

TOWN COUNCIL  
Town of Trumbull  
CONNECTICUT  
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TOWN HALL  
Trumbull

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LEGISLATION & ADMINISTRATION  
COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 22, 2010

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Chairman Suzanne Testani called the Legislation & Administration Committee meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

The Chair appointed Margaret Mastroni as temporary clerk of the L&A committee. Moved by Mr. Ciocci, seconded by Mr. Altieri to appoint Margaret Mastroni as permanent clerk of the town council. VOTE: Motion approved 6-0 unanimously

Roll Call: The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

Suzanne Testani, Chairman

Jeffrey Jenkins, Vice Chairman

Kristy Waizenegger

Chad Ciocci

Mark Altieri

Michael Rappa

Also Present: Mr. Daniel Nelson, Chief of Staff, Chief

1. RESOLUTION TC23-40:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Trumbull High School Building Committee is hereby expanded to eleven (11) members, plus two (2) Town Council members.

Resolution withdrawn

2. Resolution TC23-40 withdrawn RESOLUTION TC23-44: Moved by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mr. Rappa.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment of Daniel F. Schopick of 40 Brewster Place as a member of the Charter Revision Commission is hereby approved.

This resolution had been moved from the R&R Committee meeting to the L&A Committee meeting.

Mr. Daniel F Schopick of 40 Brewster Place was present. Mr. Schopick had served as chairman of the L&A committee and had been involved with charter Revision in 1981. The last Charter Revision he had served as legal counsel. Mr. Schopick has no preconceived notions of what should be changed in the charter. There is one item that has been determined not to be acceptable to the Secretary of State office and that would be the Board of Education's seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) seat. Mr. Schopick stated his affiliation as democrat.

VOTE: Motion to recommend approved 6-0 unanimously.

3. RESOLUTION TC23-46: Moved by Ms. Waizenegger, seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

BE IT RESOLVED, That First Selectman Timothy M. Herbst is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement on behalf of the Town of Trumbull between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Trumbull For the Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of the Housatonic Railway Rails to Trails Utilizing Federal Funds Under the Enhancement Component of the Surface Transportation Program.

Mr. Nelson read a memorandum from Ms. Theodora C. Samadjopoulos, Deputy Director of Public Works regarding the Rails to Trails Agreement to the committee members explaining that the original agreement had been signed by former First Selectman, Raymond G. Baldwin. A second supplemental agreement has been approved and was sent to the town of Trumbull in November 2009, at which time the new administration had been voted in. Since the original agreement was with the former first selectman, a new resolution authorizing the current First Selectman Timothy Herbst to sign the agreement is necessary. The committee agreed this was for administrative purposes.

VOTE: Motion to recommend approved 6-0 unanimously.

4. RESOLUTION TC23-47: Moved by Mr. Rappa, seconded By Ms. Waizenegger  
BE IT RESOLVED, That First Selectman Timothy M. Herbst is hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the Town of Trumbull the Office of Policy and Management Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation block grant (EECBG) in accordance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

Mr. Nelson explained this resolution represents a grant that Ms. Liz Smith had applied for during the previous administration, OPM has approved the grant in the amount of \$125,620.00. A new resolution authorizing the current First Selectman to sign on behalf of the town is required. The committee agreed this was for administrative purposes.

VOTE: Motion to recommend approved 6-0 unanimously.

5. RESOLUTION TC 23-27: Moved by Mr. Ciocci, seconded by Mr. Jenkins. BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED, That the False Alarm Abatement Ordinance be and is hereby approved.

Chief Thomas Kiely, Mr. Brian Casey and Deputy Chief Byrnes of the Trumbull Police Department were present. Also present was Mr. Bob McFay who was instrumental in the creation of the model used for this ordinance. Chief Kiely explained that the police department receives 2800 false alarms per year, with two (2) officers responding to each call. This is a nationwide issue. The cost associated with the 2800 false alarms per year is approximately \$60,000 per year. The False Alarm Abatement Ordinances have proven to reduce the number of calls in half. If Trumbull could reduce their false alarms by 1400 per year that would be a substantial savings of manpower, cars & gasoline. Mr. Casey stated that the false alarms account for 14% of the calls that come into department, only motor vehicle stops exceed that percentage, 3% of the addresses in town are creating the burden of false alarms. Chief Kiely noted that New Haven, Bridgeport, Fairfield, Shelton & Stratford have False Alarm Abatement Ordinances. Mr. Casey confirmed that best practices have been included in the draft ordinance.

The town attorney has the ordinance to review; there has been no response by the town attorney to date. The L&A Committee noted that the definitions would need to be verified by the town attorney, the \$10.00 registration fee is not included in the language of Section 2: Alarm Permit of the alarm ordinance. The committee discussed the \$10.00 registration fee. Chief Kiely explained that the registration fee would be the vehicle to update the people's information on an annual basis. Mr. Casey confirmed that the police department does have the software package to monitor the alarms. Mr. McFay explained that if the ordinance did not include the refusal of service clause the ordinance would be lacking in repercussion. Mr. Rappa spoke against the refusal of service clause.

The ordinance will cost \$20,000 to implement, and will save approximately \$57,000 per year (one patrolman's salary). Chief Kiely explained the importance of reducing the numbers of false alarms, the calls take the officers away from all other calls.

Mr. Jenkins spoke in favor of the \$10.00 registration fee, noting without the fee people would not be accountable to update their information. Ms. Waizenegger agreed with Mr. Jenkins. Ms. Waizenegger noted that on page 4 of the Proposed False Alarm Abatement Ordinance under section (a), line 5, there is an asterisk (\*) which is not defined. Mr. Rappa would like to see the ordinance reduced to two (2) pages and the \$10.00 fee removed.

Moved by Mr. Altieri, seconded by Mr. Jenkins to postpone Resolution TC 23-27 to next month. VOTE: Motion to postpone to next month was approved 6-0 unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Waizenegger. There being no further business to discuss the Legislation & Administration Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Margaret Mastroni,  
Temporary Town Council Clerk