



SPECIAL VIRTUAL MEETING  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
CITY OF SHELTON, CT  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020  
Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street  
*Live-Streamed at [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org)*  
MINUTES

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**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti called the Special Virtual Meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Shelton City Hall. All those present stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Roll Call**

Alderman John F. Anglace, Jr., President- Present  
Alderman Eric McPherson, Vice President- Present via Phone  
Alderman David Gidwani- Present via Phone  
Alderman Stanley Kudej- Not Present  
Alderman Noreen McGorty- Present via Phone  
Alderman Cris Balamaci- Present  
Alderman Bernie Simons- Present via phone  
Alderman Anthony Simonetti- Present

**Administration**

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti - Present  
Fran Teodosio, Corporation Counsel – Present via phone  
Thomas Cotter, Assistant Corporation Counsel - present  
Jack Bashar, Administrative Assistant - present

**Public Portion**

Mayor Lauretti asked if anyone from the public wished to address the board. There being none, he closed the public portion.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Alderman Anglace moved to waive the reading and approve the following meeting minutes:

**1.1 SPECIAL VIRTUAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

*Minutes can be viewed on the city website: [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org).*

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**5.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

5.1.1 NO ITEMS

**5.2 PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

5.2.1 NO ITEMS

**5.3 STREET COMMITTEE**

5.3.1 NO ITEMS

**REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

No Report.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Alderman Anglace: I just want to say that the Board of Aldermen congratulates State Representative Jason Perillo on his appointment as Deputy House Republican leader in the Connecticut General Assembly and we also congratulate Senator Kevin Kelly on his appointment as Senate Republican Leader. We expect their positions of leadership in the Connecticut General Assembly will ensure that the views of Shelton constituents will be heard throughout the upcoming legislative session. It might appear to be a little early but we also take this opportunity to wish everyone a Covid-19 free Merry Christmas and safe, healthy and happy New Year. Thank you.

**6 – LEGAL REPORT**

**6.1 CORPORATION COUNSEL BILLING**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorized a total payment of \$1,406.25 to Corporation Counsel Teodosio Stanek, LLC, for services rendered per statements December 2, 2020, with funds to come from the following Legal Services Accounts:

Professional Services -	001-1900-411.30-01	\$
Legal Fees -	001-1900-411.30-03	\$1,406.25
Foreclosure Fees -	001-1900-411.50-01	\$
Court Costs -	001-1900-411.80.84	\$

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

*Bernie Simons joined the meeting at 5:05 p.m.*

**6.2 ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL BILLING**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorize a total payment of \$1,177.50 to Assistant Corporation Counsel Thomas Galvin Cotter for services rendered per statement dated December 3, 2020, with funds to come from the following Legal Services Accounts:

Professional Services	001-1900-411.30-01	\$
Legal Fees	001-1900-411.30-03	\$1,177.50
Foreclosure Fees	001-1900-411.50-01	\$
Miscellaneous Services	001-1900-411.80-03	\$
Court Costs	001-1900-411.80-84	\$

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**7- LEGISLATIVE – OLD**

**7.1 ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING**

**7.1 A. NO ITEMS**

**8 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – OLD**

**8.1 FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL POLICE VEHICLE EXPENSES**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$58,817.60 for police vehicle expenses with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci.

Mayor Lauretti: This is for the lights and radios for the new vehicles. You may remember that we appropriated the sum of \$150,000 to purchase vehicles at the end of the last fiscal year.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Lauretti: Just for the record the city of Minneapolis defunded their police department by \$8 million and crime is on the rise. Good luck.

## **9 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – NEW**

### **9.1 DECEMBER STATUTORY REFUNDS**

Alderman Anglace MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$13,535.04 be approved and that the Finance Director be directed to make payments in accordance with the certified list received from the Tax Collector with funds to come from the Statutory Refunds Account 001-0000-311.13.00.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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### **9.2 OVER-EXPENDITURE FOR REGISTRAR OF VOTER'S OFFICE**

*(REVISION #2 OF THE AGENDA MOVED ITEM 9.2 TO BE INCLUDED UNDER ITEM 9.4 OVER-EXPENDITURES FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS)*

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### **9.3 FUNDING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR SHELTER RIDGE REVIEW – CIVIL 1 INC. INVOICE**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$25,000 for Civil 1 Inc. professional engineering services invoice dated September 30, 2020 for Shelter Ridge review with funding to come from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00.

SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci.

Alderman Anglace: Was that in conjunction with Inland and Wetlands?

Mayor Lauretti: It was not Inland and Wetlands expense.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

9.4 OVER-EXPENDITURES FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the following resolutions:

A. MOVED to authorize the over-expenditure of the Employee Resources' Unemployment Comp. City Account #001-0200-411.80-53 through the end of fiscal year 2020-2021.

B. MOVED to authorize the over-expenditure of the Police Department's Records Administration Account #001-2500-511.30-17 through the end of fiscal year 2020-2021.

C. MOVED to authorize the over-expenditure of the following Elections accounts through the end of fiscal year 2020-2021.

<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>
0500-413.30-07	Printing & Advertising---Ballots. memory cards, posters, post cards for primary
0500-413.10-02	Part Time Employees for primary and election prep and adding an additional 4,500 voters to system.
0500-413.60-27	ELECTION EQUIPMENT Covid required extra signs, disposable pens,, etc
0500-413.10-04	Poll workers for primary, including extras needed to comply with Covid Rules
0500-413.40-05	Postage

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Alderman Anglace: What about authorizing Miscellaneous Client Analysis Bank Charges? That's \$3,541 currently overdrawn. As I understand it, we have never had to put money in the budget for this because we receive the money from the bank in interest on the money we had

invested in there but that interest rate is so low that now we are incurring expenses, perhaps we should authorize that as well, because there are going to be more charges?

Mayor Lauretti: Is that currently overdrawn now?

Alderman Anglace: Yes, it is.

Mayor Lauretti: To your point a moment ago, it's an accounting transaction and they usually net these expenses out but it's clear we are going to incur more expenses as the year goes on. You can do it now or you can do it in a couple of months, it really doesn't matter.

Alderman Anglace: We can do it now and clean it up. We can authorize the over-expenditure because we aren't going to receive the interest because the interest rate is so low, it's too low to cover the costs. In other years it covered the cost. This is an unforeseen thing and it's going to grow. I guess in order to do it you would have to add it to the agenda but we can't add on as it's a Special Meeting so we will have to do it later on.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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#### 9.5 TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY GENERAL ACCOUNT TO CHARTER REVISION ACCOUNT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to transfer an amount of \$306 from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00 to Legislative Department Charter Revision Account #001-0300-412.80-93.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Alderman Anglace: I have a similar observation here and I know what we just talked about is that we can't add it to the agenda. I just want to make you aware there is \$468 that has to be transferred from Contingency to Property Maintenance for tools. It's overdrawn. We will do that in the future as well.

Mayor Lauretti: I don't know if we need to do that. Also, this one here, I am looking at the motion and Fran I know you are on the line, the motion reads to 'transfer' from Contingency General to the Charter Revision Account but I think the motion would be more appropriately stated by saying that we are going to appropriate the money to pay the bill because I don't think you can transfer at this point in time from one department to another or is Contingency General not in that category?

Attorney Teodosio: I agree.

Mayor Lauretti: So, we should amend the motion to say that we will appropriate the amount of \$306 for the purpose of paying the clerk invoice for Charter Revision.

Alderman Anglace: Appropriate it from where?

Mayor Lauretti: From Contingency General.

Alderman Anglace: No. It's already in the budget in Contingency General so therefore you wouldn't appropriate it, you would take it from there and transfer it.

Mayor Lauretti: So, you would move to make the payment from Contingency General.

Alderman Anglace: Right. So, we transfer from Contingency General...

Mayor Lauretti: We are not transferring.

Alderman Anglace: Yes, we are, it's already in Contingency General.

Mayor Lauretti: We don't transfer it. We just need to authorize the payment from Contingency.

Alderman Anglace: Yes, but that's a transfer.

Mayor Lauretti: I don't agree with you. I don't think you can transfer. We can pay out of Contingency General like we historically do.

Alderman Anglace: The Contingency General Account has \$116,100 in it. All we need to take out of there is the \$306 and move it over in to the Charter Revision Account. An appropriation would increase the size of the total amount of the budget. I wouldn't use the word appropriate. We have the money already in there, we just have to authorize the transfer from Contingency General to Charter Revision.

Mayor Lauretti: Fran, can you weigh in on this?

Attorney Teodosio: John, I think you are talking about semantics.

Alderman Anglace: The money is already in the budget...

Mayor Lauretti: We have made payments out of the Contingency Account in the past. That's what I am suggesting we do here. You can't transfer during the fiscal year.

Alderman Anglace: I will read it to you from the Charter.

Mayor Lauretti: Fran, do you agree or disagree that you can't transfer during the year?

Attorney Teodosio: I disagree that you can transfer line items during the year. I am waiting for John to quote from the Charter.

Alderman Anglace: The Board of Apportionment and Taxation per Charter has the authority to transfer to line items within a departmental budget. We have the authority to transfer one account in the budget to another account. We are taking it from Contingency General, already in the budget, transferring it to another account, which is Charter Revision, already in the budget. It's a simple transfer. We are authorized to do that per Charter.

Mayor Lauretti: I think we are only authorized to do that during the last month of the fiscal year.

Alderman Anglace: No, not from Contingency. To your point regarding the last 30 days of the fiscal year, Section 7.10 ( c) of the Charter states: "During the last thirty (30) days of each fiscal year, the Board of Aldermen, upon the recommendation of the Finance Director, may transfer unexpended and unencumbered balances from one departmental appropriation to another, provided that no transfer shall be made in the departmental budget if the department head certifies in writing to the Board of Aldermen that any remaining monies are required for the necessary operation of his/her department and provided further that no transfer shall be made from the appropriation of the Board of Education." I am trying to find it here, that the Contingency Account is set up specifically to deal with Contingencies that arise through the fiscal year. I am looking for the specific language in the Charter that allows us to transfer money from the Contingency Account.

Attorney Teodosio: John, it also allows you to pay bills from it.

Mayor Lauretti: In the interest of time, I would entertain an amendment to the motion to the effect that we are making a payment out of the Contingency General Account for the over-expended bill from the Charter Revision Commission secretary's minutes fee.

Alderman Simonetti: So moved.

Seconded by Alderman Anglace.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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## 9.6 TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY GENERAL ACCOUNT TO FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to transfer an amount of \$644 from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00 to the Fire Department's Pension/Incentive Awards Account #001-2400-512.11-09.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Mayor Lauretti: This is to pay the balance of Fire Department Pension/Incentive Awards to be paid out of Contingency General. The motion would fall into the same category as the last. You are transferring into and I don't think we can do that and I think the more appropriate motion

would be to authorize payment out of Contingency General for the balance that is due on the Fire Department Pension/Incentive Awards.

Alderman Simonetti: When was the bill incurred, before June 1st?

Mayor Lauretti: That would be for this year's bill.

Alderman Simonetti: So 2020, after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Lauretti: Right. The payment was short that amount and that's based on the calculation that the person who holds the pension for the fire department and reviewed by the pensions commission came up with. It's different every year. Some years it's less, some years it's more.

Alderman Anglace: I would like to mention that Item 9.5 and Item 9.6, the intent here is to cover those overdrawn accounts and Counsel should look it up and be sure, and give us an opinion whether we handled it correctly. If we didn't handle it correctly, then we will come back next month and do it over again.

Mayor Lauretti: Both of those items are one-time payments and one was due from a payment from last year's budget.

Alderman Anglace: Yes, we are just trying to clean up old business as it has to be taken care of.

Mayor Lauretti: Normally we would do this at the end of the year but there is an urgency this year, so we are doing it.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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## 9.7 WAIVER OF BID - FUNDING FOR FIRE WORKS

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent, to waive to the bidding process for the purchase of fireworks in the amount of \$10,000 with funding to come from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Mayor Lauretti: This is a new expenditure and new thought for New Year's Eve/New Year's Day, depending on the weather, that we would do fireworks to send out 2020 and give people a little uplifting for 2021 as opposed to what we have all been through with the pandemic. It's the holidays, we are starting a new year. Let's get rid of 2020 because it hasn't been something that we in America and around the world have been used to. I hope you think it's a worthy and good idea.

Alderman McPherson: I think it's a great idea. We all need some uplifting. It's been just a horrible year for many people. I totally agree with you.

Alderman Simonetti: I agree also.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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#### 9.8 WAIVER OF BID - RENOVATION OF WOMEN'S POOL LOCKER ROOM SHOWERS

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent, to waive to the bidding process for the renovation of the Women's Pool Locker Room Showers at the Community Center.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Mayor Lauretti: The work will be done in-house. There have been some unanticipated costs in regards to materials and we are trying to get this work done while this portion of the building is still closed. Like everyone else, we anticipate that the world will open back up in 2021 and we will be in full service and we think this is the right opportunity to get this done and take advantage of down time for our building facilities. Item 9.9 on this agenda, which is coming up next, is in this same category.

Alderman Anglace: It appears that the work is going to be done internally, and that this is just a waiver and that it's just for materials costs.

Mayor Lauretti: Correct.

Alderman Anglace: You aren't asking for any money?

Mayor Lauretti: There is no money anticipated right now. We think there is enough in the budget to cover it. The work is going to get done. It's already in progress. The shower stalls in the women's locker room and the men's locker room have outlived their useful life and we are also upgrading the plumbing.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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#### 9.9 WAIVER OF BID - KEY FOB SYSTEM FOR CITY HALL – LOCIP ELIGIBLE

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent, to waive the bidding process for the purchase of a new key fob system for City Hall and to add it to the Capital Improvement Plan in an amount of \$15,169 with funding to come from LOCIP.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

Alderman Anglace: This is an intriguing undertaking and I would be interested in hearing more about it.

Mayor Lauretti: What's intriguing is people's behavior that has changed dramatically since the day we took office thirty years ago. The things that come through and the requests that our department heads get, my office in particular, just leave us shaking our heads. It's also to control the flow of people in and out of our offices because of the Covid-19 virus, this will certainly help do that. We have been talking about security issues in our building for years and this is the opportunity to do that. There is going to be a lot of work in this building in the next coming weeks, particularly in the Town Clerk's Office and the third floor. In fact, the building may even be shut for an entire week to get this worked on. We are trying to do an overhaul of the Town Clerk's Office for which you made an appropriation a couple months back. With the impending election it was impossible to do it before that. So, I am thinking that the week between Christmas and New Year's we will close the building completely so that we can get this work done.

Alderman Simonetti: Will this system record who comes in and out and who is in the building?

Mayor Lauretti: I think it has all the bells and whistles but I am not the person to ask that question.

Dan Bednarsky: May I interject please? With the key fob system yes, there will be an audit trail of every time a fob is used to enter the building. At any time that report can be requested, we can print it out and it will show any time a fob was used to get in and out. The building will always be in a lock down mode where no one can get in from the outside unless they are either buzzed in or they use their fob. With the system what will happen is someone will walk up, it will be just like going into any of the schools or the Board of Education administration building where you hit a buzzer, someone acknowledges you and you are then buzzed in and I believe the overall plan is to funnel traffic to a main desk in the main hallway who will then direct the person to the appropriate department that they need to go to.

Alderman Balamaci: That exterior door entry, does it have any cameras?

Dan Bednarsky: There will be integrated video as well.

Mayor Lauretti: That's to come at a later date.

Dan Bednarsky: Actually no, the integration is part of the active control system. It's all one unit. Again, all of the work will be done in-house, this will be just like the renovation of the locker rooms where it's materials only.

Alderman Anglace: When I come into the building, will I have to come through the front door and be buzzed in or will I have identification that lets me in?

Mayor Lauretti: Things like that are to be determined. I wouldn't want to speculate on which individuals have a key fob. The goal is to get the building secured so we can control access not only for security purposes but the coronavirus.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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**10 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW**

**10.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING**

**10.1 A. NO ITEMS**

**11 - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**11.1 A. REQUEST TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to go into executive session and asked the Corporation Counsel and Assistant Corporation Counsel and Administrative Assistant Jack Bashar to be included.

SECONDED by Alderman McPherson.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to reconvene and noted that there were no votes were taken in executive session.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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**11.1 KAREN OKO WORKER'S COMPENSATION**

No vote taken.

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**11.2 LITIGATION CHROMIUM PROCESS PARCEL**

Corporation Counsel offered up a motion for the Board's consideration:

Whereas the City of Shelton finds that it is in the best interest of its citizens and for the public good to utilize its powers of eminent domain,

The Board of Aldermen hereby MOVES to take a triangular portion of property known as 125 Canal Street with its powers of eminent domain.

Alderman Simonetti: So moved.

Alderman Gidwani seconded the motion.

**Opposed**

Alderman Anglace  
Alderman McPherson  
Alderman Balamaci  
Alderman McGorty  
Alderman Simons

**In favor**

Alderman Gidwani  
Alderman Simonetti

A voice vote was taken and the motion FAILED 5-2.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to adjourn the Special Virtual Meeting.

SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Theresa Adcox*

Theresa Adcox  
Board of Aldermen Clerk

DATE APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti

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