



Board of Aldermen  
Shelton, Connecticut  
Regular Full Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, July 12, 2018, 7 p.m.

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**CALL OF THE MEETING/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Alderman John Anglace called the Regular Full Board Meeting of the Board of Aldermen to order in the Auditorium at 7 p.m. All those present rose 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 David Gidwani – present  
Alderman Stanley Kudej – present  
Alderman Noreen McGorty – present  
Alderman Cris Balamaci – present  
Alderman Jim Capra – present  
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – present

Also present:

Corporation Counsel Fran Teodosio

**Public Portion**

Greg Tetro, 281 Buddington Road

Good evening to all the Aldermen. I come here on a couple points. I am going to try and make them as quick and brief as possible. The first one I want to thank four aldermen especially for attending the Planning & Zoning Meeting and speaking to Planning & Zoning and talking what it's like to run a ward and to be caring for all the members of a ward. Alderman Capra and Alderman McGorty thank you for representing your ward so well. Another special thanks for Alderman Gidwani and Alderman Simonetti for stepping outside their ward and for seeing that it's bigger than just a ward problem. I am shocked and amazed about what I read in the newspaper. I know the developer has done work for the city and has been paid by the city and that basically was almost a threat of if I don't get what I want you are going to see affordable housing or you are going to see 140 units of elderly housing. I think that is really a horrible way to try and force your way through. One other thing is that a little over a year ago I was here and I was talking about transparency in government and all this time I have been trying to figure out what is the real role of the

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aldermen and I'd like someone, not here, but maybe privately or something to tell me what you feel your role is here because I have worked for a year I thought that you guys work for the people, you work for your ward, you work for all of Shelton, and you guys do an amazing job but when I talk about things like transparency, a year ago I talked about when Huntington Woods was put in. Buddington Road never got addressed. It got changed to do something at the Animal Shelter, transparency is what is the record, where is the backup on what was given and what would have been charged versus what didn't get charged. You know handshake deals sometimes work great but when you have a whole city that you are representing it should be more than a handshake deal. I also talked about when Huntington Woods was put in this idea of PBDs and now the new DRDs, they are not working people. They are not working because people are taking advantage of the loopholes. I asked about what is being done about all the encroachment on open public space? There's a half a swimming pool, there's lawns, there's sheds, swing sets out on open public space. We actually have GIS maps on what is outside of the boundaries of it, what are we doing? We have very few options, are we going to make them rip a pool down? Probably not. So, are we going to make them pay taxes and sell them the space? Well the city is no better than the public when their selling off open public space that was supposed to be permanent for the public. I did hear from four aldermen on what their thoughts were on Huntington Center, I would love to hear from everybody on their thoughts of Huntington Center and what could happen. I want to know that I can depend on people who are going to fight to keep the city historic, to keep it in the same manner as when they came into office. I want to see that they have a great regard for the citizens in Shelton and that they are watching out for them and they are listening. We had over 650 people at that meeting. To me for every one person who can come, four more can't come for some reason. So, I am considering that's at least 3,000 people who wanted to speak out but couldn't. So, there is a rise of the people who are just tired of the selling off of land, tired of what's going on. I have people calling and texting me on my cell, what's going on with Independence Drive? Why were they dropping off all these woodchips and covering up the rubber? Why is a city truck doing it and why is the city paying for that? And if there is a good reason, the people just need to know. Say "Hey listen, we have to clean it up, we have to fix it, we'll get it on the back end." All we want to know is why. The people want to know why things are happening and why things are not happening. And I look at you guys as the real leaders. There can't just be one leader, there has to be a group around who can look to help all their people in their wards as well as all the people in Shelton. And that's what I look to you guys for. I look at you as the real leaders because you guys have to make tough decisions all the time for your ward or for Shelton. And all I am asking is please help us. Everything is going to be given away in no time at all. I look at the Mas property and I say it's great. If I won the lottery maybe I would buy it and put the road in and then I thought to myself that the road is going to reduce traffic on Bridgeport Avenue. No it's not, because that 77 acres will turn into multifamily homes, condos, office buildings and whatever and it's just more traffic. Every time we build, we build more traffic. That's all I have. I want to know that you have our back just as much as we have yours. Thank you very much.

Diana Meyer, 56 Maple Lane

I came here tonight just to talk about something I read on social media that is very troubling today. I am just going to read right from it. 'The floor of the Echo Hose Fire Station needs to

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be repaired and they are currently not allowed to park any of their trucks there. The city has no plans to fix the floors. Right now, if there is a fire downtown that requires Echo Hose's large ladder truck, the fire men have to travel from Echo Hose building to Pine Rock where it is currently parked. (Inaudible) other trucks are parked at other locations downtown. I found this deeply troubling that if a fire breaks out in the downtown and we have firemen running all over town to find their trucks that this could really result in a huge loss and maybe more suits and repercussions for the city. Really, I want to know how the city found the money to pay the lawyers and the court fees to sue the Board of Education but you can't seem to fix this floor at our fire station?

Alderman Anglace: Excuse me. The reference that you made that there are no plans to fix the floor, that's not true. It's in the process. We've got an engineer working on it. The Fire Department is fully aware of what's going on. The Fire Chief and the Board of Fire Commissioners all know what's going on.

Diana Meyer: Oh good, then I will follow up to see the progress. Wait, Jim is saying they don't.

Alderman Capra: I am sorry but they don't. I had people come to the PH&S committee meeting. The captain of the fire house doesn't know, the firemen don't. I can't get an answer from the Fire Chief, nor from Mike Maglione. They were supposed to go to the Board of Education bus station, there was some talk about that. That's just developing. They may be stationed there temporarily but they are waiting on the engineering study and it's been about four or five months and there is still no report.

Alderman Anglace: Well you can't do anything to fix the floor until you get the study from the engineer.

Diana Meyer: And when is the study coming?

Alderman Anglace: He's working on it. I don't know when it is, that's an administrative thing. It's not a legislative thing. That is in the hands of the administration and when contacted the administration said that when the engineer gives it to us we will go out to bid. We will do what we have to do to take the steps in order. We have to follow the procedures that are set up in the charter. I talked to the Fire Chief before he went on vacation and he is fully aware of what's going on. He and the Board of Fire Commissioners are in charge of the Fire Department, not the Board of Aldermen. So, we are not going to communicate to everyone what's going on. When things happen, they are set up to happen and when the engineer comes in with the study we will take the appropriate actions and next steps but that's administrative.

Diana Meyer: Then I will be and I am sure many of the fire department personnel will be anxiously awaiting that report. I just want to say one final thing. The gentlemen before me talked about transparency and I understand what happened with the lawsuit. The lawsuit was dropped and apparently, it's now okay to use the buses for the school system. And in the interest of transparency I would really like both the Board of Aldermen and the Board of

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Education to report how much lawyer's fees and court fees that this cost our tax dollars and time and energy that could be used for something else. Thank you.

Alderman Anglace: We don't know what the Board of Education has spent on their lawyer's fees and our fees are handled by Corporation Counsel. His fees are reported in the approved here.

Diana Meyer: Well that's too bad, because it is our tax dollars.

Alderman Anglace: Well I will just tell you that...

Diana Meyer: Well there is a lot of 'I'll just tell you' and finger pointing and 'it's not my responsibility' and it's really getting tiresome.

Alderman Anglace asked if anyone else wished to address the Board. There being no one, Alderman Anglace closed the public portion.

Alderman Anglace moved to add to the agenda - Executive Session - Item 11.2 Report to the Aldermen Regarding the Resolution of the Matter of School Buses between the City and the Board of Education. SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

### **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

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

Regular Full Board Meeting – June 14, 2018  
Special Meeting – June 27, 2018

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

### **5.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

No Items

### **5.2 PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY**

No Items.

### **5.3 STREET COMMITTEE**

No items.

### **REPORT OF THE MAYOR**

No report.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

I just want you to know that there was a nice article in the paper that summarizes the efforts that the city made to recognize Civil War veterans from the City of Shelton and the City of Derby. This was done through the monument located at the Derby Green. And they had a dedication of this monument. I guess it was after the Memorial Day Parade and they had a follow up recognition the other night and I couldn't give you notice because I received notice myself at 11 a.m. that day. I went and it was well done. They did a great job of renovating the monuments. Money well spent.

**6 – LEGAL REPORT**

**6.1 CORPORATION COUNSEL BILLING**

Alderman McPherson MOVED to authorize a total payment of \$5,238.75 to Corporation Counsel, Welch, Teodosio, & Stanek, LLC, for services rendered per statement dated July 3, 2018 with funds to come from the following Legal Services Account:

Legal Fees	001-1900-411.30-03	\$5,238.75
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Alderman Capra: Quick question. On here is Shelton Board of Aldermen vs. Shelton Board of Education, are those total fees for the lawsuit?

Corporation Counsel: Mostly, there was another day of negotiation and another day of hearings. These are for the month of June.

Alderman Capra: Okay. Thank you.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

**7 – LEGISLATIVE - OLD**

No Items.

**8 - FINANCIAL BUSINESS - OLD**

No items.

**9 – FINANCIAL BUSINESS – NEW**

**9.1 – JULY STATUTORY REFUNDS**

Alderman McPherson MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$2,165.73 be approved and that the Finance Director be directed to make payments in accordance with the certified list received from the Tax

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Collector with funds to come from the Statutory Refunds Account 001-0000-311.13.00; SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

**9.2 – 267 CANAL STREET DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

Alderman McPherson MOVED to approve the following resolution:

Whereas, on May 11, 2017 the Board of Aldermen approved the execution of an Assistance Agreement by and between the City of Shelton and the CT Department of Economic and Community Development to undertake the 267 Canal Street Assessment Project, and

Whereas, the City of Shelton authorizes funding to cover costs incurred and to be incurred for said project, and

Further be it resolved that the Board of Aldermen appropriate an amount of \$200,000 with funding to come from General Fund Surplus with monies to revert back to the General Fund upon reimbursement by the State of Connecticut.

SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

**11 – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At approximately 7:20 p.m., Alderman McPherson MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items:

- 11.1 DOMINGUEZ VS. CITY OF SHELTON
- 11.2 SCHOOL BUS SETTLEMENT

Alderman Anglace invited Corporation Counsel Teodosio to participate in Executive Session.

Ken Nappi was also invited due to his participation in negotiations with the Board of Education regarding the bus situation. Both were asked to remain in the auditorium; SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

***Return to Regular Session***

At approximately 8:05 p.m., Alderman McPherson MOVED to return to regular session; SECONDED by Alderman Balamaci. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Alderman Anglace noted that no votes were taken during the Executive Session.

**11.1 DOMINGUEZ VS. CITY OF SHELTON**

Corporation Counsel suggested the following motion:

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Move to approve the cuurent partial settlement with the claimant in the amount suggested by counsel in an amount of \$11,676.60.

SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

**11.2 REPORT TO THE ALDERMEN REGARDING THE RESOLUTION OF THE MATTER OF SCHOOL BUSES BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

No action.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:05 p.m., Alderman McPherson MOVED to ADJOURN; SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Adcox  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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

Mark A. Laretti  
Mayor, City of Shelton