



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF SHELTON
REGULAR FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025
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 Eric McPherson, Vice President – Present
Alderman Cris Balamaci – Present
Alderman Lorenzo Durante – Present
Alderman Porter McKinnon – Present via Zoom
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – Present
Alderman Bernie Simons – Present
Alderman Benjamin Perry – Present

Administration

Fran Teodosio, 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

I see our Mayor is absent as I was hoping to address him pertaining to, of course, the road at Riverview Park which is still unpaved. I have been asking the town to do that for years now. I submitted petitions of people who agree and would like it paved as well, but instead you paved the parking lot in front of the Post Office, not that it needed it.

If you have been watching the news you have seen that many mayors around the country have been signing executive orders, supposedly to ban ICE operations in their towns. It is rather ludicrous since

they can't enforce it. In fact, I spoke to Mayor Lauretti last month about signing on to the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1996, specifically Section 287G which will allow our police department to assist ICE in removal of the illegal aliens in towns. He is reluctant to do this, for some reason he is afraid Hartford might penalize Shelton. Unfortunately, they cannot take action against Shelton if he chooses to sign on due to the supremacy clause in the constitution which federal law trumps state law. There are a couple of good reasons why he should sign on for this. As you know, the big beautiful bill that was signed by President Trump on the 4th of July gave the Department of Homeland Security a \$75 billion budget and DHS has now, last month anyway, said that they will pay the salaries of all the police departments that sign on. There are two good reasons to do that. One, it will be assisting ICE in enforcing immigration laws, keeping Shelton safe. It would be the town of law and order unlike any democratic rivals who I am sure will object. Part two would be the enormous financial incentive. I don't know what you spend on the police department annually but it would be a considerable savings. I would encourage you all to talk to Mayor Lauretti to do so soon. Thank you.

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

Alderman McPherson MOVED to add onto the agenda under Financial Business New:
8.4 WAIVER OF BID FOR PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLES.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

No discussion.

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

Alderman McPherson: I would also like to add a presentation to the agenda for tonight. I invited Joe Ciccone to present him with a copy of the official proclamation.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

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

PRESENTATION OF THE PROCLAMATION

Alderman McPherson asked for Joe Ciccone as well as Alderman Simonetti to come forward to present Joe Ciccone the proclamation. Alderman McKinnon was on Zoom and was not able to be present in person for the presentation but will be provided with a copy of the proclamation.

Alderman McPherson: I have invited Joe Ciccone here to present him with a copy of the official proclamation declaring the official city flag which was formally unveiled on Shelton Day and displayed at the Veterans Park. We also have one of the flags now on the flagpole in front of City Hall. I wanted to present Joe with a copy of the official proclamation. Alderman Simonetti has one and also Alderman

McKinnon will have one as do I. Joe, in recognition of your work where you approached the City and the Mayor who then got myself, Anthony and Porter involved with this undertaking, the amount of work, research and going through all the companies that you needed to do as well as the Historical Society, Libraries, Schools and the amount of work, we want to present you with an official copy of the actual official proclamation for you, which is now enshrined in the official records of the City of Shelton. Thank you very much for your work. Phase two which will be the interior flags.



Alderman Anglace: On Shelton Day, the proclamation was read. It was extremely comprehensive and this project is an example of what can happen, how one person can influence the government and how change can be affected. In this case it was done right. It involved the people of Shelton making the final decision. Everything was well thought out and all the actions were extremely comprehensive. Everyone had a say in the matter and it was truly a community decision in adopting our own flag and which flag to adopt. Hopefully, this will get promulgated throughout the community and the schools and our children will learn a little more about our history from the flag and from the process that took place. Most important to me was the fact that the decision was of the people, for the people and by the people. I certainly wish to thank the Board of Aldermen Committee, Porter McKinnon, Anthony Simonetti as well as Eric McPherson who championed this and saw it through. It took time. Time always frustrates us as when we get an idea and we want it done yesterday and we want it done our way. This was not done yesterday and it was done with the full involvement of the entire community which is the way it should be as we represent the community. Thank you everyone involved with the flag. It is truly a good achievement.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

1.2 BOARD OF ALDERMEN SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

Alderman McPherson MOVED to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2025 and the Board of Aldermen Special Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2025.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No discussion.

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

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

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 76 HOWE AVENUE SIDEWALK REIMBURSEMENT

Alderman McPherson MOVED, per the recommendation of the Street Committee, to approve a reimbursement of \$720.00 made payable to Glenn Ganz, 18 Bridge End Farm Lane, Sandy Hook, CT 06482 for the repair of a sidewalk at 76 Howe Avenue, per Ordinance #877 (Section 14-9) with funding to come from the Sidewalk Reimbursement Account #001-3600-713.80-43.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion: We have a letter from the City Engineer approving this. The person gets a permit through the City Engineer. The work is inspected and the City Engineer signs off on it and will send a letter to the Street Committee recommending that the approval and reimbursement be done. Photos and contract invoice were submitted. I also went and saw it.

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

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Lauretti was not in attendance.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Alderman Anglace: I would like to ask Corporation Counsel if he would summarize the court case of Rodeo Cannabis Company v Planning & Zoning Commission for the City of Shelton Docket No: CV-24-6058223-S. They were denied by Planning & Zoning and they took us to court.

Attorney Teodosio: We won. You had passed a resolution saying that you did not want cannabis in the City of Shelton. However, there had been an application to Planning & Zoning which antedated your action, so Planning & Zoning had to entertain the petition, but they denied it. The court said that their denial, because they were utilizing their legislative capacity as a Board, was valid and sided with them saying that because it was not unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious, then it was a valid decision. The appeal was denied which is why I say you won.

Alderman Anglace: Will they appeal that court decision?

Attorney Teodosio: I have information that they are appealing, but I have not seen anything yet.

The Citizens Advisory Board has sent us a copy of a letter that they sent regarding correspondence they had with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's office alerting her to their recommendations on the Two-Mile Island parcel. I think it is significant that they followed up again to let Congresswoman DeLauro know that there is still a lot of interest in that project. They want to let her know that if she needs them to be involved in developing any data or information that they will help her and participate. They don't want it to just sit on the shelf some place.



CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
54 HILL STREET
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT 06484

September 9, 2025

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
United States Congress
59 Elm Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Dear Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro:

On behalf of the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) of Shelton, Connecticut, we would like to request a meeting with you regarding a land acquisition proposal that we believe holds great promise for the City of Shelton, our surrounding communities, and all residents of the State of Connecticut and our country.

We were appointed to our positions on the CAB by Mayor Mark Lauretti, who fully supports our mission and this initiative. We have identified an approximately 25-acre parcel of land in Shelton on the Housatonic River - known as Two-Mile Island - currently owned by the Beard/Tate families that we understand may be available for sale. We believe this property presents a valuable opportunity to become part of the **Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge**; thereby, protecting critical riverfront land along the Housatonic River and contributing to regional conservation efforts. If created, it would be the only estuary unit in the McKinney Refuge system, making it unique.

We have already met with the family's attorney to express our interest in preserving this land for public benefit. The mayor has indicated a strong desire to collaborate with your office and the CAB on this matter, and he has asked that we help facilitate a meeting to discuss this proposal further.

We are asking if it would be possible to have an in-person meeting at your earliest convenience to bring you up to date on the proposal's progress and to explore potential steps toward

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acquisition, including coordination with appropriate federal agencies. We are confident that with your guidance and support, we can develop a viable path forward.

To support our request, we have compiled the following materials and have enclosed some for your information:

- Our **original letter** dated September 14, 2023 to Mayor Lauretti
- A **resolution by the Shelton Board of Aldermen**, authorizing the mayor to pursue this refuge;
- A **report from the City's Conservation Agent**, including supportive comments;
- A letter of support from our local **American Legion Post #16**

Also, there is an ongoing petition in support of this initiative with over 1,000 signatures to date that can be found on change.org, along with drone footage upon request.

We reached out to Congressman Jim Himes' office for support and were advised by his representative, Jimmy Tickey, to contact your office directly.

Please feel free to have your office contact **Cheryl Dziubina, Secretary of the CAB**, to schedule a meeting. She can be reached at (203) 257-7908 or via email at cherdz129@aol.com.

We appreciate your time and consideration, and we look forward to the opportunity to work together to preserve this unique and valuable natural resource.

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Bienkowski
Chair, Citizens Advisory Board

cc: Mayor Mark Lauretti
Board of Aldermen, City of Shelton
Conservation Commission
Planning and Zoning
Inland/Wetlands Commission
Housatonic Valley Association
CT Audubon Society

Mayor, City of Derby
Conservation Commission, City of Derby
First Selectman, Town of Orange
Conservation Commission, Town of Orange
Council of Governments of the LNV
CT DEEP Environmental Conservation Branch

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Alderman Balamaci: The fact is, we did meet with some of the community as part of that Board. They sent a letter, but we also sent a letter on behalf of the Board of Aldermen to Rosa DeLauro as well.

Alderman Anglace: The members of the community in that area signed a petition that brought this to our attention. They also have a copy of this letter.

Alderman Balamaci: We probably should add that part of the project that they want is where it abuts with Orange, Connecticut, that they want a Wildlife Refuge. This is what they are trying to do to preserve the area for the good and not to destroy it.

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 OCTOBER STATUTORY REFUNDS

Alderman McPherson MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$23,629.23 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 Balamaci.

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 REFRIGERANT CANNISTERS FOR CITY SCHOOL'S A/C UNITS

Alderman McPherson MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$7,495 for the purchase of 10 R-22, 30 lb. Refrigerant Cannisters for citywide school's A/C units funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Alderman Simonetti: That is a very good price for those containers.

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

8.3 FUNDING FOR VOLTA INCLUSIVE SPINNERS FOR EAST VILLAGE PARK & RIVERVIEW PARK PLAYGROUNDS

Alderman McPherson MOVED to add the purchase and installation of a Volta Inclusive Spinner at Riverview Park and East Village Park playgrounds to the Capital Improvement Plan with funding in an amount \$25,516 to come from LoCIP.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No discussion.

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

8.4 WAIVER OF BID FOR PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLES

Alderman McPherson MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Director, to waive the bidding process for the purchase of two Police Administration vehicles.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: As I understand it these will be administrative vehicles and do not have all the bells and whistles and are for different use. The vehicles include a used 2022 Honda Pilot SUV for \$35,995 and a used 2022 Honda Pilot SUV for \$31,594.

Alderman Simonetti: Will they have to be outfitted with the interior equipment, radios, etc.?

Alderman Anglace: I would imagine they would have to be outfitted with everything except the emergency equipment.

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

9 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW

9.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING

9.1A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 4-4 ESTABLISHING FIRE LANES & SEC 4-5 ACCESS TO FIRE HYDRANTS (ORD. #709 AND ORD. \$865)

Discussion:

Alderman Balamaci: The Public Health & Safety Committee met yesterday and it was presented. Unfortunately, there needs to be further information that I need to talk to Attorney Fran about. So, there should be no further action at this time.

Alderman Anglace: What was proposed was to forward this to Public Hearing. The Chairman of Public Health & Safety felt that we want to present, to the public for their consideration, the full picture.

Alderman Balamaci: When this came to me, I was under the assumption it was already vetted, but it was not which was confirmed by Chick Totori. That is the first reason. The second reason is, as far as the fines, infraction dollar amounts, that was not determined and I am not the committee to determine that. That was something else that was needed to be aware of. I don't think we can take any action to move to public hearing at this time.

Alderman Anglace: There is no urgency in not following that procedure. We will take no action at this time.

9.2 RE-APPOINTMENTS/APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Alderman McPherson MOVED to reappoint the following residents to the Board of Assessment Appeals effective immediately.

Patrick Carey – R
6 Blueberry Lane
Shelton, CT 06484
Tel. 203-929-3202
Term Expiration: January 12, 2028

Paul Jenson – U
19 Winthrop Woods
Shelton, CT 06484
Tel. 203-925-8788
Term Expiration: January 12, 2028

Linda Schauwecker – U
Real Estate Two -100 Huntington Street
Shelton CT 06484
203-926-1122
Term Expiration: January 12, 2029

Move, per Ordinance #754, to appoint the following residents to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Jody Dawley – U
102 Blueberry Lane
Shelton, CT 06484

Tracy Perry – R
22 Windflower Lane
Shelton, CT 06484

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: The two new appointments of residents to the Board of Assessment Appeals, per Ordinance #754, only happens in years where there is a revaluation in place. It is urgent that this gets done tonight as appeals will be starting and extra people are needed.

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

10 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.1 NO ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Simons MOVED to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Meeting.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No discussion.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (8-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Fonda

Donna Fonda
Acting Clerk, Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED _____ BY: _____
Mayor Mark A. Lauretti