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CITY COUNCIL
CHICOPEE MA

Minutes from the City Council Meeting on Tuesday June 15, 2021 at 7:17 pm in the Auditorium are as follows:

Brooks, Shane D.	Ward 2 Councilor	Present
Laflamme, Frank N.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Roy, Gerard (Jerry) A.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Tillotson, James K.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Zygarowski, Robert J.	At-Large Councilor	Present
McAuliffe, Joel D.	Ward 1 Councilor	Present
Galecki, Lucjan J.	Ward 3 Councilor	Present
Balakier, George A.	Ward 4 Councilor	Present
Krampits, Fred T.	Ward 5 Councilor	Present
Dobosz, Derek	Ward 6 Councilor	Present
Courchesne, William C.	Ward 7 Councilor	Present
Labrie, Gary R.	Ward 8 Councilor	Present
Walczak, Stan	Ward 9 Councilor	Present

--Motion made by Councilor Zygarowski to accept the minutes of 6/1/2021. Motion passed.

Public Input-none

MO-1 Ordered that the City Council accept the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant in the amount of Twenty thousand seventy and 00/100 dollars (\$20,070.00) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fire Services to the Chicopee Fire Department. Said grant is to be used for personal protective equipment for new firefighters and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to receive, pass and the grant accepted. Councilor McAuliffe stated self-explanatory. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-2 Mayors appropriation of Two million and 00/100 dollars (\$2,000,000.00) to the following named account: Reduction of the 2022 Fiscal Year Tax Levy from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Roy to receive and pass. Councilor Roy stated for tax reduction, financial teams way to make better for the city. Councilor Tillotson stated the Council saved during the pandemic. Worked closely with the Mayor to make an effort to give some back. Tough year. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-3 Mayors appropriation of Fifty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$50,000.00) to the following named account: Human Resources Special Account for Unemployment Insurance from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Krampits to receive and pass. Councilor Krampits stated to help pay for unemployment claims, lot of fraudulent claims. End up with a credit for the fraudulent claims if they are found to be fraudulent. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-4

Order: Whereas, the City Council of the City of Chicopee strongly supports increased economic development to provide additional jobs for residents of Chicopee, Holyoke, and Westfield and expanded commercial and industrial activity within those cities in order to promote and develop a healthy economy and a stronger tax base; and

Whereas, the General Court has enacted M.G.L. Ch. 23A, Section 3A-3H, the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP), designed to stimulate job creation, attract new business, encourage growth of existing businesses, and to increase overall economic development readiness; and

Whereas, The City of Chicopee has entered into an Inter municipal Agreement with the Cities of Holyoke and Westfield and the three cities have been designated as the Holyoke Regional Economic Target Area (ETA), by the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council (EACC); and

Whereas, The City Council of the City of Chicopee desires job creation opportunities, improvements to distressed commercial properties, and increased economic opportunities Chicopee; and

Whereas, The City Council of the City of Chicopee has supported the productive reuse of property located at 60 Fuller Road; and

Whereas, Milton Rents, Inc and Milton Real Properties of Massachusetts LLC is investing \$7,450,000 in property acquisition and renovations of a 14,000 s.f. building; and

Whereas Milton Rents, Inc and Milton Real Properties of Massachusetts LLC has committed to create a minimum of 15 permanent full time jobs with preference in hiring residents of the ETA and the City of Chicopee; and

Now, Therefore, be it ordered, that the City Council approves the Certified Project application of Milton Rents, Inc and Milton Real Properties of Massachusetts LLC and forwards said application for certification to the Massachusetts EACC for its approval and endorsement;

Be it further ordered, the City Council of the City of Chicopee with the approval of the Mayor hereby makes a binding commitment to enter into an Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement with Milton Rents, Inc and Milton Real Properties of Massachusetts LLC; and

And be it further ordered, that pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 23A, Section 3E, the TIF agreement with Milton Rents, Inc and Milton Real Properties of Massachusetts LLC shall comply with all laws and regulations regulating such agreements and shall include only the exemptions contained in this Order. Said Agreement will provide for an exemption on property taxes based on the growth portion in the assessed value of the project. The base valuation shall be determined by the City Assessors as of January 1 of the year after the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement, Tax Increment Financing Agreement exemption to be applied to the Project Premises is as follows, and such below stated percentage shall be utilized in calculating the real property tax due with respect to the Premises for such respective fiscal year:

First Fiscal Year	90% of increased value
Second Fiscal Year	80% of increased value
Third Fiscal Year	70% of increased value
Fourth Fiscal Year	60% of increased value
Fifth Fiscal Year	50% of increased value

Sixth Fiscal Year	40% of increased value
Seventh Fiscal Year	30% of increased value
Eighth Fiscal Year	20% of increased value
Ninth Fiscal Year	10% of increased value
Tenth Fiscal Year	10% of increased value

--Motion made by Councilor Galecki to receive and pass. Councilor Galecki stated motion to promote development of vacant properties. Councilor Dobosz stated think it's a fair deal to the taxpayers. Only credit on increase. Seven full time jobs immediately, local residents will get preference. Councilor Tillotson stated best one recently. Value will increase, front loaded, will hire locally. Good paying jobs. Nice to have a viable company in there. Councilor Galecki stated good company, good jobs. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-5 Mayors appropriation of Twenty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$20,000.00) to the following named account: Golf Expense for Water from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and pass. Councilor Walczak stated will supplement golf budget. High expense, lot of tournaments. Councilor Tillotson stated can't have a golf course without water. In great shape, without water it wouldn't be. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-6 Ordered that the City Council accept the 2021 Community Mitigation Fund Transportation Planning Grant in the amount of Two hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$200,000.00) from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission to the Chicopee Planning Department. Said grant is to be used for Chicopee Center Streetscapes Revisioning: Improved safety and equitable jobs access and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and pass. Councilor Labrie stated planning grant for downtown streetscapes. Will make downtown inviting. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-7 Mayors appropriation of Nine thousand twenty three and 00/100 dollars (\$9,023.00) to the following named account: Planning Special Account for Chicopee Center TDI Projects from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and pass. Councilor Tillotson stated small amount to another grant. Signage downtown. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-8 Ordered that the City Council accept the Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) Grant in the amount of Thirty nine thousand twenty three and 00/100 dollars (\$39,023.00) from Massdevelopment to the Chicopee Planning Department. Said grant is to be used for wayfinding signage and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive, pass and the grant accepted. Councilor Balakier stated the other part of #7, works in conjunction. Grant for branding and signage for Chicopee Center. Will help. Councilor Laflamme stated talked about businesses, want all to know about the grants. Not here to pick on anyone, planning does a fabulous job. Make sure we are reaching out to businesses. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-9 Ordered that the City Council accept the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Grant in the amount of One hundred twenty six thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$126,000.00) to the Chicopee Department of Public Works Flood Control Division. Said grant is to be used for project assessment, design, and permitting of repairs and improvements at the Plainfield Flood Control Pumping Station and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Zygarowski to receive, pass and the grant accepted. Councilor Zygarowski stated as read. Should accept, for flood control. Councilor Laflamme stated pumping station built in 1940. Important to pass tonight. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote.

MO-10 Ordered that the City Council accept the donations of Nine thousand two hundred twelve and 25/100 dollars (\$9,212.25) to the Chicopee Council on Aging. Said donations are for senior meals for the month of May, 2021 and they are accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, pass and the donations accepted with a second by Councilor Laflamme. Councilor Courchesne stated money for senior meals. Motion passed through all stages by a roll call vote of 12 yes, 1 abstained. Councilor Brooks abstained.

11 Be it ordered that the Utilities Subcommittee meet with Chicopee Electric Light to discuss the new water meter system.

--Motion made by Councilor Dobosz to receive and refer to the Utilites Committee. Councilor Dobosz stated new water meters, conjunction between Water & CELD. Want an update. Motion passed, referred.

12 Be it ordered that the Finance Committee meet to discuss and recommend to the Mayor that the position of Code Enforcement be added to the Law Department.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and refer to the Finance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated working on this for five years now. Committed to the city. See, click, fix and problem properties, need someone to go out. How the position was held differently before. Need someone to enforce this stuff. Hope we can get this to the Mayor. Councilor Tillotson stated think it needs more than one person. Violations handled by Health/Building. Don't conform, have to take them to court. Someone needs to be responsible for co-ordination. Councilor Courchesne stated can be worked out, additional responsibilities of see, click, fix. Unfair all dumped on the Health Director. Motion passed, referred.

13 Be it ordained by the City Council that the Code of the City of Chicopee for the Year 1991, as amended, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Chapter 260-16 B

Delete "Zone of Quiet"

And insert in place thereof
"Quiet Zone"

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated prelude to the next order, change the name for signage. Motion passed, referred.

- 14 Be it ordained by the City Council that the Code of the City of Chicopee for the Year 1991, as amended, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Add to Chapter 260-16
D Fines

Violation of 260-16 \$500

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated people are doing 90 on Chicopee Street. Motion passed, referred.

- 15 Be it ordered that the DPW install "Quiet Zone" signs as appropriate per existing ordinance in the area of the Willimansett Nursing Homes East and West.

Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to amend to send to the DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated now that the ordinance is in place. Motion passed.

- 16 Be it ordered that the DPW reinstall the missing "No Parking" sign with attached fisheye mirror in front of 162 Pendexter Ave.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and sent to the DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated was taken down by accident. Motion passed.

- 17 Be it ordered that the DPW add the four city islands on Charpentier Blvd. to the mowing list.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and sent to the DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated done by residents not DPW, like to see this done. Councilor Laflamme asked if he reached out to the DPW. Motion passed.

- 18 Be it ordered that the DPW subcommittee meet to discuss a city-wide food waste composting program.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and sent to DPW and Planning for a public hearing. Councilor Courchesne stated pay in for city waste, much is food waste. Reduce the cost significantly. Holyoke does it, not inventing the wheel. Councilor Dobosz stated in favor, good to look into. Mayor Kos started recycling clothes. Some communities pay for the waste, maybe start in one neighborhood. Motion passed, referred.

- 19 Be it ordered that the Planning Director come in to discuss all downtown grants/projects including the bike loop.

--Motion made by Councilor Laflamme to receive and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Laflamme stated all grants, to update the City Council so we know what's going on. Motion passed, referred.

- 20 A proposed ordinance adding to Chapter 260, Parking Regulations, Trilby Avenue, From the corner of Trilby Avenue to the back corner of St. Joan of Arc School, Parking Prohibited-Between 8 am – 9 am & 2 pm – 3 pm Monday-Friday/September thru June.
- Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Labrie stated by the school, new principal put up his own signs. Motion passed, referred.
- 21 A proposed ordinance adding to Isolated Stop Signs, Atkins Street, at the intersection of Prospect Street, Isolated Stop Sign.
- Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated neighbor request. Motion passed, referred.
- 22 A proposed ordinance adding to Rivers Avenue, In an area approximately by the intersection of Charbonneau Terrace, Parking Prohibited.
- Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and refer to the DPW for implementation. Councilor Courchesne stated already an ordinance. Motion passed.
- 23 A proposed ordinance adding to John Street, At the intersection of Chicopee Street on or in the area of CEL Pole 1S, Parking Prohibited Here to Corner/Tow Away Zone.
- Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated on behalf of the Chicopee PD. Motion passed, referred.
- 24 A proposed ordinance adding to Parking Regulations, Riverview Place, at the intersection of Chicopee Street, Parking Prohibited Here to Corner/Tow Away Zone
- Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated on behalf of the Chicopee PD. Motion passed, referred.
- 25 A proposed ordinance adding to Parking Regulations, Bush Avenue, for a distance of 53' from Buckley Blvd., Parking Prohibited Either Side.
- Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Courchesne stated police department request. Motion passed, referred.
- 26 A proposed ordinance striking from Parking Regulations, Armanella Street, West side-135 feet from East Main Street, Parking Prohibited Here to Corner.
- Motion made by Councilor Krampits to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Krampits stated discuss in committee. Motion passed, referred.
- 27 An application for a NEW Special Permit under Section 275-22 Sec C of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of expand existing residential use to 3 family. Location of property: 246-248 Grattan Street, Property owner: Bigos Family Trust/Claire & William Bigos Trustees, 103 Caddyshack Drive.

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive and refer to the Zoning, Planning, & Building Departments. Councilor Balakier stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred.

- 28 An application for a NEW Special Permit under Section 275-52"B"13 of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of Dog Kennel License. Location of property: 79 Newell Street. Property owner: Macolino Belen/Carmen Batista, 79 Newell Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Balakier to receive and refer to the Zoning, Planning, Health & Building Departments. Councilor Balakier stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred.

- 29 An application for a NEW Underground Storage License located at: Grattan Street. Occupancy or use of such buildings: retail convenience store and gas station. Total capacity of gallons: 40,000, 32,000 gallons Gasoline, 8,000 gallons Diesel. Applicant: Attorney Thomas R. Reidy, 6 South Street, Amherst, MA 01002.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and refer to the License Committee. Councilor Labrie stated for the corner of Grattan & McKinstry to Providence Street. All residents of Providence and Grattan Street should be notified. Motion passed, referred.

- 30 An application for a NEW Service Station License located at: 0,668,670 McKinstry Ave, 671,677,685,689 Grattan Ave, 0, 13 Providence Street. Applicant: Cumberland Farms Inc.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and refer to the License Committee. Councilor Walczak stated take up in committee. Councilor Labrie stated same holds true as previous, look at the traffic concerns. Motion passed, referred.

- 31 An application for a NEW Hawkers and Peddlers License to sell: Various Items. At: Center Park @ Racing Oil at 181 Center Street, Chicopee, MA 01013. June 1, 2021-December 31, 2021/Specific dates to follow as programming is dependent on vendors renting the space out. Applied for by: Chicopee Center TDI Partnership, c/o Patrick McKenna, Assistant Planner, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and granted with restrictions, to be effective July 1, 2021. Councilor Walczak stated similar to downtown getdown. Motion passed

- 32 An application for an Alteration of a License: Class 2 and Auto Repair license. Change in corporate officers. B & L Automotive Inc. d/b/a Brad's Service Center, From Brad Levielle to Peyton Levielle. Location: 760 Front Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and granted. Councilor Walczak stated father passed away, new corporate officers. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Keith W. Rattell
City Clerk