

TOWN COUNCIL
Town of Trumbull
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TOWN HALL
Trumbull

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RULES & RESEARCH COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Call to Order: The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

The clerk called the roll and recorded it as follows:

Present: Eric Paulson, Vice Chairman, Bill Mecca, Joanne Glasser-Orenstein, Steve Lemoine

Absent: Bruce Elstein, Chairman, Donna Seidell, Joe Gerics, Alternate, Carl a. Massaro, Jr., Alternate

Also

Present: First Selectman Vicki A. Tesoro, Chief Administrative Officer Cynthia Katske, Town Council Chairman Mary Beth Thornton, Town Council members, Joy Colon, Jason Marsh, Ashley Gaudiano, Lisa Valenti, Dawn Cantafio, Mary Isaac, Tony Scinto, Lori Rosasco Schwartz, Kevin Shively, Town Attorney Daniel Schopick

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1. RESOLUTION TC28-41: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Douglas Sutherland of 14 Petticoat Lane, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority Board.

Douglas Sutherland of 14 Petticoat Lane was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat. He is a retired telecommunications engineer. This as a giant engineering task because of its many moving pieces. He knows they are moving to electric busses this year and new routes are being added. This all influences our community. Mr. Southerland looks forward to serving. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

2. RESOLUTION TC28-42: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein

BE IT RESOLVED, That James Meisner of 62 Driftwood Lane, be and the same is hereby reappointed as a member of the Pension Board for a term extending to the first Monday in December 2023.

James Meisner of 62 Driftwood Lane was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat. He served as a Town Council member for four years, and four years on the Pension Board. He has enjoyed his time with the Pension Board, noting the nice synergy. He has expertise in the field and looks forward to his continued service. Mr. Meisner explained the Town has made the shift to meeting Required Actuarial Contribution and hopes the Town stays committed. The pensions are not fully funded but feels positive about the path they are on now. Before retiring last month he worked for Common Fund in Wilton. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

3. RESOLUTION TC28-43: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein
BE IT RESOLVED, That the end date of the term of Tatiana Rampino as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals is corrected to read the first Monday of December, 2020.

The term was wrong this corrects it. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

The Chair explained to the Committee the following appointments are on this agenda because they wanted the appointees to come out at 7:00 as opposed to later in the night at the L&A meeting when the new committee will be introduced.

4. RESOLUTION TC28-45: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Raymond G. Baldwin Jr. of 700 Booth Hill Rd, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member and Chairman of the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Raymond G. Baldwin Jr. of 700 Booth Hill Rd was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat. Mr. Baldwin is a member of both the Trumbull's Foreign Wars Post 10059 and American Legion's Post 141. Both commanders had asked him to do this, in the past he has been involved with building committees and would like to serve on this committee. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

5. RESOLUTION TC28-46: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein
BE IT RESOLVED, That Mary Beth Thornton of 24 Cherry Gate Lane, be and the same is hereby appointed as a Town Council representative on the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Mary Beth Thornton of 24 Cherry Gate Lane was present and indicated her party affiliation as democrat. She is honored to serve on this committee. This is a great historical site and project and is excited to be part of this. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

6. RESOLUTION TC28-47: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Lemoine

BE IT RESOLVED, That Dan Sacco of 10 Misty Lane, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Dan Sacco of 10 Misty Lane was present. He has been a Town resident since the late 80's. He moved here due to a relocation and didn't think he would be here long, but his wife and children loved it here and have been here ever since. He wants to do what is right for the Town, this is a tremendous opportunity for the Town. Mr. Sacco indicated his party affiliation as republican. He worked for the Nielson Company for 25 years where he ran the service group globally. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

7. RESOLUTION TC28-48: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Lemoine
BE IT RESOLVED, That Michael Lombardo of 158 Edison Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Chief of Police Michael Lombardo of 158 Edison Road was present and indicated his party affiliation as republican. He has lived in Town with his wife and two children for 29 years. He has been in law enforcement a little over 38 years. He spoke of the importance of the first responders and giving back to the veterans. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

8. RESOLUTION TC28-49: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Preston Merritt of 136 North Stowe Place, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Preston Merritt of 136 North Stowe Place was present and indicated his party affiliation as democrat. He has lived in Town since 1984, has been involved in the Rotary since 1986, as well as Trumbull Day. He is a CPA and has had his own office since 1990. It's a great project. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

9. RESOLUTION TC28-50: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Bruce Silverstone of 126 Whitney Avenue, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Mr. Bruce Silverstone was present and indicated his address is 121 Whitney Avenue not 126. His party affiliation is democrat. He has a degree in journalism, a master's in communications. He worked for GE for twelve years, two of which he was the speech writer for the Chairman of the Board. He has had his own company in advertising and promotional agency serving fortune 200 companies. Most recently he was with Aquarion Water Company as the VP of Communications, he left there not quite a year ago and is consulting now. In Town he has been an EMT for 22 years with riding in the ambulance for 17, he served as the Long Hill Fire Commission Chairman for 5 years and is also a veteran, and he spent 4 years in the Air Force. He is delighted to be involved in this project. A couple of his neighbors are aware and are supportive, some may not be aware.

People on Whitney Avenue are used to a structure there. This will look nice and serve the Town well. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

By unanimous consent the R&R Committee took item #16 out of order.

10. RESOLUTION TC28-65: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That J.C. Cinelli of 47 Parkway Drive, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

J.C. Cinelli of 47 Parkway Drive was present and indicated his party affiliation as republican. Mr. Cinelli is a Town Council member, an attorney and has experience with the Charter. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

11. RESOLUTION TC28-51: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein
BE IT RESOLVED, That Steve Lemoine of 46 Pert Street, be and the same is hereby appointed as a Town Council representative on the Veterans & First Responders Center Building Committee.

Steve Lemoine of 46 Pert Street was present and indicated his party affiliation as republican. He served in the US navy for 6 years and has served for the past 5 years on the executive board of the National Association of Naval Veterans, known as Port 5 in Bridgeport. He also has served on different veterans' organizations and initiatives. He is very pro-veteran and would love to serve on this committee. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

12. RESOLUTION TC28-60: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein
BE IT RESOLVED, That Kate Donahue of 83 Meadow Road West, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member and Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

Kate Donahue of 83 Meadow Road West was present and indicated her party affiliation as republican. She is the president, CEO and part owner of Hanford Research. Recently completed a 2-year term as the Bridgeport Regional Business Council and sits on the Board of Governors for Industry Association. She grew up in Trumbull, left for 16 years while pursuing her career and has lived in Town for the past 25 years. She was raised by civic-minded parents instilling community responsibility, so she has served on different groups in Town, the PTA most predominantly and is currently the Chair of the Trumbull Education & Government Access Television Commission. Because of the work she does, in policies and procedures, she spoke to the importance of continuous improvement. The fact that the Charter hasn't been looked at for a while it will be a good time to ensure it reflects the way we want the Town to run.

Ms. Donahue clarified she hadn't changed her party affiliation since first registered after coming to Town. Mr. Lemoine indicated that there may be wrong information on that.

Atty. Schopick clarified under state statute not more than 1/3 of the members of a Charter Revision Commission can serve on other Boards. Ms. Donahue and Mr. McCann serve on other boards while no one else does.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

13. RESOLUTION TC28-61: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Thomas Tesoro of 133 Beechwood Avenue, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

Thomas Tesoro of 133 Beechwood Avenue was present and indicated he is a lawyer by training, went to Fordham University and graduated as a member of the N.Y. & Federal Bar and is to this day, although has not practiced law in a while.

He is interested in Town government and has served two terms on the BOF. This is an interesting opportunity to do something that will have a long-term effect on the Town which isn't political. The Charter should be a document where both sides think it's fair and equitable and serves as the ground rules for our government going forward. That is exciting to him and is something he is interested in doing and being a part of. Mr. Tesoro indicated his party affiliation as democrat. VOTE: Motion CARRIED 3-0-1
(ABSTENTION: Lemoine)

14. RESOLUTION TC28-62: Moved by Lemoine, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Nancy Gardiner of 34 Parkwood Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

Nancy Gardiner of 34 Parkwood Road was present and indicated her party affiliation as democrat. She and her husband have lived in Town for 27 years. She graduated from the president's university with a degree in accounting. Currently she is in property management. Her first 12 years in Town she was an advocate for all the schools and was involved in the BOE, served as the PTSA president and followed it through the BOF and Town Council. For the last ten years she has been involved at the federal level advocating to alleviate extreme poverty. She believes in policies that work for people. She also recently took poll monitor training. She spoke to the importance of working for your local community. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

15. RESOLUTION TC28-63: Moved by Mecca, seconded by Glasser-Orenstein
BE IT RESOLVED, That Susan Gilson of 194 Lake Avenue, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

Susan Gilson of 194 Lake Avenue was present and indicated her party affiliation as democrat. She has lived in Town for 25 years and had been involved in the PTA when her children were younger. They worked as a team and is glad to be working with them again. She works as a project coordinator and noted that most of her career she has worked collaboratively. She wants to make things better for the Town and is thrilled to

get involved, when asked to serve she didn't hesitate. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

16. RESOLUTION TC28-64: Moved by Glasser-Orenstein, seconded by Mecca
BE IT RESOLVED, That Martin McCann of 63 Teeter Rock Road, be and the same is hereby appointed as a member of the Charter Revision Commission 2020.

Martin McCann of 63 Teeter Rock Road was present and indicated he has lived in Town for 26 years with his family. He is a former CPA, a practicing attorney for 25 year, has served two times on the Ethics Commission and is currently an alternate member. VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously

There being no further business to discuss the R&R Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni
Town Council Clerk