

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND BURGESSES
AUGUST 6, 2024**

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 **7:04 p.m.** with the following in attendance:

BURGESSES:

R. Vitale

M. Bronko

F. Dambowsky, virtual

K. Gallo, arr. 7:10 p.m.

C. Marenghi

R. Neth

D. Neth-Kunin

J. Rosenblatt, arr. 7:10 p.m.

M. Smith

PRESS:

A. Yilma

RESIDENTS:

Unable to determine due to the format

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

J. Stewart, Public Works Director

C. McAllister, Chief of Police

A. Bruce, Controller

J. Kallipolites, IT Director

K. Hanks, Fire Chief

OTHERS:

J. Mizeski, Former Burgess, virtual

J. Lennon, DPW Foreman

M. Cohen, Serviam Solutions LLC

K. Kelley, NAC Chief

W. Seaman, Assistant Fire Chief

2. Burgess Robert Neth led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the minutes of the regular meetings of **June 4, 2024** and **July 2, 2024** and the special meetings of **May 15, 2024** and **June 4, 2024**. Each member received copies for review.
Burgess Gallo and Burgess Rosenblatt were not present for the vote.
4. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the monthly reports of **July**. Each member received copies for review.
Burgess Gallo and Burgess Rosenblatt were not present for the vote.
5. Mayor’s Opening Comments
Mayor Hess discussed land abutting Gunntown Passive Park. A map was shown of the area. He said we previously expanded Gunntown Park and also acquired land through foreclosure at the top of Andrew Mountain Road which is currently being used by Sunset Farms. He discussed subdividing the land between the two aforementioned properties. All the land is passive open space. Lot #1 is 45 acres that the borough will buy by acquiring an open space grant. Lot #2 is sixty acres that the YMCA intends on purchasing. Lot #3 will be retained by the Wilmots. Mission 22 Trail will be on borough property for the first time with the purchase of Lot #1. Plans were submitted to the Planning Commission for subdivision approval.

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Burgess Gallo and Burgess Rosenblatt arrived 7:10 p.m.

6. Public Comment

A representative from Troop 102 spoke to the board about the Harvest Moon Festival and the construction happening on the green. He also asked if the town would help supply insurance for them to hold the festival.

7. NAC Chief Kyle Kelley gave the monthly update on the **Naugatuck Ambulance Corps (NAC)**. The second paramedic started on Sunday. In July of 2020, there were forty calls for service in Naugatuck that had to be covered by other towns. This July there were three calls for service because NAC was overwhelmed with calls. NAC helped other towns thirty-three times last month. Chief Kelley thanked the town for their support.

8. Mayor Hess said there used to be a park off of Pond Street called “**Indian Rock**”. It once was a park with swing sets and picnic tables. Legend has it that Native Americans had an arrowhead manufacturing facility there. He thinks one of the reasons why it lost its way is the house at 8 Pond Street. The house was always messy and has structural issues. It is set to be demolished in September. The mayor said the borough intends on cleaning the area, sprucing it up and making it into a small park with picnic tables.

9. Mayor Hess said the **Amazon Project** is moving ahead. They are reaching out to neighbors in the vicinity of the project. There will be meetings with the neighbors to discuss the modified plans. The land use process will begin in September of 2024.

10. Mayor Hess said he is going to compile a detailed plan in writing on the **Borough of Naugatuck Development Plans**. There are a lot of projects with a lot of moving parts. Changes are happening every day. He said there is a lot of action. He will distribute the plan to the burgesses, to social media, the library and the borough website.

For the record:

Burgess Gallo: “None of our developers have walked away. It’s just a favorite thing that folks like to say when they want to say how bad things are in town. I’m just saying it out loud so you can say it out loud because these stupid rumors get repeated a lot. Mostly by people that know they’re false.”

11. Mayor Hess said there are **Historical Borough Photographs** hanging on the walls in the Hall of Burgesses. When Teresa Forish from the Historical Society was at the meeting last month, she noticed the pictures, especially pictures of Mr. Whittemore and Mr. Tuttle. She feels it would be more appropriate having them in the Tuttle House instead of town hall. No one on the board had objections to the pictures being removed and rehung in the Tuttle House.

12. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Mayor Hess to enter into an employment agreement with **Kenneth Hanks** for the position of **Fire Chief** for the term of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.

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13. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the appointment of **Erich Reichert** (D), 67 Heritage Drive, Naugatuck, CT 06770 as a regular member of the **Board of Finance**, filling the unexpired term of K. Hanks, term to expire June 1, 2025.
14. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses adopt the following **Municipal Resolution to Accept Funding and Enter into a Grant Agreement – Downtown Remediation Project**, as if read:

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut’s Department of Economic and Community Development (“DECD”) has awarded the Borough of Naugatuck \$1,375,000 for its Downtown Remediation Project at Parcel B under their Round 18 Municipal Brownfield Solicitation, and

WHEREAS, the proposed uses for such funds are for soil management activities (relocation, excavation), payment of LEP, and other remedial expenses at Parcel B Phase I, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Borough of Naugatuck’s Code of Ordinances, the legislative power and authority of the Borough is vested in the Mayor and Board of Burgesses:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF NAUGATUCK HEREBY:

1. Accept the award of \$1,375,000 from the State of Connecticut DECD, and
2. Authorize Mayor N. Warren “Pete” Hess, III (or his designee) to execute and submit any and all contract documents, including but not limited to a Financial Assistance Proposal and Grant Assistance Agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FOR

Mayor N.W. Hess
R. Vitale
M. Bronko
F. Dambowsky
K. Gallo

C. Marengi
R. Neth
D. Neth-Kunin
J. Rosenblatt
M. Smith

OPPOSE

None

ABSTAIN

None

Motion carried 10-0-0

15. Fire Chief Kenneth Hanks, Chief of Police Colin McAllister and Matthew Cohen a consultant from Serviam Solutions gave a presentation on the **Public Safety Radio System in Naugatuck**. Mr. Cohen did a study of the borough’s radio system and dispatch centers. There are three dispatch centers in Naugatuck, two are Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) with trained and certified personnel. Currently when a 911 call comes into the police dispatch, which is the primary dispatch, it has to be transferred to the appropriate

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department. Mr. Cohen said there are three options to address the needs of the borough. The first option is to leave everything as it is which would not be feasible. The portable radios are outdated and out of vendor support. The second option is to forklift the existing infrastructure which is essentially replacing the equipment. The police department, fire department and EMS are unable to communicate with each other. This would still not allow all departments to communicate with each other. The third option is to build on an existing trunked radio system, to join the state system. EMS is currently on the state system. Naugatuck EMS and the City of Waterbury are on the trunked system. It would be beneficial for the borough to reach an agreement with them to share the cost of the system. Chief Hanks said the benefit of going into the state system is that Police, Fire, EMS, DPW, Fire Police, Safety Patrol and CERT would all be able to communicate with each other. Network monitoring is provided by the state 24/7.

16. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Mayor Hess to sign a **non-binding memorandum of agreement with the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications** to conduct an engineering survey for the borough to become part of the Connecticut Land Mobile Radio Network.
17. Mr. Cohen continued discussing the second part of the study regarding the current dispatch centers in Naugatuck. He looked at the infrastructure, call processing, technology and end of life dates at the dispatch centers. The fire department is not recognized as a PSAP system. All calls come through the police department which is a PSAP system. The police department then has to determine which location to send the call and relay the information given at the time of the call. A lot has to be done to bring the technology up to date. If the borough was on the state system, Northwest Public Safety would be the one to determine the call and dispatch. Burgess Neth said the dispatch centers should be consolidated into one dispatch center. Mayor Hess agreed.

Mayor Hess appointed Deputy Mayor Rocky Vitale and Burgess Robert Neth to work with Chief of Police Colin McAllister, Fire Chief Kenneth Hanks, NAC Chief Kyle Kelley and Serviam Solutions Consultant Matthew Cohen on the direction of the Naugatuck Dispatch Centers.

18. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the following purchase and authorize Mayor Hess to execute all contracts and related documents with Anthony Boucher, DBA A&J Generator and Equipment LLC, 33 Sagamore Drive, Seymour, CT 06770 **as sole source for the replacement, installation and maintenance of the electrical power generator** located at the Naugatuck Police Department as recommended by Chief of Police Colin McAllister.

Contracts shall commence upon vendor completing all borough requirements and the purchase order is received by vendor.

Motion withdrawn.

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VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the following purchase and authorize Mayor Hess to execute all contracts and related documents with Anthony Boucher, DBA A&J Generator and Equipment LLC, 33 Sagamore Drive, Seymour, CT 06770 **as sole source for the replacement, installation and maintenance of the electrical power generator** located at the Naugatuck Police Department in the amount of **\$410,842.00** as recommended by Chief of Police Colin McAllister.

Contracts shall commence upon vendor completing all borough requirements and the purchase order is received by vendor.

Burgess Rosenblatt left 8:26 p.m.

19. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses recess to the **Retirement Board** at **8:26 p.m.**
Burgess Rosenblatt was not present for the vote.

Mayor Hess reconvened the meeting at **8:29 p.m.**

Burgess Rosenblatt returned 8:30 p.m.

20. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Bronko that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the bid for contract FY25-B071 for the **“Purchase of Golf Carts and Annual Service Contract”** to New England Golf Carts, Inc., 62 Industrial Way, Seekonk, MA 02771 **as per bid** as recommended by Public Works Director James Stewart.

Contracts shall commence upon vendor completing all borough requirements and the purchase order is received by vendor.

21. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Public Works Director James Stewart to accept a **Fee in Lieu of Final Paving from the Connecticut Water Company** in the amount of **\$188,600.00** for the repaving of Church Street from Division Street to Water Street and Water Street from Maple Street to Church Street. The Connecticut Water Company will be responsible to repair all roads and sidewalks on state roads.

22. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the revised design of the **Town Green Granite Sign Panel** **“WELCOME TO HISTORIC DOWNTOWN NAUGATUCK INCORPORATED 1844”** as recommended by Public Works Director James Stewart.
Motion withdrawn.

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23. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses refer to the Joint Boards of Mayor and Burgesses and Board of Finance a transfer request of **\$500,000** from the **FY 2023 Surplus to the Capital Funds** as recommended by Controller Allyson W. Bruce.
24. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses add to the agenda a motion to waive bids for the **Installation and Repair of Inlaid Thermoplastic Cross Walks**.
25. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses waive the bid and authorize Mayor Hess to execute all contracts and related documents for the **Installation and Repair of Inlaid Thermoplastic Cross Walks** to Rocco Iadarola General Contracting Company, 176 Pinehurst Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06705 at the supplied 2024 labor and equipment rates.
26. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt 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
2020-01-0000926	BENDZIUNAS, STEVEN	103 ANDREW MOUNTAIN ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-143.26
2021-01-0000926	BENDZIUNAS, STEVEN	103 ANDREW MOUNTAIN ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-143.26
2021-03-0075175	ZAPATKA, VIRGINIA L.	88 AIRCRAFT ROAD	WEST HAVEN, CT 06516	-89.17
2022-01-0000946	BENDZIUNAS, STEVEN	103 ANDREW MOUNTAIN ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-134.24
2022-03-0060686	HESS, NEWMAN W., 3 RD	60 MISTYWOOD LANE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-28.76
2022-03-0062076	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA	P.O. BOX 901098	FORT WORTH, TX 76101	-414.52
2022-03-0071976	SHAW, EFFIE H.	199 AETNA STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-156.17
2023-01-0000040	26 HOTCHKISS P&A LLC	26 HOTCHKISS STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-183.19
2023-01-0004061	GOESSINGER, RICHARD H., JR.	438 ROOSEVELT DRIVE	OXFORD, CT 06478	-3,433.64
2023-01-0008753	ROOPCHAN, DEVENDRA +	99 EAST SIDE BOULEVARD	WATERBURY, CT 06706	-1,368.00
2023-03-0056182	DEGEORGE, LISA J.	53 CONRAD STREET, APT. 12C	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-13.63
2023-03-0056887	DOODY, CAROL A.	653 ANDREW MOUNTAIN ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-20.78
2023-03-0057937	FELICIANO, LOURDES E.	27 FIELDSTONE TERRACE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-47.56
2023-03-0058888	GARCIA DOS SANTO, CLAUDIA	22 OAK STREET, APT. 1	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-10.81
2023-03-0059929	GUAMAN, MAINATO RAFAEL	91 CLIFF STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-69.21
2023-03-0062330	KEAN, DOLORES G.	776 NEW HAVEN ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-53.56
2023-03-0062965	KUZMECH, JOHN M.	499 HORTON HILL ROAD	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-29.86
2023-03-0064189	LUZIO, MANUEL	17 THUNDERBIRD DRIVE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-32.17
2023-03-0064285	MACAULAY, DENNIS A.	25 SWEENEY STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-33.44
2023-03-0066251	MOON, CHRISTOPHER J.	26 LONGVIEW TERRACE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-36.68
2023-03-0066484	MOTASKY, HOLLY P.	140 FIELDSTONE TERRACE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-88.75

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2023-03-0068695	PETTEWAY, GILBERT	71 OSBORN ROAD, 4N	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-16.23
2023-03-0071249	SALTER, NICK L.	285 N MAIN STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-70.80
2023-03-0071562	SANTOS-DEMELO, DAMIAO	9 LEWIS CIRCLE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-187.62
2023-03-0071563	SANTOS-DEMELO, DAMIAO	9 LEWIS CIRCLE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-219.44
2023-03-0071564	SANTOS-DEMELO, DAMIAO	9 LEWIS CIRCLE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-405.76
2023-03-0074454	TUREK, ROBERT H.	145 SUMMER HILL ROAD	MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457	-18.14
			TOTAL	-7,448.65

Mayor Hess abstained.

27. Public Comment – Agenda Items – None

28. Mayor and Burgess Comments/Sub-Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Vitale said there is water seeping through the wall where the mural is going. He wished Burgess Gallo a Happy Birthday.

Burgess Rosenblatt reported there are twenty-four spots next year for the Trades Program at the high school. In the spring there will be an information session for members of the public. She thanked DPW Foreman Jeremy Lennon for installing a walk way for handicapped individuals entering the high school from the parking lot.

Assistant Fire Chief Seaman said for the first time there will be a Firefighter Program and EMT Program at the high school.

Burgess Gallo said there will be an ecosystem at the golf course to eat bugs without the use of chemicals. She hopes high school students can be involved.

Burgess Neth said Joe Malay was an outstanding employee for over thirty years at the golf course.

Burgess Dambowsky wished Burgess Gallo a Happy Birthday.

29. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt to recess to Executive Session at **8:54 p.m.** for discussion on the following: **Real Estate** (Parcels A, B, C, Y & Z, Naugatuck Industrial Park Section III, Riverview Mobile Home Park, Hershey Property), **Personnel** (Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief) and **Pending Litigation** inviting in Fire Chief Kenneth Hanks.

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

30. There were no motions emanating from Executive Session.

31. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt to adjourn the regular meeting at **9:26 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