

Finance and Government Operations Commission Meeting Minutes
Middletown, Connecticut
February 27, 2019
Municipal Building Room 208 – moved to Council Chambers
5:30 P.M.

Present: Councilman Sebastian Giuliano, Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta, Councilwoman Linda Salafia, Councilman Gerald Daley, Carl Erlacher, David Bauer, Joe Samolis, Jeff Pugliese; Thayhe Hutchins, Valeka Clarke, Sanara Gordon, Krishna Winston, Kristof Koldad, Gail Thompson-Allen, Phil Pessina, Trevor Charles, Jeff Hush, Banning Byre, Jacey Long, Anthony Moran, Sean Barlow, Catherine Rees, Peter Harding, Ron Krom, Lydia Brewster, Ether Higgins, Rolande Duprey, Kevin Elak, Sara Mendillo, Chris Holden, Daniel Barry, Ari Kubie, Beth Shapiro, Justin Richardson, Rob Kronenberger, Christopher Smedick, Sasha Linden-Cohen, Stephen Devoto, Lisa Loomis, Faith Jackson, Katie Lowen, Angel Martin, Clare Brennan, Rose Romano, David Bauer, Gregory Swift, Steven Kovach, Matthew Phillips, Jenn Billingsley, Sal Uccello, Amanda Kenyon, Ingrid Eck, Noah Kahar, Jimmy Draughn, Lovicia Johnson

Absent: none

1. Councilwoman Bartolotta called the meeting to order and requested a motion to approve the January 30th, 2019 Finance and Government meeting minutes. Councilman Daley motioned to approve, Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.
2. Public Comments on the Agenda –
 - Many residents spoke in support of the Pride Festival which is to be held on June 15, 2019.
 - The public also spoke on the proposed sale of 51 Green Street to the Norwich Diocese for the relocation of the St. Vincent's de Paul Soup Kitchen, some in favor and some against.

Mary Bartolotta closed the public comments and entertained a motion to amend the agenda and continue the meeting in Room B19. Seb, so moved and Linda second; unanimously approved.

Councilman Daley motioned to amend the agenda and move/hear the Equal Opportunity & Diversity Management item before Health. Councilman Daley motioned to approve both and Councilwoman Salafia second, unanimously approved.

3. Items submitted for discussion:

- **Health – 1. Appropriation Request totaling \$5850 for Part-Time Salaries & Wages; 2. Grant Confirmation totaling \$2750 in local donations for Kids Health & Safety Day; 3. Grant Reduction totaling (\$1000) in federal funds for FDA Food Regulatory Program Standards Grant, to return unused balance**

Councilman Daley discussed the appropriation request totaling \$5850 for Part-Time salaries; he asked if this was brought before the union. Councilwoman Bartolotta asked if the \$5850 was to cover the p/t salary until the end of the year. Kevin Elak responded that it would cover the p/t salary line until June 30th. Councilman Giuliano suggested putting the full p/t salary amount in next year's budget; unanimously opposed. Councilman Giuliano motioned to approve the grant confirmation totaling \$2750 in local donation for Kids Health & Safety Day. Councilwoman Salafia second, unanimously approved. Councilman Daley motioned to approve the grant reduction totaling \$1000 in federal funds for FDA Food Regulatory Program Standards Grant, to return unused balance, Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

- **Fire – Resolution requesting approval to accept donation of historical Middletown Fire Department fire pumper**

Councilman Daley motioned to approve and Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

- **Registrar of Voters – Appropriation Request totaling \$7500 for Part-Time Salaries & Wages deficit from 2018 Primaries and General Election**

Councilman Daley motioned to approve and Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

- **Public Works – 1. Resolution requesting approval of the rates of use of athletic fields; 2. Appropriation Request totaling \$85,200 for Harbor Park Retaining/Bulkhead wall investigation' preliminary design and cost estimate to repair wall**

William Russo discussed the resolution to approve the rates and use of the athletic fields. Discussion regarding the shared services between Mercy, Xavier and Vinal Tech. He also stated that a member of the public questioned whether or not a team was playing without paying. Bill verified that the team in question did in fact pay. Councilwoman Salafia motioned to approve, Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved. Councilman Daley motioned to approve the \$85,200 for Harbor Park Retaining wall investigation, Councilwoman Salafia second; unanimously approved.

- **OGC – Resolution requesting approval of the sale of the Green Street Arts Center at 51 Green Street to St. Vincent de Paul Middletown**

Discussion on the 51 Green Street proposal; motion failed unanimously.

- **PCD – 1. Appropriation Requesting totaling \$75,000 for the City of Middletown Pride Event in June 2019; 2. Resolution requesting approval of Middletown Pride Event appropriation and authorization for Mayor Drew to sign all necessary documents to effectuate an agreement with the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce to organize, coordinate and run the event and act as fiscal agent for Middletown Pride; 3. Resolution requesting approval for reallocation of 2018 Entitlement (CDBG) appropriations totaling \$120,000 for Harbor Park Boardwalk Improvements and, authorization for Mayor Drew to submit amendments to the 2018 Annual Action Plan; 4. Resolution requesting authorization for Mayor Drew to sign all necessary documents to implement a one-year lease with Fidelux Lighting, LLC at the RM Keating Historical Enterprise Park at 180 Johnson street; 5. Lease Agreement between the City of Middletown and Fidelux Lighting, LLC.**

Councilman Daley offered an amendment to move the Pride Festival and the 51 Green Street agreement to the top of the agenda. Councilman Giuliano moved to approve the amendment and the appropriation for the Pride Festival with a monetary change from \$75,000 to \$60,540. Councilman Daley supports the change, unanimously approved.

Councilman Daley motioned to approve and authorize Mayor Drew to sign all necessary documents to effectuate with Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce to organize, coordinate and run the event and act as fiscal agent for Middletown Pride. Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

Councilman Daley motioned to approve the \$120,000 for Harbor Park Boardwalk Improvements and authorize Mayor Drew to submit the 2019 Annual Action Plan, Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

Councilman Giuliano motioned to approve the resolution regarding Mayor Drew to sign all necessary documents to implement a one-year lease with Fidelux Lighting, LLC; Councilman Daley second; unanimously approved.

4. Reports

- Transfer of Funds/BOE Transfers
- General Fund Appropriations
- City's Investments
- Tax Collection Recap Report
- Professional Services Report
- Monthly Expenditure Summary Report

5. Other

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 5:30 pm in Room 208

Respectfully
Submitted by,

Tracy Vess on behalf of Carl R. Erlacher