

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND BURGESSES
DECEMBER 6, 2022**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Borough of Naugatuck held the Board of Mayor and Burgesses meeting on a hybrid basis. Everyone was welcomed to attend in person, by Zoom Webinar or by phone.

1. Mayor “Pete” Hess called the regular meeting to order at **7:00 p.m.** with the following in attendance:

BURGESSES:

R. Neth	G. Mudry
M. Bronko	D. Neth-Kunin
F. Dambowsky	M. Smith
C. Marenghi	R. Vitale
J. Mizeski	

PRESS:

None

RESIDENTS:

Unable to determine due to the format

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

J. Stewart, Public Works Director
E. Carter, Zoning Enforcement Officer

A. Bruce, Controller
J. Lawlor, Human Resources Director

OTHERS:

L. Wehry, IT Assistant	D. Goewey, Grant Writer
E. Fitzpatrick, Borough Attorney, virtual	N. Grello, Labor Attorney
K. Kelley, Naugatuck Ambulance Chief, virtual	E. Bronko, Zoning Commission
M. Leonard, Conservation Commission Chair, virtual	

2. Jim Stewart led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the minutes of the regular meeting of **October 4, 2022 and November 1, 2022** and the minutes of the special meeting of **November 22, 2022**. Each member received copies for review.
4. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the monthly reports of **November**. Each member received copies for review.
5. Mayor’s Opening Comments
Mayor Hess spoke about the recent tragedy and murder of baby Camilla. A vigil was held on the green Saturday that would have been her first birthday. The borough is rallying around her mom. Pink “Justice for Camilla” bracelets are being sold for \$2 at The Loaded Goat, all Dunkin Donuts locations in Naugatuck and in the lobby of town hall. All proceeds will be given to her mother. Monetary donations are being accepted and encouraged to help her mom relocate and receive therapy. There will be a lengthy executive session tonight. The mayor said it might be necessary to hold a special meeting before the end of the year.

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6. Public Comment – None
7. Chief Kyle Kelley gave the monthly update on the **Naugatuck Ambulance Corps (NAC)**. The new ambulance has a few issues that will be resolved. NAC provided mutual aid seven times on Sunday alone. On January 1st they will be changing the paramedics vendor to Waterbury Hospital. They held their first annual food drive at Walmart.
8. Mayor Hess gave an update on the status of **Borough of Naugatuck Grant Applications**. He introduced our grant writer, Danielle Gowey. She submitted the CT Community Challenge Grant Application. The grant is critical to our downtown development plans. We have gone through round one. Most grants have several rounds. The state is giving feedback and asking many questions. She also filed for an open space grant application to acquire the land at the Wilmot property to connect Gunntown Park to Andrew Mountain Road. We are going into round two of the CIF process for the industrial park project at the former LANXESS property, now being called Naugatuck Industrial Park Section Three. There is a CT DEEP Climate Resilience Fund for areas related to the climate. The money will be used to clean out Thurston's Pond to restore it to its former beautiful spot. Students from the high school will be involved as well. Ms. Gowey will soon be working on the Greenway Project. Mayor Hess is pleased to have her working on our team.
9. Mayor Hess said the board previously voted to purchase equipment for a **Disc Golf Course**. The course will be located on the Andrew Avenue property pass the dog park and community garden. The course will wind its way through the active open space of the property. It will start out as a nine hole course and then work up to an eighteen hole course. Local disc golf people are giving input on the course. He said no employees will be working the course on a daily basis.
10. Mayor Hess instructed the **Town Wide Sidewalk Improvement Committee** to prioritize the sidewalk data. Our new GIS Coordinator will collect data over the winter on sidewalks in the borough, starting with school zones, safety issues and sidewalks in the worse shape. We have the school walking routes from the Board of Education. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the sidewalk in front of their property. The mayor thinks we should set aside \$150,000 a year toward a sidewalk improvement program. The borough would pay for half of the cost to add or repair the sidewalk, the property owner will pay for the other half. If the property owner refuses, the town will assess the owner one hundred percent of the cost. He thinks it may take seven or eight years to complete the sidewalk improvement project.
11. Mayor Hess gave an update on the **Property Revaluation**. Notices will be going out to property owners this week regarding the new revaluation assessment on their properties. There are dramatic increases in values. Residential real estate up forty-two percent, apartments up seventy-two percent, condominiums up fifty percent, commercial and industrial up thirty-two percent. Median increase would be \$529. We could implement all at once for a mill rate reduction or we could phase it in over five years, four years, three years or two years. A decision needs to be made by the board in the spring.

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12. Mayor Hess said the borough has good regulations. The **Cannabis Committee** will be given strict regulations to look over from other municipalities. Along with the borough attorney, the committee will make a recommendation. The mayor likes the City of Norwalk's regulations.
13. Mayor Hess appointed **Samuel L. Carmody**, Eversource Representative, as a member of the **Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC/NEMAC)**, filling the term of L. Vasquez, indefinite term.
14. Mayor Hess reappointed **Steven K. Hunt (R)**, 18 Partridgetown Road, Naugatuck, CT 06770 as an alternate member of the **Fire Commission**, term to expire December 1, 2027.
15. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses ratify the Zoning Commission's decision to **Opt-Out of CT State Public Act 21-29 for Accessory Dwelling Units** on residential properties.
16. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Mayor "Pete" Hess to sign a contract for **Vehicle GPS Service** with Verizon Connect under the GSA contract pricing as recommended by Public Works Director James Stewart.
17. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses refer to the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Board of Finance the end of year transfers for the **2021/2022 Budget** as recommended by Controller Allyson W. Bruce.
18. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Controller Allyson W. Bruce to refund the following tax refunds approved by Tax Collector James Goggin; as if read:

Bill	Name	Address	City/State/Zip	Over Paid
2009-03-0002997	BROWN, LEIDY M.	56 48 VAN CLEEF STREET, 1R	CORONA, NY 11368	-228.09
2009-03-0002998	BROWN, LEIDY M.	75 77 SO MAIN ST. 32	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-1376.60
2009-04-0000560	BROWN, LEIDY M.	37 31 101 ST., 2FL	CORONA, NY 11368	-806.03
2010-03-0002996	BROWN, LEIDY M.	37 31 101 ST., 2FL	CORONA, NY 11368	-735.73
2019-03-0072508	STEWART, AUSTIN R.	575 LONG LANE	MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457	-77.85
2019-04-0084133	STEWART, AUSTIN R.	575 LONG LANE	MIDDLETOWN, CT 06770	-41.94
2020-03-0067367	PEREZ, FREDERICK W.	20 DEVONWOOD DR. 232W	FARMINGTON, CT 06032	-18.14
2021-01-0003532	STANKYE, TIMOTHY PATRICK	111 WOOSTER ST. UNIT 7C	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-266.78
2021-03-0050221	ACAR LEASING LTD	4001 EMBARCADERO DR.	ARLINGTON, TX 76014	-551.56
2021-03-0054462	CHLUDINSKY, KARL E.	21 ANDREW MOUNTAIN RD.	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-33.34
2021-03-0055018	CORBETT, LLOYD G.	60 WALNUT STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-26.01

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2021-03-0058448	FUNICELLO, ANTONIO	75 SHARON AVE., FL 2	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-10.19
2021-03-0058449	FUNICELLO, ANTONIO	75 SHARON AVE., FL 2	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-65.18
2021-03-0058547	GALLAGHER, SUSAN L.	143 SPENCER STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-8.04
2021-03-0061183	IVERSON, SUSAN V.	41 ARAPAHO ROAD	BROOKFIELD, CT 06804	-183.40
2021-03-0061336	JANIS, NANCY S.	66 KINGSWOOD DRIVE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-190.88
2021-03-0061712	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA	P.O. BOX 901098	FORT WORTH, TX 76101	-194.42
2021-03-0061737	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA	P.O. BOX 901098	FORT WORTH, TX 76101	-413.38
2021-03-0062591	KUSMIT, JOHN F., JR.	9 HARVEST LANE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-58.27
2021-03-0063994	MAIGNAN, JACQUES R.	434 MILLVILLE AVENUE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-72.00
2021-03-0066293	NASUFI, FANOL	58 MULBERRY STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-25.55
2021-03-0066649	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 254648	SACRAMENTO, CA 95865	-282.08
2021-03-0067765	PAYNE, JOSEPH M.	26 ELMHURST STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-333.78
2021-03-0070947	SCHENCK, DANIEL A.	89 CELANTANO DRIVE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-18.93
2021-03-0071117	SCULLIN, JOAN M.	271 SPENCER STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-41.74
2021-03-0071698	SIRICA, EDWARD G.	45 HERITAGE DRIVE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-12.44
2021-03-0074292	WAGNER, CARRIE L.	68 KLAN DRIVE	WOLCOTT, CT 06716	-20.32
			TOTAL	-6,092.67

19. Public Comment – Agenda Items

Conservation Commission Chairwoman Melissa Leonard asked if we received the grant for the Water Company property. Mayor Hess replied that we did.

20. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko to recess to Executive Session at **7:54 p.m.** for discussion on the following: **Real Estate** (Bank of America Building, Parcels A, B, Y & Z, Naugatuck Industrial Park Section 3, Breen Field, Acquisition of Land for Downtown Parking, Tax Incremental Financing District, Sale of Former Recycling Center – Rubber Avenue, Church Street, Maple Street, VNA Building, Easement – 39 Brighton Road), **Personnel** (Building Inspector, Assistant Building Inspector, Public Works Director), **Collective Bargaining** (Naugatuck Administrative Negotiating Association Agreement, Police Union, Fire Union) and **Pending Litigation** inviting in Labor Attorney N. Grello and Human Resources Director J. Lawlor.

Mayor Hess reconvened the meeting at **9:26 p.m.**

21. Mayor and Burgess Comments/Sub-Committee Reports

Burgess Neth-Kunin said the Planning Commission will be holding a Cannabis Regulations Public Hearing on December 14th. She attended the BOE Conference on bullying. She wondered if grant money is available regarding the issue.

Burgess Dambowsky said retired Lieutenant Gabriel passed away. He commended the police department for the work they did the past few weeks.

Burgess Smith added to Burgess Dambowsky's comments to include the EMS responders that answered the call.

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Burgess Vitale said the Historical Society will hold their grand opening on December 10th. Breakfast with Santa will be on December 17th. Burgess Vitale thanked the Public Works Department for all they have done during the year especially the dog park. He thanked Facilities Manager Mike Massicotte. He does whatever is asked of him, a man of all trades, and masters them all. NAC will be going with Waterbury Hospital for paramedics and medication that will save a good deal of money. Congratulations to Mark Pettinicchi on his retirement.

Mayor Hess said pink “Justice for Camilla” bracelets are being sold for \$2 at The Loaded Goat, all Dunkin Donuts in Naugatuck and in the lobby of town hall. All proceeds will be given to her mother. Monetary donations are being accepted as well to help her mom relocate. He encouraged everyone to get a bracelet or two and to promote them.

22. The following motion emanated from Executive Session.

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Mayor Hess to enter into an easement agreement with **David and Catherine Zuzick at 39 Brighton Road** with regard to a .22 acre garden area in the rear of their property that is borough open space.

23. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Neth and seconded by Burgess Bronko to adjourn the regular meeting at **9:34 p.m.**

A digital recording of this meeting is available in the office of the Borough Clerk for further review.

Attest:

Nancy K. DiMeo
Borough Clerk