



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF SHELTON
REGULAR FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 8, 2025
SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON, CT
Live Streamed at www.cityofshelton.org

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lauretti 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 – Absent
Alderman Porter McKinnon – Present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – Present
Alderman Bernie Simons – Present
Alderman Benjamin Perry – Present

Administration

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti
Fran Teodosio, Corporation Counsel – Present
Kellie Vazzano, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
Frances Freer, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Lauretti asked if anyone wished to address the board.

Jerry Bloom

24 Fairfield Avenue

Good afternoon. I guess we are going to skip the roll call again? I am looking forward to seeing the new town flag flying somewhere soon. As we all should know, this is the 80th anniversary of VE Day. I see also that Ivy Brook Greenway is still for sale and I was hoping that the town would make it into a park or open space. It is a beautiful piece of land.

Now for a quality of life issue. As we all know, all registered motor vehicles in Connecticut need to have a working muffler. Yesterday, a very loud motorcycle passed by my house setting off a car alarm. He

turned around and came back, once again setting off a car alarm. So Mayor Lauretti can ask the police to enforce muffler rules. Riverview Park, once again, needs to be paved.

I am told by our attorney that Town Hall is a limited public forum. I noticed on the clerk’s office door out there, there is a request not to use cell phone cameras or cell phones in the office. That brings up the frauditor issue once again. I asked them down there if that sign was either a statute or policy and they did not know. I encourage you all to make it a statute because what happens or what may happen very soon is one of these frauditors will come in here. They go down to the tax office and stand there with their cell phone camera on a gimbal and stand there until someone finally approaches or speaks to them and asks what they are doing. They will get one of four answers – I am an independent journalist gathering content for a story, I am here to see if they will respect my First Amendment rights, I am here to make a public records request or I don’t have to tell you that. They will stand there and eventually someone behind the desk will ask them to leave. I don’t have to leave, that sign is not a statute, it is not going to replace my First Amendment right as the press to gather content for my story. Eventually the police are usually called and ordered to be trespassed from the property. Sometimes they will leave, sometimes they don’t. I would encourage you all to make a statute to that effect.

I see you have on 9.3, appointments for anti-litter committee. There is an old saying about committees – if a committee was required to decide whether Christopher Columbus would sail, he would still be standing on the dock. I don’t know why you need a committee to do litter pickups. I’ll leave you with a short poem. Richard Cory, in the 1960s you may remember Simon and Garfunkel wrote a song, Richard Cory. It went something like this.

Whenever Richard Cory went down town,
We people on the pavement would look at him:
He was a gentleman from sole to crown,
Clean favored, and imperially slim.

And he was always quietly arrayed,
And he was always human when he talked;
But still he fluttered pulses when he said,
"Good-morning," and he glittered when he walked.

And he was rich—yes, richer than a king—
And admirably schooled in every grace:
In fine, we felt that he was everything
To make us wish that we were in his place.

So on we worked, and waited for the light,
And went without the meat, and cursed the bread;
And Richard Cory, one calm summer night,
Went home and put a bullet through his head.
Thank you.



Ken Chirsky
40 L'Hermitage Drive, Shelton, CT

I am a member of the town's anti-litter committee. A couple of months ago our committee was asked by President Anglace to address one of these Board meetings. Subsequent to that we forwarded an unsolicited letter to you, Mayor, and the Board from an anonymous resident about the kind of the state of the town, how it looks and litter and such as that. I am here to represent the Anti-Litter committee which, by the way is not a committee to clean up the streets, but rather it is a committee to kind of coordinate clean ups of others, street coordination and awareness and a sounding board for residents of the town of Shelton.

I just want to give you a real brief update, thanks for your attention here. I will be as brief as I can. The committee's recent changes and some sentiment that the committee has on the state of our town, basically relative to the changes of the town since Covid over the past five years, and I will bring up a few issues there. Before I do, I really wanted to thank the Departments of Highway & Bridges, Parks & Rec for maintaining the town's 118 trash cans that are around town and also fielding questions when residents or calls come in when some of the roadways are out of control with litter and send a team out there to clean it up, spruce it up, we appreciate that. We would also like to thank the Mayor's office for providing us an accounting of the State's contribution, the nip fund money that comes in, what has been spent, what the balance is and what it has been spent on, which I guess there is a lot of press these days with social media, about every quarter it is higher that each town gets \$20,000-\$30,000 a quarter. We appreciate getting that information that people are asking about so we can share that and where that money is going and how it is being used. As of our last meeting in April, the committee, for the first time in 18 years, has full membership of eleven members. I think one or two more, hopefully, get agreed upon tonight. I think that is a little bit telling, the first time in 18 years people in town care enough to join the committee and spend some of their personal time. I think they are seeing that it is because of the general state of the town and some littered roadways we are seeing and rubbish here. I think it is simply why we have a full membership.

Lastly, there has been a lot of effort in the past 30 days that I need to mention. I think in the last 30 days alone, there were over 100 bags of garbage from various groups out there canvassing the roadsides, picking up garbage here and there. The committee does have top ten roadways that has been in place for a long time, that we fell are really an issue. Some of them are state roadways, but in case I don't forget in closing, there are a lot of roadways where residents or any pickup groups cannot get out there to clean up the roadways as they are just too dangerous and we can't even get an Adopt a Street program from others either. In those cases we really, really need the town's help to go out there with a couple of guys and a truck or what have you to help clean it up. Those top two roads, you would probably know if you drive them are Nells Rock Road and Mill Street. They are just too dangerous for anybody to get out there to clean them up.

One thing I think we have to realize to move forward is since Covid a lot of changes in behavior have changed from people. 1. The City is growing great; that's fantastic. Probably over 40,000 people. 2. We probably have every fast food franchise in existence along Bridgeport Ave. I guess that's pretty

good. We have a McDonald's going up, double drive-thru. What is interesting to note is since Covid, if you drive by Wendy's on Bridgeport Ave, any time, day or night, there is nobody sitting in there eating, nobody, but there is a line of 15-20 cars coming out of Wendy's. Why? Everybody since Covid – we used to go into Wendy's, order through a clerk, get a tray with a paper on it, get our soda, fries, hamburgers, sit down and eat. When done we pick it up, throw it in the garbage and head out. Nobody does that anymore. Everybody is in line for the drive-thru. McDonald's is putting in a double drive-thru. Everybody sits and eats in their car. Their cups, lids, straws, bags, BBQ sauce containers, when everybody is done, what do they do with it? Chuck it out the window. We see it every day. You drive down Nells Rock Road, it is all there. I would say from the litter we see on city streets from first hand that I see, 70% of it is fast food wrappers, cups and such from fast food. Probably another 25-30% is energy cans, liquor cans, Tito bottles and probably the rest is vaping products. That is what we have along our road ways that we need some help and plead to the town for help. The town has grown, that's great. Habits have changed, that's not so great in the case of litter. Kind of a plea saying we need some help. More and more residents I talk to are saying, yea it is a great town, everything is going great and we are booming, but we have to keep up with that growth and we need to clean the streets up so we are not embarrassed when our family or friends come into town and drive down the roadways. I'm embarrassed if somebody comes to my place, drives up Nells Rock Road and sees the pizza boxes, the fast food bags, the cans and everything all over the road. When we call into the town, which a lot of residents have done recently, March and April we figured is a good time before the greenery starts, we are met with a very nice woman who fields the calls and says we will put it on the list but I don't know when or if we can ever get to that to clean up Nells Rock Road or Mill Street. It just seems like we should have a better response from the town, yea we can send some guys out there. I talk to a lot of the guys every morning down at the Wooster Market. They are happy to come do it, they just need direction to get out there and spend some time. Now they are going to be busy cutting grass and everything. I guess it couldn't have gotten done.

I work and drive into Seymour every day and every Friday morning I see the street sweeper out there downtown cleaning the roads, spic and span the roads. I read in the media how our neighboring town, Stratford, is doing beautification projects and what they have planned for the year. I am kind of unaware of what we here in the great town of Shelton are doing to spruce up our place with beautification projects or anything we have planned. Although this morning I did see a street sweeper that was all white in nature driving up the road today leaking some water on the road, but it wasn't working. Honestly, that was the first time that I have ever seen a street sweeper in town.

Our ask is kind of simple here. We need some help, manpower, attention, dollars, maybe some use of that nip funding to kind of get out there and spruce up the roads and keep them clean. In closing, there were three things that the anti-litter committee came up with that they wanted me to express tonight, our top three needs that we are looking for.

1. Please, if we could address Mill Street and Nells Rock Road to pick up the garbage, pizza boxes, cans and bottles and everything, that would be great. If we can get someone out there sooner than later, that would be fantastic.
2. In the top ten roads where we have litter, we understand a lot of them are State roads. Maybe a number, an extension, a name of somebody that the town may have at the State that when we

think things are out of control that somebody could call up there and ask for a hand. The on and off ramps at Route 8 are kind of a disgrace and filled with garbage. Bridgeport Ave, you drive up from Wendy's to Wells Hollow Farm is filthy most of the time. It is too dangerous for us to get out there or for any residents to get out there. If even the town can't do it, we need some State help and certainly would feel free to pick up the phone and call them if it is needed.

- 3. The other point we wanted to bring up is maybe getting an update on the street sweeper. I heard it is broken. Can we get it fixed and get it out there and clean up the downtown a little bit. We have a lot of new folks living downtown. The issue is just going to get worse waiting for McDonald's wrappers and cups and everything getting thrown all over the road.

We have some ideas, we would think that if a company like McDonald's wants to come into our town, we would like to think that every quarter they would pay \$2500 to the town for blight and litter, but that is not going to happen. It is not McDonald's fault, but the consumers' fault, behaviors of people have changed. We have a lot of thoughts from the committee and maybe we could follow up on this topic. At the last meeting we had somebody came up with a model of some sort if it could ever be utilized if we had any programs to address the beautification of the town or litter. Something like Help Shelton Shine, Don't Litter. A flag somewhere hanging on a light post or something. Bring some kind of awareness to this. I can tell you firsthand that a lot of residents in the town, either who live here or don't have noticed the state of disrepair, some case of litter all around town.

We put a garbage can, one of the 118 cans at a trail head that I thought was a good idea. The town reacted to it quick, put the can in there and every week I walk by it is filled to the rim. Garbage cans work. We have to buy them, clean them, put bags in them, we have to have some manpower. They are doing a good job with what is there, but they work. I've seen that firsthand. Thanks for listening, sorry to take so much of your time. Again, the anti-litter committee is not out there to pick up the roadways and streets, it is to help and organize, but that is not what the committee is here to do. It is here to talk about some of the things that I talked about tonight.

Thomas Harbinson
15 Soundcrest Drive, Shelton

I have a couple of things I want to bring to the Board of Aldermen's attention. I wondered about flag flying status at some of our public locations – schools, fire houses, etc. They haven't been flying to uniform standards. They have been pretty good, but during President Carter's passing and during the Pope's passing they were not all at half-staff. That was supposed to be the status through the interment of both of those individuals. Since not all public facilities were uniform, I was hoping that that could be addressed. I am not talking about private facilities. The Wells Fargo Bank on the way here was at half-staff and it should be at full-staff. I think it would be appropriate.

The second item, I have brought this to your attention numerous times and now I am doing it publicly. Our Conservation Commission appointments are stale. I sent a letter to Mayor Lauretti and Alderman Anglace on July 9th of last year, no actions have taken place. I am asking you publicly to give this

attention that the Charter demands. For the benefit of others who may not be aware, Commissioner James Tate, his last appointment expired in 2020. Bill Dyer, his appointment expired 2020. Tom Wilson, his expired 2023. Sherrie Maybeck expired in 2019. There is a vacancy when Ed McCreery resigned when he moved out of State and that was in 2019. My appointment is stale since 2018, seven years. Then there is another vacancy most recently when Janet Wheeler resigned in 2024, May. I hope you can give that your attention. Refer to the letter I sent you in July. We have two recommendations of people who have been attending our meetings.

The next item I wanted to mention, since it was mentioned in front of me, trash. Platt Road, just before Long Hill Avenue has had some wood chips put down along the right-of-way. The amount of trash already there is shocking. I hope you can give some attention to what the volunteers preceding me were just mentioning.

I have brought it to some aldermen’s attention before regarding out of state driver’s plates in town. I am hoping that you can give some reconsideration to trying to capture the tax revenue for vehicles who are not properly registered in our town. Danbury was able to capture hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax revenue a couple of years ago for that. Thank you.

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

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Mayor Lauretti: I have a question for Corporation Counsel which may require an addition to the agenda. I spoke the other day about Shelton becoming an intervener status in the Aquarion sale. I see that Fairfield just did it by way of a letter. Does that require Board of Aldermen approval to authorize me to do it, or can I do it as my official position.

Attorney Teodosio: The Board of Aldermen is the entity which makes all decisions for the City. You are the administrator. I couldn’t hurt to have the Board of Aldermen just backing you saying that you would be effectuating the City’s preferences by asking for intervener status.

Mayor Lauretti: My thought is to add it to the agenda now and get that done so we can continue to move forward. At this time I will entertain a motion to add to the agenda under Legislative New, 9.4 Authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to petition PURA on behalf of the City of Shelton to become intervener status on the potential sale of Aquarion Water Company.

Alderman McPherson MOVED to add item 9.4, AUTHORIZE MAYOR MARK A. LAURETTI TO PETITION PURA ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SHELTON TO BECOME INTERVENER STATUS ON THE POTENTIAL SALE OF AQUARION WATER COMPANY.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

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

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

1.1 BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 10, 2025

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 April 10, 2025.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

No discussion.

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

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 do want to make a couple of comments with respect to the Anti-Litter Committee that was just addressed by the gentleman here. The last two years, the second year when we got that fund from the State we had used that specifically for litter clean up. If the Anti-Litter Committee has any recommendations and/or personnel or summer help, sometime summer kids, to do that, I am all ears on that. In the past we have had groups that wanted to go out and clean roads, i.e. Nells Rock Road and I would have the police escort them so it was made safer. If not police then I would send a public works vehicle that has the flashing lights on it, so we fully understand that some of these are dangerous situations and yet want to be proactive and want to keep them clean. The opportunity still exists to do that. If the Anti-Litter Committee has recommendations, I am happy to sit with you and discuss them and try to put them in motion.

I have one other point to make to the Anti-Litter Committee when talking about beautification projects. We had established an Adopt A Garden Program years ago when people were very active. Since the pandemic that has fallen off the earth. There is money in the budget for it. If there is any interest, it is the season for Adopt A Garden and I would be happy to entertain a proposal from the Anti-Litter Committee if so inclined.

With respect to Tom Harbinson and the call for the appointment on committees, it has always been well understood that people who were appointed to committees, if their specific terms have expired, then they serve until they are replaced. That is basically what has happened. If there are vacancies, that is a different situation.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Alderman Anglace: I have no report at this time.

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 \$2,925.17 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.

No discussion.

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

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

8.2 ADOPTION OF TAX COLLECTOR’S SUSPENSE LIST

Alderman Anglace MOVED that the Tax Collector’s Suspense list in the amount of \$38,719.95 be adopted and transferred from the Grand List into Suspense per State Statute Sec. 12-165:

2018	\$ 77.80
2019	\$ 2,300.40
2020	\$11,898.65
2021	\$17,145.67
2022	\$ 4,252.57
2023	\$ 3,044.86
TOTAL:	\$38,719.95

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No discussion.

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

8.3 OVEREXPENDITURE FOR REGISTRAR OF VOTER’S OFFICE

Alderman Anglace MOVED to approve the over-expenditure of the Registrar of Voter’s Office for the following accounts:

001-0500-413.10-04 POLL WORKERS	\$ 80,032
001-0500-413.30-07 PRINTING & ADVERTISING	\$ 25,761
001-0500-413.40-05 POSTAGE	\$ 8,778
001-0500-413.60-27 ELECTION EQUIPMENT	\$ 3,539
001-0500-413.80-41 COMMISSARY	\$ 7,136
Total	\$125,246

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion: This was for the special elections.

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

8.4 TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY TO BARNUM FESTIVAL PARADE ACCOUNT

Alderman Anglace MOVED to transfer an amount of \$2,500 from Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00 to Barnum Festival Parade Account #001-6500-414.81-25. Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: It is not really the parade account; it was always labeled Barnum Festival because there are a couple of events that I participate in from time to time and they are generally fund raisers for the Barnum Festival and we have a long history associated with that regional event.

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

8.5 FUNDING FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appropriate an amount of \$13,035.13 for the following Board of Education maintenance items with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

1. Repair of work on Mohegan School Sprinkler System	\$2,313.78
2. Replacement of Pump at Perry Hill School	\$ 993.47
3. Replacement of Exhaust Hood/Curbing at Booth Hill	\$4,846.00
4. Emergency HVAC Repairs at Shelton High School	\$3,856.00
5. Replacement of Water Heater at BOE offices	\$1,025.88

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No discussion.

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

8.6 ADOPTION OF WEBSTER BANK RESOLUTION

Alderman Anglace MOVED to adopt the following Webster Bank resolution with the proposal letter as part of the document as presented to the Board from the Finance Director as follows.

RESOLUTION

1. That the Borrower be and it hereby is authorized to borrow the sum of one million nine hundred forty-four thousand and 00/100 - \$1,944,000) – Dollars (the “Loan”) from Webster Bank (the “Bank”) pursuant to a financing commitment letter from the Bank to the Borrower dated May 22, 2025, as may be amended, and to grant such collateral securing the Loan as may be required by Bank; and it is
2. Further resolved, that the borrower be and it hereby is authorized to execute and deliver all such instruments, documents or agreements as Bank shall reasonably require in order to enable Bank to make said Loan to the Borrower: and it is
3. That the Bank be and hereby is designated a depository of the funds of this Borrower, and the Mayor is authorized to negotiate the terms of and to execute and deliver for and on behalf of the Borrower, each of the instruments, documents and agreements as may be necessary to consummate the Loan and/or as may be necessary or convenient to carry out any of the foregoing resolutions, is hereby authorized to sign, for and on behalf of this Borrower, any and all checks, drafts and other orders with respect to any funds at any time(s) to the credit of this Borrower with the Bank, and/or against any account(s) of this Borrower maintained at any time(s) with the Bank, inclusive of any such checks, drafts and other orders in favor of any of the above designated officer(s) and/or other persons(s), and that the Bank be and hereby is authorized: (a) to pay the same to the debit of any account(s) of this Borrower then maintained with it; (b) to receive for deposit to the credit of this Borrower, and/or for collection for the account of this Borrower, any and all checks, drafts, notes and other instruments for the payment of money, whether or not endorsed by this Borrower, which may be submitted to it for such deposits and/or collection, it being understood that each such item shall be deemed to have been unqualifiedly endorsed by this Borrower, and (c) to receive, as the act of this Borrower, any and all stop-payment instructions (inclusive of any relative agreement) with respect to any such checks, drafts, and other orders as aforesaid and reconciliation(s) of account when given by any one or more of the officer(s) and/or other person(s) as hereinbefore designated.

4. That Mark A. Lauretti, Mayor, is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of this Borrower, to transact any and all other business with or through the Bank which at any time(s) may be deemed by the said officer(s) and/or other person(s) transacting the same to be advisable, including, without limited the generality of the foregoing authority to: (a) discount and/or negotiate notes, drafts and other commercial paper; (b) apply for letters or other forms of credit; (c) borrow money, with or without security; (d) assign, transfer, pledge or otherwise hypothecate any property of the Borrower; (e) purchase, exchange, sell, or otherwise deal in or with any stocks, bonds and other securities; (f) execute and deliver automated customer services and other agreements relative to performance of various computer services, and (g) in reference to any of the business or transactions referred to in this subdivision make, enter into, execute and deliver to the Bank such negotiable or non-negotiable instruments, indemnity, guaranty and other agreements, obligations as may be deemed by the officer(s) and/or other person(s) so acting to be necessary or desirable.

5. That any and all withdrawals of money and/or other transactions heretofore had in behalf of this Borrower with the Bank are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved, and that the Bank (and any interested third party) may rely upon the authority conferred by this entire resolution unless, and except to the extent that, this resolution shall be revoked or modified by a subsequent resolution of this Board, and until a certified copy of such subsequent resolution has been received by the Bank.

6. That the Bank be promptly notified in writing of any change of any holder or holders of such offices, and that, until so notified and receipt acknowledged by it in writing, the Bank shall be indemnified and saved harmless from any loss suffered or liability incurred by it in continuing to act in pursuance of these resolutions after such change without such notice.

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

Discussion: We are not reading the whole thing, but it will be put into the minutes. Paul, would you give the Board a quick background and update of what we are trying to accomplish?

Paul Hiller: This is for the aldermanic bonding issues through the end of the last fiscal year, through June 30, 2024. We did some previously before. The last time we borrowed money was December 2023. We are basically 17-18 months later doing this. We reached out for bids from our three primary banks, Newtown Savings Bank, M&T Bank and Webster Bank. We received quotes back from all three who are willing to lend the money over a five year period. The quotes were spread apart as follows:

Newtown Savings Bank: 4%

M&T Bank: 3.85%

Webster Bank: 3.68%

There would be equal payments over a five year period commencing next May, of 20% plus the interest. This is obviously a lower rate than we have had for the last 2-3 years, not significantly lower, but as you are aware the Federal Reserve did not change federal rates yesterday and we were fortunate enough to get this bid from Webster Bank who we have a relationship with. Our attorney, Fran Teodosio, will be working with their attorney, who is out of a firm in Providence, Rhode Island, and the intent is to close by May 22nd, but there is flexibility, but that is the target date at this point, two weeks from today.

Mayor Lauretti: The Board is aware that this is something that we do on a regular basis. The last couple of years we have not been on schedule. We have waited longer than we probably should have. The Charter requires that we make payment on the aldermanic bonding in the new fiscal year, starting on July 1st from the year that ended on June 30th. Sometimes we let that lapse in the interest of waiting it out to see if there was a better interest rate that was coming down the pike. That kind of throws off the schedule. The whole premise of the aldermanic bonding is so that after the first five years of this program, there is no net impact to the budget. When you put on \$2 million worth of debt, you are also retiring \$2 million worth of debt. We started doing this some 25 years ago and I have to tell you, I didn't have the idea, but I want to say it was Ray O'Leary, but I'm not sure, but I think it was an ingenious tool for municipalities. The State ought to take this as a model and request municipalities to do that. This allows you to do so many different things, as you know. As these projects come up we approve them in the meeting so you know during the course of the year what they are spending the money on and have the ability to approve or disapprove. I petitioned Paul in the last few months to try to get this thing back on schedule. This is last year's aldermanic bonding. We are coming at the close of this year's aldermanic bonding. We may decide to do this in July or August of this coming year, I think the market will dictate that.

Alderman Anglace: I want to clarify two things. Who is the loan with? (Webster). The rate is 3.68%.

Paul Hiller: The document they originally sent had the wrong dates on it that they submitted. They mailed it as of last Friday and we received it Tuesday in the mail. I spoke with their municipal finance department out of their Providence office. They made a change – the first document you received they had wrong dates, they had us paying the first payment on the day we were closing the account. We won't make the payment for 12 months. They changed the dates and slightly changed the rate. Frankly, M&T Bank was attempting to meet or go lower on the rate. They called back this morning claiming they would not be able to meet the rate, it would be a loss for them, so they were not willing to come down to the 3.68%.

Alderman Anglace: As I understand this can be further changed? When counsel meets with their counsel there will be no change to the substance of the agreement as we understand it at this point.

Attorney Teodosio: Correct. The rates stay the same, the amount stays the same, but the documents to do it are listed in the commitment letter and some of those might change. At times there are different documents created based on the particular time the loan is occurring.

Alderman Balamaci: Can you clarify, is it 3.65 or 3.68?

Paul Hiller: 3.68. Final payment due in May 2030.

Mayor Lauretti: If the number changes and the rate changes, we will just come back. There is no immediacy on this. What's another week? If it happens, but I'm not sure that it will.

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

Mayor Lauretti: Before we go any further, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize an individual that we are about to hire as Paul Hiller's replacement as Finance Director.

Grace Zweig is sitting here in the front row. We are in the throes of finalizing things tomorrow. She is onboard to start to observe and understand the accounts and the workings of this Board and the Finance Department. Thank you.

9 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW

9.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 A AMENDMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCES – ARTICLE II. STREET EXCAVATIONS, TRAFFIC CONTROL

Public Hearing Scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

- **ARTICLE II. - STREET EXCAVATIONS, TRAFFIC CONTROL**
- **Sec. 14-51. - Permit.**

(a) No person shall make any opening, excavation or construct any walk, curb, pavement, driveway or perform any other construction work within, on, through or under any public street, highway or public right-of-way located in the city, including a state highway, for any purpose whatsoever, unless a permit has been obtained pursuant to this article from the director of public works or his designated agent. Any permit issued shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days from the date thereof. Any work performed pursuant to such permit shall be subject to the approval by the director of public works or his designated representative. Said permit cost is fifty dollars (\$50.00) for all excavations including the construction of a new driveway. Driveway replacement permit cost shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

(b) On state highways located within the city, the city street opening permit must be obtained. A twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) city street opening permit shall be required where a public sidewalk within a state right-of-way is impacted by the excavation. A no fee city street opening permit is required in all other cases. This article does not supersede any regulations as set forth by the state department of transportation with regard to excavation in state highways.

[Rimas Balsys] (C) Extension of a utility main (sewer, water etc.) as necessitated due to the approval of any development will require the full width milling and paving of said street, the full length of the utility main extension.

(Ord. No. 454, §§ a—c, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07; Ord. No. 877, 3-13-14; Ord. No. [910](#), 11-12-20)

Cross reference— Licenses, permits and miscellaneous business regulations, Ch. 9.

- **Sec. 14-52. - Same—Notice to director of public works; term.**

The director of public works and the police department shall be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of actually starting any work authorized under a permit. Failure of the permittee to notify the city will result in the revocation of the permit. Permits are void three (3) months after their issue date. (Ord. No. 454, § j, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-53. - Public service companies.**

Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent making of any necessary excavation or the performance of any work related thereto by any public service company in the event of an emergency. In the event of an emergency, the public utility company shall notify the city immediately or if after hours the start of the next city hall business day at which time application for a permit shall be made.

Any public service company which has complied with the provisions of section 16-230 of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be exempted from the requirement of posting a bond as hereinbefore set forth and shall be further exempted from the requirement of paying a fee for the cost of permanent patching of the street opening as hereinbefore set forth provided that the utility shall place on file with the city a written agreement constituting a continuing obligation binding the utility to make the permanent repair required by this article at its own expense **[Rimas Balsys]**. **Any work involving the installation or replacement of 100' or more of main will require the entire width of road to be milled and paved to the extent determined by the City Engineer or Superintendent of Highways & Bridges. Included in this work is the replacement of any ADA ramps within the work zone as per ADA requirements. Any road repairs required due to the failure of a water service leak or water main leak will require a full width mill and pave to the limits as determined by the City Engineer and/or the Superintendent of Highways & Bridges** and in such a manner as is required by this article as if the work were to be done by the city contractor as further guaranteeing the quality of the workmanship and materials to the same extent as would the city contractor and agreeing to complete the work at the times required by the city engineer. The utility shall warranty all their permanent repairs for **[Rimas Balsys] two (2) years.**

(Ord. No. 454, § d, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-54. - Requirements if closing of public highway required.**

No highway may be closed without the approval of the traffic authority. Such approval shall only be issued in extraordinary circumstances, for a short period not to exceed one (1) work day, and when occupied properties can obtain access by an alternate route. If the work of the permittee requires the closing of a public highway for any period of time, notice shall be given in writing to the traffic authority and to the director of public works or his designated representative twenty-four (24) hours in advance. The traffic authority may determine the need for closing the highway and may require the work or work method be so altered as to provide for traffic flow. The director or his agent shall provide written notice to the police and fire departments upon receipt of notice of the intent in advance of closing any public highway.

(Ord. No. 454, § c, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-55. - Tunneling or jacking.**

Tunneling or jacking shall be permitted only when plans prepared by a registered engineer are submitted to and approved by the city engineer.

(Ord. No. 454, § g, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-56. - Materials not to interfere with travel; barricades required.**

All excavation materials shall be compactly piled and shall not interfere with public travel to any greater extent than necessary. Suitable barricades shall be provided, and warning lights kept burning between sunset and sunrise and any other time as may be required by the director of public works or his agent. If the location and extent of work is such that a traffic director, in the opinion of the director of public works or his agent, is required, such traffic director shall be provided at the expense and responsibility of the contractor.

(Ord. No. 454, § g, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-57. - Backfilling.**

Backfill in trenches within paved areas shall be placed in layers not more than twelve (12) inches thick and shall be thoroughly compacted by tamping or other approved means to the satisfaction of the director or his agent. Compaction equipment must be at the excavation site and shall be utilized during all backfilling operations.

The material used for backfill shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the director, or his agent, and if in his opinion, the excavated material is unsuitable for backfill, the contractor shall be required to dispose of the unsuitable materials in the amounts and proportions specified by the director or his agent. When backfill has been completed within fifteen (15) inches of the finished pavement or surface grade, the next fourteen (14) inches shall be filled and compacted using an approved grade of bank-run or processed gravel. The last two (2) inches shall be covered with adequate temporary hot bituminous paving material (when available) and in such a manner as shall be approved by the city engineer.

(Ord. No. 454, § h, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-58. - Inspections.**

The director or his agent is empowered to inspect all excavations for workmanship and materials. The excavation may not be permanently backfilled without the director or his agent present at the site. The city will require the permittee to excavate and expose for inspection any portion of the excavation backfilled without inspection or authorization to backfill.

(Ord. No. 454, § j, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-59. - Maintenance of work by contractor.**

The contractor will be required to maintain his work until permanently paved by the city. During this period he shall inspect the trench at such regular intervals as may be necessary to maintain the area in satisfactory condition. The contractor shall make all necessary repairs, and in the event that the contractor fails to make such repairs as are deemed necessary and the city must perform any work, the contractor shall pay the cost of this work. Failure on the part of the city to give notice that repairs are needed shall not relieve the contractor of any of the duties set forth herein.

(Ord. No. 454, § k, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-60. - City responsible for permanent repair.**

The permanent repair of street openings shall be the responsibility of the city. The city shall charge each permittee a fee for cost of the permanent repair based on the area of the final repair as calculated by the city engineer. The square yard unit prices shall be annually determined by the city engineer in accordance with current costs and construction practices. A uniform method on which to base these costs shall be prescribed by the city engineer and approved by the director of public works.

In the event the size of the permanent repair exceeds the estimated size of permanent repair, the permittee shall pay the additional fee to the city within ten (10) working days. Failure to pay the additional fee will result in the permittee forfeiting any rights to future permits until the outstanding balance is received.

(Ord. No. 454, § l, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-61. - Bituminous concrete.**

Hot-laid bituminous concrete shall be as specified by the state department of transportation in their specifications and latest revisions for "Bituminous Concrete, Class 2".

(Ord. No. 454, § m, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-62. - Liability of permittee for unsafe conditions or abandonment.**

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of this article shall be subject to a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each violation. Any person, firm or corporation who receives a permit and leaves an excavation in an unsafe condition in violation of any of the provisions of this article or abandons a street opening, shall be subject to a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each violation and shall be liable for all costs incurred by the city to correct any condition.

(Ord. No. 454, § o, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-63. - City's right to not issue, revoke permits.**

Any permit may be revoked by the director of public works for just cause including, but not limited to, defective workmanship, trench settlement, failure to notify or nonpayment of additional fees. The director of public works may refuse to issue a permit to any person, firm or corporation which has not paid to the city any fees incurred under the provisions of the ordinance prior to making such permit application.

(Ord. No. 454, § p, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 770, 2-13-03; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07)

- **Sec. 14-64. - Termination of permit; release of contractor's obligations.**

No earlier than six (6) months after completion of construction, the contractor shall apply for termination of the permit and release from any obligation involved thereafter. If in the opinion of the director or his agent the work is not satisfactorily completed or settlement is occurring, necessary repairs shall be undertaken by the contractor and an additional period of liability established by the director or his agent will be established before release. The installation of permanent repairs by the city to such opening shall terminate the permit and release the permittee from any obligations thereafter.

(Ord. No. 454, § n, 2-9-84; Ord. No. 715, 10-9-97; Ord. No. 791, 4-14-05; Ord. No. 818, 4-12-07; Ord. No. 877, 3-13-14)

Alderman Anglace: Do we have to do this in May as there is a lot going on. We are forwarding it to public hearing. Can it go to June 24, 2025?

Alderman McPherson: I think we need to do it a little bit before that, John. This came from the Street Committee meeting with the City Engineer. This has to do with when the utilities come and rip up the roads, especially after we repaved them and they do not do a proper job on it. There are requirements that they are not meeting. We have gotten pushback from one of the utilities on this and was asked if we had an ordinance. Other cities and towns do and this is just amendments to the ordinance.

Alderman Anglace: Road work is going to start.

Mayor Laretti: We are just encoding it in the ordinance.

Alderman McPherson: It is just a simple update. The date for the hearing will be May 27, 2025.

9.2 APPOINTMENT TO COMMUNITY GARDEN AD HOC COMMITTEE

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appoint Thomas Owsiany to the Community Garden Ad Hoc Committee effective immediately.

Thomas Owsiany – D
1 Blaho Drive, Shelton
Contact information: t.owsiany@sbcglobal.net

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

No discussion.

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

9.3 APPOINTMENTS TO THE ANTI-LITTER COMMITTEE

Alderman Anglace MOVED to appoint the following people to the Anti-Litter Committee effective immediately:

Steve Sedlet – D
77 English Lane
Shelton, CT 06484
Tel: 469-348-3661

Kathy Sedlet – D
77 English Lane
Shelton, CT 06484
Tel: 469-733-7200

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

No discussion.

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

9.4 AUTHORIZE MAYOR MARK A. LAURETTI TO PETITION PURA ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SHELTON TO BECOME INTERVENER STATUS ON THE POTENTIAL SALE OF AQUARION WATER COMPANY

Alderman McPherson MOVED to Authorize Mayor Mark A. Lauretti to petition PURA on behalf of the City of Shelton to become intervener status on the potential sale of Aquarion Water Company.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: I spoke about this topic once before. If anyone wants me to reiterate it, I am happy to do it. Some of you may remember last summer in a special session of the legislature, along with a few other items, they authorized the formation of a Regional Water Authority for Aquarion which would encompass a sale of about \$2.4 billion to Eversource who owns them now. I met today in Bridgeport with Mayor Ganim and several other area Mayors to discuss the topic of becoming intervener status. I think now most people feel like I do and do not think this is a good thing for the consumer. The Regional Water Authority is half the size of Aquarion. Their rates are twice as much as Aquarion. Their debt is twice as much as Aquarion. Aquarion, in terms of size of customers, is twice the size of them. The legislation is to merge them into two separate water authorities along with the Regional Water Authority out of New Haven. There is a lot of skepticism on my part and now other Mayors who are customers of Aquarion are starting to feel the same way. I have shared some literature, I have shared some of the commentary from some of the legislators when they approved this. To me, it just does not make sense. You are going to sell this entity for \$2.4 billion and why? I understand what Eversource wants to do, but there has to be ... Aquarion has been sold I want to say four different times in the last 25 years by private equity firms, other water companies, but they have always been privately held and run. We have done pretty well. The other thing that

you should know is that Aquarion is also the largest landholder for the State outside of the State of Connecticut. Years ago, we bought about 1500 acres from Aquarion including the site that the Intermediate School sits on. There is a long history. They have been a good public servant as far as I am concerned. The famous and late State Representative from the 113th, Dick Belden, has always told me, we have some of the best water in the world and I believe that. To put this in the hands of a public entity, in my view, just does not add up. The only thing we can do at this point is petition other municipalities served by Aquarion to become an intervener during the PURA hearing. PURA has to approve the transaction. Fran, someone said they were going to send you the material.

Attorney Teodosio: I didn't get anything today.

Mayor Lauretti: That's the short version. Again, I broached this topic before with this Board.

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

10 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.1 REQUEST TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Lauretti: At this time, I am going to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session and ask that Corporation Counsel join us. The Tax Collector will join us for Item 10.3.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to go into Executive Session.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

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

Executive Session began at 6:22 pm. (Mayor Lauretti leaves meeting/Alderman Anglace assumes Chair)

Alderman Anglace: At this time, I will entertain a motion to end Executive Session.

Alderman McPherson MOVED to end Executive Session.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

Executive Session ended at 6:40 pm.

Alderman Anglace: Let the record reflect that no votes were taken in the Executive Session.

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

10.2 RIVER BREEZE COMMONS TAX APPEAL

Attorney Teodosio offered the following motion:

Attorney Teodosio MOVED that the Board approve stipulation for judgment for Superior Court Case River Breeze Commons, LLC vs City of Shelton, Docket # HHB-CV24-6088889-S as to 223 Canal Street in the amount of an assessed value of \$4,900,000 as recommended by the City of Shelton Tax Assessor.

Alderman McPherson MOVED to accept the motion above as offered.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

No discussion.

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

10.3 WAIVER OF INTEREST ON TAX PENALTY PER CGS SECTION 12-146

No action required.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Simonetti MOVED to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Meeting.

Seconded by Alderman Simons.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Fonda

Donna Fonda
Acting Clerk, Board of Aldermen

DATE APPROVED _____ BY: _____
Mayor Mark A. Lauretti