



BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
CITY OF SHELTON  
REGULAR FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY AUGUST 10, 2023  
SHELTON CITY HALL, 54 HILL STREET, SHELTON CT  
*Live-Streamed at [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org)*

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### **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Lauretti called the regular Board of Aldermen 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 – Absent  
Alderman Anthony Simonetti – Present  
Alderman Bernie Simons – Present via phone  
Alderman Kevin Kosty – Present

### **Administration**

Mayor Mark A. Lauretti  
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**

Mayor Lauretti asked if anyone wished to address the board.

Jerry Bloom  
24 Fairfield Avenue

I wish to thank Alderman McPherson pertaining to the issue I mentioned last month about the disrepaired road down at the Riverview Park. I am told that the Mayor as well as the Highway & Bridges have been informed and it is on the list of repairs. Hopefully before the snow sets in. I figure two truck loads of asphalt should do it. Also, the lamps outside the Plumb Memorial Library remain broken. I figure a ladder, a couple of light bulbs, a screwdriver maybe should be able to fix it.

We have a newbie on the block, she calls herself Riot Grrl, she is one of these so-called First Amendment Auditors. She spells girl, grrl. She was recently arrested for trespassing and cried to Long Island Audit, Sean Paul Reyes, for help. She admires and wishes to emulate him. Then she went to a DMV with her cell phone camera causing quite a commotion. They temporarily shut down services to the patrons there and finally left when the police arrived threatening to trespass (sic) her. There was an incident at the Danbury, Connecticut, Library last month in which Christopher Cordova, AKA Denver Metro Audit, was the ringleader, when a pack of his frauditors went in there again to antagonize, instigate, and provoke. The police finally arrived, however they dropped the ball on this one. The policemen allowed them to spiel their circular arguments about why they should be allowed to be there and do what they do. They finally left. I did call and speak to Police Chief Ridenhour about this. He assures me he is on top of it, it won't happen again. Denver Metro Audit, this guy lives in Denver, Colorado and he is making so much money doing this he can roam the country. However, come Monday he is due to be sentenced at a circuit court in Denver, district court for an incident pulled at the Social Security Agency last year. He was convicted in March on federal charges. He just can't walk into a Social Security Agency and film everybody. There were signs posted, he ignored them. The security guards told him he couldn't do it, he ignored them. He was convicted. He made almost \$12,000 on clicks and views on the YouTube channel for that incident. The DA is recommending to the judge that he be fined a maximum \$5000, that he be sentenced to 20 days in jail and serve 160 hours of community service. It should be apparent that these criminals perform these crimes, which are mostly misdemeanors and the fines are almost miniscule. They make a good living doing this. Unfortunately, once again, Mayor Lauretti has done nothing to protect Shelton from these criminals who not only come to harass and provoke, they want an incident where they can sue you. Instead of being proactive, you all seem to be sticking your heads in the sand like it can't happen here. This is not a soap opera. These criminals are out every day doing this. I wish you all would do something. Thank you.

Having no other speakers, Mayor Lauretti closed the public portion.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

**1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

**1.1 BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR MEETING – JULY 13, 2023**

**1.2 BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING – JULY 25, 2023**

*Minutes can be viewed on the city website: [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org).*

Alderman Anglace MOVED to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023 Board of Aldermen meeting and July 25, 2023 Board of Aldermen Public Hearing.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

No Discussion.

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 has no report at this time.

**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 AUGUST STATUTORY REFUNDS

Alderman Anglace MOVED that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$1802.16 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.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: I saw the Tax Collector and asked her, this seemed like a lot of money so early in the fiscal year. She said these were still from last year.

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 WATER HEATER AT SHELTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL- WAIVER OF BID**

Mayor Lauretti: I did ask John Calhoun to come here to explain, but unfortunately, he is not here.

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Director, to waive the bidding process for the purchase and installation of a water heater at Shelton Intermediate School.

*(Note: Funding to come from BOA's \$200,000 appropriation made on June 29th, 2023 for BOE Maintenance projects to be taken from American Rescue Plan Funds.)*

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: I did have a length conversation with him about this and other items and there is ample opportunity to go out to bid on some of this stuff. We had talked about this back in the spring. Unfortunately, the water heater had not failed completely, and was still operable at the end of school which is why I guess he didn't go out and do it. Nonetheless we need the hot water heater because the cafeteria requires hot water to serve lunches and if they don't the health department will not allow you to open the cafeteria. That would be a little bit of a dilemma. He did have three quotes and they are all in the same ballpark. I believe they are going to do the work; this is just the cost of the hot water heater.

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

**8.3 FUNDING FOR HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES TRUCK – WAIVER OF BID**

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Director, to waive the bidding process for the purchase of a used truck for Highways & Bridges in an amount of \$30,000 with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

Discussion:

Mayor Lauretti: Some of you may recall, I think it was two years ago, we took this same approach. This truck comes from the Town of Thomaston. We bought two vehicles from them two years ago the same way. For the life of me I don't know why they are getting rid of these trucks. Maybe they are caught up in the age it was built, but we have an awful lot of use for stuff like this. It just gives us another added dimension in terms of the size of the truck that we use and what we can do with it, particularly in snowstorms.

Alderman Anglace: The maintenance history is included with the report and it just seems to be that it is unwise to purchase a new truck at today's prices when there is a used truck with no maintenance history is available and reasonably priced.

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

**8.4 FUNDING FOR USED VEHICLES FOR VARIOUS CITY DEPARTMENTS – WAIVER OF BID**

Alderman Anglace MOVED, per the recommendation of the Finance Director, to waive the bidding process for the purchase of three used vehicles for various city departments in an amount of \$79,500 with funding to come from aldermanic bonding pursuant to Section 7.16 of the City Charter.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

**Discussion:**

Mayor Lauretti: The same comments I made a moment ago apply here. We have done this before. These are coming off the Government Administrative Services Program that they have. With stuff like this you have to pull the trigger real quick or else you lose it. I think you can see by looking at the vehicles, the kind of shape that they are in, the low miles. One vehicle has 7800 miles on it. For us, we use these vehicles mainly around town. It is not like they are traveling out of state. I think it is good value.

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

**8.5 FUNDING FOR ASSEMBLY OF STORAGE BUILDING AT SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL – WAIVER OF BID**

Mayor Lauretti: We are not taking action on 8.5 because the maintenance director for the Board of Ed is still procuring quotes from contractors to do the assembly on this building. We will have a special meeting next Thursday, so we can take it up at that time.

**8.6 STEAP GRANT APPLICATION FOR A MULTI-PURPOSE SYNTHETIC TURF SPORTS FIELD AT  
120 MEADOW STREET**

Alderman Anglace MOVED

Be it resolved that Mayor Mark A. Lauretti be, and hereby is, authorized to accept on behalf of the City of Shelton, a 2023 Connecticut STEAP Grant in the amount of \$500,000 for the installation of a multi-purpose synthetic sports field; and

Further be it resolved, Mayor Mark A. Lauretti is hereby authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain said 2023 STEAP Grant with the State of Connecticut.

Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

**Discussion:**

Mayor Lauretti: Those of you that follow sports and youth programs understand the value that a turf field can bring to any of these programs. It gives you more flexibility, it allows more usage. There is very little maintenance associated with it. We probably should have done this years ago. The soccer field at Shelton High School I think is a prime applicant for something like this because the sitework is in, the drainage is in, the fencing is in so all we are doing is replacing the turf. The Perry Hill School also is a

location where this application would work very well. Maybe if we are fortunate enough to get this grant and we take care of the high school, then we go to Perry Hill. It gives us a lot more options, particularly in inclement weather. Youth programs also have an opportunity to use some of this stuff when the high school programs are not. Just take it as good value.

Alderman Anglace: Location, it says on here, the lower field near the tennis courts.

Mayor Lauretti: As you pull into Shelton High School and you wind your way up to the parking lot, it is right on the left-hand side in the lower level.

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

**8.7 AMENDMENT TO FUNDING SOURCE FOR HUNTINGTON FIREHOUSE WINDOW REPLACEMENT**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to amend the funding source for Item 8.5 “Replacement of Windows for Huntington Firehouse” passed at the April 13, 2023 meeting from LoCIP to Contingency General Account #001-9900-900.99-00.

*(Note: LoCIP is not eligible.)*

Seconded by Alderman Kosty.

Discussion:

Alderman Anglace: The amount was \$9049.79.

Mayor Lauretti: Again, this is an item that has been before us. We all agreed that we need to replace the windows. Winter will be here in a couple of months.

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

**9 – LEGISLATIVE – NEW**

**9.1 ITEMS TO PUBLIC HEARING**

**9.1 NO ITEMS**

**10 - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**10.A. REQUEST TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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 join us as well as Administrative Assistants.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to go into Executive Session.

Seconded by Alderman McPherson.

Alderman Anglace MOVED to go into Executive Session at 5:45 pm.

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

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

Alderman Anglace MOVED to end Executive Session.

Seconded by Alderman Durante.

Executive Session ended at 5:50 pm.

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

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

**10.1 SCHNEIDER WORKER’S COMPENSATION**

Attorney Thomas Cotter: I have asked you to approve a motion to approve the recommendation of Assistant Corporation Counsel with respect to the Schneider vs Shelton matter.

Alderman McPherson MOVED to approve the recommendations of Assistant Corporation Counsel, Thomas Cotter, with respect to the Schneider vs Shelton matter.

Seconded by Alderman Simonetti.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Anglace MOVED to adjourn the Board of Aldermen Meeting. Seconded by Alderman Balamaci.

A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (7-0). Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

*Donna Fonda*

Donna Fonda  
Acting Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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