

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2013**

ATTENDANCE: Evette Brantley; Co-Chair, Lydia Martinez; Co-Chair, Jack Banta, Michelle Lyons, Council President Thomas McCarthy, Warren Blunt (6:22)

OTHERS: Council Member Andre Baker, Council Member Angel dePara, Carol B. Reid, Angie Staltaro, Larry Coleman, Mr. Martinez, Patrick Carlton, Max Perez, Iris Molina, Bill Coleman, Samuel Shaw, Council Member Denese Taylor-Moye

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 P.M. by Council Member Brantley.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2013 (SPECIAL MEETING)

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2013 (SPECIAL MEETING).**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

166-11 A Resolution Concerning the Approval of the Mill Hill Neighborhood Revitalization Zone by Laws and Boundaries as proposed and defined by the Mill Hill Revitalization Zone Planning Committee.

Senior Planner Samuel Shaw from the Office of Economic Development came forwards to present. He requested that the document before the committee be amended by substitution. The document was a draft to meet timelines and that there had been substantial changes. He stated that previous changes had been submitted to the City Clerk's Office but that the only change in the current document contained a typo on page 3 under coding in section 4.5 and change 'recluse' to 'recuse'.

Council Member Martinez stated that prior the document had been presented to the committee and sent back to clarify some details. Mr. Shaw stated that the document had been reviewed by the Mill Hill NRZ president, was reviewed, and then sent for approval. He stated that several members of the NRZ were present in the meeting. He was asked how many members were in the committee and he said that there were 17.

*** Committee Member Blunt arrived at 6:22.*

Mr. Shaw said that he needed committee approval to present the plan to the council. Discussion followed about the process. Mr. Shaw then displayed multiple diagrams for the committee regarding the project. Further discussion followed regarding the details of the proposed resolution. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the area of the NRZ and various other related issues.

*** Council President McCarthy left the meeting at 6:25*

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM 166-11: A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF THE MILL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE BY LAWS AND BOUNDARIES AS PROPOSED AND DEFINED BY THE MILL HILL REVITALIZATION ZONE PLANNING COMMITTEE AS AMENDED BY SUBSTITUTION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

146-11 A Resolution concerning Disposing of City Owned Property by Auction, Sale to Abutter, Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport or by RFP for the purposes of ordering a Public Hearing only.

Mr. Perez came forwards to talk about item 146-11. He stated that he was asking for a public hearing and that the resolution had been discussed in the prior meeting but a public hearing was not included. He then proceeded to list the properties within the resolution for the committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ITEM 146-11: A RESOLUTION CONCERNING DISPOSING OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY BY AUCTION, SALE TO ABUTTER, HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT OR BY RFP FOR THE PURPOSES OF ORDERING A PUBLIC HEARING ONLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BLUNT SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

21-12 Grant Submission: re Southwestern Connecticut Agency on the Aging (SWCAA) Title III: Funds Program – East Side Senior Citizen Project.

Ms. Iris Molina came forwards to address the council and asked for funding for the East Side Senior Citizen Project. Council Member Martinez voiced her concerned and asked several questions regarding the lack of activity she had seen during her visit. A lengthy

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discussion about the details followed. Several people had detail questions about the facility. Ms. Molina was asked what was covered by CDBG funds and what was not.

22-12 Grant Submission: re Southwestern Connecticut Agency on the Aging (SWCAA) Title III: Funds Program – Elderly Hispanic Program

Ms. Molina talked about how the funding would be used for clients who do not read or write English.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS.**

21-12: GRANT SUBMISSION: RE SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT AGENCY ON THE AGING (SWCAA) TITLE III: FUNDS PROGRAM – EAST SIDE SENIOR CITIZEN PROJECT.

22-12: GRANT SUBMISSION: RE SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT AGENCY ON THE AGING (SWCAA) TITLE III: FUNDS PROGRAM – ELDERLY HISPANIC PROGRAM.

**** THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

24-12 Proposed City Purchase of 645 Knowlton Street

Mr. Coleman came forwards to discuss item 24-12 and displayed several graphs including a proposed site plan and a map. He then reviewed for the council the reason for the proposed city purchase of the property.

Council Member Taylor-Moye joined the meeting at 7:13

Mr. Coleman reviewed the history of the property, its current status in court, and the future plans for the property for the council. He also reviewed the tax implications.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 24-12: PROPOSED CITY PURCHASE OF 645 KNOWLTON STREET USING NSB FUNDS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

30-12 Disposition of City Owned Property, 956 Main Street City Savings Bank Building and Ordering a Public Hearing Relative to the Same.

Mr. Coleman reviewed the location of 956 Main Street for the council. He stated that, currently, the building has received two offers. He reviewed the details of the proposals. He spoke of the ongoing work at the former Mechanics and Farmers building. Further discussion followed regarding the costs associated with the project.

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**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 956 MAIN STREET AND TO REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING BE SCHEDULED AT A LATER DATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Lyons stated that she would like to take a point of personal privilege. She went on to say that she had concerns regarding agenda item 11-12 which had been removed. She stated that she would not have been in favor of this item and that it should not have come before the committee and should have gone directly to planning and zoning.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian A. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services.