



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF SHELTON
REGULAR FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2026
SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT
Live Streamed at www.cityofshelton.org

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Alderman Anglace called the regular Board of Aldermen meeting to order at 5:30 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 Bernard Simons, Vice President – Present
Alderman Lorenzo Durante – Present
Alderman Porter McKinnon – Present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – Present via Zoom
Alderman Benjamin Perry – Present
Alderman Bryan Lizotte – Present
Alderman Michael Duncan – Present via Zoom

Administration

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti (arrived at 5:35)
Fran Teodosio, Corporation Counsel – Present
Thomas Cotter, Assistant Corporation Counsel – Present
Kellie Vazzano, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
Frances Freer, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor

PUBLIC PORTION

Alderman Anglace asked if anyone wished to address the board.

Jerry Bloom
24 Fairfield Avenue, Shelton, CT

Good afternoon. I am so glad we had a roll call for a change. As I did last month, please a show of hands for all the aldermen who are in favor of national security and public safety. I see two hands, three hands, four, five, very good. Once again I am here to address the lack of pavement on the road at

Riverview Park. I have been asking going on three years and I am told this will remain on the road committee's agenda until it is done. Thank you Eric. As you are all aware, I hope, voting integrity is now a big issue in this country. In fact, I just pulled this off of the bulletin board out in the hallway which reads, "A raindrop never thinks it is part of the flood. Register to Vote" This is very good. I shall return it to the bulletin board after the meeting. 19 states in the union, upon registering your motor vehicle or obtaining a driver's license, asks if you wish to register to vote. Needless to say, these are all blue states, democratically run states. 15 of these states do not ask for a photo ID. You just are asked do you wish to register to vote, just check yes. No proof of voter ID. As you may have observed in the ongoing controversy down in Washington, the democrats seem to be opposed which would require that all people who wish to vote must register and provide proof of US Citizenship. Here is a kicker, Somalia of all countries, just passed a voter ID law. How about that? I do hope that Mayor Lauretti will follow up on the request that I made last month that he contact the Department of Homeland Security and have our Police Department enroll under the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1996, Section 287g. The Department of Homeland Security will pay the salaries of all the police officers who participate in it. This is a huge savings, not to mention how much safer Shelton will be made. West Virginia State Senate just passed a bill 615 which mandates all law enforcement comply with immigration policies which is to go to the House of Representatives; we will see if it passes. This is a real urgent matter as you can see with the turmoil that is going on in the country today. A small fraction of the population is opposed to mass deportation of illegal alien criminals, the reason of course being they want to wait out until the next administration comes in, nationalize and grant citizenship to all the illegal aliens so they will vote for them. Again, Mayor Lauretti thanks for showing up. I do hope you will contact the Department of Homeland Security, though they are very busy so a phone call or email might do the trick. Thank you.

Alderman Anglace asked if there was anyone else wishing to address the Board. Hearing none, the Public Portion is closed.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to add on the following item to the agenda. 8.5 Financial Business-New – Over-Expenditure For Bus and Parts Repair.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2026

Minutes can be viewed on the city website: www.cityofshelton.org.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2026.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0)

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

Mayor Lauretti: I will do my report during the items on the agenda.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Alderman Anglace: I do have a report. I have passed out a copy to everybody. This is a letter I am sending to the below as follows:

TO: Governor Ned Lamont
Senate President Susan Bysiewicz
Senate President pro tempore Martin Looney
House Speaker Matthew Ritter
Senate Minority Leader Stephen Harding
Senator Jason Perillo, 21st District
Minority Leader State Rep. Vincent Candelora, 86th District
State Representative Ben McGorty, 122nd District
State Representative Amy Romano, 113th District

DATE: February 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Our Most Vulnerable Residents Need Immediate Relief from Skyrocketing Electric Bills

Dear Legislators,

As President of the Shelton Board of Aldermen, I must share some direct constituent feedback on the escalating and unsustainable cost-of-living crisis in our state—particularly the

unaffordable electricity bills now jeopardizing our most vulnerable seniors. This issue has not been adequately addressed despite prior legislative efforts, including the 2025 Special Session and related energy affordability measures.

It demands immediate priority in the current 2026 session.

Key examples from Shelton residents include:

- A senior living in state-sponsored low-income housing (a modest 3-room unit) facing a \$700 electric bill last month—an amount completely unsustainable on a fixed, low income.*
- Other seniors in single-family homes throughout our municipality report bills exceeding \$1,000 per month.*

These are not isolated cases. Connecticut's electricity rates remain among the highest in the nation (averaging around 31¢/kWh as of early 2026, far above the national average).

Despite bipartisan legislation in 2025 (Senate Bill #4, signed into law on July 1, 2025, as Public Act No. 25-173) aimed at improving energy affordability and providing some rate relief, the problem persists and has worsened with recent rate hikes.

The affordability of electricity has not been adequately addressed, and immediate legislative action is needed. Gov. Lamont's proposed \$200 "rebate" to provide relief does little to help vulnerable seniors facing bankruptcy, utility shutoffs, or forced relocation.

If this is not made a top priority in the current legislative session, the combined pressures of electricity costs and healthcare expenses will accelerate citizen exodus from Connecticut and further erode our business sector—undermining the state's economic future.

We implore the majority party to act decisively. If comprehensive solutions cannot be advanced promptly, we urge you to allow the minority party a meaningful role in developing and debating reforms. Past approaches—such as excluding minority input or relying on redistributive measures that raise public benefits charges on middle-income ratepayers to offset costs for others—have proven ineffective and divisive.

Connecticut's residents, especially our seniors, cannot wait any longer. Affordability must be addressed now.

Sincerely,

FOR THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:

John F. Anglace, Jr.,

President, Board of Aldermen

Alderman Durante MOVED to endorse the report of President John Anglace with regards to skyrocketing electric bills in Connecticut.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: The better motion is to endorse the comments of the Board of Aldermen President.

Alderman Durante: Also to endorse the comment by President John Anglace and those that are attending.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

6- LEGISLATIVE – OLD

6.1 ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING

6.1 A.NO ITEMS

7 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – OLD

7.1 NO ITEMS

8 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – NEW

8.1 STATUTORY REFUNDS

Alderman Anglace MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$8,197.76 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 Simons.

No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

(Supporting documentation from the Tax Collector is on file with the BOA Clerk or Town Clerk's Office

8.2 FUNDING FOR STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING GEAR AND EQUIPMENT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$250,000 for the purchase of structural firefighting gear and equipment for the Fire Department with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: Firefighting gear is now limited to a ten year life. That change was made by the State and for valid reasoning because of carcinogens. Firefighting gear hand-me-downs are no longer permissible. That provides a lot of pressure because we used to take older gear and give it to the newer people who don't get the same amount of exposure that our older firefighters got. I suggest that they go out to bid now and (I think they may have already gone out to bid) solidify the bids and when the final figures are determined, come back and see us again, no later than September of this year. Right now, we are putting in \$250,000.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

8.3 FUNDING FOR SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$5,000 for the Shelton High School Marching Band with funding to come from Youth Programs Account 001-6100-624-79-21.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: This originated from a request that I had back in the fall from a high school student whose tuba broke. Tubas are very expensive and he had asked if there was any financial help available to them. I said we could probably help a little bit. I usually do this when these sporting groups/high school groups also make an effort to fund raise and obtain contributions from other outside sources which is the case here.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

8.4 TRANSFER OF GAMBLE PROPERTY TO CITY OF SHELTON

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve acceptance of a Quit Claim Deed conveying 6.2 acres of "OPEN SPACE" dated May 11, 2023, from Sound II Home Builders, LLC to the City of Shelton all as more particularly detailed in Subdivision Approval for Application #22-16.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: Any questions on this. This is a subdivision off of Long Hill Avenue that has been completed.

Alderman Anglace: I do want to make a point here. We were requested several months back by Tom Harbinson at one of our meetings questioning why the recording of the deed was not filed with the City Clerk and considerable time had gone by. We never got the deed, it was never handed over to use so it could not be filed. It was not received until now. I can assure you that it will be filed with the City Clerk in a reasonable timeframe according to counsel.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Kellie Vazzano: I believe Attorney Teodosio, Corporation Counsel, wanted to add something to that. He is currently upstairs at an executive session. I am not certain what he wants to add.

Mayor Lauretti: We have already voted on it and it is approved, so if it has to be modified, this is the first I am hearing of it.

Kellie Vazzano: There may have been a second part that he wanted to make a comment on.

Mayor Lauretti: He can make his comment when he gets here. Fran, do you want to make a comment on the open space on Long Hill Avenue.

Attorney Teodosio: I will answer any questions the aldermen may have. I understand you have already voted. Thank you. If any of you make reference to the minutes with regard to that property when the Planning & Zoning voted, there is also allusion to a roadway. The roadway is in form proper for our engineer and the formality of acceptance needs to occur. In the old days you guys would vote to accept the road; now it is a deed that is presented to the Board. There will be a deed coming back at some point.

Mayor Lauretti: So, we will vote on the acceptance of the road, right?

Attorney Teodosio: Correct.

8.5 OVER-EXPENDITURE FOR BUS AND PARTS REPAIR

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the Over-Expenditure of Bus and Parts Repair, Account #0011-4200-812-81.09 through the end of FY 2025-2026.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: We have done this before primarily with the Registrar of Voters account. With the purchases we made for the school buses, as we anticipated, we are eating up a lot of repair account money because the buses are getting old and it is going to happen.

Mayor Lauretti: Despite the age of the bus, when you get into an accident, motor vehicle versus motor vehicle, this has nothing to do with the age of the bus and that has a big impact on what you have to repair. I did speak to Frank the other day. He told me that one of the repairs from an accident was an \$18,000 fix and they were able to get the parts off one of the used buses that we bought. Rather than spending the \$18,000, we didn't spend that to buy all those used buses, it was \$5000-6000 or something like that. Anyway, it is a moving target and like everything else in America today, prices just keep jumping and jumping and jumping.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

9 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW

9.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 NO ITEMS

10 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.A REQUEST TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.1 NO ITEMS

Mayor Lauretti: At this time, I am going to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session and ask that Corporation Counsel and Assistant Corporation Counsel as well as Administrative Assistants join us.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to accept the above motion as stated.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

MOVED to go into Executive Session at 6 pm.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0)

Mayor Lauretti: At this time, I will entertain a motion to end Executive Session.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to end Executive Session.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

Executive Session ended at 6:25 pm.

Mayor Lauretti: Let the record reflect that no votes were taken in the Executive Session.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0)

10.2 ROBERT P. O'BRIEN III V. CITY OF SHELTON (REMOVED)

No action.

10.3 PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE

Mayor Lauretti: I will offer a motion for your consideration. MOVE, subject to the favorable 8-24 referral from the Planning & Zoning Commission to authorize the purchase of property located at 627 Long Hill Avenue in the amount of \$450,000 with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

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

Alderman Anglace MOVED to accept the above motion as stated.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

10.4 DISCUSSION & RESOLUTION OF POLICE OFFICER ACTION AGAINST THE CITY

Mayor Lauretti: I will offer this motion for your consideration. MOVE to approve the settlement of lawsuit of Victoria Loris for the amount recommended by the City of Shelton Insurance Company and Corporation Counsel.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to accept the above motion as stated.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

10.5 DISCUSSION CONTRACT PRICES - MAS PROPERTY

Mayor Lauretti: I will offer this motion to approve the services contract for Lot 6, located at the Mas Property with Burns Construction company with modifications if necessary as recommended by the Mayor in the Executive Session.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to accept the above motion as stated.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Mayor Lauretti: I will offer the following motion. *MOVE to authorize the Mayor and Corporation Counsel to negotiate the sale of the area discussed during Executive Session on the conceptual map of the Mas Property, Lots 4 and 5 and the contiguous property that was the former landfill consisting of approximately 6 acres.*

Alderman Anglace MOVED to accept the above motion as stated.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: We are selling what is formerly known as open space on the map, that is part of the sale.

Mayor Lauretti: That is a good point and let me tell you why. People will get confused. When we did the conceptual layout of this 76 acres, we had lots and they were labeled. Someone thought that you couldn't use the balance of this five acres because it was a former landfill site, but that is not true, you can. It has an ERLU restriction on it, but that just means you can't do a residential development there. It does not prohibit the sale or someone using it as a parking lot or putting an industrial building on it.

Alderman Anglace: Someone could be sensitive to the open space terminology.

Mayor Lauretti: That was a good point John. So, we are clear, Lots 4 and 5 and then the property which is approximately 5 acres designated on the conceptual map as open space. This designation of open space also backs into the American Legion post.

Alderman Anglace: They have the same topography as the Mas property has. There has been discussion about helping the American Legion to straighten out their parking. It is terrible.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously (8-0).

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Meeting.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (8-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Fonda

Donna Fonda
Acting Clerk, Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED _____

BY: _____

Mayor Mark A. Laretti