. This is a conversion of the existing oil burners that allows us to use dual fuel. In other words, whatever price is lower at the time, we flip the switch and that’s what we use, either oil or gas. Now, the only school that has the natural gas in the road is Long Hill and it is probably cost prohibitive and time consuming to try to get from the front of the school on Long Hill Avenue to the back of the school where it needs to go. So, there’s a little bit more here than what meets the eye in terms of affordability and common sense using the propane versus the natural gas from the street. The number is a pretty good number. This is also eligible for the federal subsidy of 50 cents a gallon so I think that does sweeten the deal up quite a bit. Although I’m fairly certain the federal government will be at the table for us on that one because we are still waiting for our subsidy on the first six months for the bus fuel that we used. There are many positives to this thing. I don’t see a downside to it, coupled with the fact that is environmentally the most friendly fuel that there is. We had this discussion when we switched to propane for the school busses. Same thing applies here.

Alderman Finn replied: Mr. Mayor, since we bought up the busses, we did have that propane leak down there and the fire department spent well over two hours putting fog spray on busses to dissipate the propane. What would be the distance from the school building for the propane tanks to be located and how are we going to prevent children from climbing the fence, if there is going to be a fence around it, which I am hoping there will be, from getting inside and playing with the tank?

Mayor Lauretti replied: We are going to follow the codes. The codes require certain things and that’s what we are going to do. And while Jack, you should know after all these years, that there is nothing that is 100 percent in life. Absolutely nothing. Government certainly can’t guarantee 100 percent. They can’t even get to 50 percent some times.

Alderman Finn replied: Yes, but we as a local community Mr. Mayor, could go a little further than that.

Mayor Lauretti asked: What do you suggest that we do?

Alderman Finn stated: Well, if you are going to put liquid propane in, there has to be a distance away from the school. If you are going to put a fence around it, you can’t put a fence around it that goes straight up, you have to have something that comes out so the children, if they go up the fence they can’t get inside it and get in to play with the tanks. What I’m saying is you know how there are fences with differences on the top. I’m not saying barbed wire, I’m just saying the way it’s sloped at the top so no one can go over and into the
tank. I just don’t want to see an accident or something happen in a school either if the children are there or they are not there. That’s my main concern.

Alderman Simonetti stated: I have some experience with this. You bury the tank so no one can get at it. It’s very simple. It’s easy and secure.

Mayor Lauretti responded: We are not doing that.

Alderman Papa stated: Mr. Mayor, if you drive around the city there are a certain percentage of homeowners that have propane tanks outside that they use for heating their homes. They are right out there. There are no fences around it. There’s a 1,000 gallon tank or whatever it is and they supply all the utilities. So this is not a new concept. It’s been used quite a lot already.

Alderman Finn responded: You are absolutely correct, but here you will have 500 or 600 children in the school.

Alderman Papa responded: These are still exposed in a residential area.

Alderman Anglace stated: My understanding is that this proposal comes from the Board of Education.

Mayor Lauretti responded: No. This proposal comes from me.

Alderman Papa stated: We are going to follow the code that is required.

Alderman Finn asked: Have we looked into the cost from bringing it in from the streets compared to going into the existing contract?

Mayor Lauretti responded: It was considered.

Alderman Finn stated: Because I know that the governor is asking everybody if they want to do a conversion over to natural gas because it’s so energy efficient and the cost is so low at the present time. Now all the sudden we got liquid propane going in and the cost is higher and I’m concerned with the safety factor at the schools.

Mayor Lauretti said: If you were concerned about the safety factor you put kids on the school bus that has propane, you aren’t concerned about that.

Alderman Finn said: Now I am very much concerned after the hose came off and they couldn’t shut the valve off. We had to get Derby HazMat team over here to Shelton to secure the situation. I take my hat off to you for wanting to save money on energy, that’s fantastic, I just don’t agree with liquid propane compared to natural gas.

Alderman Anglace said: You are talking one school that has...

Alderman Finn stated: Elizabeth Shelton has natural gas out in the road. Long Hill School has natural gas. Booth Hill School does not. Mohegan School has natural gas down at the intersection of Mohegan and Ripton.
A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7-1. Alderman Finn opposed.

5. WAIVER OF BIDDING PROCESS - TANK DRAIN & PIPING MODIFICATIONS AT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Alderman Anglance MOVED, per the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent, to waive the bidding process for tank drain and piping modifications in conjunction with the recent installation of high efficiency turbo blowers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Seconded by Alderman McGorty. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

6. LANE STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT RESOLUTION

Alderman Anglance MOVED to approve the agreement between the State of Connecticut and the City of Shelton regarding the Lane Street Bridge Replacement Project.

Further approve the following resolution:

Be it resolved, that Mark A. Lauretti, Mayor, be, and hereby is, authorized to sign the agreement entitled “Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the City of Shelton for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates in conjunction with the Replacement of the Lane Street (Bridge No. 05949) over Means Brook Utilizing Federal Funds from the Highway Bridge Program.”

Seconded by Alderman Papa.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglance stated: My understanding is that Counsel called me today to tell me that this resolution is specifically what the state wants us to pass and the funds are in place for this.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Mayor Lauretti MOVED to adjourn at approximately 7:29 pm. SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Adcox, Clerk
Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED: ______________BY: ____________________________
Mark A. Lauretti
Mayor, City of Shelton