

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND BURGESSES
JANUARY 6, 2026**

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 N. Warren “Pete” Hess virtually called the regular meeting to order at **7:01 p.m.** with the following in attendance:

BURGESSES:

R. Vitale	R. Neth
M. Bronko	D. Neth-Kunin
K. Gallo	J. Rosenblatt
K. Kimball	J. Velazquez
C. Marenghi	

PRESS:

None

RESIDENTS:

Unable to determine due to the format

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

J. Stewart, Public Works Director
E. Cornacchia, Controller
S. Ribeiro, Parks Superintendent, virtual

C. McAllister, Chief of Police
J. Kallipolites, IT Director

OTHERS:

P. Munko, Munko Creative, virtual
J. Lennon, DPW Foreman
A. Bastos, NPD Captain, virtual

K. Kelley, NAC Chief, virtual
J. Kristy, NVHD Director, virtual

2. Burgess Mike Bronko led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the special meetings of **December 9, 2025** and **December 30, 2025**. Each member received copies for review.
4. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the monthly reports of **December**. Each member received copies for review.
5. Mayor’s Opening Comments
Mayor Hess said he feels alright but thinks he may have an infection so out of an abundance of caution he is running the meeting virtually.
6. Public Comment – Open Topic
A resident spoke about events being held downtown while church services are being held at the same time. She asked if we would consider not holding events on Sunday mornings or Saturdays between 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. She said it is difficult to find parking.

For the record:

Mayor Hess: “We’ll note for the record and take a look at Kristine’s request.”

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7. NAC Chief Kyle Kelley gave an update on the **Naugatuck Ambulance Corps (NAC)**. He said they responded to over 5,000 calls last year and over 500 mutual aid requests. They are working on increasing EMTs and paramedics to their roster as well as training. Service programs reached out asking if students could ride with staff to get experience.
8. Mayor Hess discussed **DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENTS** – Crests, Facades, Murals, Planters, Amenities, etc. He said people are not liking the color of the planters that were also damaged in transit. One possibility is to take a credit for the damaged planters and repaint them ourselves. He said different groups will come together to look at what colors the planters could be repainted in different locations, starting at 30 Church Street. The facade improvement program is ongoing. Paul Munko said Rocco and his team are simplifying the design for the crests. He is waiting on a proof from the manufacturer.
9. Mayor Hess discussed **Revisions to the Road Paving Plan**. He said all roads will be paved in the next four years. They will be looking at debt restructure without raising the mill rate to accomplish the paving. Mayor Hess commended Jeremy Lennon and his team. They are confident they can double the amount of work they have done this year.
10. Burgess Rosenblatt and Burgess Gallo gave an update on the **Senior Center**. Kara Steinfeld is progressing in a good way. She contacted businesses and is holding a soup cookoff on Friday. She is also celebrating birthdays every month for members. Burgess Rosenblatt said even friends of hers have gone into the Senior Center for the first time. Burgess Gallo said Ms. Steinfeld is a dynamo.
11. Chief of Police C. Colin McAllister is recommending the board adopt the proposed **Massage Parlor Ordinance**. The police department reviewed different municipalities' ordinances. He said offenders know how to work around the system. Arrests were made recently at the location on Cedar Street. It has been a problem for five years now. Employees were living on site. He is questioning whether or not employees are being trafficked. The ordinance and application would force employee license verification. He wants to prevent illegal activity before it occurs. They would establish if the business is legal or revoke their license to operate. Naugatuck Valley Health District (NVHD) Director Jessica Kristy said the ordinance would be in conjunction with the NVHD Public Health Code. The ordinance would give the police department the ability to do action work that NVHD can't. Director Kristy and Chief McAllister will have future discussions to eliminate redundant language in the ordinance. Mayor Hess is calling for a public hearing in February on the proposed ordinance.
12. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the bid for Contract FY26-B102 for **"Bituminous Surface Treatment & Crack Sealing"** to Sealcoating, Inc. d/b/a Indus, 825 Granite Street, Braintree, MA 02184 as per bid, including \$1.99 per pound for Crack Sealing and \$432.00 per ton for HIMA Micro-surfacing Type II and authorize Mayor Hess to sign all contracts and related documents as recommended by Public Works Director James Stewart.

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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 **waive** the bid for the **Fiber Optic Cable Installation at 400 Elm Street** and authorize Mayor Hess to enter into a contract with A to B Communications LLC, 44 Bruce Avenue, Berlin, CT 06037 in an amount not to exceed **\$20,261** as recommended by Public Works Director James Stewart.
14. **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 agreement with SLR International Corporation, 45 Glastonbury Boulevard, Glastonbury, CT 06033 to update the **Phase I Environmental Site Assessments for Parcels Y&Z**.
15. **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 a contract for an **“Online Registration Program”** with MyRec.com, 129 Burr Pond Road, Pittsford, Vermont 05763 as recommended by Parks Superintendent Sandra Lucas Ribeiro.
16. **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 the bid and authorize a change order for the **“NPD HVAC Repair Project”**.
17. **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 a change order and scope of the **“NPD HVAC Repair Project”** in an amount up to **\$30,000** to USA Mechanical and Energy Services LLC, 15-D International Drive, East Granby, CT 06026 for VAV Replacement and Duct Work Repairs as recommended by Chief of Police C. Colin McAllister.
18. **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 discussion/possible action of a feasibility study for the 5th to 8th grade middle school on the Cross Street property in the amount of **\$35,000**.
19. There was discussion on a **feasibility study for the 5th to 8th grade middle school on the Cross Street property** in the amount of **\$35,000**. Mayor Hess said it needs to be determined where the property line will be and to keep environmental issues away from a school. Burgess Neth, chair of the Standing Building Committee, said it will have to be determined how much land of the Hershey property will be for the school grounds. There will be enough land for playing fields. Burgess Neth met with Freddie Khericha from Kaestle Boos, Burgess Marengi, Wayne McAllister, Bob Mezzo and the mayor to discuss. The borough can get state reimbursement for schools. There is a possibility of getting 95% reimbursement. The motion below was made to do the feasibility study.

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VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Burgess Neth and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses engage Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. to do a **feasibility study for the 5th to 8th grade middle school on the Cross Street property** in the amount of \$35,000.

20. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses adopt the following **Municipal Resolution in Support of FY26 EPA Brownfield Community Wide Assessment Grant**, as if read:

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) released a request for applications (RFA) (EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-04), anticipating the award of 70 grants in FY26 with an estimated total of \$35 million dollars in funding available, with maximum award amounts up to \$500,000., and

WHEREAS, the RFA provides a unique opportunity for the Borough to pursue the assessment, investigation, site-reuse planning, etc. relative to several parcels within the Borough, with no matching funds required for such an application or potential award, and

WHEREAS, the RFA provides a unique opportunity to undertake such activities on public or private owned land for the purposes of promoting public health & the environment, and

WHEREAS, the application will identify several parcels within the Borough to undertake such activities, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Borough of Naugatuck make an application to the USEPA for an amount no greater than \$500,000.,

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:

Approve the completion and filing of a Community Wide Assessment Grant to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for an amount no larger than \$500,000.

This project will leverage significant Private, Federal, and Local funds, as detailed in the grant application.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FOR

Mayor N.W. Hess

R. Vitale

M. Bronko

K. Gallo

K. Kimball

C. Marenghi

R. Neth

D. Neth-Kunin

J. Rosenblatt

J. Velazquez

OPPOSE

None

ABSTAIN

None

Motion carried 10-0-0

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21. Motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses adopt the following **Municipal Resolution in Support of FY26 EPA Brownfield Multipurpose Grant**, as if read:

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) released a request for applications (RFA) (EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-03), anticipating the award of 20 grants in FY 26 with an estimated total of \$20 million dollars in funding available, with maximum award amounts up to \$1,000,000., and

WHEREAS, the RFA provides a unique opportunity for the Borough to pursue the assessment, investigation, site-reuse planning, remediation, etc. relative to several parcels within the Borough, with no matching funds required for such an application or potential award, and

WHEREAS, the RFA provides a unique opportunity to undertake such activities on Borough-owned land for the purposes of promoting public health & the environment, and

WHEREAS, the application will identify a target area within the Borough.

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Borough of Naugatuck make an application to the USEPA for an amount no greater than \$1,000,000.

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:

Approve the completion and filing of a Multipurpose Grant to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for an amount no larger than \$1,000,000.

This project will leverage significant Private, Federal, and Local funds, as detailed in the grant application.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

FOR

Mayor N.W. Hess
R. Vitale
M. Bronko
K. Gallo
K. Kimball

C. Marengi
R. Neth
D. Neth-Kunin
J. Rosenblatt
J. Velazquez

OPPOSE

None

ABSTAIN

None

Motion carried 10-0-0

22. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses approve the following vendors to continue to provide goods and/or services **upon**

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passage and through June 30, 2026 and to authorize Mayor Hess to execute all contracts and related documents as recommended by Controller Eileen A. Cornacchia; as if read:

APPROVED VENDORS FY 2025-2026

Develomark LLC, 409 Canal Street, Plantsville, CT 06479

Litchfield Ford, 439 Bantam Road, Litchfield, CT 06759

23. **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 lease agreements with **Skyline Financial Federal Credit Union**, 3528 East Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06705 in the amount of **\$2,500,000** as recommended by Controller Eileen A. Cornacchia.
24. **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 lease agreements with **First American Equipment Finance** under an existing master lease agreement in the amount of **\$6,500,000** as recommended by Controller Eileen A. Cornacchia.
25. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses authorize Controller Eileen A. Cornacchia to refund the following tax refunds approved by Tax Collector James Goggin; as if read:

Bill	Name	Address	City/State/Zip	Over Paid
2024-03-0053135	BUCKMILLER FUNERAL HOME	82 FAIRVIEW AVENUE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-29.99
2024-03-0061904	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA	P.O. BOX 901098	FORT WORTH, TX 76101	-463.17
2024-03-0062110	KAYKOBAD MOHAMMED	13 BRITTANY LANE	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-110.11
2024-03-0066819	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-289.14
2024-03-0066830	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 65024	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-440.82
2024-03-0066833	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 65024	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-401.20
2024-03-0066837	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-251.12
2024-03-0066838	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 65024	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-364.54
2024-03-0066841	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-196.51
2024-03-0066845	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-642.40
2024-03-0066850	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	P.O. BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265-9523	-558.15
2024-03-0067639	PAPACODA EDWARD S	37 E MORRIS LANE	MORRIS, CT 06763-1919	-145.82
2024-03-0067951	PELLICCIA, LEIGH E.	123 CITY HILL STREET	NAUGATUCK, CT 06770	-82.14
2024-03-0072624	STEPHENSON, KIMESHA N.	695 AMERICANA DRIVE	ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403	-262.28
2024-03-0073625	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-244.91
2024-03-0073630	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-184.64
2024-03-0073636	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-390.33

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2024-03-0073659	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-450.39
2024-03-0073660	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-267.55
2024-03-0073665	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-304.58
2024-03-0073690	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-182.50
2024-03-0073692	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	525 FELLOWSHIP ROAD	MT LAUREL, NJ 08054	-545.24
			TOTAL	-6,807.53

26. Public Comment – Agenda Items – None

27. Mayor and Burgess Comments/Sub-Committee Reports

Burgess Bronko told Mayor Hess he hopes he feels better soon.

Burgess Velazquez said the Public Works Department Plow Crews did a tremendous job with the recent snow storm.

Burgess Gallo said she and Burgess Rosenblatt have been working on a lumber account for construction projects for students at the high school in the name of George Macary. The Exchange Club, the Rotary Club and International Building each gave \$500 toward the account for the instructor to use on projects for the students. She will be attending the job center to make a connection to enhance the manufacturing program. Happy New Year.

Burgess Rosenblatt said working with Paul Munko, perhaps wooden kiosks could be made by students on the sidewalk where a crest is located on the road.

Burgess Marengi wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Burgess Neth wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Deputy Mayor Vitale asked IT Director Jim Kallipolites where is he in the process of getting people to be able to pay online to various departments. Mr. Kallipolites responded saying it is still in the investigation phase because of the amount of fees. He said a significant amount of changes to those departments will need to be made but he does not know what to do to make it happen.

Burgess Neth-Kunin wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Burgess Kimball said she attended the TIF Committee meeting where facade applications were reviewed. She brought up again the difficulty hearing presenters in the Hall of Burgesses when in the audience and not being able to view the screen during presentations. She started a discussion regarding last month's presentation by CT Main Street Center. The consensus was if it is an overlap of things we are doing already, then it is not needed in Naugatuck.

28. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt that the Board of Mayor and Burgesses recess to Executive Session at **8:45 p.m.** for discussion on the following: **Real Estate** (Parcels A, B, C, Y & Z, Naugatuck Industrial Park Section III, Freight Rail Discussion, Energy Park/Data Center, Hershey Property, Riverview Mobile Home Park, 0 Stoneybrook Road), **Collective Bargaining** (UPSEU), **Personnel** (Assessor) and **Pending Litigation**. No one was invited into executive session.

Mayor Hess reconvened the meeting at **9:05 p.m.**

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29. The following motions emanated from Executive Session.

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 **acquire Parcels Y & Z from the State of Connecticut DOT** for a combined purchase price of **\$393,000** provided that we receive a grant of \$300,000 to help with the remediation of the property.

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 **convey four parcels on Stoneybrook Road**, these are unbuildable properties, to the adjoining property owners as discussed in executive session.

30. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Deputy Mayor Vitale and seconded by Burgess Rosenblatt to adjourn the regular meeting at **9:07 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