



SPECIAL VIRTUAL MEETING  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
CITY OF SHELTON, CT  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021  
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 Lauretti called the Special Virtual Meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order at 6:00 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  
Alderman Cris Balamaci- Present  
Alderman Joanna Carloni – Present  
Alderman David Gidwani- Not Present  
Alderman Noreen McGorty- Present via Zoom  
Alderman Anthony Simonetti- Present  
Alderman Bernie Simons- Present

**Administration**

Fran Teodosio, Corporation Counsel – Present  
Thomas Cotter, Assistant Corporation Counsel – Present  
Paul Hiller, Present via Zoom

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Lauretti asked three times if anyone wished to address the Board. There being no one, he closed the public portion.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

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

1.1 BOARD OF ALDERMEN SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 9, 2021.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

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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**

No Report.

**6 – LEGAL REPORT**

6.1 CORPORATION COUNSEL BILLING

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorize a total payment of \$3,018.75 to Corporation Counsel Teodosio Stanek, LLC, for services rendered per statements dated October 1, 2021, with funds to come from the Legal Fees Account.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

6.2 ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL BILLING

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorize a total payment of \$1,633.50 to Assistant Corporation Counsel Thomas Galvin Cotter for services rendered per statements dated October 5, 2021, with funds to come from the Legal Fees Account.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

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**7- LEGISLATIVE – OLD**

7.1 ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING

7.1 A. NO ITEMS

**8 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – OLD**

8.1 NO ITEMS

**9 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – NEW**

9.1 OCTOBER STATUTORY REFUNDS

Alderman Anglace MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$12,493.56 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, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

9.2 HOUSING REHABILITATION SPECIALIST AGREEMENT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the agreement between the City of Shelton and Signal Rock Consulting for Housing Rehabilitation Specialist services in conjunction with the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program which such agreement extends for a period of three years.

Further authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the same.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

### 9.3 FUNDING FOR BODY/DASHBOARD CAMERAS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Lauretti: Will Lieutenant Bob Kozlowsky and Officer Kevin Stratton from the Shelton Police Department please come to the podium to give us a brief description regarding this request?

Officer Stratton: Good evening. We all know that the Police Accountability Bill that was just passed is mandating all Connecticut municipality police departments to have body-worn cameras and cruiser cameras which of course, will be unfunded. This has to be in place by July 1<sup>st</sup> of next year. There is state grant money which is available, however the equipment has to be purchased before December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to get that money. I believe there was approximately \$4 million in general obligation bonds from the OPM providing this grant money and the way that works is...

Mayor Lauretti: This is for the entire state, the \$4 million?

Officer Stratton: Correct. We need to speak with Mark Pelka, the undersecretary for Criminal Justice Policy and Planning for the State of Connecticut and he says that there is still a considerable amount of money left in that grant. The contract is broken up into a five-year contract which is 132 pages. We would receive up to 30 percent of year one costs which would include the body-worn cameras, docking stations, accessories and year one payment for the license and storage. We spoke with Axon Enterprises, Inc. trying to find the most cost-effective way to do this, and we front loaded year one so we could take advantage of that 30 percent. The most recent one, which you should have a copy of, would be \$130,000 for year one and the remaining year two through five would be \$42,000 a year. With that being said, 30 percent of the \$130,000 is roughly about \$40,000. So, year one would cost us about \$90,000. For the remaining years it would be 30 percent of just the hardware, and 30 percent of the hardware would be \$4,000 a year, so for years two through five we would get \$16,000 total back for up to \$56,000 out of the \$300,000 total quote for the five-year project. One of the reasons we went with Axon is because month 30 and month 60, they do a refresh which means we get brand new hardware and any updates that are needed.

Mayor Lauretti: Plus, they are a seasoned company with experience in body-worn cameras.

Officer Stratton: Yes. It was the second lowest bidder. The taser that we carry is universal with Axon. If we wanted to, we could have our taser holders activated, meaning that as soon as we pulled them out it would activate the Axon camera. The other company was from Michigan, it was a little bit lower, \$270,000 but it hasn't been tried and trusted here in Connecticut and it's a newer company when it comes to the police body-worn cameras. We thought it was a good idea to go with Axon as it's a trusted device all over the world and all over the State of Connecticut.

Lt. Kozlowsky: We also went with cloud-based storage and the City of Shelton owns the rights to all the videos. So, after the five years, if we decided to go to another company, we would get those videos back so there wouldn't be any issues with that. Even though it is on cloud-based storage all of the videos are the property of the City of Shelton.

Alderman Balamaci: How does the state determine how much each municipality receives in the grant money?

Officer Stratton: It's up to 30 percent. It would be 50 percent for communities and towns that are struggling. Of course, Shelton is not one of those towns, so we get the 30 percent. Once we pay for the Axon contract, there is an application process which we submit up to OPM and they put it in front of the bond commission for approval. We will be refunded up to thirty percent.

Mayor Lauretti: The funding structure that we are going to follow right now is that we will upfront the amount of \$131,000 and going forward for the next four years the balance will be a line item in the Police Department budget.

Alderman Balamaci: So, the licensure, is it just for the software or is it per user?

Officer Stratton: It's per user.

Alderman Simonetti: Who is going to go for the grant, do you do it?

Officer Stratton: I already have the application done.

Alderman Simonetti: How long before we would get the equipment?

Lt. Kozlowsky: We are planning on way before July. There needs to be some training. We are on pace probably for the spring to have this fully up and running.

Alderman Simonetti: How many units are you purchasing?

Officer Stratton: We are purchasing 50 body-worn camera units and 20 in-car cruiser cameras.

Alderman Simonetti: Will the officers who are working on a private duty job be wearing a camera?

Lt. Kozlowsky: They are not required by the state to wear them during private duty jobs.

Alderman Simonetti: Do they automatically go on or are they on all the time?

Lt. Kozlowsky: They are set to trigger for certain events, so for instance, if an officer is driving in their car with their lights and sirens they will be triggered to activate, otherwise they have to hit the button to record and there are also options where we could look into in the future such as if an officer draws his taser then the body-worn camera would automatically trigger on so there are those options available.

Mayor Lauretti: An appropriate motion for this would be MOVE to approve the contract between the City of Shelton and Axon for the body/dashboard cameras for the Police Department and also appropriate an amount of \$131,713. The total for the five years is \$300,240.30.

Alderman McPherson: So moved.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Alderman McPherson: We need to authorize you to sign the contract.

Mayor Lauretti: That needs to be in the form of an amendment.

Alderman McPherson: Move to amend the motion to add in the following language: "Further authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the same."

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

Mayor Lauretti: Now we will vote on the motion as amended.

A voice vote was taken, the motion as amended PASSED unanimously (7-0).

#### 9.4 FUNDING FOR REPAIRS TO LADDER #47

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorize an amount of \$38,359 for the repairs to 2014 KME Aerial CAT Ladder 47 with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

Seconded by Alderman Carloni.

Mayor Lauretti: I am going to ask Chief Fran Jones to give a brief description of the repair.

Chief Jones: The truck is a 2014 ladder truck, it's about seven years old. A brief description of the repair is that the stabilizers that are used to hold the ladder up, they needed repair and the water pipe that delivers the water to the top of the ladder is being replaced. The truck has been used numerous times over the past seven years. It's more than routine maintenance that has to be completed. The truck is worth about \$923,000 and this special appropriation may seem expensive but in the scheme of things, it's not.

Mayor Lauretti: I don't believe we have had a repair of this magnitude for any of those vehicles that we bought in these seven years?

Chief Jones: We have not. This is one of those one-off occurrences that sometimes happens. The truck is housed at Company #4 Pine Rock. These vehicles are tested annually for ladder testing, pump testing, and our DOT testing, it wouldn't pass the test in its current state. The parts are available. The vendors we are using are local and statewide.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

9.5 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AUTHORIZATION - 2021

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the following resolution:

Be it hereby resolved, that the Board of Aldermen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and further be it resolved, that Mark A. Lauretti, as Mayor of the City of Shelton, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the City of Shelton and to do and perform all acts and things he/she deem to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

A voice vote was taken, the motion PASSED unanimously (7-0).

**10 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW**

10.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING

10.1 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 to be included.

SECONDED by Alderman McPherson.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

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

SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

11.1 WILLIAM SERRANO WORKER’S COMPENSATION

Alderman Anglace MOVED to authorize the recommendation of Assistant Corporation Counsel Thomas Cotter as discussed in executive session for William Serrano’s Worker’s Compensation.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

11.2 CHRISTOPHER ROBAK WORKER’S COMPENSATION

No action.

11.3 SALE OF CITY PROPERTY – 35 SAGINAW TRAIL/1 SHINNACOCK TRAIL

Alderman McPherson MOVED to offer the sale of city-owned property lot on 35 Saginaw Trail/1 Shinnacock Trail to the abutting property owners as per discussion in executive session and to follow the protocol approved by the City in the event the abutting property owners do not accept the offer.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Anglacei MOVED to adjourn the Special Virtual Meeting.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Theresa Adcox*

Theresa Adcox  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Mark A. Lauretti