

City of Derby
Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen
Operations and Procedures Subcommittee

Special Meeting Minutes
Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall
1 Elizabeth Street, Derby, CT
March 21, 2017

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gerckens called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

The Board of Aldermen members present were Art Gerckens (Chair) and Peter Olenoski,

3. Public Portion

Laura Wabno would like to reserve her time to speak when item 14 is presented.

Sam Pollastro – same request.

Mr. Gerckens allowed their request.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1. Operations & Procedures Meeting – February 14, 2017

Tabled until next meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1. Operations & Procedures Meeting – January 10, 2017

Mr. Gerckens motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

6. Revised Monthly Report List for Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen meetings.

Mr. Gerckens said there were no real updates. He said the Police Chief wanted to email the report and then just be available for questions. Mr. Gerckens said the emailed report would be still subject to FOI.

Mr. Gerckens tabled item 6, Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

7. Revised Assessment Recommendations. City of Derby Vehicle Usage (Draft Policy)

Mr. Gerckens said he doesn't have clear direction on this issue, but has completed what was asked of them.

Mr. Pollastro asked if they were going to be discussing the vehicles that are being brought home. Mr. Gerckens said that topic is not what they were tasked with.

8. Naming City Property (draft ordinance).

Mr. Gerckens said he hopes to have feedback from the Board within the next month.

9. Recognition policy for teams, individuals, etc who win championships and/or league titles.

Mr. Gerckens motioned to forward the draft policy to the full Board for consideration. Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

10. Hardship request for two parking passes at the Gilbert Street Parking Lot.

No action taken.

11. Department of Public Works Gator Purchase.

Mr. Gerckens motioned to recommend the request to use funds from the auction of older vehicles to purchase the gator and forward the request to the full Board for consideration. Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Pollastro asked how much was received through auction and how much the gator was. He was informed that the department received \$12,000 and the gator costs \$ 6,875.

12. Department of Public Works Mailbox Reimbursement Policy.

Mr. Gerckens said they need to draw up a policy to be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Picnic Grove Regulations.

Mr. Gerckens said that the full Board agreed to a “watered down version” of what the subcommittee recommended. He stated that neighbors were not happy with this decision. Mr. Gerckens said he was disappointed that the subcommittee agreed to those regulations and he will be adding it to the agenda for the next Board meeting to have the security deposit increased.

Mr. Gerckens motioned to approve the regulations with the \$250 security deposit and forward to the full Board for Consideration. Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

14. City/Town Clerk Hours.

Mr. Gerckens said that he and Attorney Welch reviewed the charter and they came up with the following resolution:

Whereas the City of Derby has collective bargaining agreements with several unions that are negotiated in good faith and provide a necessary framework for the working conditions of union member employees and

Whereas the City of Derby has individual contracts and ordinances that address the working conditions of several appointed nonunion management employees and

Whereas the City of Derby has adopted ordinances that provide for the compensation of various elected officials and

Whereas the union workers and the appointed nonunion management employees are subject to the provisions of either their collective bargaining agreements or their individual agreements with the City of Derby and

Whereas the elected officials are subject to the electoral process at the end of their term so that the voters of the City of Derby may determine whether or not the elected official should be given another term of office and

Whereas the City of Derby seeks to clarify its long time past practice of the payment of compensation to its elected officials and

Now therefore be it resolved by the Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen of the City of Derby that all elected officials of the City of Derby who receive monetary compensation shall receive said compensation as a salary and are exempt from submitting hourly timesheets.

Attorney Welch said from a legal perspective it is clearly a salaried position. Mr. Gerckens stated that the only requirement is that the office is open. Mr. Gerckens stated it is fine if he is at a meeting in the evening or is in the office on a Sunday. The charter doesn't set specific hours that the City Clerk needs to be in the office.

Ms. Wabno stated that to “dishonor the previous town clerks, not myself included, my predecessors, Maryanne Malloy, Barbara Moore and Joan Williamson for whom the Board of Aldermen chamber is dedicated in her honor its a disservice to these three women. They spent endless hours at their jobs and did so with pride and never treated this position as a come and go position, no disrespect to the current town clerk but are duly elected to serve the residents of the City of Derby that elected them to do so. They were available at all times for any resident or member of a board of commission regardless of their political affiliation they served the citizens of Derby. When you are honored to be elected of any position or given responsibilities to work in the job you were chose at most of us a second sometimes

third job. The position was never presented as a come and go position until this administration allowed it. If you had a second job that was separate from this position it should always be held in that honor. When the late Mayor Gino DiMauro, who would have thought Gino DiMauro would come up in this conversation, brought up the idea that City and Town Clerk should be one position he and others never imagined it would be a paid position and the elected person would come and go at their own discretion and in December 2005 after a city referendum made the City and Town Clerk one position again it was never presented to the voters or members of other boards of commission as a come and go salaried position. Again I ask you to keep the integrity of this office and any elected office within the City of Derby. Other towns have appointed town and or city clerks and they work with (inaudible) and clear definitions of responsibility and integrity to the position deserves. Take it back to the voters, make the charter change for elected to appointed versus elected to appointed under strict guidelines set forth by the Town Clerks Association but with due respect to the previous town clerks who led by example I implore you to consider all options."

Mr. Pollastro made the following statement: "The issue I have with that is that if it's an elected position we the tax payers are flippin the bill for this. If I come in and he's not there to do a birth certificate or license or something we elected him in to serve us and then if he's not there to serve us then what are we doing. That's my issue with it. \$76,000 a year is nothing to shake a stick at and I think that you should at least have the decency of being there to sign the birth death certificates that otherwise would not be available. This has nothing to do with the new hours. It's a come and go issue."

Ms. Wabno added that "you have two very capable (inaudible) Meg and Terri are very well capable, Meg has been there a year and a half and Terri has been there a few months. They are extremely good at their jobs and (inaudible) but that's not what the people are looking for."

Mr. Gerckens reiterated that the Charter is being followed.

The conversation continued for a short time.

Mr. Gerckens motioned to forward the resolution to the full Board, Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

15. PNP Master E-Service Agreement for Credit Card Services.

Mr. Gerckens motioned to forward the agreement to the full Board for consideration, Mr. Olenoski seconded and the motion carried.

16. Parks & Recreation – Salary Increases.

To be discussed at the next meeting as no representative as present.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Olenoski motioned to adjourn at 6:36 PM, seconded by Mr. Gerckens and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Kuskowski

These minutes are subject to the Board's approval at their next scheduled meeting.