

City of New Haven
Journal of the Board of Aldermen
City Services and Environmental
Policy

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Thursday, February 19, 2009

6:30 PM

Aldermanic Chamber

ALDERMANIC NOTICE - NEW HAVEN

THE CITY SERVICES & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER OF CITY HALL, 165 CHURCH STREET, TO HEAR:

ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERMEN ADOPTING A POLICY CONCERNING THE CITY'S TRANSITION TO USAGE OF HEALTHFUL CLEANING PRODUCTS AND PRACTICES.

ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERMEN GRANTING PERMISSION TO SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR A SIGN ON THE CORNER OF LAWRENCE STREET AND WHITNEY AVENUE INDICATING THE LOCATION OF THE CHURCH AT 100 LAWRENCE STREET.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT DATED JANUARY 23, 1998 AND THE FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT DATED JULY 6, 1999 BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN THAT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATES FOR A COMPUTERIZED TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEM AND HARDWARE UPGRADES AT 84 INTERSECTIONS WITHIN THE CITY.

THESE ITEMS ARE FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK, ROOM 202, 200 ORANGE STREET, WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. PER ORDER ERIN STURGIS-PASCAL, CHAIRWOMAN; ATTEST: RON SMITH, CITY CLERK.

IF YOU NEED DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATION, PLEASE CALL THREE BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING: 946-8122 (VOICE) OR 946-8582 (TTY).

MINUTES

City Services & Environmental Policy
2009

February 19,

Chairwoman Sturgis-Pascale called the meeting t order at 6:34 P.M. in the Aldermanic Chamber of City Hall. Also present were Committee member Aids. Colon, Rhodeen, Lee and Sergio Rodriguez. Aids. Lemar and Brison also attended.

From Pastor Kennedy Hampton, Sr. Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, submitting a request for a street sign on the corner of Whitney Avenue and Lawrence Street directing people to the Church.

Speaking for were Pastor Kennedy Hampton, Sr. and Eloise Richardson of the Church. Mr. Hampton gave some background to the request, saying that the Church has been 45 years in the city and has the longest running Martin Luther King love march in the state. He, and Ms. Richardson, said the sign would be useful for people to find the Church from Whitney Avenue (a major city artery). Ald. Lemar said that he supported this request from the Church in his ward; and that City Plan had recommended approval with the usual conditions. He, with Pastor Hampton, noted that hundred attend the love march and that regular Sunday services attract about 150 people. In response to a question from Ald. Rhodeen, Mr. Hampton said that he would work with Traffic & Parking to make an accurate sign. He presented a certificate of public liability insurance naming the city "additional insured", as required.

Committee action: The Committee by consensus agreed to recommend the item favorably.

Resolution authorizing a Second Supplemental Agreement to the original Agreement dated January 23, 1998 and the First Supplemental Agreement dated July 6, 1999 between the State of Connecticut and the City of New Haven that will provide additional Surface Transportation Funds the development of contract plans, specifications, and estimates for a computerized traffic signal system and hardware upgrades at 84 intersections within the City.

Speaking for was Bijan Notghi of the Department of Transportation, Traffic & Parking.

Mr. Notghi briefly explained the original agreement for traffic signal upgrades and some of the work it covered. He said that the work afforded by the proposed agreement is already underway. He said that one major benefit would be installation of fiber optic communications which would monitor signals 24 hours daily and immediately report problems to the management center. He told the Committee that handicapped walks and consideration for bicycles could be added to the upgrades.

Committee action. The Committee by consensus agreed to favorably refer the item.

Order of the New Haven Board of Aldermen adopting a policy concerning the City's transition to usage of healthful cleaning products and practices.

The proposal was presented by sponsor Aids. Brison and Lemar. Ald. Lemar noted that many worked on and researched the proposal. He read the cover letter as an introduction, noting the sponsors - aldermen, experts in health and environmental issues and others. Ald. Lemar then presented written testimony in favor (see "Public Testimony" below). Ald. Lemar said there may be some technical changes forthcoming. He stated that although the Education

Department was not mandated to follow "green cleaning" procedures, they were very cooperative and engaged in trying to put these practices in place. Ald. Lemar also noted that the proposal "can't transcend purchasing (already) in place".

Ald. Brison said that the proposal will actually save the city money, and avoid damage to students and staff.

Public Testimony

William Burton, 31 Austin St., Apt C, Chief Steward and Safety Trainer, SEIU, Local 511, Connecticut Employees Union Independent, wrote in favor, He wrote that he is a SCSU employee and leader regarding use of green cleaning products; and that "The (University) Administration is to be lauded for their continued support.

Loyola Welsh, Education Director and Steward Coordinator of SEIU, Local 511, wrote and testified in person in favor of the proposal on behalf of her Union representing 5000 State maintenance and custodial employees. Her written statement detailed efforts to introduce and train use of green cleaning materials.

Greg Ostrander, 64 Bayberry Drive, Madison Told the Committee that he had worked in janitorial supplies and equipment for 25 years. He said that he had been involved with green products since 2003. Mr. Ostrander made the following points:

- Super concentrates diluted with water are very cost effective compared to some green cleaning products.
- Often cleaning products make no contact with people.
- The use of basic cleaning products like hydrogen peroxide reduces costs because it reduces inventory. The products have many uses in different concentrations and it produces less waste.
- Training is easier with fewer cleaning products.
- Microfiber is a superior cleaning product because it is efficient and reusable.
- Some green seal products, like floor finish, are not effective because it requires more work.
- Generally, green seal products are better for products which are touched - like foam hand soap.
- Compostable trash liners are very expensive - 15 - 20% for biodegradable. Post consumer content liners can be 20-25% more.

LoyolaWelsh (see above) said that custodial union members were trained in green cleaning practices, following the governor's order to put green cleaning practices in place. She presented a handout on SEIU, Local 511 green cleaning efforts.

Judy Sparer, Industrial Hygenist, Yale Occupational and Environmental Medicine said that she sees many complaints regarding cleaning agents from those who contact them as an occupational hazard. She said the problem often manifests in severe asthma, and that switching to safer cleaning products has been helpful to many. Ms. Sparer distributed materials describing preferred cleaning products and practices.

Charles Zhu, Yale student and a sponsor of the proposal, spoke in favor noting

that there was significant support for the order within the student community. He said that such legislation indicates that the city cares about public health and is aware of green issues. This, he added, would encourage students to participate more in city life.

Lynne Bonnett, 675 Townsend Avenue, spoke in favor with the particular concern about products that end up in the sewer system. Ms. Bonnett said, "Nothing water soluble disappears." She said that the legislation would help the city clean up its sludge.

Committee action: Ald. Rhodeen, seconded by Ald. Sergio Rodriguez, motioned for a favorable report. Ald. Lemar said that the sponsors worked with city staff to implement green clean policies in the city. He added that there had been some problems, but city will continue to encourage trials of new products and methods. He added that he hoped that owners of leased buildings and the police and fire departments would also review cleaning policies.

The Committee unanimously voted to refer the matter favorably.

The Committee voted to adjourn at 7:32 P.M.

Christina Plass, Legislative Aide.