REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020
7:00 PM

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown was held remotely via WebEx and livestreamed on the City of Middletown's Facebook page on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 7:00 PM.

Present:

Councilwoman Jeanette White Blackwell
Councilwoman Meghan Carta
Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.
Councilman Darnell Ford
Councilman Edward Ford, Jr.
Councilman Anthony Gennaro, Sr.
Councilman Vincent Loffredo
Councilman Anthony Mangiafico
Councilman Edward McKeon
Councilman Eugene Nocera
Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilwoman Linda Salafia

Mayor Benjamin D. Florsheim, Chair
Linda Reed, Council Clerk
Daniel Ryan, Esq., Corporation Counsel

Also Present: Carl Erlacher, CPA, Director - Finance
Faith Jackson, Director – Office of Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action
Brig Smith, Esq. - General Counsel
Kevin Elak, RS - Health Department Manager
Joseph Samolis – Director, Planning, Conservation & Development
William Russo, Director, Public Works
Cathy Lechowicz, - Director – Recreation & Senior Services
Joseph Fazzino, RE – Director, Water & Sewer
Bonnie Daley – Youth Services
Brandie Doyle – Russell Library
Barbara Knoll Peterson – Mayor's Administrative Assistant

Members of the Public: WebEx (85 attendees) and Facebook livestream (unknown number of viewers)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Benjamin Florsheim calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He welcomes everyone to the Regular Meeting of the Common Council. The Chair invites the Councilmembers to remain seated, per the accepted rules for remote meetings, and to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk reads the Call of the Meeting and the Chair declares the call a legal call and the meeting a legal meeting.

2. Accept/Amend the Agenda

The Chair asks for a motion either to approve the agenda as presented or to amend.

He also wants to clarify that there are two (2) public hearings tonight. There are also some logistical and legal matter that Councilman Nocera would like us to run by the City Attorney. The Chair calls on City Attorney Brig Smith.

Attorney Smith defers to Corporation Counsel on this, adding that he will chime in. Substantively, Items 10 and 11 need a minor modification as to title. Item 10 reads "Resolution: Approving an Additional Public Hearing" and item 11 says: Additional Public Hearing: naming of Middle School." This is misleading because the ordinance actually only requires a single public hearing and a vote at the next Council meeting. This is the public hearing that occurs at the first regular Council meeting and then the public considers it, the Council considers it, and then there is a vote at the next regular Council meeting. So the way that the resolution for the public hearing is structured is to solicit community input on this very important issue, for the Council to consider that comment, and then have a resolution at the following meeting, proposing a name at which point there will be an additional comment period because folks can comment on anything on the agenda. His recommendation is to amend the agenda. A supermajority is needed if an agenda is first adopted. The Corporation Counsel can speak to that. His recommendation is to amend the agenda and strike the words "Approving An Additional" in Item 10 so it reads "Resolution Setting Public Hearing." In Item 11 strike the word "additional" so it reads "Public Hearing: Naming of Middle School." This alerts

everyone that this a public hearing and not creating any confusion that it is an additional public hearing. It is his recommendation to do so.

Councilman Nocera recommends that the Council accept that motion and, just to clarify for the Council, on August 3rd, there will be a resolution naming the middle school and, of course, that will be second and open to discussion and a vote. The public will have the chance, as our Counselor said, to speak again a second time under public comment. He reiterate that on August 3rd there will be a resolution naming the middle school.

The Chair calls on Corporation Counsel Dan Ryan.

Attorney Ryan offers some procedural reminders: identify yourself as the Councilperson by their last name. When you make a motion, identify yourself, In addition whomever seconds the motion should identity themselves. There are two public hearings this evening, so we are asking that people limit comments to three (3) minutes. Individuals will also only speak once; there will be no waivers for anyone to speak twice. He reiterates a three (3) minute limit.

The Chair states that it was alluded to that the first one will be announced as the public hearing. That will be for any agenda item other than the middle school naming while the second public hearing will be exclusively dedicated to that topic.

Councilman Edward McKeon claims a point of order. He states that it is unwise and unhealthy to dictate to the public to what they should or should not say. They each have three (3) minutes and they can say whatever they want to say as far as he is concerned. As a public body, he hopes he has approval of his colleagues that the not limit what people can say during public comment

The Chair states that, for organizational purposes **. . .** .

Councilman McKeon interjects, saying that it has been said that people should not repeat what other people have said. He understands that it is a courtesy and we don't want to belabor the points, but if someone has something to say, they should say it.

The Chair replies that he thought Councilman McKeon was referring to the split between the two. Understood. With that being said, the Chair states that, if someone is listening, and if they are using the WebEx platform, during the public hearing, in the right hand panel on the computer. The Council Clerk will be able to call on people as the public hearing goes forward. The Chair calls on Councilwoman Linda Salafia.

Councilwoman Linda Salafia states that, since they are changing the Council's Rules of Procedure, reducing the allotment of time for a speaker from five (5) minutes to three (3) minutes, she asks if the Council should vote to modify its Rules.

Corporation Counsel Ryan replies, "Yes, that would be helpful."

The Chair asks for a motion to that effect.

Councilman Philip Pessina moves to amend the agenda to allow a three (3) minutes presentation from the Council's normal five (5) minute presentation due to the large number of public wishing to speak and the size of the agenda that the Council needs to get through this evening.

Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds the motion,

The Council Clerk asks, for purposes of the minutes, Councilman Pessina moves to amend the agenda. The Clerk asks if Councilman Pessina means to amend the Council's Rules of Procedure rather than the agenda.

Councilman Pessina replies, "Yes, to amend the Rules of Procedure."

Corporation Counsel Ryan add that the waiver is for this one meeting only.

Councilman Pessina concurs.

The Chair asks if there is any discussion the Chair calls on Councilman Edward McKeon.

Councilman McKeon states that the Council has been working hard to get people to participate in these meetings, particularly people who do not normally participate. By changing the Rules at the last minute, their statements, the goal of getting more people to participate is undermined. He states that he will not support this motion.

The Council Clerk asks, for the minutes, is the Council adhering to the 30-minutes rule, so that people will speak for 30 minutes and the Council may then vote to extend that window of time.

The Chair states that is a good question.

Corporation Counsel Dan Ryan notes that the 30 minutes window is how it is ordinarily done.

Councilman Nocera states that the Council is not amending that rule: 30 minutes with extension by Council vote.

The Chair explains that what is being discussed is that, in the Rules, there is a 30-minutes rule on the length of the public hearing. At that 30 minute mark, the Council votes and they can entertain 15 minute extensions for as long as necessary or as long as they can. There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the motion to modify the Council Rules to reduce from five (5) minutes to three (3) minutes the allocation of time for speaking in the public hearing. The Chair asks the Council Clerk to read the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	nay
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	nay
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	nay
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	nay
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to amend the Rules, reducing the allotment of speaking time from five (5) minutes to three (3) minutes for this meeting, is approved with eight (8) aye votes and four (4) nay votes. (Voting aye: Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

The Chair states that they are still looking at a potential amendment to the agenda as discussed by City Attorney Brig Smith.

Councilman Nocera moves to approve.

The Chair clarifies, noting that it specifically the language regarding “An Additional Public Meeting,” asking Attorney Smith to chime in if that does not cover it.

The Council Clerk asks, for purposes of the minutes, if it could be specified exactly what is being prosed in this motion, asking if this is to amend the text of Item 10 to **. . .**

Attorney Smith interjects, saying, in Item 10, it would read “Resolution Setting Public Hearing” and, Item 11 would read “Public Hearing: Naming of Middle School.”

The Council Clerk thanks Attorney Smith and adds that Councilman Nocera may have two (2) other agenda amendments.

Councilman Nocera replies, “That is right, but let’s vote on this one first.”

Councilman Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls of the vote and asks the Council Clerk to read the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	nay
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	nay
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	nay
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	nay
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	nay

The Chair states that the motion to amend the agenda, modifying the wording of Item 10 and Item 11, is approved with 11 aye votes and one (1) nay vote. (Voting aye: Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina; voting nay: Councilwoman Salafia.) The Chair states the matter is approved.

The Chair calls on Councilman Eugene Nocera. He states that Councilman Darnell Ford will offer an amendment to the agenda followed by Councilman Edward Ford.

The Chair calls on Councilman Darnell Ford.

Councilman Darnell Ford states that he moves to amend the agenda to add Item 18H, an additional resolution.

The Chair asks for a summary.

Councilman Darnell Ford offers a summary:

> In light of its longstanding concern for, and commitment to, the rights and liberties of all people, the City of Middletown declares that racism and any health crisis, including, but not limited to any pandemic-like crisis such as Covid-19, which may pose a threat to the health, safety, welfare, and/or well-being of any of the City's constituents, especially to people of color, is a public health crisis; and that every effort must be made to catalyze and authorize data analysis and policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and to ensure the implementation of policies and actions to dismantle, to course-correct unjust health care systems, and to implement systems essential to the health, safety, and welfare of this City and its inhabitants and which are a source of inclusive, community strength rather than causes of discrimination, segregation, and restricted opportunity; and that, having acknowledged that racism is directly linked to the inequalities of health status and health care and the resulting public health crisis, especially as now seen in the Covid-19 health crisis, the Common Council hereby requests that, beginning in October 2020, the Permanent Taskforce on Anti-Racism timely and promptly provide written quarterly reports -- January, April, July, and October -- which set forth the Taskforce's work, including, but not limited to, any and all measures and actions taken of the following: efforts to catalyze data and data analysis, policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and the implementation of policies and actions correct, and, where needed, any recommendations to dismantle, properly, problematic systems during a public health crisis.

Councilman Nocera moves to amend the agenda adding Item 18H. Councilman Edward McKeon seconds the motion

The Chair explains that there will be discussion on this item later in the evening, noting that this motion is to add this item to this agenda. There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a vote and asks the Council Clerk to read the roll.

For clarification, the Council Clerk asks if the Council will consider all of the agenda amendments at once or if they will be considered one at a time.

Councilman Nocera indicates that the only other agenda amendment involves Tall Timers.

The Council Clerk notes that they will also remove Item 7 from this agenda.

Councilman Vincent Loffredo states that he, also has an amendment.

The Chair states that, absent any objection, the Council may either do one vote or opt to have separate votes on each proposed agenda amendment.

(Multiple unidentified speakers) Separate votes.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	nay

Councilwoman Salafia states that she is voting no because this proposed resolution was just given to Councilmembers this afternoon.

The Chair states that the motion to amend the agenda, adding Item 18H, is approved with 11 aye votes and one (1) nay vote. (Voting aye: Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina; voting nay: Councilwoman Salafia, clarifying her vote by stating that the material was just given to the Councilmember this afternoon.) The Chair states the matter is approved.

The Chair calls on Councilman Edward Ford.

The Council Clerk notes that, if this matter deals with Tall Timbers, it may be a substitute resolution, not an amendment to the agenda.

Councilman Nocera confirms that the Councilmembers do not need to vote on that.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo states that it is an acknowledgement received from the Board (of Education). He states that he received from the Finance Director notice that the Board (of Education) and their right to exercise the grant 2% set aside. To do that, they need to contact the legislative body involved in appropriations, the Common Council. He hopes that everyone has reviewed this report. In terms of public acknowledgement, it should be included under Department and Commission Reports as an informational document. He proposes to add it to the agenda as the next item so that Council can receive it and acknowledge it the act that it is publically disclosed on the record and that the Council has it and put it out from the Superintendent's Office.

The Council Clerk verifies that this motion is to add Item 14 F to the agenda. The Council Clerk notes for the record that the report was not submitted to the Council Office for the agenda. The Council Clerk does not have the document.

Councilman Loffredo states that it is information that was sent to the Councilmembers by Finance. He states that Finance Director Erlacher will provide a copy *(inaudible)* acknowledgement. Councilman Loffredo ask Director Erlacher to speak to that and confirm for the record, acknowledge that the Dictator of Finance was put on notice and we acknowledge receipt of the document from the Chief of Finance & Administration for the Board of Education.

Finance Director Carl Erlacher replies, "Yes," noting that the report was received at the end of June.

Councilman Loffredo reiterates that he wants the record of the Council meeting to acknowledge that, he asks Director Erlacher to send the Council Clerk an acknowledgement as part of the reports to the Council.

Director Erlacher replies, "Sure."

The Council Clerk verifies that the motion is proposing to add Item 14 F to the agenda, the Board of Education report, dated June 2020.

Councilman Loffredo elaborates, stating that it is the ECS (Education Cost Share) Grant under Connecticut General Statutes Section 10 *(inaudible*). That is it. He reiterates that he would like to acknowledge that it is in the record.

The Chari states that he does not believe that a vote needs to be taken on this.

The Council Clerk asks, if this is to amend the agenda, noting that, in addition, another thing that needs to be done on the agenda is removing Item 6 because those minutes are not ready for this meeting, and suggesting that these two changes might be done in tandem.

Councilman Nocera replies, "Yes, we can do that."

The Chair indicates that Councilman Loffredo has made the motion. Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds the motion.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a vote on the motion to agenda the agenda to add Item 14F and remove Item 6. The Chair calls for a vote and ask the Council Clerk to call the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to amend the agenda, adding Item 14H and removing Item 6, is approved unanimously. (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina and Salafia) The Chair states the matter is approved.

The Chair states that the agenda is now intact.

The Council Clerk notes that the Council must now accept the agenda, as amended.

Councilman Eugene Nocera moves to accept the agenda, as amended. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a vote to accept the agenda, as amended. The Chair calls for a vote and ask the Council Clerk to call the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to accept the agenda, as amended, is approved unanimously. (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina and Salafia) The Chair states the matter is approved.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM

The Chair asks for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Councilman Edward McKeon moves to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion. The Chair asks if there is any discussion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote on the motion to accept the minutes. The Chair states that the motion to accept the minutes, is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

4. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting – Public Hearing on FY 2020-2021 Budget of June 4, 2020 at 6:00 PM

The Chair asks for a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting – Public Hearing on FY 2020-2021 Budget of June 4, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

Councilman Philip Pessina moves to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Councilman Darnell Ford seconds the motion. The Chair asks if there is any discussion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the motion to accept the minutes a by voice vote. The Chair states that the motion to accept the minutes is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

5. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of June 11, 2020 at 5:30 PM

The Chair asks for a motion to accept the minutes of the **S**pecial Meeting of June 11, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

Councilman Anthony Mangiafico moves to accept the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 11, 2020 at 5:300 PM. Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell seconds the motion. The Chair asks if there is any discussion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote on the motion to accept the minutes, The Chair states that the motion to accept the minutes is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

6. REMOVED FROM AGENDA

7. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of June 24, 2020 at 5:15 PM

The Chair asks for a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 24, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell moves to accept the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 24, 2020 at 5:300 PM. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion. The Chair asks if there is any discussion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a voice vote on the motion to accept the minutes. The Chair states that the motion to accept the minutes is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

8. Public Hearing on Agenda Items -- Opens

The Chair opens the public hearing at 7:30 PM. The Chair states that this public hearing is for any agenda item other than the naming of the middle school, which is the subject of a separate public hearing immediately after this hearing. Any member of the public wishing to speak on an agenda item and, with the Rules suspended, on non-agenda items as well, may indicate by using the hand raise WebEx function.

They will be called on and are asked to state their name and address for the record and that comments are limited to a three (3) minutes.

Councilman Edward McKeon makes a point of order, stating that there was a procedure for people to call in *(inaudible*), who are not signed into WebEx, but calling in. he asks how they will be heard.

The Chair states that he does not know the answer, but will find out, he asks the Council Clerk if she knows the answer. The Council Clerk replies that she does not, but can contact the Technology staff.

Councilman McKeon offer another point of order, stating that *(inaudible)* there is rainbow over Middletown so it is a good sign.

The Chair asks the Council clerk to begin to call speakers.

Sasha Armstrong Crockett: After calling this speaker, the Council Clerk notes that this caller is no longer in the queue.

Monica Bellyea (186 College Street): She is in favor of establishing the anti-racism taskforce and the ordinance introduced by Councilman Darnell Ford, declaring racism a public health emergency. Thank you for bring these items forward. She looks forward to both being approved.

Diana Martinez (41 Hotchkiss Street): She seconds the comments made by the previous speaker, adding that she is looking forward to the Councilmembers all voting yes on the anti-racism taskforce and the ordinance amendment on racism as a public health crisis.

Tina Loomis (102 Crystal Lake Road): She thought that this conversation was for the Middle School, so she will wait for that item.

Lucy McMillan (76 Pearl Street): She echoes the sentiments supporting the anti-racism taskforce and declaring racism a public health crisis.

Izzi Greenberg (Columbus Avenue): She echoes those sentiments of the earlier speakers that the City establish an anti-racism taskforce and make the declaration that racism is a public health crisis. She will speak again on the Middle School.

Jennifer Billingsley (10 Longworth Avenue): She echoes the comments of the earlier speakers. She applauds the effort to create the anti-racism taskforce and declaring racism a public health crisis. She looks forward to seeing all Councilmembers vote in favor of these items.

Rani Arbo (11 Pearl Street): She echoes the comments of the previous speaks on these two issues: the racism is a public health crisis and the anti-racism taskforce in Middletown.

Catherine Rees (70 Alston Avenue, New Haven): Although she lives in New Haven, she works at Middlesex Hospital .as Director of *(inaudible*) Health. She supports the anti-racism taskforce and the ordinance amendment declaring racism a public health crisis. She thanks the Council for its consideration and support of these critical issues.

Viviana Conner (40 Talia Trail): She support the anti-racism task force and declaring racism a public health crisis. She supports both and likes to see unanimous approval of both.

Patti Vassia (234 South Main Street): She supports these as the Conners are. They should not forget that poverty causes health crises. By singling out people of color, she does not want the Council to forget that poverty is also causing health crisis. She wants the Council to vote unanimously, but she also wants it in our minds.

Paola Maina (95 High Street): She favors establishing an anti-racism taskforce in Middletown and (*inaudible)* declare racism a public health crisis.

Elizabeth McAllister Nicholas (34 Home Avenue): She adds her voice in support the taskforce and to support racism as a public health crisis.

Paige Petit (311 River Street, Southington): She lives in Southington, but has worked in Middletown for the past two (2) years. She will be managing the City's farmers' market. She support the anti-racism taskforce and the declaration of racism as a public health emergency.

Precious Price (143 Prospect Street): She offers support for the taskforce and racism as a public health crisis. She has a question, but for something to look into. The resolution on the anti-racism religion should not have anything to do with it. She cautions that and says it should stick to anti-racism. She questions and is concerned that it will stay in the resolution. Other than that, she approved of the taskforce if it does not include resolution. She also supports the statement from Councilman Ford.

The Chairs responds, saying that the Council will have to address this matter that outside the public hearing. He thanks her for her comments, noting it will be considered.

Rebecca McCallum (15 Pearl Street): She adds one more voice in strong support of the anti-racism taskforce and the resolution that racism is a public health crisis

Steven Smith (186 College Street): he thought that the agenda adjustments were tedious, but he was glad that it ended with the declaration of racism as a public health crisis on the agenda. He urges all Councilmembers to vote in favor of it.'

David Roane (352 Newfield Street): He supports both resolutions, adding it has been a long time.

(Unidentified speaker) You wonder if they have already decided, right. (*Inaudible*.) This will help them figure it out.

The Chair interjects, stating that someone has their mic on. He asks everyone to check their mics and put them on mute.

The Chair announces that, if anyone is calling into the meeting from a phone, they can press *3 to raise their hand to be recognized to speak.

Kevin Elak (15 Azalea Drive) Health Department Manager for City of Middletown: He offers a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1966) "Of all forms of inequality injustice, health care is the most shocking and inhumane." He takes these words deeply and fully support the declaration, to declare racism a public health crisis. We have seen the data published today by the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and we know that persons of color are disproportionality affected by illness and disease. This is now magnified by the pandemic. The data suggest that, in the US, blacks and Latinos are 3x as more likely to become infected than their white neighbors and 2x as likely to die as white people. They have taken the first steps to advance racial equity and justice by creating the anti-racism taskforce. The health department is committed and will continue to work with community partners as they have done already to get rid of racism and to address health disparities.

The Council Clerk indicates that she a message that **Rev. Robin Anderson,** who is on Facebook, has a comment. The Council Clerk is unsure how to link a speaker from Facebook to the WebEx platform meeting. The Chair states that the individual will need to call into the WebEx meeting on the City website.

Steven Devoto (476 Country Club Road): He expresses his support for both resolutions. He also strongly urges the Council and the Mayor to revisit each of these for results at 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months to be sure that the action tonight is followed through by real action that can impact the community.

Judy Omphroy (172 Poplar Road): She echoes the comments already made, especially appreciates the quote by Dr. Martin Luther King. She offers her strong support for both the task force and the declaration of racism as a health emergency. She represents the NAACP and the People of Color Covid-19 Coalition. She is on both is very much in support.

Buster Nelson (95 High Street): In support of the anti-racism taskforce and the initiative to declare racism as a public health crisis.

Robyn Anderson (65 Frossell Terrace): She adds her support to the formation of the ant-racism taskforce and to declare racism as a public health emergency.

Olivia Sayah (109 Highland Avenue): As the others, she supports the anti-racism task force and recognition of racism as a public health crisis.

Christine Bourne (17 Red Orange Road): She support the task force and anti-racism as a public health crisis.

Sanji Lawrence (7 Longhill Avenue): She supports both resolutions. She thanks the City for doing this and for the work they are already doing. It is sad that we have come to this and have to do this in 2020, but she appreciates the movement

9. Public Hearing on Agenda Items -- Closes

There being no further comments, the Chair closes the public hearing at 7:54 PM.

10. Resolution Setting Public Hearing
APPROVED
RESOLUTION NO. 51-20; K: review/resolution/ CC PH for naming MS RES 51-20 – 6 July 2020

WHEREAS, a new middle school is being constructed on the site of the current Woodrow Wilson Middle School; and

WHEREAS, a longstanding community dialogue has been underway about what to name the new middle school; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Commission considered the matter at its June 10, 2020 meeting and recommended a public hearing to further the community dialogue on the issue; and

WHEREAS, Section 23-22 of the City's naming ordinance requires that "[a] public hearing on any naming shall be conducted at a regular Common Council meeting before a vote on any such naming at a subsequent regular Common Council meeting;"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Middletown that the public hearing for the naming of the City's new middle school for grades 6, 7, and 8 be held at its regular meeting on July 6, 2020.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Councilman Edward Ford moves to hold a public hearing on naming the middle school and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

The Council Clerk notes that the text offered by Councilman Edward Ford is different from the text on the agenda, asking if, in addition to the change in the Item description, the motion is also being abridged.

The Chair asks Councilman Edward Ford if he was paraphrasing or if there is a change in the text.

Councilman Edward Ford indicates that he will restate the motion, reading word for word, as stated on the agenda. He reads that motion for an additional public hearing for the naming of the middle school and moves to approve.

Councilman Philip Pessina makes a point of order, indicating that the word "additional" has been dispensed with.

Councilman Edward Ford restates the motion as a "Resolution Setting Public Hearing" for the middle school naming. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Linda Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that she will be voting "no" on this resolution. She would prefer not seeing this done by the Council but by public referendum on the November ballot. By doing this, everyone would have an opportunity to vote.

The Chair states that, to clarify, no vote in being take on the name tonight; noting that this is the public hearing

Councilwoman Salafia states that, to clarify, she is voting "no" on the proposed public hearing resolution for the public hearing resolution.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a vote on the motion to approve the resolution to hold a public hearing on the naming of the middle school. The Chair asks the Council Clerk to call the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	nay

The Chair states that the motion to hold the public hearing is approved by a vote of 11 aye votes and one (1) nay vote. (Voting aye: Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo,

Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina; Voting nay: Councilwoman Salafia) The Chair states the matter is approved.

Councilman Nocera indicates that Mayor has is having a connection issue. The Council Clerk asks if the Council will wait for the Mayor to reconnect or if the public hearing should begin. Councilman Nocera instructs the Council Clerk to begin the public hearing

11. Public Hearing: Naming of Middle School - Opens: Public Hearing to solicit public advice for the Common Council as the City's naming authority pursuant to Section 23-22 of the Middletown Code of Ordinances, regarding naming of the City's middle school (6th, 7th, & 8th grades).

The public hearing begins at 8:00 PM.

Since the Mayor was disconnect from the WebEx meeting, per the instruction of Majority Leader, Councilman Eugene Nocera, the Council Clerk begins to call speakers for this public hearing.

Diana Martinez (41 Hotchkiss Street): She is glad to hope that this is the last public hearing on the middle school issue. It seems that this has been going on for over a year now, which is a very long time to decide a name of a building but she gets *(inaudible)* and the process. She is hoping they all support renaming the middle school Beman Middle School in honor of the lost legacy of African American *(inaudible).* She thinks it is our responsibility as we take on these symbolic gestures in removing statutes and creating task forces and making declarations, that we consider what that means for the spaces that they inhabit and look forward to having a space they can really be proud of with a legacy that really reflects who they are in Middletown and who we want to be. They support racial (*inaudible*). Thank you.

Catherine Rees: She states that she did not mean to raise her hand and that she does not have a comment.

Patti Vassia: She meant to lower her hand and has no comment.

Elizabeth McAllister Nicholas (34 Home Avenue): She urges the renaming of the middle school as the Beman School. It is long overdue. Princeton just put down the Woodrow Wilson building that they had and are renaming anything that had to do with Woodrow Wilson because of his history and the history today. Beman School would be a wonderful name for the middle school and would inspire the next generation of young people, who will be more diverse and more multicultural than ever in the past and it our turn for this to happen.

Rebecca McCallam (15 Pearl Street): She states that she didn't mean to raise her hand; however, since she has the chance to speak, she supports naming the middle school the Beman School.

David Roane (352 Newfield Street): He is speaking tonight on renaming the Woodrow Wilson Middle School. Throughout this country's history, the hallmark of American democracy, opportunity, freedom, prosperity, has been largely reserved for white people thru the intentional exclusion and oppression of people of color. The deep racial and ethnic inequalities that exist today are the direct result of historical and contemporary policies, practice, and structural racism, the norms that that create and maintain white supremacy. One way *(inaudible)* naming of buildings recognizable, racist historical figures such as President Woodrow Wilson, which our middle school, at that time a high school, was named after. He is the person that active worked to oppress and disenfranchise black people and benefited directly from racial injustice. This is why the renaming of the building from Woodrow Wilson High School now a middle school, is a problem for him and residents in this City. The opponents of renaming this school to Beman Middle School are only doing so to continue the practice of perpetuating racism. It is precisely why today's world and these outspoken racists do not want to acknowledged to and still don't want us to be recognized and recorded as a part of history, Middleton's history included. He asks the Council to join with the current members of the Middletown Building Naming Committee, Middletown Board of Education members, and residents of Middletown, who are in support of this name change, and say to everybody else that structural, systematic racism is on its way out in this City. At next month's Council meeting *(inaudible)* on our new name, Beman Middle School. Thank you.

Call-in speaker: no name/no response

Bill Wilson (220 Woodbury Circle): He is asking that the Council put this vote to the people in the form of a referendum in November. Right now, he has 1,700 names of residents, who want to keep the name as it is: Woodrow Wilson. Part of the reason is that they do not want to lose their legacy. Tom Serra, who was a Councilman, spoke with him in 2015 about the name. He asked Councilman Serra if this name would every go away. At the time, in that private conversation, Councilman Serra said, "No, this name will always remain." When he spoke with (Councilmember) Christine LaRosa back in1984, who was Marcelli at that time, he asked if that name would ever go away. She said, "No, part of the deal was to keep the name Woodrow Wilson Middle School" Now we have people, who have not been Middletown residents. The naming board was not authorized by the Common Council that did not have the proper minority (party) representation, had two (2) students voting, which is not allowed by the State of Connecticut. The Council has all of this information. We cannot have a vote on something that the public does not have an actual say in. We are going thru this pandemic right now. There is no public speaking and by doing this, by 12 people

voting on this issue, you will divide the City more than it already is. We need to let the people of the City of Middletown, and again, it is a presidential election year so it not going to cost the City a penny to vote on this issue: either to keep or not keep the Woodrow Wilson name. It is a very simple thing. He sent every Councilmember a letter, he sent it by email. He has talked to people all over Middletown: they do not want to see the name changed. Again, don't let a few decide for them any If you want to let the people speak, then put this out to referendum and let the people of Middletown vote one away or the other. Have the courage and do what's right for the City. Don't take this away from people without getting them have a voice. Now we don't have a voice as we meet on WebEx. Let the people decide come November 3rd. He repeats his name and address, adding that he is 1982 graduate of Woodrow Wilson School and is the Republican Town Committee Chairman. Thank you.

Monica Bellyea (186 College Street): She offers support for the Middletown Building Committee's recommendation to name the new 6th to 8th grade middle school after the Beman family. It is an incredible opportunity to bring light and the history of black people in the City and show black and brown children that they matter, that their history maters. Woodrow Wilson, besides being a segregationist and blatant white supremacist, had very little connection to this City. We should follow the example of other institutions and drop Woodrow Wilson in favor of Beman. Thank you.

Jill Echevarria (712 Millbrook Road): She thanks the Mayor and Councilmembers. It is well documented that Woodrow Wilson referred to African Americans as an inferior race and praised the KKK as an honorable institution, and wanted to bar immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe. With this it is very hard to understand why some in this community believe that a new school – noting that his is a new school being built for the current and future children of Middletown -- should bear the name with these beliefs. She has heard a lot about preserving memories and history. Let's be clear about two (2) things. First, the memories of those, who attended the former Wilson High School, will live on in the time they spend reflecting on and sharing their time there, and not through the new school. They can still reminisce with former classmates with good old photographs and displays of memorabilia. This will not go away when the school is named for someone deserving of the honor, which brings her to her second point. Having the school named after him is a high honor reserved for those who worked for the betterment of their community, for all the people of the community, not just a select few. Woodrow Wilson contributed nothing to Middletown. The Beman family, however, contributed greatly to the history of Middletown, which is why the naming committee chose to bestow the honor on them. Finally, she asks everyone to remember who this new school was for. It is for the present and future children of Middletown, many of whom are non-white and children of immigrants around the world. They should not have to attend a school named for a man, who didn't want their ancestors there. To add a personal note, yesterday her daughter, a soon-to-be 8th grader at Woodrow, wearing her "Ram" hoodie, noting that both like the image of the ram. She ran her finger through the Wilson name and said, "This would be better if it said Beman." Even though her daughter will be in high school before the new school is finished, her younger sister and her classmates deserve to attend a school with a name they are proud of to wear across their chests.

Deborah Cain (60 Training Hill Road): She is definitely in support of the name change to Beman Middle School. She stands before the Council not only as the Chair of the Board of Education, but also as a longtime resident and student of Woodrow Wilson Middle School. She remembers, as youth attending Woodrow Wilson Middle School, and learning exactly who he was and what he stood for, she was devastated. How can a district, a City, tolerate a building named after someone with such racist views? She will not take away that he led the country in World War I and he was also awarded the 1919 Nobel Peace Prize, bit, on the other hand, she finds that his racist rhetoric outlandishly disturbing. This administration, he segregated several Federal agencies, he sided with the Klu Klux Klan, and sided with the people of the South, as an ignorant and inferior race. There is no time better than the present, especially with very thing going on in the US, to change the narrative on history and helps remember the history and, on the other hand, make the other groups of people feel unaccepted. It was not a good feeling when she was in Woodrow Wilson and she guarantees that, if someone has a child, who recently attend Woodrow Wilson Middle School they would not feel good either. As adults and leaders, it is our civic duty to help guide the next generation, teaching them what deplorable, and fixing the mistake from the past so it doesn't affect the future. How can we in good faith agree to accept the school name that does not represent the inclusiveness, the diversity of the City of Middletown? To the graduates of the Woodrow Wilson Middle School, she hopes that they take heed and listen to everyone and not just think about their memories, but to think about the state of the United States right now, and think about someone other than yourself and how naming this new school after someone, who has been found to be racist, is deplorable and should be changed. It's time to let it go. Lastly, if (*inaudible*) University has decided that Wilson's racist views, policies make him an inappropriate namesake, surely, surely Middletown can follow suit and do what is best for our children. She asks the Common Council to support the name change to Beman Middle School. She yields her time.

Jennifer Billingsley (10 Long Wharf Avenue): She adds her voice in support of naming the middle school Beman Middle School. It's a legacy that worth celebrating; it's a family worth ample time, sharing their stories. It's a great decisions. She appreciates the work of the (Board of Education) Naming Committee and the Board of Education in doing this. She thanks her black and brown neighbors, coming back over and over and sharing their thoughts and words over and over with the community. For alumni of Woodrow Wilson High School, his name his history and his legacy, including his brief years here in Middletown, are detailed in many history books. Change is hard. Let's lead the change.

Daniel Raucci (2 Bluebell Lane): He is speaking as a parent and educator here in Middletown. They chose Middletown as the place to live and raise their family because of the vibrant and diverse community. After teaching here for five (5) years, he and his wife decided to make Middletown their home **. . .** (*inaudible*) **. . .** because they see the greatness of it in this community. Since moving here 12 years ago, he and his wife

started a family and now have two (2) children in elementary school, with their son entering the new middle school as the first class of 6th graders in that new building. He has been an educator in Middletown for over 16 years, as a teacher, coach, mentor, assistant principal, and now curriculum supervisor. Through all of these roles, he has had the opportunity to truly come to know the town's culture, history, and opportunities that they offer students and families. To support the town's strength and diversity, equity and opportunity, he believes they should give the new middle school a name that is fitting of these values. The name "Beman Middle School" does that. Beman, as a name, represents the best aspects of the value that we, as a community, have: that all people have value. A person can improve the place where they live as the Beman family did in our community. That name signifies and symbolizes all of our students, that we value them as individuals. He wants his children, and all of Middletown's children, to go to a school that embodies those values. Names matter. Now is the time to show that what we stand for as a community. That message will be echoed for decades to come. It is in your hands to vote. As you know, the Board of Education formed a Naming Committee, of which he was a member, to listen to community input on names. Through various forums, they listened to people, and without question, the overwhelming majority response was to give the school a new name. They worked to select a name representative of their values and they selected "Beman," which was passed on to the Board of Education, which they unanimously approved. The recommendation went on to the Public Works Commission, which they unanimously approved, and now it comes to the Council. He asks that the Council approve the name Beman, that was selected by the naming community, the Board of Education, the Public Works Commission, and most importantly, the vast majority of the community member voices shared throughout the process very step of the way. The name "Beman Middle School" represents the values of the community and is what to do as the school name that all of our children walk through with pride here in Middletown, Thank you.

Shari Van Ness (36 Miles Avenue): She lives very close to the Beman Triangle. She supports naming the new middle school, Beman Family Middle School. Speaking for herself and her 11 year old niece, who will be a student at the new middle school. During this time, with so much discussion about how we should revere our history as previously taught, it is important to recognize histories that we have not yet heard that are not common knowledge because history has been shared from a mostly white perspective. Celebrate the Beman family and how they represent significant efforts in the abolitionist and suffrage movements. We should to be prod to celebrate history and efforts that history has ignored. While it is paramount that the Beman family is recognized locally and, without a doubt, the school should not continue in the name of Woodrow Wilson because of his racist views and actions and his minimal ties to our local community. She reiterates her support for naming the school after the Beman family and asks the Council to go forward with this. Thank you.

Sacha Armstrong Crockett (12 Shirleys Court): She is a Middletown native and graduate of Woodrow Wilson Middle School, other to three (3) Woodrow Wilson Middle Scholl grads and two (2) other children in the elementary level. She is asking the Council to say "yes" to the naming of the new middle school. She states that she was on the naming Committee before her family forced her to resign. Someone, who disagreed with her or maybe disagreed with everything that she stands for, contacted the company she works for and defamed her charter by implying that she hates all white people based off some strong opinion that's he made during their first meeting. It was a lie. That move was about impeding the progress of the (Board of Education) Naming Committee, but also about silencing a powerful black female's voice about the naming of Beman Middle School. The important point of order that you know, she was harassed for joining a voluntary committee in our town *(inaudible)* and they betrayed her. Tried as she might, she could not come up with an argument for why they are keeping Woodrow Wilson Middle School. First, keep our history, keep our Wildcats alive. And then it became "this just isn't legal." And then the focus changed, adding that the petitions came with a bunch of random signatures from a bunch of people, who don't; even know Middletown or who we are about. Her reasons are pretty simple. It's a new building. That is number one. Number two, we shouldn't be erecting new structures in the name of old, racist, divisive, white men, and lastly, her baby, her beautiful, black baby boy, will be in the first incoming class. She understands that vilifying the other side is not productive, but when they spoke, she couldn't just hear them. And maybe she couldn't hear them because they couldn't hear her. Her intergenerational and historic trauma just took over. All she could hear is "We don't care about you, "We don't care about your son," "We don't care about the emotional burden of your black boy walking into a building named after a man that did not believe that all races should learn together. It would be a slap in the face of the black community to refuse to take the right stance on this. It's a historical moment. It's the time to show not only Middletown, but the entire State, how we are together her, how we come together across county lines and racial divides to do the right thing for, yes, our children, not you and your emotional attachments to Woodrow Wilson and the Wildcats. A beautiful way to honor our town's diversity is naming our middle school Beman Middle School. Preservation of Black History is hard. Why? Because our stories, our names, our home, our land, and for some, the royal titles that they came with are lost in our capture. For Caesar Beman to come from being a slave to fighting in the place of his master in the revolutionary War to his family establishing a community of free people in Middletown, if this isn't the American dream, she doesn't know what is. A man so deliberate in reclaiming his humanity that he chose his own name: be a man. Unbelievable. This is why families come here and you need to understand it as Councilmember's why people come here. They know Middletown is a step ahead. They know our town brings attention to important issues. People want open-minded, forward thinking, and progressive values. The road is getting younger. We need to honor our past and **. . .**

The Council Clerk interjects to let the speaker know that she has reached the allotted time to speak, and has actually exceed the three (3) minute allotment.

The speaker continues, saying she needs to get this out.

The Council Clerk reiterates that this speaker has reached the allotted time

The speaker replies,' "I'm sorry. Thank you."

The Council Clerk calls the next speaker in the queue, Izzy Greenberg.

Councilman Edward McKeon interjects, saying, "Excuse me, Your Honor, point of order. He asks, "Who is running the meeting?"

After a brief moment of silence, the Council Clerk replies that she was timing each speaker as they went along.

Councilman McKeon, replies, "I'm sorry. Who's running the meeting?"

The Chair replies, "I am, Councilman."

Councilman McKeon replies that he believes that the Chair is the person who is supposed to tell people time. Thank you.

The Chair thanks Councilman McKeon. The Chair states that, if it; the will of the Council, **. . .** knowing that speakers are, the speaker said that is one last thing that she wants to say, can we allow that and move on to the next member of the public.

Councilman Darnell Ford replies, "Please let her finish."

The Council Clerk states, as a reminder, the public hearing is coming up on the 30-minute mark as well.

Sacha Armstrong Crockett: She thanks the Council for allowing her to finish. She cannot say how proud she will be to have her boy, with all his black boy joy, a boy who consistently tests above grade level at Moody School, walk into the new Beman School, knowing that it is the struggle and advancement of black people is going to be a historical day that she looks forward to. She thanks the Council for listening. Thank you. Thank you, Councilman McKeon.

Extension of the Public Hearing:

The Chair states that the Council Clerk noted that this public hearing is coming up on the 30-minute mark. If that is the case, he will entertain a motion to extend the public hearing for an additional 15 minutes

Councilman Nocera moves to extend the public hearing and calls for a consensus vote. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for the vote on the motion to extend the public hearing by an additional 15 minutes. The vote is unanimous with 12 aye votes. The matter passes.

The Chair thanks the Council Clerk for being mindful of the time. The Chair indicates that he had some technical difficulties and thanks the Council Clerk for having stepped in. The Chair asks the Council Clerk to continue with the speakers in the queue.

Izzy Greenberg (15 Columbus Avenue): She thanks Sacha for her powerful testament, noting that nothing comes close to the power of what she said. She urges the Council to **. . .** *(inaudible)* **. . .** middle school **. . .** *(inaudible*) **. . .** . It is a terrible abuse. There is no need to have his name continue and have his legacy. We have a new building and a new opportunity to rewrite history. She encourages the Council to take that opportunity. She thanks everyone, who has spoken today.

Lisa Loomis (88 Crystal Lake Road): She is calling as a Board of Education member and as Chair of the (Board of Education) Naming Committee that was unanimously created by the Board of Education last April. The Committee consisted of 15 individuals: two (2) Board of Education members, an administrator, teacher, parent, and student from each of the two (2) middle schools, and five (5) additional community members. The committee collected written testimony for four (4) weeks last summer and held a public forum on June 19th last year. Between those opportunities, 67 people said in written testimony or spoke at the public forum. Out of that 15 people spoke or wrote in favor of using the Woodrow Wilson name; 50 people submitted oral or written testimony against using the Woodrow Wilson name, including those people who suggested different names. Three (3) alumni referenced student movements to change the Woodrow Wilson name between 1996 and 2003, and former Board of Education member Sheila Daniels remembered students making a presentation to the Board of Education. Requesting the name change. Other names suggested through that testimony were William McCrain Middle School, Ida Keigwin Middle School, Beman Middle School, Middletown Middle School, Mattabassett Middle School, and Veterans' Memorial Middle School among others. The Committee's top choice was Beman Middle School and the Committee noted several influencing factors. First, the public comment that showed extreme division over the continued use of the Woodrow Wilson name, efforts to change the name for almost 20 years. Committee members want to recognize someone, who had a significant in Middletown, you honor people in history that has not been widely shared, and use the school name as an opportunity to teach local history. All of Middletown's diverse

students to feel proud walking in the door and wanted to use the name of someone who embodies Middletown's values. The Board of Education went on to unanimously approve the name Beman Middle School and sent that to the Council. On a personal note, she states that she is fairly certain that all of the Councilmembers ran for office they said they supported racial equality and equity and here is the test. Now is the time to prove that you are committed to doing racial equity work and those were not hollow words. Thank you.

Molly Auger (13 Red Glen Road): She is speaking on behalf of Middletown 4,700 public school students and many more to come by asking the Council to vote in favor of Beman Middle School. In these meetings, the Council have been talking about changing building names, changing racism as a public health emergency, and creating a permanent task force on anti-racism. We need to believe that Middletown is ahead of the curve doing what is right for our black and brown community members. A lot that said, she would like to think that Beman family were with us now, to see this work as continuation of what they started in the 1800's. We have come a long way, but there's still a long road ahead. She thanks Jesse Nasca, her friend and collaborator, the Board of Education Naming Committee members, who took great personal risk by participating, Middletown parents and families and friends, who supported this effort. She offers final thought: when she first started researching who to nominate for this new school over a year ago, as she typed into Google "women of color," "history," and "Middletown, Connecticut." Back then she found all about Clarissa Beman, who, in 1834, founded the first female anti-slavery society in Middletown when you use those same search terms now the first name to pop up is Councilwoman Jeanette White Blackwell, our first black woman elected to the Common Council. Times have changed in Middletown and they are better. She encourages the Council to do the right thing and vote for the name Beman Middle School on August 3rd. Thank you.

Buster Nelson (95 High Street): He thanks the Council and all of the people who have called in to share their views. He is calling as a Snow School parent. He also teaches public school at Keigwin Middle School, noting that he also taught at McDonough School and Spence School. He would lie to change the name of the middle school to Beman Middle School. The Beman family represents our values in Middletown of freedom, service to others, and intergenerational commitment throughout community. He went to Woodrow Wilson Middle School in the late 1980s. He would like people to be remembered, people want to be remembered. They were told that the name would not change from Woodrow Wilson. He does not know how a promise is made about the future that name will never change. No one likes broken promises. At the same time, this is a new school. It is 6th to 8th school, a school that didn't exist before. He suggest that they name the new school Beman and find a way to remember all the people who went to Woodrow Wilson or Keigwin Middle School, all of those students, find a way to remember other than the way we do now. Right now, Woodrow Wilson Middle School exists as a little area near the pool with pictures. People don't see the residents, who attended Woodrow Wilson there, very little. At the font of the school, there was a shrine to Woodrow Wilson that mentions nothing about the full spectrum of racist beliefs and actions. He suggests that they name the school Beman and find a better way to remember all of the citizens our intergenerational commitment to Middletown that all those citizens represent there than trying to keep a name from another school. Get rid of the name Woodrow Wilson and name it Beman, and find a biter way to remember all the people who have served the community. Maybe have rocks leading to the new middle school with the names of all the people, who attended Woodrow Wilson Middle School in the past. Other ideas to remember better. Keeping the name does not ensure memory of people who passed through those doors. We need a special project to do that rather than the attention of a name from a different school. Name it Beman Middle School. Also, no voting on the name by the general public because people under age 18 cannot vote and they are the ones who will attend the new middle school. Please respect their voices. Let's find the new name: Beman. Thank you.

Lucy McMillan (76 Pearl Street): She is a graduate of Woodrow Wilson Middle School and Woodrow Wilson High School. The great thing about attending public school in Middletown is that we come from different cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds, but we were all friends. She didn't understand the history of the US President this school is named after at that time. She didn't understand the depth of racist and segregationist policy in the Federal government. What she also din dot understand, but is learning more about each day is that black privilege allowed her and others to ignore *(inaudible)* ***. . . speaker connection lost***

Delita Rose Daniels (42 Oak Street): She is here with her husband, Amad Daniels, and they speak together. They are parents of 4 children and 1 granddaughter, who has the potential of attending the remarkable edifice known as Beman Elementary. Not to do anything, but she and her husband started a movement called *Change the Narrative*, noting it is still fitting conversation. Since moving to Middletown, her family has become involved in a variety of ways. One thing they learned is that everyone in Middletown raves about its diversity. We are diverse, we are Middletown, which is awesome She bears witness to the many struggles that race imposes in such a unique, diverse town like ours. Because of that, now is the time to create change. They both have a passion for education, adding that she sits on the Board of Education. They have been advocating for change on many levels. Today they advocate for change in supporting naming the new middle school Beman Middle School. It will be a great step in a positive direction as the school district community and her family look at equity not as privileged, but as a right .This school district stands on equity. It's a new day and, again, we are a town of diversity. It is time for this diversity to be seen, to be heard, to be read aloud in classrooms and to boasted in that school building. Now is the time Let us move the word to action. Middletown has a long standing history, true American history which we seem to forget is inclusive and centered on black history. Let's begin to tell the stories that matter to change the narrative. Our motto to change the narrative is they say that history repeats itself. We say that it doesn't have to because we have the power to change the narrative. Thank you. They look forward to the Council vote.

Robyn Anderson (65 Bristol Terrace): She offers her support, echoing much of what has been said. The Beman family also contributed to education and was the first pastor of Cross Street Church. He advocated for the rights of many. A change has to come. As we move forward and focus on what she hopes is a unanimous vote declaring racism as public health crisis that we also pray together in a diverse voice that we will not name the school after a racist, but after history. They continue to contuse to the history in so many ways and that history is Beman. She favors naming the middle school after someone who made a major contribution to Middletown and its rich history. Also, diversity does matter and equity is here. We will continue to strive to be a town that also always seek to do what is right especially in equity for all.

The Council Clerk asks if, for purposes of the minutes, another extension of time for the public hearing needs to be done,

The Chair states, yes, we are at 32 minutes. The Council can vote to continue.

Councilman Nocera moves to extend the public hearing and calls for a consensus vote. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for the vote on the motion to extend the public hearing by an additional 30 minutes. The vote is unanimous with 12 aye votes. The matter passes.

The Chair thanks the Council Clerk for noting that.

Alisha McKenna (149 Lincoln Street): She is going into the 8th grade at Woodrow Wilson. She was also on the (Board of Education) Naming Committee. She is full support of the name change. Although she will not attend the new school, she has 3 younger sister who will. The school should be named after someone who worked for justice in Middletown, which is the Beman family. Thank you

Catherine Rees (70 Alston Avenue, New Haven): While she does not live-in Middletown, she has worked her for 14 years. She also wants to speak to the health issue, which is really more of a moral issue. Building on the development of an anti-racism task force and declaring racism a public health issue as well as renaming the building for someone who has no racist views is important. Asking black and brown children to attend a school that glorifies racists as naming the school after someone glorifies that individual. They continue to experience racism in a daily basis by leaning within the wall of a school named for someone, who promoted inequity and terror. It negatively impacts the health and well-being of brown and black children. She offers her support to naming the new Middletown middle school as the Beman Middle School, lifting up the legacy of celebrate as so many previous callers have highlighted. Thank you.

Josh Gray (31 Miller Street): He speaks in full support of naming it the Beman Middle School. It is time to restructure these racist underpinnings in institutions and celebrate our local heroes in a version of history that isn't whitewashed and working towards a more American future. Thank you, adding that he yields his time.

Jeannie Gugliemo (20 Blue Spruce Street): She is speaking in favor of naming the school after the Beman family. She has a historic connection to this City. Her relatives came from Mellili, Sicily in 1905, so she has long connections to this beautiful City. Her children will attend what will hopefully be the Beman School. It is time to recognize history that has been brushed aside. She thinks naming it Beman Middle school honors the values of kindness and responsibility to the community. And shows children that they can be connected to history and that their stories matter. Thank you.

Quetina Frazier (91 Snatangleo Circle): She states that she is a Republican Town Committee member and is speaking in support of naming the school Beman Middle School. She was a student at Woodrow Wilson Middle school and enjoyed her time there; however, with the building of a new school, it is a great time for a name change that will not only acknowledge a piece of Middletown history, but also bring awareness to a Middleton family that contributed to the community. Because the current climate, she recently looked up the numbers for Middletown, The people who are called underrepresented groups for a reason Many times our words are not heard. Middletown is about 74% white with a population of about 45,000. She hopes the Council and public, no matter the race, support this name change. She recently read that one of the Bemans attempted to enroll at Wesleyan University but was denied. She is an African American woman in this town and recently graduated from Wesleyan and is thankful for that opportunity. The Beman family seemed to be for education and it would be wonderful if the school was named after them. She went on a trip to DC (District of Columbia) and loves history. She felt a certain way after getting over the shock of not seeing people, who look like her. She visited several places. She went to the National Museum of African American History. She supports the name change for our future children, for our current students and to have it ben named Beman Middle School.

Deborah Shapiro (55 Clover Street): My name is Deborah Shapiro and I live at 55 Clover Street, Middletown. I have been a resident of Middletown for 45 years, a student of history my whole life, and am the Municipal Historian for the City of Middletown. I respect history in all its forms – the good, the bad; national and local. And I most assuredly respect people's personal history. I respect history that propelled us forward as a society and I respect history that held us back. But I also respect the promise of the future. In the building of a new school, Middletown has the opportunity to look to the future and give our students a chance to build their own personal histories. A graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School said to me that

"you can't change history." While that is true, we can make a new history and a better history. The makeup of Middletown's population is far different from what it was in 1931 when that school was named after the 28th President of the United States. Middletown is a more diverse community that has embraced people of many ethnicities, colors, and creeds and the name of the middle school should be one that all students can look to as an inspiration to promote learning and working toward a more just society. Middletown is erecting a new building combining two schools which gives us the chance to create a new beginning that tells our young people that they are all valued members of our community. Even Princeton University, where Wilson served as president from 1902 -1910, is removing his name from a residential college and the School of Public and International Affairs. "Wilson's racism was significant and consequential even by the standards of his own time," Princeton President Christopher Eisgruber said in making the recent announcement. I urge you to vote to name the new school, "Beman Middle School." The Middletown African American Beman family - Rev. Jehiel, his sons, Leverett and Rev. Amos, and Leverett's wife Clarissa - were active in the anti-slavery movement. Rev. Jehiel Beman, pastor of the Cross Street African Methodist Episcopal Church, was a co-founder of the Middletown Anti-Slavery Society and was a conductor on the Underground Railroad. Clarissa founded the Middletown Colored Female Anti-Slavery Society, only the second such one in the United States. Reverend Amos Beman was a prominent minister and his brother Leverett developed the free African American community now known as the Beman Triangle. Naming the school after the Beman family would acknowledge that even 185 years ago, in the face of much opposition, some of it violent, local African Americans worked to abolish slavery and create a path for equality. The courage of the Beman family and its impact on both national and Middletown history should be honored and celebrated and taught to our Middletown youth. I have a very personal interest in this decision as my grandsons will be attending the new school and I want them to be proud of the school in which they receive their education. In light of the activism of hundreds of thousands of Americans and people worldwide marching peacefully for racial justice, as a city, we, too, must show courage to accept the fact that history is not always perfect, but can be a lesson for us all, a catalyst for change, and hope for the future.

Precious Price (143 Prospect Street): She thanks the Council and Mayor for the opportunity to speak on this issue. She is speaking as Director of the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition, a student of Woodrow Wilson, and a member of the (Board of Education) School Naming Committee. She is going to relay the sentiments of why they chose the Beman name as she things everyone has heard that. She just really wants to share her personal experience with being on that committee. And the things that she personally had to go through to be able to vote. By sharing that, the Council will be able to understand why it is so important to her, personally and professionally. Walking in the first day of the first meeting, three black women had to walk in together. None of us knew each other. She knew none of them at the time. She sat down and listened as a white woman in front of her had a conversation that there were committees, reminding them that there were 3 black women sitting there. The assumption was made that because we are black we are democrats. It went downhill from there. At the public comments, not only did she watch from the stage as adults were laughing at students from making their point, and for making their points very clear that they wanted the school name changed, she had to listen -- she didn't even listen. Folks came up to her after the meeting and told her that there were gentlemen making derogatory comments to her so much so that they asked if they could walk her to her vehicle. That was what she had to go through that evening. And so she told the committee Chair, just to ensure her safety at future meetings, she also had moment where she wanted to drop down. She was like, "Okay, I'm not going to do this." She thought they were naming a new school, not renaming a school and she did not know that this argument was that contentious. She wouldn't have dropped off She didn't know all of this going in. She was volunteering her like everybody else and they had to have security at the next meeting. For her. This is ridiculous. Then they asked when they presented that Sacha had dropped off the Board. She had to sit there and watch people laugh as they plotted to get this black woman kicked off and it happened. She sat there though that, she had to pretend and act like she was not offended. She had to be walked to her vehicle because it wasn't said to her or about her, but (*inaudible)* she walked in there with butterflies in her stomach every single meeting. She spoke out against Woodrow Wilson, knowing that there were people in the audience, who were staring her down and trying to intimidate her in those meetings. That is a little bit of her experience. She watched people laughing at their young people. But at the end of the day, she stayed and the group voted and the committee voted. They voted to name a new middle school. Beman Middle School, for all of the reasons that you heard. This process was hard as "shit". It was very hard. Excuse her language. She has been sitting here, shaking since Sacha started talking. She will cut it short, she supports the name change. She does not know how many more of these processes she can sit though for the same "daggon" subject. There was a public hearing; there were two (2) petitions put forward, one for and one against; and then there was *(inaudible)* at every single meeting to put something in writing, This was June of last year, June of last year for public comment. So you mean to tell me that folks haven't spoken in a year? They don't want to or they already have. Why does this need to be a referendum? She is not understanding how many times she has to sit through this process and speak and speak and speak and organize and organize and organize for the same thing and these conversation go the same way. It's quite clear that Middletown is for a name change. You hear it at the public meeting in June. You heard it tonight. You heard it when Lisa just said who called and who sent their letters in. She is not understanding why they are placating a small group. They are calling us he small group; they are the small group. She is really confused. She apologizes. She just want to share her experience and why this is so important and Beman was her first choice and she just asks, as a black woman who sat through all the "bullshit" to go through this to get into this vote, she asks that the Council choose this name that the Board and Committee have selected. Thank you.

The Council Clerk asks if the Chair wants to go back to Lucy McMillan, who was cut off earlier. The Chair replies, "Yes." The Clerk asks if the time is a concern. The Chair confirms thither at 32 minutes, but wants to see if this speaker can reconnect.

Lucy McMillan: It is hard for her to understand why the Council would not change the name to Beman Middle School at this point, it doesn't disrespect the education that she had at Woodrow Wilson or the education that anyone had. It demonstrates that we are so proud of, why she is the person she became, and why they need to continue to learn. It is one step and to be on it is a baby step. We have a lot of hard work to do so let's do the hard work.

The Chair reminds the public that the matter will be on the Connon Council August regular meeting agenda.

12. Public Hearing: Naming of Middle School -- Closes

There being no further public comment, the Chair closes the public comment session at 9:04 PM.

13. Mayor requests Council Clerk to read appropriation requests and the Certificate of Director of Finance

Notice is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown will be held remotely via WebEx, at Join A Meeting, Event # 129 584 1604, on **MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020, AT 7:00 PM** to consider and act upon the following:

Fire Department: $164,500 – various lines: fire fund balance for salary, overtime, fill-ins, and Medicare

Any and all persons interested may appear and be heard.

ATTEST:
HON. BENJAMIN D. FLORSHEIM, MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: His Honor, Mayor Benjamin D. Florsheim and Members of the Common Council

FROM: Finance Department

DATE: June 23, 2020

RE: Certification of Funds

This is to certify that funds sufficient to meet the appropriations requested at your meeting on July 6, 2020 are available as follows:

Fire Fund	$164,500

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Erlacher
Director of Finance &
Revenue Services

A. Fire Department: $164,500 – various lines: fire fund balance for salary, overtime, fill-ins, and Medicare

APPROVED

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT 06457

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Number: 0 **Date of Request:** 6/22/2020

Amount Requested: $164,500.00

Fund: Fire Fund Balance

Code: various lines

Budget Item: Salary, Overtime, Fill Ins, & Medicare

Department: Fire

Date Advertised before Meeting: 7/1/2020 **Date Advertised after Meeting:** 7/10/2020

Reason for Request: Funds needed to cover line shortages as folllows: $72,000.00 into Salary line 2010-50000-51110-0500 due to five (5) retirements as only three (3) were budgeted for, $30,000.00 into Overtime line 2010-50000-51340-0500 due to COVID-19 response, $60,000.00 into Fill in line 2010-50000-51971-0500 due to COVID-19 response, and $2,500.00 into the Medicare line 2010-50000-51690-0500 due to a variety of factors

Signature: _____

Requested by: Chief Robert Kronenberger

Status: Passed

Status Date: 7/6/2020

Councilman Edward McKeon reads the appropriation and moves for approval. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Vincent Loffredo asks for clarification if the Fire Chief can explain why we have just approved a budget. He asks to what degree is this request from the current budget, asking if we are dealing with last year's budget in this appropriation, he asks where this money is coming from and why it is being presented after the Council adopted a new budget.

Chief Kronenberger replies that this appropriation if for last year's budget. The shortfalls are a few. Salary was budgeted but there were three (3) retirements last year. Much is related to Covid expenses. While it is a sizeable appropriation, he ran the numbers and, effective June 30, 2020, he has $249,153 dollars, roughly, in reimbursable funds from FEMA. This mean that, while the Council was looking at the fund balance after all reimbursements are in, they are able to take a hit of about $80K.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the motion to approve the appropriation, asking the Council Clerk to read the roll:

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye

Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to approve the appropriation is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

14. Department, Committee, Commission Reports and Grant Confirmation Approval

Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. reads and moves for approval of the Department, Committee, and Commission Reports and Grant Confirmation Approval, agenda items 14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, 14E, and 14F. Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner states that he wants to point out the employment activity report, adding that the since the topic came up earlier, it is a great report. In that quarter. Minority hiring accounted for 38% of all hires: one black female, one black male, and to white females. He believes that this is the same quarter that they hired several police officers where the entire class were minorities. This shows that we are on the right track.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to approve Items 10A, 10B, 10 C 8A, 8B, 8C, as amended, 8D, and 8E is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia).

A. City Clerk's Certificate

APPROVED

City & Town Clerk's Office
245 deKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457

Certification

I, Ashley Flynn-Natale, City and Town Clerk of the City of Middletown and custodian of the records and seal thereof, hereby certify that all ordinances and appropriations passed and adopted at the regular meeting of the Common Council on June 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., the special meetings of the Common Council on June 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., June 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., and June 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. have been advertised in the local newspaper.

Dated at Middletown, Connecticut, this 1st day of July, 2020.

Attest:
Ashley Flynn-Natale
City & Town Clerk

❖Phone (860) 638-4910 ❖Fax (860) 638-1910 ❖TDD (860) 638-4812

B. Grant Confirmation and Approval - Health Department - Kids' Health & Safety Day - funding from Wesleyan University and Western Union for educational information about wellness, interactive exhibits, health screenings, child identification: $1,000

APPROVED

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT 06457

REQUEST FOR COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING GRANT

Grant Number: 476 **Date of Request:** 6/15/2020
Name of Grant: Kids Health and Safety
Amount Requested: $1,000.00 **Code:** 2460-31000-57030-0000-03335-x-x
Grant Period: From: 7/1/2020 **To:** 6/30/2021 **Rev Code** 2460-31000-48195-0000-03335-x-x
Type of Grant: local **Amount Loaned from General Fund:** $0.00
Department Administering Grant: Health

When any department, commission, office or agency is the recipient of any federal, state or other grant allocated for specific purposes, these funds shall be immediately transferred to the specific unit which has made application for such grant. Confirmation and approval of such transfer shall be given at the next regularly scheduled sessions of the Common Council. Not-withstanding any other Charter provision, the action of the Common Council in confirming and approving such transfer shall be an appropriation; no public hearing thereon shall be required and said funds may then be expended for the purposes for which they were granted.

Description of services to be provided by this Grant:
Middletown Kids Health & Safety Day: This event offers educational information about wellness, interactive exhibits, health screenings, child identification, etc. Middlesex Hospital $500, Western Union $500

Signature:
Requested by: Kevin Elak
Status: Passed
Status Date: 7/6/2020

C. Grant Confirmation & Approval – Health Department – COVID 19 Crisis Response – State grant to reimburse municipalities for monthly expenses directly related to COVID-19: $37,257

APPROVED

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT 06457

REQUEST FOR COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING GRANT

Grant Number: 475 **Date of Request:** 6/15/2020
Name of Grant: COVID-19 CRISIS RESPONSE
Amount Requested: $37,257.00 **Code:** 3043-31000-59200-x-x-2020
Grant Period: From: 4/1/2020 **To:** 3/31/2021 **Rev Code** 3043-31000-43242-x-x-2020
Type of Grant: STATE **Amount Loaned from General Fund:** $37,257.00
Department Administering Grant: HEALTH

When any department, commission, office or agency is the recipient of any federal, state or other grant allocated for specific purposes, these funds shall be immediately transferred to the specific unit which has made application for such grant. Confirmation and approval of such transfer shall be given at the next regularly scheduled sessions of the Common Council. Not-withstanding any other Charter provision, the action of the Common Council in confirming and approving such transfer shall be an appropriation; no public hearing thereon shall be required and said funds may then be expended for the purposes for which they were granted.

Description of services to be provided by this Grant:
Grant has been established by state of Connecticut to reimburse municipalites for monthly expenses directly related to COVID -19.

Signature: _____
Requested by: Kevin Elak
Status: Passed
Status Date: 7/6/2020

D. Grant Confirmation & Approval – Board of Education – miscellaneous funds: $476,089.99 APPROVED

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT 06457

REQUEST FOR COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMATION AND APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING GRANT

Grant Number: 477 **Date of Request:** 6/16/2020
Name of Grant: as listed below
Amount Requested: $476,089.99 **Code:** 2450-33000-59405-X-03025
Grant Period: From: 7/1/2019 **To:** 6/30/2020 **Rev Code** 2450-33000-43480-X-X
Type of Grant: **Amount Loaned from General Fund:** $0.00
Department Administering Grant: Middletown Board of Education

When any department, commission, office or agency is the recipient of any federal, state or other grant allocated for specific purposes, these funds shall be immediately transferred to the specific unit which has made application for such grant. Confirmation and approval of such transfer shall be given at the next regularly scheduled sessions of the Common Council. Not-withstanding any other Charter provision, the action of the Common Council in confirming and approving such transfer shall be an appropriation; no public hearing thereon shall be required and said funds may then be expended for the purposes for which they were granted.

Description of services to be provided by this Grant:
2377-ADED-State Provider $3,332.00 Grant Increase; 2378-ADED Cooperative $23.00 Grant Increase; 2417-Magnet School Trans ($7,800.00) Grant Reduction; 2612-IACE-Italian American Comm ED ($103.40) Grant Reduction; 2613-Liberty Bank WAS $10,000.00 Year 2 Funds received early due to COVID-19; 8099-TEAM Mentor $11,959.00; 2721-SPED Medicaid $26,751.87; 2799-Food Services $90,918.48; 8001-Retiress/COBRA Ins $266,345.28; 8003-Workers Comp $48.24; 8004-Preschool Pgm Fees $921.00; 8012-Sale of Electricity $50,386.00; 8013-SAMHSA Project Aware Receipts $6.750.00; 8021-Student Gaurdian Bus Camera $1,372.00; 8023-Central Office Receipts $14,092.52; 8035-ADED-GED/Pearson Receipts $10.00; 8036-Even Start Fam Lrn Pgm $754.00; 9011-21st Cent FH Parent Fees $330.00.Total Special Programs through 5/15/20 $19,069,825.98 ADDITIONS $476,089.99 Total Special Programs 6/16/20 $19,545,915.97.

Signature: _____
Requested by: Christine Bourne, Chief of Administration
Status: Passed
Status Date: 7/6/2020

E. Monthly Reports -- Finance Department: Transfer Report to June 23, 2020
APPROVED

Transfers of Funds - Operating Budget Accounts					
From5/16/20 To6/23/20					
FY 2019-2020					
			From	To	
Date	Department	Budget Item	Account No.	Account No.	Amount
05/15/20	Library	Sunday Opening OT	1000-07000-51345		(0.02)
		Telephone	1000-07000-54110		(200.00)
		Water	1000-07000-54170		(1,562.35)
		Salaries & Wages, PT Perm	1000-07000-51215		(8,708.43)
		Reference Materials/Updates		1000-07000-53150	180.00
		Office Equipment Maintenance		1000-07000-55436	797.19
		Network Maintenance		1000-07000-55835	9,493.61
05/15/20	OGC	Contractual Services		1000-05000-55185-0050	103.00
		General Administrative	1000-05000-52110-0050		(103.00)
05/21/20	Sewer	Diesel Fuel	2050-65000-54160		(3,000.00)
		Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles		2050-65000-53520	3,000.00
05/21/20	Water	General Administrative	5000-60000-52110		(3,000.00)
		Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles		5000-60000-53520	3,000.00
05/21/20	Fire	Incentive Pay - College	2010-50000-51915-0500		(2,000.00)
		Fuel Oil	2010-50000-54150-0500		(2,000.00)
		Paid Holiday	2010-50000-51980-0500		(12,000.00)
		Repairs/ Maintenance to Buildings		2010-50000-53380-0500	9,000.00
		Uniform Allowance		2010-50000-51950-0500	7,000.00
05/20/20	IT	Backup Storage Infrastructure	2070-03500-55510-x-x-2020		(1,350.00)
		Telephone Replacement		2070-03500-54110-x-x-2020	1,350.00
05/21/20	Fire	Natural Gas/Propane	2010-50000-54130-0500		(3,500.00)
		General Specialized Equipment		2010-50000-53100-0500	3,500.00
05/21/20	Council	Video	1000-12000-53350		(1,500.00)
		General Administrative		1000-12000-52110	1,500.00
05/21/20	Fire	Radio Equipment	2040-50300-79510-x-x-2019		(644.17)
		Major Appliances	2040-50300-79531-x-x-2019		(1,000.00)
		Major Appliances	2040-50300-79531-x-x-2020		(1,000.00)
		Training Equipment	2040-50300-79538-x-x-2020		(1,105.00)
		Station Furniture	2040-50300-79548-x-x-2020		(451.35)
		Technology Upgrades	2040-50300-79669-x-x-2020		(2,346.25)
		Parking Lot Repairs		2040-50300-79718-x-x-2020	6,546.77
05/21/20	Police	Storage Drives	2070-18000-55510-x-x-2020		(7,686.00)
		Memory for Servers		2070-18000-79561-x-x-2020	7,686.00

05/26/20	Senior	Contractual Services	1000-32000-55185-0130		(22,000.00)
		General Specialized Equipment		1000-32000-53100-0130	11,000.00
		General Administrative		1000-32000-52110-0130	11,000.00
05/29/20	Water	Gasoline	5000-60000-54140		(7,110.63)
		Diesel Fuel	5000-60000-54160		(10,897.81)
		Contractual Services	5000-60000-55185		(20,000.00)
		Electricity		5000-60000-54200	38,008.44
06/01/20	PW/Highway	Winter/Snow Overtime	1000-22000-51360-0226		(22,515.01)
		Snowplowing Private Contractors	1000-22000-55471-0226		(500.00)
	PW/Bldg & Grnds	Salaries & Wages, PT Temp		1000-22000-51220-0221	3,500.00
	PW/Garage	Tires		1000-22000-53530-0225	5,000.00
	PW/City Hall	Repairs/Maintenance to Buildings		1000-22000-53360-0227-50001	1,500.00
	PW/Admin	General Administrative		1000-22000-52110-0220	500.00
	PW/Garage	General Vehicle Services		1000-22000-53510-0225	12,515.01
06/01/20	Emer Mgmt	Diesel Fuel	1000-25500-54160		(1,000.00)
		General Administrative		1000-25500-52110	1,000.00
06/01/20	Library	Overtime	1000-07000-51340		(3,349.93)
		Repairs/Maintenance to Buildings		1000-07000-53360	3,328.83
		Subscriptions		1000-07000-53425	21.10
06/01/20	Parks	Palmer Field Overtime	1000-22000-51350-0320		(16,918.00)
		General Specialized Equipment		1000-22000-53100-0320	27,216.03
		Uniform & Clothing Allotment	1000-22000-51950-0320		(72.03)
		Administration	1000-22000-52110-0320		(226.00)
		Contractual Services	1000-22000-55185-0320		(10,000.00)
06/01/20	PCD	Video	1000-14000-53350		(1,206.25)
		Overtime	1000-14000-51340		(317.23)
		Cell Phone	1000-14000-54120		(99.48)
		Property Management		1000-14000-53185	1,622.96
06/04/20	Sanitation	General Administrative	2020-40000-52110		(1,500.00)
		Refunds	2020-40000-52175		(1,500.00)
		General Vehicle Services		2020-40000-53510	3,000.00
06/05/20	Sewer	Contingency Fund	2050-65000-57020		(1,000.00)
		Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles	2050-65000-53520		(1,000.00)
		General Administrative		2050-65000-52110	2,000.00
06/04/20	IT	Camera Replacement - Phase I	2070-03500-53124-x-x-2020		(835.00)
		Telephone Replacement		2070-03500-54110-x-x2020	835.00
06/05/20	Police	Special Events Overtime	1000-18000-51365-0180		(24,090.49)
		Contractual Services		1000-18000-55185-01810	24,090.49

		Special Events Overtime	1000-18000-51365-0180		(2,000.00)
	Animal Control	Paid Holiday		1000-18000-51980-0182	2,000.00
06/08/20	Parks	General Specialized Equipment		1000-22000-53100-0320	5,000.00
		Contractual Services	1000-22000-55185-0320		(8,000.00)
		Vehicle Services		1000-22000-53510-0320	3,000.00
06/05/20	Police	Overtime	1000-18000-51340-0180		(70,059.00)
		Replacement OT		1000-18000-51357-0180	25,000.00
		Paid Holiday		1000-18000-51980-0180	45,059.00
06/08/20	Police	Police Cruiser & All Appurtenances	2070-18000-79653-x-x-2020		(7,194.80)
		Rugged MDT for Cruiser		2070-18000-79791-x-x-2020	9,513.76
		Desktops & Monitors	2070-18000-79587-x-x-2020		(4,268.96)
		Office Furniture		2070-18000-79500-x-x2020	1,950.00
06/10/20	Landfill	Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles	2380-22000-53520		(1,800.00)
		Motor Vehicle Parts/Supplies	2380-22000-53545		(3,500.00)
		Truck Rent/Lease	2380-22000-56220		(1,000.00)
		Site Improvements	2380-22000-55417		(300.00)
		Waste Equipment Supplies	2380-22000-55416		(2,000.00)
		Waste Removal		2380-22000-55410	8,600.00
06/11/20	Fire	Paid Holiday	2010-50000-51980-0500		(2,650.00)
		Incentive Pay - College		2010-50000-51915-0500	2,650.00
		Fuel Oil	2010-50000-54150-0500		(564.00)
		Drug, Alcohol, Physicals, Lab Test	2010-50000-55140-0500		(759.00)
		Paid Holiday	2010-50000-51980-0500		(294.00)
		Prof Develop/Training	2010-50000-51930-0500		(598.00)
		Refunds	2010-50000-52175-0500		(301.10)
		Building Materials	2010-50000-53235-0500		(439.55)
		Medicare	2010-50000-51560-0500		(250.00)
		Telephone	2010-50000-54110-0500		(3,500.00)
		General Specialized Equipment		2010-50000-53100-0500	6,705.65
06/10/20	Police	Storage Drives	2070-18000-55510-x-x-2020		(2,070.00)
		Rugged MDT for Cruiser		2070-18000-79791-x-x-2020	2,070.00
06/12/20	Recreation	Salaries & Wages, PT Seasonal	1000-32000-51230-0321		(14,000.00)
		Misc Supplies		1000-32000-53115-0321	10,000.00
		General Administrative		1000-32000-52110-0321	4,000.00
06/12/20	Communications	Salaries & Wages, PT Perm		1000-18700-51215	600.00
		Paid Holiday		1000-18700-51980	406.00
		General Administrative		1000-18700-52110	300.00
		Chemicals & Cleaning Supplies		1000-18700-53210	825.00
		Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles		1000-18700-53520	1,300.00
		Prof Develop/Training	1000-18700-51930		(3,000.00)

		Telephone	1000-18700-54110		(431.00)
06/12/20	Sewer	Diesel Fuel	2050-65000-54160		(2,000.00)
		Misc Repairs & Maintenance	2050-65000-53280		(3,000.00)
		Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles		2050-65000-53520	5,000.00
06/12/20	Senior	Contractual Services	1000-32000-55185-0130		(600.00)
		Cell Phone		1000-32000-54120-0130	600.00
06/15/20	PCD	General Administrative	1000-14000-52110		(120.00)
		Cell Phone		1000-14000-54120	120.00
06/18/20	Fire	Diesel Fuel	2010-50000-54160-0500		(500.00)
		General Administrative		2010-50000-52110-0500	500.00
06/18/20	Parks	Building/Park Maintenance Materials	1000-22000-53380-0320		(10,000.00)
		General Specialized Equipment		1000-22000-53100-0320	10,000.00
06/18/20	Library	Network Maintenance	1000-07000-55835		(79.80)
		Telephone	1000-07000-54110		(6.75)
		General Administrative	1000-07000-52110		(715.02)
		Salaries & Wages, PT Perm	1000-07000-51215		(1,843.70)
		Subscriptions		1000-07000-53425	1,995.27
		Repairs/Maintenance to Buildings		1000-07000-53360	650.00
06/18/20	Police	Court Appearanes	1000-18000-51395-0180		(3,000.00)
		Incentive Pay	1000-18000-51910-0180		(7,000.00)
		Postage	1000-18000-52150-0180		(3,000.00)
		Claims Paid	1000-18000-57110-0180		(2,000.00)
		Uniform Allowance	1000-18000-51950-0180		(1,000.00)
		Misc Supplies	1000-18000-53115-0180		(2,000.00)
		Vaccinations	1000-18000-53170-0180		(1,000.00)
		General Administrative	1000-18000-52110-0180		(2,000.00)
		General Vehicle Services	1000-18000-53510-0180		(4,000.00)
		General Tech. Maint & Improvement		1000-18000-55810-0180	21,000.00
		Communication Equipment Maintenance		1000-18000-55440-0180	4,000.00
06/18/20	Assessor	Mileage	1000-10000-52130		(300.00)
		Salaries & Wages, PT Perm		1000-10000-51215	300.00
06/18/20	Police	Lethal/Less Lethal Equip & Supplies	1000-18000-53140-0180		(29,487.52)
		Special Events Overtime	1000-18000-51365-0180		(18,456.88)
		Overtime		1000-18000-51340-0180	15,487.52
		Replacement OT		1000-18000-51357-0180	32,456.88
06/18/20	Human Resources	Advertisements	1000-05000-52115-0170		(1,450.00)
		Professional Memberships	1000-05000-52165-0170		(136.00)
		Reference Materials/Updates	1000-05000-53150-0170		(195.00)

		Professional Services	1000-05000-55100-0170		(2,984.00)
	OGC	Court Costs	1000-05000-55130-0050		(447.65)
	Human Resources	Arbitration Services	1000-05000-55135-0170		(2,122.90)
	OGC	Contractual Services	1000-05000-55185-0050		(403.00)
	Human Resources	Testing Services & Materials	1000-05000-55480-0170		(851.29)
	OGC	General Administrative		1000-05000-52110-0050	8,589.84
06/18/20	Mayor	General Administrative	1000-01000-5211C-0010		(725.00)
		Salaries & Wages, PT Perm		1000-01000-512150010	725.00
06/22/20	Water	Salaries & Wages, FT Perm	5000-60000-51110		(18,636.00)
		Electricity		5000-60000-54200	18,636.00
06/22/20	Police	Printers	2070-18000-79724-x-x-2020		(1,250.00)
		Rugged MDT for Cruiser		2070-18000-79791-x-x-2020	1,250.00
06/23/20	Parks	Salaries & Wages, PT Seasonal	1000-22000-51230-0321		(19,000.00)
		Miscellaneous Overtime		1000-22000-51340-0320	19,000.00
06/23/20	PW/Highway	Towing	1000-22000-53340-0226		(100.00)
	PW/Bldg	General Administrative		1000-22000-52110-0221	100.00
06/23/20	Health	Events	1000-31000-53705		(3,000.00)
		General Administrative		1000-31000-52110	3,000.00
					0.00

F. Board of Education Report: Education Cost Sharing (ESC) Grant – FY 2020-2021 Two-Percent Grant Set-Aside, dated June, 2020

APPROVED

Middletown Public Schools

Business Office

To: Carl Erlacher, Director of Finance, City of Middletown

From: Christine Bourne, Chief of Finance and Administration, BOE

Re: ECS Grant – C.G.S. Section 10-262k

Date: June 24, 2020

Carl,

Please consider this our official notification of our intent to receive the 2% set-aside ECS Grant funds pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-262k in the amount of $333,048. I have attached the memo from the State Department of Education for your records.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 860-638-1422.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Bourne

Cc: Ben Florsheim, Mayor
Bobbye Knoll Peterson, Chief of Staff
Michael Conner, Superintendent
Natalie Forbes, Director of Innovation and Grants
Deborah Cain, BOE, Chairperson
Sean King, BOE, Finance and Budget Chair
Anita Dempsey White, BOE, Secretary

311 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1422 Fax: (860) 638-1425

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO: Superintendents of School Districts Eligible for Awards under Section 10-262k of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.)

FROM: Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Ed.D.
Reading/Literacy Director

DATE: June 8, 2020

SUBJECT: Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant 2 Percent Set-aside

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-262k for compensatory education programs, your district is eligible to receive an award for FY 2020-21 for a maximum of up to 2 percent ECS grant set-aside. See the attached table for the 2 percent maximum ECS figures.

Please note that this set-aside comes out of your town's ECS grant and **does not** represent additional ECS funds. Receipt of these funds will result in a corresponding reduction of ECS funds that are available to your town. **In accordance with the provisions of C.G.S. Section 10-262k, you must notify your town of your intention to apply for this grant at the time of application.**

To apply:

1. You must respond to this e-mail by June 26, 2020, stating your intention to apply for this grant.

2. You must indicate in your e-mail response that your town has been notified of your intention to apply.

Budget materials will be forwarded to your district for completion once we have received your intent to apply. The 2 percent ECS grant set-aside funds can be used to co-fund Title I activities.

Please forward your responses to Marlene Padernacht at marlene.padernacht@ct.gov. She may also be reached at 860-713-6568.

Thank you.

MWH:mp
cc: Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education
Kathy Demsey, Chief Financial Officer
Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer
Marlene Padernacht, State Title I Director
Kevin Chambers, Education Consultant, Fiscal Services
School Business Managers

P.O. BOX 2219 | HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06145
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Connecticut State Department of Education
Bureau of Fiscal Services

2020-2021 Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Grant
Districts Eligible for 2% Set-aside

District Code	District Name	Maximum Set-aside Amount
7	BERLIN	117,412
11	BLOOMFIELD	108,207
14	BRANFORD	52,382
15	BRIDGEPORT	3,283,907
17	BRISTOL	833,146
25	CHESHIRE	186,788
34	DANBURY	457,159
43	EAST HARTFORD	834,216
44	EAST HAVEN	375,283
49	ENFIELD	591,031
51	FAIRFIELD	22,231
52	FARMINGTON	16,869
54	GLASTONBURY	107,585
57	GREENWICH	7,573
59	GROTON	500,801
60	GUILFORD	35,322
62	HAMDEN	460,615
64	HARTFORD	3,759,498
77	MANCHESTER	612,382
80	MERIDEN	1,075,674
83	MIDDLETOWN	333,048
84	MILFORD	193,465
88	NAUGATUCK	584,228
89	NEW BRITAIN	1,478,586
93	NEW HAVEN	2,850,191
94	NEWINGTON	275,459
95	NEW LONDON	458,811
96	NEW MILFORD	222,484
97	NEWTOWN	89,914
101	NORTH HAVEN	77,027
103	NORWALK	201,903
104	NORWICH	646,331
118	RIDGEFIELD	11,374
119	ROCKY HILL	100,216
126	SHELTON	132,837
128	SIMSBURY	126,340
131	SOUTHINGTON	409,328
132	SOUTH WINDSOR	228,162
135	STAMFORD	159,578
138	STRATFORD	482,327
143	TORRINGTON	478,667
144	TRUMBULL	46,471
146	VERNON	352,903
148	WALLINGFORD	417,111
151	WATERBURY	2,272,344
153	WATERTOWN	235,604
155	WEST HARTFORD	437,610
156	WEST HAVEN	827,986
159	WETHERSFIELD	217,704
163	WINDHAM	483,394
164	WINDSOR	230,953

15. Report & Brief Presentation: National Conference for Committee & Justice (NCCJ), Human Relations Commission, Final Report on Anti-Racism Initiative in the City of Middletown

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell. Councilwoman Blackwell invites Faith Jackson, Director of Equal Opportunity & Diversity Management, and the consultant Nyaunu Stevens, Director of Programs at the National Conference for Community & Justice (NCCJ). Councilwoman Blackwell states that, before turning over the program to them she would be remiss if she did not (*inaudible*). She thanks Councilman Eugene Nocera for vision over three (3) ago when this project started. It is so fitting that this anti-racism work has come full circle. This report will help inform the Anti-Racism Taskforce.

Director Jackson (*inaudible*) acknowledges that the Mayor and the City for being on the cutting edge, the forefront, being a leader in addressing race and equity. Several towns are working on this initiative, but nothing as structured and copies as the city. She thanks them for taking this brave step is assessing the City's racial climate. They are ahead of the curve. She thanks Councilman Eugene Nocera, former Councilman Carl Chisem, and former Councilman Robert Blanchard for having the vision 2½ years ago and giving to the Human Relations Commission the charge to do an assessment as to where we are in relationship here in Middletown, in race and equity overall. She commends the Commission for their work, including a couple of extensions needed to get the project on track. She thanks them for completing the task. It is a great product that the Taskforce can utilize to move forward and do the work that needs to be done. Some of the Human Relations Commission members will stay in board to guide and make sure that this work gets done. No man, who puts his hand to the plow, turn from it until the task is done. It's a long undertaking, but the City hired the right consultant. It is someone local who understands this work and our objective and how to get there. She reiterates thanks to Councilman Nocera, saying they didn't let up. They saw an issue and never gave up when they didn't have an answer. It is a great charge that was given to the Commission because the Commission will make sure that the great work continues, adding that some Committee members hope to be on the Task Force. She commends the City for taking that first step and doing what is important in building a good community. Lastly, she thanks the minority citizens for giving them another opportunity to listen to them to take what they said and to put it into the report, to finalize it and seal it as what needs to be done, what will be done going forward. That labor is not in vain. She thanks both students and adult from all walks of life, from the North End to West Lake to the South End, they covered the whole gambit. This is valid information, it is live information, not something made up. The Council will hear from the consultant, noting that Cynthia Martin is the President of NCCJ and Nyaunu

Stevens, Director of Programs. They were so pleasant to work with. They created magic and did a great job training City Directors, many of whom are in denial. This will be a long journey. It will be painful on both sides – for blacks and for whites – because talking about something you are uncomfortable with is never easy. The truth has to be told. Again, go back to scripture: “My people turned from their wicked ways, then the land can be healed. “We have to get to the healing part and say, “Ouch,” but the truth must be told. She is happy about the naming of the school to Beman because we do need to start talking about black history, the history that African Americans have contributed to, not only in Middletown, but throughout the United States, Without further ado, she turns the meeting over to Nyaunu Stevens, Director of Programs for NCCJ to give a brief highlight, adding that the City has the foundation to move forward. She notes that Ms. Stevens stepped right in and got on board, which she appreciates.

Nyaunu Stevens, Director of Programs for NCCJ, thanks Director Jackson for the introduction. She states that Director Jackson and the Human Relations Commission were a pleasure to work with over the past year and a half. It was an amazing project that this City decided to invest in. It is a beautiful thing for the residents at this moment of national reckoning on the history of racism and current, existing racism. She is pleased for Middletown that the City is in a great position moving not this and have had this study done, this project done The City is ahead of the game. Well done Middletown. She is joined this evening by Cynthia Martin, President of NCCJ, who may chime in and speak. She will keep her overview brief as it has been a long day and there has been a lot of comment on critical issues. This project was an anti-racism initiative commissioned by the City in 2018, charged in 2017 and commissioned in 2018 or something like that.

Director Jackson confirms, stating, “Yes.”

Ms. Stevens explains project was continued for 2019 through March 2020. The project consisted on anti-racism training for town leadership, four (4) focus groups, that got the input of black, indigenous, and other people of color here in Middletown, and two (2) community conversations. They have a final report that pulls together a lot of the information that they got from those events and which pull out several themes which seemed to be the most pressing for people of color here in Middletown.

Ms. Stevens explains that they focused on the following themes: labor equity and the different ways that racism shows up in the City jobs that are available; who is present in City Hall; who is not present in City Hall; what kinds of positions are available when people of color apply for them; are they given a fair chance and things like that. They looked at the criminal justice system equity: how people are seeing their interactions in the criminal justice system, where they see inequities show up from a racism standpoint; information equity; whether or not people are able to access information about things happening in the program and in the town; programs that offer scholarships for events; opportunities available for youth and adults; how is that information being disseminated; and are people of color in the town able to access it in an easy and useful way. Housing segregation: Middleton continues to struggle with racial segregation in housing just like most of the country. It is an ongoing issue in the US and Middletown, unfortunately, is not exception. Education equity; how youth experience the schools and how very apropos with the conversation that we have had this evening, how youth experience the school; how power is concentrated among the adults in schools; who is given positions of authority; who is not given positions of authority; how does discipline function within the school system. All of these are topics that came up and are mentioned in the report. Community building and opportunities for groups to engage in racial healing and form affinity groups so that white people can have space to talk to these issues; for black, indigenous, and other people of color have a space to talk to these issues as well and network, to figure out how to work this out, to open doors for each other and figure out that; and Overall racial climate in Middletown: what is it line on a day to day basis to navigate the business in Middletown, to navigate public spaces in Middletown, to be a resident of Middleton as a black, indigenous, or other person of color. These are the topics they covered.

Ms. Stevens notes that, in each topic, they highlighted the main issues of that area as well as give solutions and recommendations that are a completion of this that residents suggested and NCCJ suggested from a professional standpoint. They also have some of the residents’ comments in the report and, for people who took that anti-racism training. That is everything that is in this report.

Ms. Stevens continues, saying that the great thing about this report is that, as she said, Middletown is ahead of the curve, which is a really beautiful thing. Now with the Council having established this anti-racism task force, this report is such a beautiful stating place for the taskforce. She reiterates that it is just a beautiful starting place for the taskforce, a place to look and see all of the areas that resident of color have already seen ongoing in systemic issues of racism and what ways you can carry that forward that makes them feel honored and makes them feel that they are taken seriously, which she knows s something that is very important to town leadership or else you would not have already engaged in this project, you would not have established this anti-racism taskforce.

Ms. Stevens states that the final thing that she wants to say about this is that there were many, many things that came up, but one thing that came up frequently, in every single program that we held in Middletown for people of color was that they are very concerned that the town will take this report and it would go nowhere. She really, really strongly encourages everyone to really review the report, make it as publicly available as possible so that people, who otherwise might not see the report are able, and make it clear to the townspeople as you are moving through your anti-racism project, how that project speaks to this project that was already done so that residents -- those who participated in this – absolutely feel that their voices matter and that the feedback that you received from them is part of shaping your Middletown initiatives going forward.

Director Jackson interjects, saying she thinks that the work is definitely moving forward, there is no doubt about that. We are fortunate to have Councilwoman Jeannette Blackwell, who sat on the Human Relations Commission, Councilman Edward Ford and Councilman Nocera, the mayor and also working to continue to partner with us on this, the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition, Precious Price and her group are all going to be part of this ongoing initiative to make sure that things get implemented. We don't want to keep talking, adding that talking is good. We need to take these, decipher it, and the bits and pieces put it into motion change policies; change policies, change procedures, whatever needs to be done. Break it down and start working a little bit and each category. She thinks they are in a good position, adding that the City is certainly, with the Council backing this ongoing work of the taskforce, she thinks that they are in good position to continue to move forward, yes, this information will eventually be out in the library. They will do a small executive session piece just to send to all participants, who participated in the process so they will personally have a copy, a summary for themselves and a thank you for their time to do this work to move Middletown forward. She is just excited.

Director Jackson calls on Cynthia (no last name), noting that the selling point for their organization was, "We are right there when you need us." They're right around the corner, so we did just that. Director Jackson states that it is a great firm to work with, experts in their arena, in their field. She was so impressed how they managed some of the difficult conversations and discussion, adding that they are really experts in their field. Thank you.

(Unidentified speaker) It has been an absolute honor to attend, modeling what is possible and how a community can come together and make change. She has nothing to add to the beautiful overview presentation, the report is an amazing document and that all on the Council have been supportive of this endeavor. Many have been through the anti-racism program, adding that they want to keep this going. They have been promoting Middletown, saying that this is the place to be, the place to live the work and here is a model on how other towns can do the work. Bravo to all. It has been an honor and she looks forward to much more.

Director Jackson states that she is sure there will be. Addressing the Mayor and Council, she states that they will be pleasantly surprised that this project was done under budget. We got a quality product and they still came under the radar under budget. Thank you.

(Unidentified speaker) states that Justin Carbonella also helped facilitate, noting that he is the Chair of the Human Relations Commission. She did not want to neglect mentioning his name this evening.

Director Jackson adds recognition of Brandie Doyle, who is was the Chair last year and who did some of the legwork in putting the executive summary packages together for the earlier Council.

Councilman Eugene Nocera offers a short comment, thanking Ms. Stevens and NCCJ for the terrific, tremendous work in our community. You had to be there to see it happen. He was most impressed in this process over a year and a half is that the Committee never got into looking at Middletown as a good community and we are in pretty good shape with regards to racism. The attitude was that we need to be risk takers, we need to dig deeper, we need to solve problems, and we need to listen better. He cannot thank group enough for its work, noting that the report will be very helpful to the anti-racism taskforce as they move forward with this important initiative.

The Chair thanks the consultant for the presentation, noting that it comes at an opportune time for a variety of reasons, but especially as we move fully institutionalizing the new taskforce, which will work hand in hand. It will be doing this work only because of the work of the Human Relations Commission and the study the Council just heard about, he reiterates his thanks and looks forward to, as alluded by the presenters, to continuing that work, as this is just the beginning.

The Chair calls on Councilman Philip Pessina.

Councilman Pessina states that one important leader in the community, who has made big strides in innovation and equity, is Michel Conner, Superintendent of Schools You will see in a letter that he sent out in support of the task force, but this report is so comprehensive,. He reread it twice because it was excellent done. What Dr. Conner says in his last paragraph, although he has a task force, he says "The collective theme continuously fear in the community is act now." He states that he believes the task force, the work of this conference, and Human Relations Commission, this task force, everything that he has strived for in this community he talks about. He states that he believes that the task force will address the mandates okayed by constituents, our constituents. He applauds the work, which has been stepped forward by Mayor Florsheim, Chief McKenna, and other elected officials in Middletown, The operative word here are "act now"." We must act now. Thank you on behalf of Michael O'Conner, the Superintendent.

The Chair calls on Councilman Edward Ford, Jr.

Councilman Edward Ford states that he wants to briefly echo the comments already made by Councilman Nocera, Councilman Pessina. Sitting on the Human Relations Commission for a couple of years, with this project has been an honor for him. He thanks Ms. Stevens, the consultant, for coming in and helping them organize, and put together a through and comprehensive plan such as thins. This plan is amazing, and really is. The task force that the Council will establish tonight, this gives it a vision and we are going to go away and go forward and tackle educational inequity, housing, and police reform and criminal justice, there is a whole list of issues that this report lays out in a comprehensive manner. The City and the communities of color have made it very clear that this is what we need to see it done; not just want to see, but see this

done. He is glad that the consultant was able to help them put this together, that Faith (Jackson) and Justin (Carbonella) and Brandie (Doyle), and the entire Human Relations Committee and Precious (no last name), the entire list of dedicated and awesome individuals. He is excited about this report and about the task force tonight because it is two (2) very important pieces that come together so we can actually make a change.

The Chair echoes, mentioning a couple of folks who deserve recognition: Justin Carbonella, who is the Chair of the Human Relations Commission and the City's Youth Services Director, who is probably spending time with his newborn daughter, and the former Councilmembers mentioned by Faith Jackson as well as Councilman Nocera in putting this together in 2017: Councilman Carl Chisem, Councilman Robert Blanchard, and the late Councilman Thomas Serra. Certainly their contributions should be acknowledged. He thanks Director Faith Jackson and the NCCJ presenters for being here and sharing their work. He looks forward to working with them to make this a reality.

The City of Middletown
and
The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)
Partnering to Make
a Difference
Nyaunu Stevens, Director of Programs
Presented to the
Common Council on July 6, 2020

Introduction

Over the last year the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) has partnered with the City of Middletown on a comprehensive, wide-ranging anti-racism project. The project has three goals: to train town leadership and members of the Human Relations Commission on racism, to find out what the residents of color feel about racism in the City, and to begin looking for solutions to the current obstacles Middletown faces to achieving racial equity. The initiative included two anti-racism trainings for town leadership, four focus groups with town residents, and two community conversations with town residents. This report details the work that was done and gives recommendations for how the City can improve its climate to create a more inclusive environment for residents of color.

History of the Project

In August 2017 in response to the removal of Confederate statues, far-right extremists marched in protest in Charlottesville, Virginia. The show of strength from white supremacists and the violence which took place shocked the nation. It also woke many leaders to the fact that, far from being in a post-racial society, the United States was still dealing with serious issues of racism. In Middletown, this resulted in Councilman Gene Nocera pushing to organize a project which assessed the racial climate of Middletown and provided a strategic plan for how to address existing racial inequity within the City. He was able to do so with the support of Common Council Members Carl Chisem, Robert Blanchard, and Thomas Serra.

The City of Middletown has long had a mission of bringing equity in all forms to its residents. As part of this mission, the Human Relations Commission was established as a permanent body in 1978. On September 22, 2017, the Human Relations Commission was charged by the Common Council under Resolution 124:17 to embark upon a project to develop a Racial Equity Strategic Plan. The initial phase of this City-funded project would be a year-long initiative to solicit input from residents of color regarding their experiences navigating racism within the City, and to begin the process of training town leadership in racial justice issues. Led by Commissioner Justin Carbonella and in conjunction with Faith Jackson, the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management, the commission put out a request for proposals, and the National Conference for Community and Justice was chosen in December of 2019. Shortly thereafter, the Racial Justice Coalition was invited by the commission to come on board as a participant in the planning meetings because they were already working in the racial justice arena in Middletown and would have insights to contribute regarding the racial climate.

Racial Demographics

Middletown has a total of 46,258 residents. According to United States Census estimates as of April 1, 2019, of those 74.2% of residents are white, 14.5% are black, .3% are indigenous, 6.3% are Asian, 3.5% are bi or multiracial, and 9.8% are Latinx. Middletown is rich with racial diversity but remains segregated in housing distribution and employment status. This racial segregation contributes to unequal outcomes in nearly every

category, including high school graduation rates, home ownership, and employment status. In fact, families of color tend to be concentrated in low-income areas which are underserved by the City and struggle in these areas regardless of their income status.

Examining data from the 2018 United Way ALICE Report, we see these disparities on full display. The ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report provides data on households that bring in too much income to qualify for social services, but not enough income to live a comfortably middle-class lifestyle. In other words, they are above the Federal Poverty Level but still below the basic cost of living in their residential areas. In Connecticut overall, 10% of families live below the poverty line, while 30% of families meet the ALICE threshold, a number which has been on the rise for the last few years. Ten percent of white households, 24% of black households, 34% of Latinx households, and 43% of Asian households fall below the Alice threshold. In Middletown the median income for white families is $64,111, for black families it is $47,334, and for Latinx families it is $37,079.

Anti-Racism Trainings Overview

The Human Relations Commission decided that while the focus groups and community conversations should be about the residents, the anti-racism trainings would be most effective delivered to town leadership. The purpose of the trainings would be to develop shared understanding of racism as a system of oppression and give leadership a toolkit they could immediately start using to effect change in their workplaces and out in the City. The training was delivered to the mayor, members of the common council, the chief of police and high-ranking officers, and school administrators. This was a two-day training and participants were required to take both days. Both trainings were delivered by the same facilitators, and every effort was made to keep the trainings as similar as possible.

NCCJ workshops are based on the Social Justice Education master's and doctoral programs of the Department of Education at the University of Massachusetts. Our workshops involve theory, history, and activities so that learners can situate themselves in the social structures and develop an understanding of their role and their relative levels of privilege and oppression. NCCJ provides an environment where participants can have productive dialogue that is informed by historical context and an understanding of how systems continue to function in contemporary times.

The NCCJ anti-racism program allows individuals across a spectrum of understanding of social justice issues to enter the conversation. We built our agenda to include definitions, history, a framing of oppression, unpacking white privilege/white supremacy, microaggressions, and taking action both personally and organizationally. An evaluation was given at the end of day two of both workshops and is included as an attachment to this report. Also attached is a compiled list of resources garnered over the four days of training, as well as a compilation of how to take action on a personal level to interrupt bias, microaggressions, and bigotry.

Focus Groups Methodology

The purpose of the focus groups was to discover what ways people of color are seeing racism surface in Middletown, how they navigate it, and what recommendations they have for the town on improving the racial climate in the City. Focus groups are qualitative research. As such, they do not provide statistical analysis or numeric data sets for researchers to work with, but instead they give researchers a glimpse into the experiences of people in the research pool. Focus groups provide the depth of an interview with the economy of survey data by interviewing several people at a time. Because they are qualitative, they provide a rich pool of descriptive data for researchers to examine in order to find out how a phenomenon is manifesting in a specific environment.

In order to ensure validity, an outside researcher from the NCCJ who is a person of color as well as a trained qualitative researcher conducted the focus groups. An outside researcher helps to ensure validity by allowing the participants to be candid and vulnerable without fear of reprisal or retaliation from the town. In two of the focus groups, we also provided a notetaker who was also a person of color. The race of the facilitator and notetaker was an important factor in helping the participants to be comfortable. All four focus groups were recorded, and the recordings were destroyed after they were transcribed.

The Human Relations Commission worked in conjunction with the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management to identify people to participate in the focus groups. 38 people from various racial groups participated in the focus groups representing Black (African American and recent immigrants[i]), Asian, Latinx**, Middle Eastern, and bi and multi-racial groups. No compensation was given for the participation in these focus groups, but the participants were provided food and drink since the groups took place in the dinner hour or directly after school when people were likely to be hungry.

The NCCJ established ground rules to ensure the comfort of the participants and that the space would remain respectful and productive. The ground rules included things such as confidentiality, speak from the I, don't interrupt, and other basic guidelines for a productive dialogue. The participants were guided through a discussion on the positive aspects of being a person of color in Middletown, the negative aspects of being a person of color in Middletown, and their ideas for how Middletown could be made more inclusive. Each focus group took one hour, and at the end participants were informed that they could reach out to Faith Jackson, the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management, should they need any support or have any questions following the focus group.

Community Conversations Overview

The Human Relations Commission decided that the Community Conversations should continue to solicit the perspectives of people of color. The goals of the community conversations were to explore the themes that came up from the focus groups and find out what additional themes might be missing. The community conversations were also key in compiling recommendations from residents of color for how to begin addressing barriers the City has to becoming a fully inclusive town.

The community conversations were well-attended with 30 people at the first one and 33 people at the second one, including some of the participants of the earlier focus groups. NCCJ presented an overview of the project and the results of the focus groups before moving on to the planning phase of the conversation.

Results

Theme: Labor Equity

Summary of Challenges

Most of the challenges on labor and equity surround hiring practices and opportunities for advancement in positions for the City of Middletown. The majority of people of color who are City employees are in the positions which have lower wages and low prestige, but even these positions can be inaccessible. Residents charge that positions are difficult to break into because those who are in charge of the hiring tend to hire people who they already know or have a connection to, which deepens existing racial dynamics and divides. There is also a sentiment that a good faith effort is not put forth to recruit and retain people of color to staff City positions.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents have identified the need for more representation of people of color within the City leadership and at Town Hall, especially in higher level positions. Residents would like the City to make a concerted effort to recruit, hire, and retain people of color. Residents would like the City to recognize and take advantage of the significant talent pool already in existence in Middletown. Residents would like hiring managers to think beyond the people they know to fill positions and to have City Hall staff reflect the diversity of the town itself.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Advertise in diverse avenues and populations for ALL level positions to create a diverse pool of candidates.
- Assess hiring practices at every stage to make sure they are in line with the most up-to-date methods of recruiting racially diverse employees.
- Assess hiring practices for bias and utilize methods which minimize bias as much as possible.
- Extensive training for employees involved in hiring practices so they can learn how to recognize and circumvent bias.
- Create a mentoring program for front line staff so that when management and supervisory positions open up there are veteran staff prepared for advancement.
- A more transparent hiring process which makes available all of the criteria used in the hiring decision.
- Provide feedback when candidates are not chosen to improve their chances should they choose to reapply.
- The racial makeup of City Hall should mirror the racial makeup of the town so that all people are adequately represented. Assess existing affirmative action policies around hiring and promotions. Develop oversight to make sure they are being upheld.
- Assess the needs of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management. Expand staff or provide any needed support.

Theme: Criminal Justice System Equity

Summary of Challenges

The challenges around the criminal justice system revolve around policing practices and inequities in how cases are handled within the court system. Residents charge that people of color have higher rates of stops and arrests than white residents. Residents also feel that sentencing for similar infractions are racially biased, with people of color experiencing longer and more punitive sentences. Finally, residents charge that the court process is often time consuming and difficult, causing those navigating the justice system to experience significant continuances and changes which result in absenteeism, childcare issues, and job loss.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like police to update their policing practices to minimize bias in terms of stops and arrest, and to hold accountable officers who violate the existing and updated guidelines. Residents would like to see sentencing become more equitable and to have a smoother process for navigating the court process if they become involved in it. Residents would like the court system to adhere to the processes already put into place by the judiciary, i.e. Accelerated Rehabilitation should not involve probation.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Commission an independent review of policing guidelines and practices.
- Review available data on arrest and sentencing rates by race for signs of racial bias. Crime rates in America tend to be similar across races, but arrests and sentences do not reflect this.
- Extensive and ongoing training for police force, court employees, and judiciary in racial bias.
- Implement a community policing model if not already in use, where police are integrated into the community as a resource for all residents.

Theme: Information Equity

Summary of Challenges

Most of the challenges in information equity lie in the availability and accessibility of information about town programs and resources such as jobs, social services, grants, and other opportunities. Residents charge that information is difficult to access and often disbursed when opportunities have nearly expired, making applying a hardship.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like information to be shared earlier and more often. Residents request more transparency from town leadership about available programs and jobs in ways with which they are more familiar.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Assess current information sharing practices across all town programs and recruitment practices.
- Solicit information via surveys and interviews from residents of color about effective venues and methods of communication.
- Host targeted information sharing fairs such as people of color specific job fairs, social service fairs, etc.

Theme: Housing Segregation

Summary of Challenges

Middletown continues to be challenged by the housing segregation and lack of affordable housing that is endemic to the United States. Residents highlighted high concentrations of poverty in specific neighborhoods, and that higher income residents are generally concentrated in better resourced neighborhoods. Residents also noted that people of color are more highly concentrated in low-income neighborhoods in Middletown.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like to see an end to housing segregation in their City. They would like to see resources allocated more equitably and for low-income neighborhoods to receive the same City services that wealthier neighborhoods receive in terms of clean up, sanitation, lawn care, and other services which create a more attractive living space. Residents would like areas which are showing signs of decay to be updated and for all publicly owned buildings and residencies to receive funding to be updated and made safer and more attractive.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Create mixed-income housing communities.
- Move away from concentrating residents who require housing assistance in dense areas so that they can be better integrated into the community and take advantage of more community resources.
- Assess areas of the City in need of rehabilitation and direct resources there.
- Organize/sponsor community events centered around improving the community such as clean up days, community gardens, or selecting one neighborhood or building to rehabilitate at a time.
- Assess current allocation of community resources. Make sure all neighborhoods are adequately resourced in terms of waste receptacles and other support.
- Advocate for an expansion of housing support for low- and moderate-income residents from federal programs or through additional grant opportunities.

Theme: Education Equity

Summary of Challenges

Both adult and youth residents noticed inequities the way education is being administered. As in the larger City, there are differences in who is disciplined for infractions and in the severity of the punishment. Educational tracking – whether formal or informal -has resulted in more challenging courses and bigger opportunities being populated primarily by white students. Additionally, there is a lack of support for students of color within the school and a lack of representation of people of color in teaching and administrative positions; most people of color employed in the school system are employed as support staff, creating a power differential within the school.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like to see more people of color represented in teaching and administrative positions. They would also like more education for parents around the availability of AP courses and other college-track opportunities as well as education on how to enroll their children in them. Residents charge that curriculum does not adequately represent the racial composition of the country.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Extensive and ongoing training for school staff and district staff on racial bias.
- Review current curriculum and look for ways to make it more inclusive across all subject matters.
- Assess current recruitment practices for upper-level courses.
- Implement programs to recruit and retain teachers and administrators of color.
- Implement a training and mentoring program for paraprofessionals so that they can be eligible for promotions and opportunities that become available.
- Develop race-conscious recruitment strategies with an implementation process: *who, what, where, when, and how much* - for full time, part time, and internship opportunities.
- Deviate from using only traditional pools for recruitment. Target historically Black Colleges and Universities, clients, community members, and local schools to name a few.
- Establish racially diverse hiring committees who are involved in outreach, resume review, interviews, and selection processes in a consistent manner. Managers and supervisors should include committee members from within and across departments.
- Develop policies which normalize students' differences in culture and make sure they are supported. For example, a dedicated prayer space for Muslim students that they can access without strict rules that can create additional hurdles to worship.
- Do not use the criminal justice system as a resource for schools. Deal with discipline issues internally in a way that supports student health and well-being.
- Standardize discipline practices and hold teachers and administrators accountable for making sure that discipline is equitable.

Theme: Community Building

Summary of Challenges

Communities of color in the United States have traditionally relied on mutual aid organizations for community building, networking, and information sharing. Residents in Middletown charge that there is no gathering place for people to engage in these supportive activities and that this contributes to youth delinquency and makes it more difficult for the relatively few people of color who are in positions of power to conduct outreach and deliver aid.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like to have a community center that was open to all residents and conveniently located to populations who have been traditionally marginalized. Residents would like to see more programs created for youth, and for youth City jobs to encompass more than outdoor labor. Residents would like to see the City recognize that not all residents of color attend religious gatherings and for the City to put in place pathways to organize and communicate with people of color outside of the churches.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- Establish a community center that is centrally located, free, and open to all residents.
- Establish youth jobs programs that lead to actual opportunities within the community such as entry level positions or skill building.
- Establish community networks for residents of color to engage in information sharing and community building. Develop support programs for residents that are racially specific, such as a Middletown Black Resident Association.
- Establish or expand already existing recreational programs for youth after school and during school vacations. Programs should be financially accessible.
- Provide funding for youth with financial need to participate in already existing programs. Publicize the availability of any already existing financial support.

Theme: Overall Racial Climate

Summary of Challenges

Middletown residents of color love the City for its central location, small town feeling, and racial diversity, but feel that the City struggles with structural and covert racism. Residents of color report incidents in navigating public spaces and in the way the town is run that remind them that they are racially other. The Anti-Racism Initiative that the City has already engaged in is the beginning of an ongoing effort to engage the residents of color by creating a more racially inclusive environment. This sort of climate change will be a sustained effort, but residents worry that this initiative, like many others, will not be continued and racial issues will continue to go unaddressed. It is important that the City continues to do this work while demonstrating to the residents that they are making a good-faith effort to enact change.

Summary of Requested Actions

Residents would like to see the results of their participation in the focus groups and community conversations. Residents would like assurance that the City understands the breadth of the work that has to be done and that

the City is taking concrete actions to move forward on improving racial climate. Residents are concerned that white residents will not be open to the amount of work that must be done or the changes that must be made.

NCCJ Recommendations and Solutions

- The City should work to make sure that all residents are aware of the anti-racism work that is being done. Town leaders who are in support of the work — especially those who have already participated in the Anti-Racism trainings - should make their support known.
- Develop a two-year plan to address the racial climate. Revisit the plan at the end of the first year for updates and improvements. The plan should be part of the fiscal plan in budgeting.
- The town should host a series of events to begin addressing the racial climate on a town-wide level. These should be engaging events which begin a conversation on historical and current racism. Ideas include movie screenings with talk backs, book groups, art exhibits, and other informative events.
- Town business owners should be engaged in ways to make their businesses more inclusive and welcoming.
- Start affinity groups as a monthly space, to discuss race and racism. We recommend that two groups be formed – one for White people and one for POC. However, we acknowledge that POC as a group have different experiences, so we recommend that there is time set aside regularly for affinity groups within the POC group (Black/AA, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino/a/x, Native/Indigenous, and Multi-Racial/Bi-Racial). We also recommend that there is intentional selection of leaders of these two groups. It is important that the leaders have awareness and understanding of race and racism themselves and, specifically for the leader of the White group, the ability to discuss White supremacy and its impacts. We recommend that this person does not hold a position of power in Middletown.
- Host events that celebrate the contributions of people of color to building Middletown and to building America. Make sure that all people of color see themselves represented at various events. The recent Middle Passage Ceremony and Port Marker was well received by town residents and should be used as an example of how the contributions of people of color can be recognized.

Anti-Racism Resource List

This list was created with contributions from Anti-Racism Workshop participants on May 3 & 4, 2018

BOOKS

A People's History of The United States by Howard Zinn
Dark Continent of Our Bodies: Black Feminism & Politics of Respectability by Frances E. White
Minorities and Family Therapy by George Saba and Kenneth V. Hardy
Growing Up White: A Veteran Teacher Reflects on Racism by Julie Landsman
Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans (Children's Book) by Kadir Nelson
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
We Were Eight Years in Power by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Lies My Teacher Told Me by James W. Loewen
White Fragility: Why It's so Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo
Waking up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving
Privilege, Power, and Difference by Allan G. Johnson
White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son by Tim Wise
White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race by Ian Haney López
Why are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria?: And Other Conversations About Race by Beverly Daniel Tatum
The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander
The Color of Compromise: American's Church's Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby
So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
Me and White Supremacy by Layla F. Saad
When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir by Patrisse Khan-Cullors
Fear and What Follows by Tim Parrish

VIDEOS

"Ta-Nehishi Coates on Words that Don't Belong To Everyone"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QO15S3WC9pg
"Color Blind or Color Brave?" by Mellody Hobson A TedTalk, March 2014
https://www.ted.com/talks/mellody_hobson_color_blind_or_color_brave
"How Microaggressions Are Like Mosquito Bites*"*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDd3bzA7450
"13th" A documentary by Ava DuVernay
"Where to Invade Next" A documentary by Michael Moore
"Good Hair" A documentary by Jeff Stilson and Chris Rock
"The Color of Law" by Richard Rothstein
"Racism is Real" (video)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9UqnQC7jY4

PODCASTS

"1619 Project" by The New York Times
"**Code Switch"** by NPR

TESTS

"The Implicit Bias Test" by Harvard https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/user/agg/blindspot/indexrk.htm

ARTICLES

***"No We're Not All Equal and No You Can't Be Anything You Want to Be*"** by Steffi Erbilgin, February 2017
https://www.huffingtonpost.com/steffi-erbilgin/no-were-not-all-equal-and-no-you-cant-be-anything-you-want-to-be_b_9228200.html
"10 Ways Well-Meaning White Teachers Bring Racism Into Our Schools" by Jamie Utt

https://everydayfeminism.com/2015/08/10-ways-well-meaning-white-teachers-bring-racism-into-our-schools/
"*Ethnic and Racial Minorities & Socioeconomic Status*"
https://www.apa.org/pi/ses/resources/publications/factsheet-erm.pdf
"*Teaching Young Children about Race: A Guide for Parents and Teachers" by **Louise Derman-Sparks and Julie Olsen Edwards**
http://www.teachingforchange.org/teaching-about-race
"Understanding the School-to-Prison Pipeline*"* by Nicki Lisa Cole, Ph.D.
https://www.thoughtco.com/school-to-prison-pipeline-4136170
"8 Facts You Should Know About the Criminal Justice System and People of Color*"* by Jamal Hagler
https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/race/news/2015/05/28/113436/8-facts-you-should-know-about-the-criminal-justice-system-and-people-of-color/

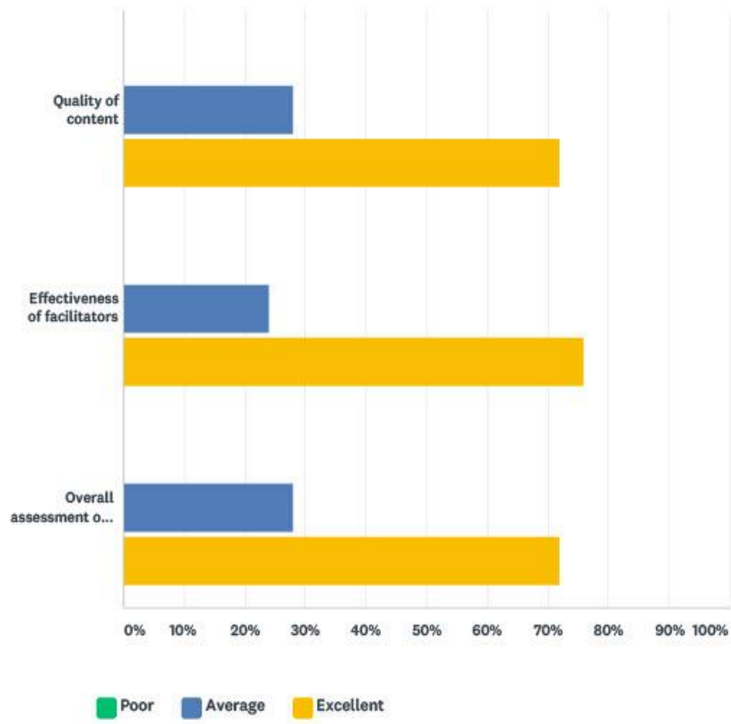
WHAT CAN WE DO?

➢ "Ouch"	➢ Use details and specifics
➢ Ask questions	➢ Provide info/resources
➢ Reinstate/interruptions	➢ Broaden to big picture
➢ Take a time out	➢ Take a deep breath
➢ Set environment	➢ Hold person as concerned
➢ Circle work	➢ If you think you can – you can
➢ Keep it going	➢ Confirm & make it personal to the antagonist
➢ Educate	➢ Were you successful?
➢ Direct/redirect	➢ How do you know?
➢ Make suggestions	➢ Sit in the truth
➢ Mindful body language	➢ White silence is violence
➢ Share feelings	➢ De-escalate
➢ Build boundaries	➢ Build empathy
➢ Stay calm	➢ Be assertive, not aggressive
➢ Be an ally	➢ Make it about group
➢ Ask for examples	➢ Offer suggestions
➢ Hold accountable	➢ Use humor, avoid sarcasm
➢ Listen	➢ Name it
➢ Make it personal	➢ Find commonalities
➢ Build/incorporate allies	➢ Empower others to make change
➢ Be "P.C. police"	➢ Offer alternatives
➢ Safety matters	➢ Raise the bar
➢ Use analogies	➢ Validate/affirm their experience
➢ Own it- make it about you	➢ Think of other perspectives
➢ Meet people where they are	➢ Change the subject
➢ Seek people for help/support	

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 4/29 & 30/2019

Q1 Please circle the number which best corresponds to your evaluation of the following:

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



	POOR	AVERAGE	EXCELLENT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Quality of content	0.00% 0	28.00% 7	72.00% 18	25	2.72
Effectiveness of facilitators	0.00% 0	24.00% 6	76.00% 19	25	2.76
Overall assessment of the workshop	0.00% 0	28.00% 7	72.00% 18	25	2.72

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 4/29 & 30/2019

Q2 One way I plan to use what I learned is:

Answered: 21 Skipped: 4

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Do continue the work that has been started in the City of Middletown in meetings & challenge our work[place and in our community	5/2/2019 3:34 PM
2	Be more ware of the effects of racism on everyone	5/2/2019 3:33 PM
3	Positive experience will move forward in an anti-racist direction	5/2/2019 3:32 PM
4	To better educate myself and to have a better awareness	5/2/2019 3:31 PM
5	Look for ways to be anti-racist	5/2/2019 3:30 PM
6	Share, behave, implement	5/2/2019 3:30 PM
7	Learning city leadership to do internal city work and be ready to hear voices of our community	5/2/2019 3:30 PM
8	To have a greater awareness & appreciation for what others have to endure & overcome	5/2/2019 3:29 PM
9	To help others	5/2/2019 3:28 PM
10	Bring back into office/staff, keep learning	5/2/2019 3:27 PM
11	Deepen love	5/2/2019 3:27 PM
12	Educate my friends and co-workers, continue to educate myself	5/2/2019 3:26 PM
13	Continue to use the knowledge i've learned	5/2/2019 3:25 PM
14	Additional education and awareness start taking action	5/2/2019 3:24 PM
15	Pay it forward	5/2/2019 3:23 PM
16	To practice conversational tools we worked on	5/2/2019 3:22 PM
17	Make middletown a better place	5/2/2019 3:21 PM
18	Speak up when need arises	5/2/2019 3:21 PM
19	Continue to learn	5/2/2019 3:20 PM
20	Reflect and take further action in prof and personal life	5/2/2019 3:20 PM
21	More action	5/2/2019 3:20 PM

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 4/29 & 30/2019

Q3 Comments:

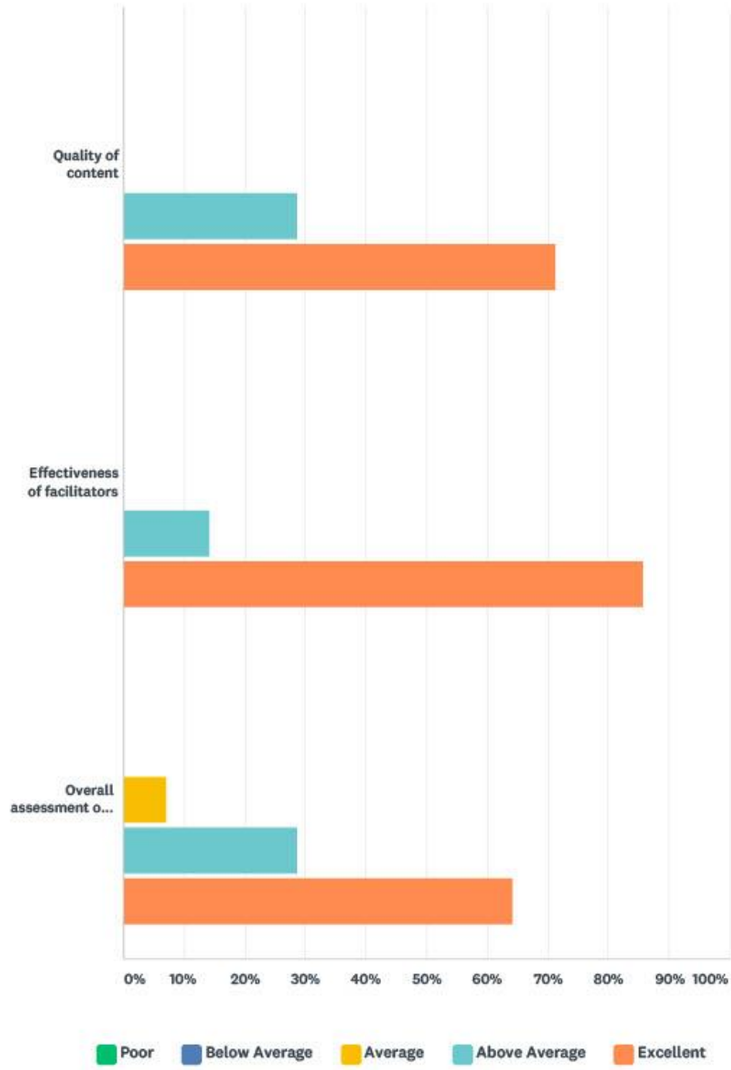
Answered: 12 Skipped: 13

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We will continue the work with NCCJ in developing a platform to reach change in our city, thank you.	5/2/2019 3:34 PM
2	Not sure that this was the "ideal" size group for this exercise	5/2/2019 3:33 PM
3	Every person should be so fortunate to experience this workshop. It is nothing short of being the most vulnerable tool to end racism.	5/2/2019 3:32 PM
4	I appreciated the quiet time	5/2/2019 3:31 PM
5	You do wonderful work!	5/2/2019 3:30 PM
6	True change requires a spiritual changing of our own hearts	5/2/2019 3:29 PM
7	Very informative	5/2/2019 3:28 PM
8	Thank you - keep the opportunities coming	5/2/2019 3:27 PM
9	Great job	5/2/2019 3:27 PM
10	This is great workshop but it needs to be one day, not two. Not only does it affect the organization but it increases the difficulty of getting buy-in. Condense & intense is the way to go	5/2/2019 3:23 PM
11	This is the best training I've ever attended!	5/2/2019 3:22 PM
12	"A" for effort - "C" for execution	5/2/2019 3:21 PM

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 6/6-6/7/19

Q1 Please circle the number which best corresponds to your evaluation of the following:

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



	POOR	BELOW AVERAGE	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVERAGE	EXCELLENT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 6/6-6/7/19

Quality of content	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	28.57% 4	71.43% 10	14	4.71
Effectiveness of facilitators	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	14.29% 2	85.71% 12	14	4.86
Overall assessment of the workshop	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7.14% 1	28.57% 4	64.29% 9	14	4.57

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 6/6-6/7/19

Q2 One way I plan to use what I have learned is:

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	To help educate others on the existence of racism in the city	6/19/2019 8:59 AM
2	Be more supportive to all walks of life	6/19/2019 8:58 AM
3	Work to create opps within my workplace to continue the discussion on race and racism	6/19/2019 8:58 AM
4	Look for issues and speak up when they occur. Make a point of doing concrete actions to ensure equity.	6/19/2019 8:57 AM
5	Use the resources given to document knowledge I have gained. Keep notes of powerful experiences, conversations & rebuttals (what worked, what didn't)	6/19/2019 8:56 AM
6	More education and initiatives at the public library	6/19/2019 8:54 AM
7	Continue to educate myself & our history so that I can speak on race and the impact of racism in society	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
8	I learned that there is so much more to learn, there is work to do	6/19/2019 8:48 AM
9	Continue to fill in gaps in my knowledge and use that knowledge to be more proactive	6/19/2019 8:47 AM
10	Better listener	6/19/2019 8:45 AM
11	Continue to learn and share and change	6/19/2019 8:43 AM
12	Bring it back to the workplace	6/19/2019 8:42 AM
13	Supporting and educating within both our city and community	6/19/2019 8:41 AM
14	Talking to others, education	6/19/2019 8:38 AM

City of Middletown Anti-Racism 6/6-6/7/19

Q3 Comments:

Answered: 12 Skipped: 2

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	That this workshop is much needed for ALL city employees	6/19/2019 8:59 AM
2	Spread out training's, two very long days	6/19/2019 8:58 AM
3	Great job by the presenters, David & Nyaunu, def look forward to follow up	6/19/2019 8:58 AM
4	EVERY city employee EVERYWHERE needs to go through this training, I feel that is critical.	6/19/2019 8:57 AM
5	Using the time to cover twins who are black & white	6/19/2019 8:54 AM
6	I personally made notice of the people who were silent throughout the training, I noticed body language and frustration on the faces of those same people. I hope that we follow up as a group and help those people become more engaged. Being silent in here = silence in the real world.	6/19/2019 8:50 AM
7	A couple more breaks would be good, every hour or so	6/19/2019 8:48 AM
8	Felt a bit uncomfortable as one of the quiet ones, called to participate can be difficult.Overall, a very useful two days, hope that we can bring NCCJ to our workplace	6/19/2019 8:47 AM
9	Be open to other perspectives but this matters and listen with an open mind and heart	6/19/2019 8:45 AM
10	Great presentation	6/19/2019 8:42 AM
11	Great programming, voices heard!	6/19/2019 8:41 AM
12	Continue workshops	6/19/2019 8:38 AM

APPENDIX: Community Conversations: Participants Recommendations

(4) – Economics, universal pre-k, family meetings, bully free initiatives with school support, cell phones, community, conversations with police and students, respect education.

1. School – updated cultural awareness
2. Competent staff
3. Positive male role models
4. Unbiased employment ops.
5. Low income housing/rent
6. Youth of color activity events
7. Advocate for yourself
8. Out of school support

Racism in…

- Hiring practices at city hall
- You gotta know somebody
- Housing discrimination
- Working harder for less pay/recognition
- Schools assembly
- One black man at city hall

How to Fix:

- Job fairs
- Transparency in job process
- Prioritize hiring POC
- Break down city staff by payroll/job positions
- Additional training for city/staff ongoing
- Black leadership that represents the black community
- More teachers of color
- Give all kids the same opportunities
- Transparency with programs like STEM
  - Requirements and access
- Police accountability/training
  - Fewer cops in school/more counselors

Driving While Black
- Apply consequences to offending officers

Lack of inclusion and diversity in school programs
- Campaigns to get more P.O.C. involved

Hiring
- Outreach to HBCU's
- Active recruitment of teachers of color and diverse populations
- Equality on the job/housing
- Job progression
- Curriculum and creativity in teaching (arts and culture)
- Professional development like this for teachers, admin, and faculty – accountability for everyone
- Documentary to watch: Reconstruction by Henry Louis Gates on PBS

City of Middletown Community Conversation
How does Racism Show up?

- Hiring in schools
  - Paras black
  - Teachers
  - White
- Hiring all around the city
  - Key positions -white
  - Talk but no walk
- Everywhere
  - Real estate
  - Education
  - City
  - Healthcare
  - Husky doesn't approve the frames for your glasses.
- Pops up when real changes are trying to happen
  - Ex: school name
- Housing
  - Segregation
  - Unaffordable
  - Told my name-sorry we don't take section 8
- Stores are discriminatory with shoppers
- Racial Profiling
- Discipline in school

- No representation on city committees/boards/commissions/projects
- Job
- No real complaint processes

What can be done?

- Stores
  - Training on racial equity and bias
- Schools continuous training must be priority
- Education around whiteness fragility and supremacy
- Equity and Inclusion office for city
  - Something similar for schools but separate
    - Independent from city
- Citizen review board for police
- Separation of school and city
  - Abolish planning and zoning
- Transparency and accountability
  - Reports
  - Audits
  - Presentations
- Curriculum changes in school
  - Books
  - Teachers
  - Classes(access)
  - Opportunities
  - Pre-K
- Culture change for new businesses +city
- Abolish Police

How do we get there?

- Separation of school and city
- Community steering committee to oversee office of equity and inclusion (oversite)
- Public overhaul of policies and procedures for undoing racism and white supremacy and normalcy
- Model of state inclusion office
- 3 segments
- Monitoring measurable outcomes for until racism initiatives.
- How does racism show up in Middletown?
- What kind of things could be done to change this?
- Who/what do we need to get here?
- City Hall workforce
  - Lack of diversity
- Lack of minority teachers
- Opportunity Gap in schools
- Housing Segregation
- Summer Programs/ Youth Jobs
- Churches
- Police Interaction/Brutality
- Library Interaction
- Rehab Facilities (for elderly)
- Health/Substance Abuse
- Access to Healthy diet
- Human Relations-Need for representation, collect data
- Community Forums (w/o fear of retaliation)
- Hire Qualified Candidates Not Based on Nepotism (need mechanism to ensure this outcome)
- Set Targets for AP classes
  - Have a certain number of students of color in then or there won't be AP classes
- Mandatory Racism Training
- Civilian Review Board
- Consequences for misconduct toward POC
- Civilian component to hiring process (Police, etc.)
- Will Power to Change!
- Checks and Balances
- Alternative Routes for Equitable Outcomes
- Funding
- Proactive quarterly meetings
- Youth Involvement
- Remove Fear- SPEAK UP!!!
- 6-7 votes on council -civic engagement
  - Engaged & community support
- More Leadership
  - Clergy
- Coordination Meetings
- Churches needed in the community
  - Ministerial alliance

- Black Caucus- Youth Involved
  - What does this look like?
- NAACP
- Lack of affordable housing creates concentration of racial and economic grouping of people
- More affordable housing across the city (diff. neighborhood)
- Require new developments to house affordable housing
- Reinvest CDBG funds to rehab existing housing stock
- Create a community group (statutory) that will have to sign off on new housing construction
- More POC on planning and zoning
- Common council
- Engaged citizenry
- Mayor
- Landlords
- Realtors
- Local businesses
- State Reps.

Change African American Principle/Mayor

- Because we don't have these people in leadership, people underneath, people underneath follow suit. If racism shows up in the leadership, people follow.
- Independent incident review board? Audits?
- No equality in police intervention in the community
- P.A.L? something to bridge the gap between youth and police/community
- People of color on our police force
- Shows up in school parent/teacher conference
- How to create initiatives to get more people of color involved in the schools
- More church leaders to support parents.
- More liaisons of color.
- More unity among resources available
- Minority organizations have little accessibility to funds coming into the city. / Organizations are not taken seriously.
- Empower people of color in positions of influence to speak up

Racism in Middletown

1.)

- Statistics of Middletown arrests
- School: AP & Honors Classes
  - Resources in certain schools
  - Sports Programs
  - Teachers
- Diversity in School Teachers\
- Isolated Housing
- Job Selections

2.)

- Racial Equity Office
- Affirmative Action in all housing
- Make it welcome
- Empower Black Voices
- Youth Leadership
- More Student Led Events
- Lack of Education
- Community Networking
- Black Owned Facilities

3.)

- Educating
- Stand up for what we feel
- US
- Community Leaders
- City Administrators

Project Participants
The Human Relations Commission

Commissioner Justin Carbonella, Chair
Commissioner Brandie Doyle, Vice Chair
Commissioner Henry Fernandez
Commissioner Edward Ford, Jr., Councilman
Commissioner Ava Hart
Commissioner Sanji Lawrence
Commissioner Precious Price
Commissioner Debbie Ruimerman

Commissioner Howard Thody
Staff, Faith M. Jackson, Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management
Councilman Gene Nocera, Common Council

Middletown Racial Justice

Betsy Morgan
Beverly Lawrence

Youth in Government

Evan Davis
Ani Zakarian

References

1. *Middletown's Children: A Reference Guide.* Middlesex Coalition for Children.
2. *ALICE: A Study of Financial Hardship in Connecticut.* 2018. United Way.

FOOTNOTES:
1. NCCJ understands black as a race and African-American as an ethnicity. Ethnicity encompasses shared history, language, food, and other cultural markers. In the United States we place all black people in one racial-ethnic group, but there are clear cultural differences between African-Americans and black immigrant groups.
2. Latinx is a gender-neutral term for people of Hispanic origin.

16. Mayor's Update Report: Arrigoni Bridge Project

The Mayor states that he will be brief, adding that there is not too much to report. Last week, at the monthly meeting facilitated by the Chamber's Arrigoni Bridge Committee, which is co-chaired by Middletown Fire Chief Kronenberger and the Fire Chief from Portland on the other side. It was the shortest meeting to date. It was attended by the Chamber members, the Department of Transportation (DOT) representative and the contractor as well as the Mayor. There wasn't too much to update, Construction is on schedule. On the Middletown side at St John's Square is on schedule. In the early month of the work, there were difficulties ensuring that construction workers were social distancing and abiding by mask requirements. This was challenging, but has been able to work with them to be sure practices are being followed. There were some issues with traffic disruption and parking spaces being taken up. The business community has reported that this is moving in the right direction. At the workshop a couple of months ago, it was asked of DOT if the pedestrian and traffic analysis, as raised by Councilman McKeon, was available. The research has been compiled into a document that can be shared with the Council. He just received the report, which is from 2016-2017, and is reviewing. It will be accessible to the public as well. He wants to continue to give City input on these impacts. Construction on the bridge, which is the larger element, is going smoothly. Reduced traffic due to the pandemic is an odd silver lining.

The Chair calls on Councilman Edward McKeon

Councilman McKeon states that he read the reports. It is indecipherable to a lay person. It is clear that they started off with a project that included closing the lights on Route 9 and changes on Main Street. They continue to do it. He will continue to express his opposition to this project. It is a solution to a problem that does not exist. It took then 6 months to get the report to the City It does not analyze the impact it will in streets west of Main Street, even east of main Street. It does not account for pedestrian impact. They made changes to the plan for Washington Street. Although the Common Council passed unanimously, a resolution asking them to do so, what they intend to do, so at the corner of Washington and Main Street *(inaudible*). He does not trust them as far as he could throw the entire DOT building, which is not very far.

The Chair replies that he had not reviewed the report as far as Councilman McKeon has and he thinks it would be helpful to have the report translated into something that is decipherable. There are also questions to answer about that intersection (Washington/Main) so he will get something set up with them in the near future.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner (*inaudible)*

The Chair the Police and Fire Departments get a copy of **. . .**

Councilman Faulkner continues, a copy of the analysis.

The Chair replies that he does not believe that either department has, adding that he repot was sent to him directly in response to his request. He will be sure that both departments get that report.

17. Payment of all City bills when properly approved
APPROVED

Councilman Eugene Nocera moves for approval of the payment of all City bills when properly approved. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

18. Resolutions, Ordinances, etc.

A. Approving a loan of $1,000,000.00 from the Water Fund Balance to the Sewer Fund Balance; and that the Water Pollution Control Authority shall repay that the Water Fund Loan within one (1) year, but not later than June 30, 2021.

APPROVED

RESOLUTION No. 44- 20 K: review/ resolution/ WS loan Water to Sewer RES 44-20 – 6 July 2020

WHEREAS, the Sewer Department recently completed the construction of the Francis T. Patnaude Pump Station and the associated finance charges are due and payable and;

WHEREAS, the Sewer Department is keeping the sewer rates unchanged due to the recent pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN THAT: a loan of $1,000,000.00 from the Water Fund Balance to the Sewer Fund Balance be approved; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** The Water Pollution Control Authority shall repay that the Water Fund Loan within one (1) year, but not later than June 30, 2021.

Fiscal Impact: No Fiscal Impact

Councilman Eugene Nocera reads the motion and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo asks in terms of this loan and the payment before the end of the fiscal year, in terms of **. . .** he knows that they did not raise rates or any taxes and so forth. In terms of approvals that the Council made and the responsibilities of the water department and the water fund, he asks how this can be achieved in this relationship. He is not clear how this is happened as they taking money away, he asks where the revenue is coming from. Is it coming from another place? Was it factored into the budget that the Council approved?

The Chair calls on Water & Sewer Director Joseph Fazzino to respond.

Director Fazzino replies that the budget includes the money for this. There is fund balance on the water fund of $2.4M. Of which $1M is being loaded to the sewer department, if proved. The other $1M is being used to keep the rates level, noting that this was worked out with Finance and the Mayor's Office so neither water rates nor sewer rates were raised. Part of the reason that are requesting this loan, as they have in the past, is because, on July 1st they have a large bill to pay for the Mattabasset portion of the sewer bill, there assessment for the district. It is a cash flow issue where they will be able to pay the bill with the help of the water department, as done in the past, previously, there were lesser amount, and last year was $500,000. It was repaid.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

B. Approving that the Bulky Waste Fund budget for the Fiscal Year 20-21

APPROVED

RESOLUTION No. 45-20; K: review/ resolution/ PW bulky waste FY20-21 RES 45-20 – 6 July2020

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN: That the Bulky Waste Fund budget for the Fiscal Year 20-21 be approved as follows:

Expenditures

Repairs/Maintenance to Vehicles	$40,000
Motor Vehicle Parts/Supplies	$25,000
Bank Service Fees	$10,000
Waste Removal	$395,000
Oil Recycling	$2,000
Mattress Recycling	$4,000
Tire Recycling	$10,000
Waste Equipment Supplies	$25,000
Site Improvements	$45,000
Truck Rental/Lease	$3,000
Total Expenditures	**$559,000**

Revenues

Scale Receipts	$475,800
Scrap Metal Recycling	$28,000
Gift Cards Receipts	$1,000
Roadside Bulky Waste Revenue	$20,000
Interest Earned	$4,2000
Transfer from General Fund	$30,000
Total Revenues	**$559,000**

Financial Impact: This budget sets up the projected expenses/revenue for the Bulky Waste Fund

Councilman Edward McKeon Nocera reads the motion and moves to approve. Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

C. Approving that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents necessary to implement the 10-year lease with CrossFit Middletown, Keenan Love and Will Hungerford for 5,900 sq. ft. of space at R. M. Keating Historical Enterprise Park, 180 Johnson Street, subject to review and approval by the Office of General Counsel as to form and content.

APPROVED

RESOLUTION No. 46-20; K: review/ resolution/ PCD Crossfit lease RES 46-20 – 6 July 2020

WHEREAS, Crossfit Middletown, Keenan Love and Will Hungerford ('the Company") business is looking to re-lease space at the City-owned building, the R. M Keating Historical Enterprise Park, 180 Johnson Street ("Keating Park"); and,

WHEREAS, the Crossfit Middletown currently leases approximately 5,900 square feet on the first floor of Building C; and,

WHEREAS, Crossfit Middletown is being bought by Keenan Love and Will Hungerford from the current business owner; and,

WHEREAS, the tenant is looking to finance $15,000.00 worth of improvements to the tenant space in terms of electrical, plumbing and HVAC upgrades; and,

WHEREAS, the R.M. Keating Historical Enterprise Park will generate roughly $276,120.00 in revenue over the proposed 10 year lease agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the new owners are looking to improve the business model and increase participation in the gym as well as improve the overall appearance of the space during the lease; and,

WHEREAS, at the June 17, 2020 meeting of the Economic Development Committee, the members present agreed to move forward the proposed lease at R.M. Keating Historical Enterprise Park to Crossfit Middletown to the next Common Council meeting; and,

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:

The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents necessary to implement the 10-year lease with CrossFit Middletown, Keenan Love and Will Hungerford for 5,900 sq. ft. of space at R. M. Keating Historical Enterprise Park, 180 Johnson Street, subject to review and approval by the office of General Counsel as to form and content, as follows:

Lease Year	Lease Period	Annual Gross Rent	Monthly Rent
Year 1	July 1, 2020 –June 30, 2021	$ 18,200.00	$ 1,516.67
Year 2	July 1, 2021 –June 30, 2022	$ 20,800.00	$ 1,733.33
Year 3	July 1, 2022 –June 30, 2023	$ 23,400.00	$ 1,950.00
Year 4	July 1, 2023 –June 30, 2024	$ 26,000.00	$ 2,166.67
Year 5	July 1, 2024 –June 30, 2025	$ 28,600.00	$ 2,383.33
Year 6	July 1, 2025 –June 30, 2026	$ 29,900.00	$ 2,491.67
Year 7	July 1, 2026 –June 30, 2027	$ 30,940.00	$ 2,578.33
Year 8	July 1, 2027 –June 30, 2028	$ 31,720.00	$ 2,643.33
Year 9	July 1, 2028 –June 30, 2029	$ 32,760.00	$ 2,730.00
Year 10	July 1, 2029 –June 30, 2030	$ 33,800.00	$ 2,816.67

FINANCIAL IMPACT – The lease will generate a minimum of $276,120 over the term of the lease.

LEASE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
AND

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT made as of the ___ day of _____, 202___, by and between the City of Middletown, with its offices located at 245 DeKoven Drive, P. O. Box 1300, Middletown, Connecticut 06457, hereinafter referred to as the LANDLORD, and Crossfit Middletown, Keenan Love and Will Hungerford with its offices located at 180 Johnson Street, Middletown, Connecticut, 06457, hereinafter referred to as the TENANT.

WITNESS:

ARTICLE I
Basic Data; Definitions

Section 1.1
The following sets forth basic data, hereinafter referred to in this Lease, and, where appropriate, constitute definitions of the terms hereinafter listed.

(a) TENANT: Crossfit Middletown, Keenan Love and Will Hungerford

(b) Present Mailing Address of TENANT:
180 John Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

(c) The Demised Premises: The Demised Premises contains 5,900 rentable square feet in the following locations:
First Floor: Building C-5,900sqft

(d) Lease Term: 10 year term. Upon the written request of the TENANT, at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration of the Term, the LANDLORD, in its sole and absolute discretion, may extend this Lease Agreement for two additional five (5) year terms, provided that the TENANT is not in default of this Lease Agreement, or is not otherwise in default of any taxes or assessment charges due to the City of Middletown. The Rental Rate set forth below in this Section shall be renegotiated and agreed upon in writing by the Parties before the commencement of the additional terms.

(e) Commencement Date: July 1, 2020.

(f) Rental Rate: Rent shall be based on the amount of leased square feet of rentable space, as set forth more particularly in the attached **Exhibit B**, and shall be due on the first day of each month subject to a ten (10) day grace period. The TENANT shall be obligated to pay rent in accordance with the following schedule:

Lease Year	Lease Period	Annual Gross Rent	Monthly Rent
Year 1	July 1, 2020 –June 30, 2021	$ 18,200.00	$ 1,516.67
Year 2	July 1, 2021 –June 30, 2022	$ 20,800.00	$ 1,733.33
Year 3	July 1, 2022 –June 30, 2023	$ 23,400.00	$ 1,950.00
Year 4	July 1, 2023 –June 30, 2024	$ 26,000.00	$ 2,166.67
Year 5	July 1, 2024 –June 30, 2025	$ 28,600.00	$ 2,383.33
Year 6	July 1, 2025 –June 30, 2026	$ 29,900.00	$ 2,491.67
Year 7	July 1, 2026 –June 30, 2027	$ 30,940.00	$ 2,578.33
Year 8	July 1, 2027 –June 30, 2028	$ 31,720.00	$ 2,643.33
Year 9	July 1, 2028 –June 30, 2029	$ 32,760.00	$ 2,730.00
Year 10	July 1, 2029 –June 30, 2030	$ 33,800.00	$ 2,816.67

(g) Use: Fitness Center and Office Space.

(h) Operating Expenses: Building operating expenses are included in the rental rates with the exception of all utilities including, but not limited to natural gas, steam, water, electricity charges, heating, cooling, and the like (herein "Utilities"). For those spaces whereby the Utilities are not sub-metered, the LANDLORD has the right to sub-meter any and all Utilities or the LANDLORD shall be able to estimate utilities bases off of use of the space, in the LANDLORD's sole and absolute discretion. If the LANDLORD sub-meters Utilities, it shall provide TENANT thirty (30) days-notice before requiring the TENANT to assume responsibility for said charges.

(i) Advanced Rent/Security Deposit: Not Applicable (Existing Business).

(j) In-Kind Rent: ONLY IF APPLICABLE

(k) Landlord Improvements: ONLY IF APPLICABLE

(l) Subletting: TENANT will not sublet the Lease in whole or in part without the written consent of the LANDLORD. If the TENANT sublets without the consent of the LANDLORD, the LANDLORD shall have the unilateral discretion to terminate the lease upon thirty (30) days' notice. No subletting shall in any way impair the continuing primary liability of TENANT hereunder, and no consent, if any is given, to any sublet in a particular instance, shall be deemed to be a waiver of LANDLORD'S rights to prevent any assignment as provided herein. TENANT shall be required to sublet at fair market rental value and LANDLORD shall be entitled to receive any excess rentals or other charges payable by the subtenant over the amounts being paid by the TENANT to LANDLORD, and such sum shall be payable by TENANT as additional rent to LANDLORD on the first of each month, together with TENANT'S monthly rent.

(m) Parking: The LANDLORD shall designate in writing the number of spaces and location of where TENANT and its employees may park. Long-term parking of vehicles, registered or unregistered, shall require written permission of the LANDLORD. Long-term parking is defined as a period of 30 days or more.

(n) Capped Remediation Area: Capped Remediation Area: The Tenant is specifically prohibited from placing heavy, static loads on the area highlighted in the attached **Exhibit E** as _____ or from using the area for anything other than a parking lot for passenger vehicles for itself, visitors, and guests. The TENANT further guarantees that no activity shall result in the damage to the geo-membrane or related cap infrastructure. To the extent that Tenant violates this agreement and uses the aforementioned area for anything other than parking for passenger vehicles, Tenant agrees that it shall be fully responsible for repairing the cap and the lot as required by the City. In addition, Tenant shall defend, indemnify, and save harmless, the City, its officers, agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, attorneys' fees, and settlement expenses arising from property damage to the cap or parking lot as a result of the Tenant's misuse of the parking lot as described herein.

ARTICLE II
Premises

Section 2.1 – Description of Premises

LANDLORD hereby Leases to TENANT and TENANT hereby Leases from LANDLORD, upon and subject to the terms and provisions of this Lease, the premises, hereinafter referred to as the Demised Premises and storage area, if applicable, as defined in Section 1.1 (c) herein and shown on **Exhibit A** and **Exhibit B**, which has been attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Section 2.2 – LANDLORD'S Reservations

Excepting and reserving to the LANDLORD the roof and exterior walls of the building of which the Demised Premises are a part; and further reserving to the LANDLORD the right to place in the Demised

Premises, in such manner as to reduce to a minimum the interference with the TENANT'S use of the Demised Premises, utility lines, pipes and the like, to serve premises other than the Demised Premises, and to replace and maintain and repair such utility lines, pipes and the like in, over and upon the Demised Premises as may have been installed in said building. The LANDLORD shall have free and immediate access to the infrastructure cited in Section 2.1 at all times.

ARTICLE III

Operating Expenses/ Utilities and TENANT'S Contribution

Section 3.1 – Operating Costs

Included in Gross Rent

Section 3.2 – Responsibility for Utilities

The LANDLORD, in its sole and absolute discretion, may sub-meter any Utilities at the Demised Premises, and charge the TENANT for said use at the LANDLORD'S cost. The TENANT shall pay for all the Utility charges associated with the use of the Demined Premises. Please note that open-flame heaters are prohibited.

ARTICLE IV

Use of Premises

Section 4.1 – Permitted Use

It is understood, and the TENANT so agrees, that the Demised Premises and storage area, if applicable, during the Term of this Lease Agreement and any authorized extensions of the Lease shall be used and occupied by the TENANT only for the purposes specified as the use thereof in Section 1.1(g) of this Lease Agreement and for no other purpose or purposes.

Section 4.2 – TENANT'S Alterations and Improvements

The TENANT shall not make any alterations, improvements and/or additions to the Demised Premises without first obtaining, in each instance, the prior written consent of the LANDLORD. LANDLORD agrees in advance to all alterations requested by TENANT to renovate and improve the facility as set forth in the attached document, **Exhibit C**. Also set forth in **Exhibit C** is whether such improvements will need to be removed when this Lease Agreement is terminated. TENANT shall also obtain a building permit(s) and any other applicable construction permits necessary to legally accomplish said alterations, improvements, and/or additions.

By executing this LEASE, TENANT covenants that it has sufficient funds on hand, and has provided proof of said funds to the LANDLORD, to undertake TENANT alterations as displayed in **Exhibit C**. Failure to complete TENANT alterations as displayed in **Exhibit C**, within one year of execution of this lease agreement shall be a default of said LEASE and LANDLORD shall have all remedies as detailed in Section 8.4 of this LEASE.

Section 4.3 – Operational Covenants

The TENANT further agrees to conform to all of the following provisions during the entire Term of this Lease Agreement:

(a) The TENANT shall always conduct its operations in the Demised Premises under its present trade name unless the LANDLORD shall otherwise consent in writing;

(b) No auction, fire or bankruptcy sales may be conducted within the Demised Premises without the prior written consent of the LANDLORD. The TENANT'S request for permission must be made at least 30 days in advance of when any such sale occurs;

(c) The TENANT shall not use the areas adjacent to the Demised Premises for business purposes including but not limited to the distribution of handbills or advertising of any type without the prior written consent of the LANDLORD.

(d) The TENANT shall not utilize, for any purpose, spaces other than what are allotted as part of this LEASE without written permission from the LANDLORD.

(e) TENANT hereby agrees to maintain the Demised Premises and operations within in accordance with all State and City of Middletown Health Codes, Building Codes and City Ordinances.

(f) The TENANT shall receive goods, in such areas, as may be designated by the LANDLORD. All trash, refuse and the like shall be kept in such areas as designated by the LANDLORD and must comply with all appropriate health and building code regulations and rules.

(g) The TENANT shall not perform any act or carry on any practice which may injure the Demised Premises or any other part of the LANDLORD'S Premises of which the Demised Premises are a part or cause anything beyond reasonable odor or loud noise associated with the uses listed in 1.1(g) or constitute a nuisance or menace to any other occupants or other persons in the Premises, and in no event shall any noises or offensive odors be emitted from the Demised Premises.

(h) TENANT shall disclose all toxic or hazardous substances used and/or stored within the Demised Premises. TENANT shall provide landlord with the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) as well as a written description of why the material is used and/or stored within the Demised Premises and how the material shall be housed. All hazardous and toxic chemicals MUST be kept in an appropriate storage locker/cabinet and current MSDS shall be maintained on-site by the TENANT at all times. Any spills or releases of hazardous or toxic substances must be reported to the LANDLORD immediately. The LANDLORD reserves the right to terminate the LEASE if it is determined by the LANDLORD that the TENANT is engaged in the misuse, improper storage, or unsafe handling of hazardous or toxic substances within the Demised Premises. The TENANT will indemnify, defend, and save harmless the LANDLORD from any environmental claims, damages, or injury cases arising from the TENANT'S use, storage, or maintenance of hazardous materials in the Demised Premises.

(i) TENANT agrees to maintain the Demised Premises in a condition suitable and safe for employees in accordance with OSHA standards. The Demised Premises shall remain free of mold or other environmental hazards. The LANDLORD shall be notified immediately about the intrusion of water, mold, or airborne pollutants.

(j) The TENANT agrees that its employees and others connected with the TENANT'S operations at the Demised Premises will abide by all of the reasonable rules and regulations from time to time established by the LANDLORD.

(k) The TENANT is responsible for contracting for janitorial services unless otherwise set forth herein.

ARTICLE V
Maintenance

Section 5.1 – TENANT Repair Obligations

Except as specifically provided herein, the TENANT agrees that from and after the date that the possession of the Demised Premises is delivered to the TENANT and continuously throughout the Lease Term, the TENANT will keep neat and clean and maintain in good order, condition and repair, the Demised Premises and every part thereof. The TENANT further agrees that the Demised Premises shall be kept in a clean, sanitary and safe condition and shall in all respects comply with the laws of the State and the ordinances of the City of Middletown and in accordance with all directions, rules and regulations of the Health Officer, Fire Marshal, Building Inspector and all other proper officers of the governmental agencies having jurisdiction over the Demised Premises.

Section 5.2 – LANDLORD Repair Obligations

The LANDLORD agrees to keep in good order, condition and repair foundations and structural portions of the Demised Premises including roof, walls, elevators, exterior glass and glass windows and exterior doors irrespective of which party installed the same. The LANDLORD shall not be responsible to make any other improvements or repairs upon the Demised Premises except as specifically detailed in this Lease Agreement.

ARTICLE VI
Indemnification

Section 6.1 – Indemnification

The TENANT shall at all times during the Term of this Lease Agreement, from and after the date possession of the Demised Premises is delivered to the TENANT, hold the LANDLORD, its officers, agents, servants and employees harmless and indemnified against any and all loss, damage, cost, expense or liability arising from bodily injury or death of any persons and damage or loss of any property resulting or arising out of or in connection with the TENANT's LEASE or use of the Demised Premises or by reason of any act or thing done or omitted to be done in, upon or about the Leased Premises or any part thereof, unless such loss, damage, cost, expense or liability shall be caused by the negligence of the LANDLORD. The TENANT shall hold the LANDLORD, its officers, agents, servants and employees harmless, indemnified, and free and clear of any and all claims, demands, penalties, liabilities, judgments, costs and expenses, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees, arising in connection with the use of the site, Demised Premises, by the TENANT or its employees, agents, guests, visitors, or invitees. For the purposes of this Section, the Demised Premises shall include the service areas adjoining the same and any sidewalk adjacent to the Demised Premises. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Lease Agreement and shall include indemnity against all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any claim or proceeding and the defense thereof, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees and court costs.

Section 6.2 – TENANT'S Improvements

The TENANT agrees to use and occupy the Demised Premises and to use such other portions of the Premises as it is herein given the right to use at its own risk. Any work performed by the TENANT shall require building permits from the City of Middletown Building Department. The LANDLORD shall have no responsibility or liability for any loss or damage to the TENANT'S Leasehold improvements or to fixtures or any other personal property of the TENANT or those claiming by, through or under the TENANT. The provisions of this Section shall apply during the entire Lease Term and during any earlier period that the LANDLORD has given prior written permission to the TENANT to enter the Demised Premises. TENANT will be reponsibile for $15,000 worth of HVAC, electrical and plumbing improvements to the space.

Section 6.3 – Loss or Damage

Except for claims arising from the LANDLORD's willful misconduct or negligence not covered by the insurances required of the TENANT hereunder, the TENANT waives all claims against the LANDLORD for injury or death to person, damage to property or to any other interest of the TENANT sustained by the TENANT or any party claiming through the TENANT, resulting from: (i) any occurrence in or upon the Demised Premises; (ii) leaking of roofs, bursting, stoppage or leaking of water, gas, sewer or steam pipes or equipment, including but not limited to sprinklers; (iii) wind, rain, snow, ice, flooding, freezing, fire, explosion, earthquake, excessive heat or cold or other casualty; (iv) the operating and mechanical systems or equipment of the Premises or of the Demised Premises being defective, out of repair or failing; and (v) vandalism, malicious mischief, theft or other acts or omissions of any other parties including but not limited to other tenants, contractors and invitees at the Premises. The TENANT agrees that his property loss risks shall be borne by his insurance and the TENANT agrees to look solely to and seek recovery only from his insurance carriers in the event of such losses. The TENANT agrees to waive any and all of its rights to subrogate against the LANDLORD and/or its insurer for any loss, damages or liability resulting in, on, under or around the Demised Premises.

ARTICLE VII
LANDLORD'S Access to Premises

Section 7.1 – Right of Entry

The LANDLORD and its designees shall have the right to enter upon the Demised Premises (a) at any time in the case of an emergency; (b) at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting; or (c) when making non-emergency repairs at a mutual reasonable time while taking care to not harm the operations or assets of the TENANT. If repairs are required to be made by the TENANT pursuant to the terms of this Lease Agreement or if the TENANT is required to perform any other obligation under this Lease Agreement, the LANDLORD may demand that the TENANT make such repairs or perform such obligation forthwith. If the TENANT refuses or neglects to commence such repairs or perform and complete the same with reasonable dispatch, after such demand, the LANDLORD may, but is not required so to do, make or cause such repairs or performance to be done and shall not be responsible to the TENANT for any loss and/or damage that may accrue as a result thereof. If the LANDLORD makes or causes such repairs or performance to be done, or endeavors so to do, the TENANT agrees that it will forthwith, on demand, pay to the LANDLORD the cost thus incurred, and if the TENANT shall be in default of such payment, then the LANDLORD shall have its remedies provided herein.

ARTICLE VIII
Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 8.1 – Insurance

TENANT shall, at its expense during the term hereof, maintain insurance for the Leased Premises in accordance with the requirements set forth in **Exhibit D** and deliver to LANDLORD without demand a Certificate of Insurance form showing said coverage.

TENANT further agrees, in the event of any loss, to waive all rights of subrogation against the LANDLORD.

In addition to the foregoing, LANDLORD requires TENANT, at its expense during the term hereof, to maintain adequate property insurance, including business income, to cover tenants own interests. In the event that the TENANT elects to not maintain such insurance, the TENANT understands and agrees that pursuant to Section 6.3 of this Agreement, the TENANT waives all claims against the LANDLORD that would otherwise have been covered by such insurance. TENANT further agrees, in the event of any loss, to waive all rights of subrogation against the LANDLORD.

Section 8.2 – Notices.

Notices to be given by one party to the other under this Lease shall be in writing, mailed or delivered as follows:

If to the LANDLORD: City of Middletown
Attn: Director
Planning, Conservation and Development Office
245 DeKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457

If to the TENANT:
180 Johnson Street
Middletown, CT 06457

Mailed notice shall be sent by United States Certified or Registered Mail, postage prepaid. Such notices shall be deemed to have been given when mailed.

Section 8.3 – Condemnation

If all or any part of the Leased Premises is taken by eminent domain, this Lease shall expire on the date of such taking, and the rent shall be apportioned as of that date. No part of any such award shall belong to TENANT.

Section 8.4 – LANDLORD'S Rights upon Default

In the event of any material breach of this Lease by the TENANT, which shall not have been cured within THIRTY (30) DAYS, then the LANDLORD, besides other rights or remedies it may have under applicable law, shall have the immediate right of reentry and may remove all persons and property from the Leased Premises pursuant to the summary process laws of the State of Connecticut; such property may be removed and stored in a public warehouse or elsewhere at the cost of, and for the account of, the TENANT. If the LANDLORD elects to reenter as herein provided, or should it take possession pursuant to any notice provided for by law, it may either terminate this Lease or may, from time to time, without terminating this Lease, relet the Leased Premises or any part thereof, for such term or terms and at such rental or rentals and upon such other terms and conditions as the LANDLORD in LANDLORD's own discretion may deem advisable. Should rentals received from such reletting during any month be less than that agreed to be paid during the month by the TENANT hereunder, the TENANT shall pay such deficiency to the LANDLORD monthly. The TENANT shall also pay to the LANDLORD, as soon as ascertained, the cost and expenses incurred by the LANDLORD, including reasonable attorney's fees, relating to such reletting.

In addition to any material breaching any agreement or covenant set forth in this LEASE, the following shall constitute a default and subject the TENANT to termination of the LEASE:

(a) Failure on the part of the TENANT to make payment of rent or any other monetary amount due under this LEASE within the prescribed time period.

(b) With respect to a nonmonetary default under this LEASE, failure of the TENANT to cure the same within thirty (30) days after receiving written notice from the LANDLORD of said default.

(c) The commencement of any of the following proceedings, with such proceeding not being dismissed within thirty (30) days after it has begun (i) the TENANT hereby created being taken on execution or by other process of law; (ii) the TENANT being judicially declared bankrupt or insolvent according to law; (iii) an assignment being made of the property of the TENANT for the benefit of creditors; (iv) a receiver, guardian, conservator, trustee in involuntary bankruptcy or other similar officer being appointed to take charge of all or any substantial part of the TENANT's property by a court of competent jurisdiction; or (v) a petition being filed for the reorganization of the TENANT under any provisions of the Bankruptcy Code or any federal or state law now or hereafter enacted.
(d) The TENANT filing a petition for reorganization or for rearrangement under, or otherwise availing itself of any provisions of, the Bankruptcy Code or any federal or state law or hereafter enacted providing a plan or other means for a debtor to settle, satisfy, or extend the time for the payment of debts.
(e) If the TENANT abandons or vacates the Demised Premises.

Section 8.5 – Quiet Enjoyment

The Landlord agrees that if the TENANT shall pay the rent as aforesaid and remain in compliance with the covenants and agreements herein contained on its part to be performed, the TENANT shall peaceably hold and enjoy the said rented premises without hindrance or interruption by the Landlord or by any other person or persons acting under or through the Landlord.

Section 8.6 – Termination and Surrender upon Termination

(a) LANDLORD'S Rights to Terminate: If the LANDLORD deems that the TENANT'S conduct could have a negative effect on the reputation of the LANDLORD, has the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate this Lease Agreement immediately. The LANDLORD also shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate this Lease Agreement without cause by giving thirty (30) days written notice to TENANT of such termination specifying the date of such termination.

(b) Surrender of the Demised Premises Upon Termination: At the end of the Lease term the, TENANT shall surrender the Lease property in as good condition as it was in at the beginning of the term, reasonable use and wear excepted, and it shall be vacated of all property owned or leased by the TENANT. If the TENANT fails to surrender the Lease property in appropriate condition as set forth herein, the LANDLORD shall have all rights and remedies available to it under applicable law, including charging said TENANT for any clean-up or rehab charges or keeping any upfront rent or security deposit to cover said costs.

Section 8.7 – Subordination

This Lease and the TENANT's Leasehold interest is and shall be subordinate, subject and inferior to any and all liens and encumbrances now and thereafter placed on the Leased Premises and all advances paid under such liens and encumbrances.

Section 8.8 – Holdover

No receipt of money by the LANDLORD from the TENANT after the termination of this Lease, the service of any notice, the commencement of any suit or final judgment for possession shall reinstate, continue or extend the term of this Lease or affect any such notice, demand, suit or judgment.

Section 8.9 – Waiver

No waiver of default of the TENANT shall be implied and no express waiver shall affect any default other than the default specified in such waiver and that only for the time and to the extent therein stated. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Lease shall not affect or impair any other provision.

Section 8.10 – Exclusivity of Remedies

All rights and remedies of the LANDLORD and the TENANT under this Lease shall be cumulative and none shall exclude any other rights and remedies allowed by law or statute.

Section 8.11 – Assignment, Provisions Binding

The TENANT shall not assign this Lease without the LANDLORD'S prior written consent, provided that the TENANT and the proposed assignee, including any owner, member, associate, or individual that is a member or officer of the TENANT and the proposed assignee are not delinquent in the payment of any and all taxes, assessments or any other charges levied lawfully against such person or entity by the City of Middletown or any other governmental entity. Any attempt to assign this Agreement in violation of this Section shall render such assignment null and void.

Each of the provisions of this Lease shall extend to and shall, as the case may require, bind or inure to the benefit, not only of the LANDLORD and of the TENANT, but also of their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and permitted assigns, provided this clause shall not permit any assignment/subletting contrary to the provisions of Article 1 or this Section hereof.

Section 8.12 – Entire Agreement
All of the representations and obligations of the LANDLORD and the TENANT are contained herein and no modification, waiver or amendment of this Lease, or any of its conditions or provisions, shall be binding upon the LANDLORD and the TENANT unless in writing, signed by both the LANDLORD and the TENANT.

Section 8.13 – Installments of Rent

The receipt by the LANDLORD of any installment of the Gross Rent shall not be a waiver of any other rental payments then due or of any default of the TENANT hereunder.

Section 8.14 – No Brokerage

The TENANT warrants and represents that he has dealt with no broker in connection with the consummation of this Lease, and in the event of any brokerage claims against the LANDLORD predicated upon prior dealings with the TENANT named herein, the TENANT agrees to defend the same and indemnify the LANDLORD against any such claim.

Section 8.15 – Recording of Lease

At the request of either party, LANDLORD and TENANT shall execute a Notice of Lease in a form prescribed by Section 47-19 of the Connecticut General Statutes for the purpose of giving record notice of the appropriate provisions of this Lease.

Section 8.16 – Requirements of Law

The TENANT shall, at its own expense, promptly observe and comply with all present and future laws, ordinances, requirements, orders, directions, rules and regulations of the federal, state and city governments and of all other governmental authorities having or claiming jurisdiction, directly or indirectly over the Demised Premises or appurtenances or any part thereof, including but not limited to, environmental rules, regulations and laws, and hazardous materials rules, regulations and laws.

Section 8.17 – Compliance with Law

The TENANT covenants and agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to comply with all present and future laws, orders, and regulations of all state, federal, municipal and local governments.

Section 8.18 – Payment of Taxes

The TENANT shall pay all taxes, if any, herein defined as all general and special taxes, whether ordinary or extraordinary, including existing and future assessments for roads, sewer, utilities, other local improvements, and other governmental charges which may be lawfully charged, assessed, or imposed upon all or any portion of the Demised Premises on both land and all improvements contained therein. Taxes may also be lawfully charged, assessed, or imposed on the Tenant for all fixtures and equipment of every type and also upon all personal property in the Demised Premises. The Tenant shall pay all license fees and other charges which may be imposed lawfully upon the business of the Tenant, which is conducted upon the Demised Premises. LANDLORD SHALL SEND TENANT A TAX BILL FOR THE PORTION OF SPACE IN WHICH THE TENANT IS IN ON A BIANNUAL BASIS. TAXES ARE NOT PART OF THE BASE RENT AS STATED IN ARTICLE 1.1, SECTION (F).

Section 8.19 – Governing Law; Interpretation

This LEASE will be governed and interpreted by the laws of the State of Connecticut, without regard to its conflict of law provisions. To the extent that any court action is permitted consistent with or to enforce any part of this LEASE, the Parties hereby consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the state and federal courts of the State of Connecticut. Accordingly, with respect to any such court action, TENANT (a) submits to the personal jurisdiction of such courts; (b) consents to service of process; and (c) waives any other requirement (whether imposed by statute, rule of court, or otherwise) with respect to personal jurisdiction, venue or service of process. Should any provision of this LEASE be declared illegal or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction and such provision cannot be modified to become legal and enforceable, excluding the general release language, such provision will immediately become null and void, leaving the remainder of this Agreement in full force and effect.

Section 8.20 – Waiver of Prejudgment Remedy Hearing and Notice

TENANT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THIS IS A “COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION” AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN CHAPTER 903a OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, AS AMENDED. TENANT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT, PURSUANT TO SUCH SECTION, IT HAS A RIGHT TO NOTICE OF AND HEARING PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF ANY “PREJUDGMENT REMEDY”. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, TENANT, BY EXECUTING THIS LEASE, HEREBY KNOWINGLY AND WILLINGLY WAIVES ALL RIGHTS TO SUCH NOTICE, JUDICIAL HEARING OR PRIOR COURT ORDER UNDER CHAPTER 903a OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, AS AMENDED, OR AS OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY THE LAW OF ANY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW WITH RESPECT TO ANY PREJUDGMENT REMEDY WHICH PAYEE OR ITS SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS DESIRE TO USE IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SUIT ON THIS CONTRACT, AND AUTHORIZES LANDLORD’S ATTORNEY TO ISSUE A WRIT FOR PREJUDGMENT REMEDY WITHOUT COURT ORDER, PROVIDED THE COMPLAINT SHALL SET FORTH A COPY OF THE WAIVER.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto caused to be set their respective hands and seals on this _____ day of _____, 20___.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of:

_____ **LANDLORD, CITY OF MIDDLETOWN**

_____ _____

By:
Its: , Duly Authorized
Date:

_____ **TENANT**,

_____ _____
By:
Its: , Duly Authorized
Date:

EXHIBIT B – Description of Rentable Space
TENANT will be utilizing 5,900 square feet of space on the first floor of building C. The tenant will have access to the space from the north entrance of the building and through a door on the southeast portion of the tenant space.

The space has two bathrooms as well as electrical, plumbing and HVAC.

EXHIBIT C – Tenant Alterations

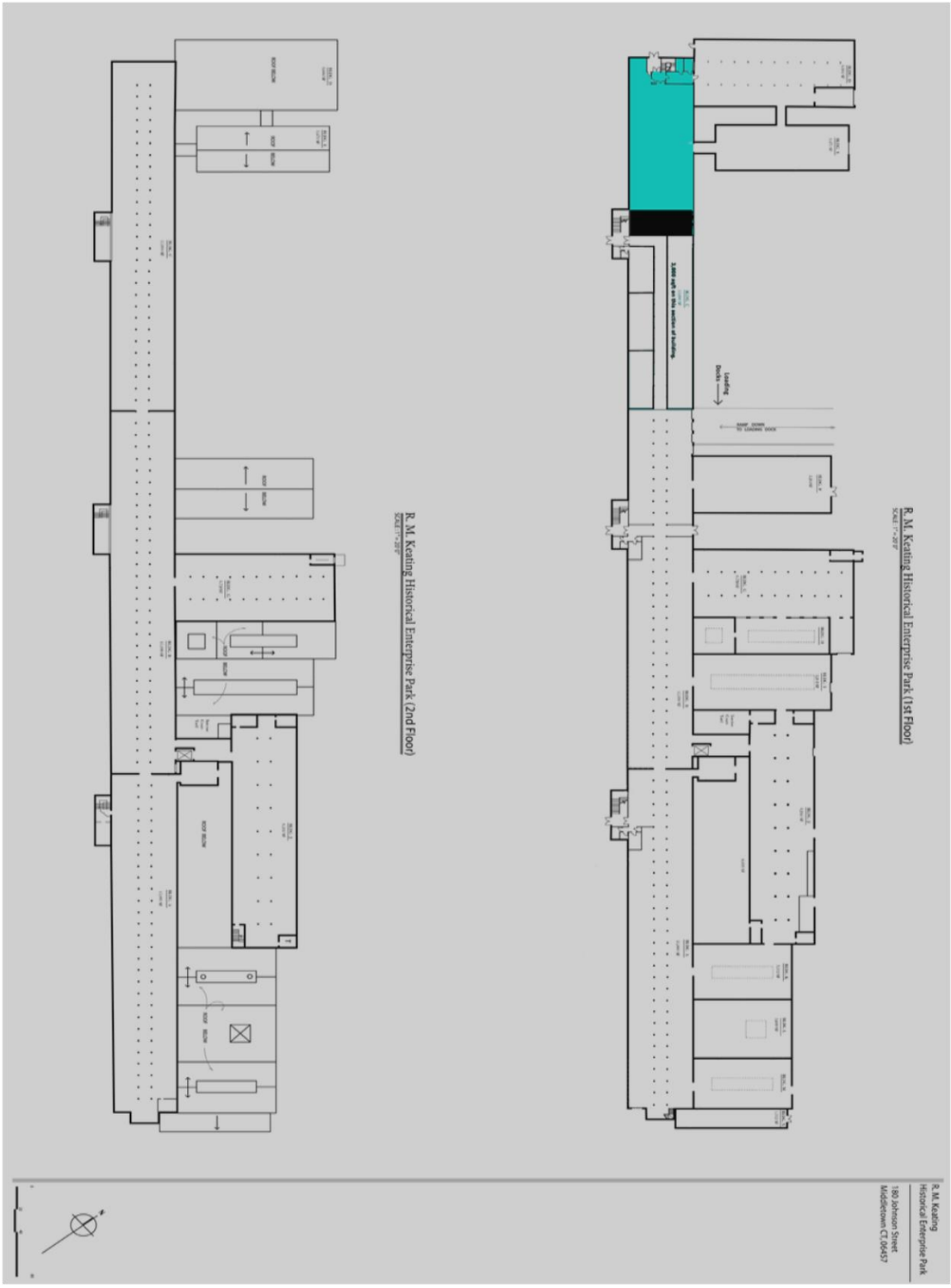
Tenant will be doing $15,000 worth of work to the interior space including electrical and plumbing upgrades as well as improve and expand the HVAC system in the tenant space.

EXHIBIT D – Insurance Requirements

EXHIBIT E – Map of Parking Site

Parking Area in Green

ATTACHMENT "A"- R. M. Keating Historical Enterprise Park Floor Plan- 180 Johnson Street



Councilman Vincent Loffredo reads the motion and moves to approve. Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

D. Approving that the Recreation and Community Services Department's $40,000 Youth Grant (FY 20/21) is allocated as follows: Ahern Whalen -- $4,400; Middletown Youth Soccer, Inc. -- $6,000; Middletown Youth Lacrosse-- $7,200; Middletown Jr. Dragons-- $9,000; Prof. Galitto Girls Basketball -- $2,000; Prof. Galitto Boys Basketball -- $3,200; Little League -- $8,200; TOTAL $40,000

APPROVED

RESOLUTION No, 47-20; K: review/ resolution/ REC sports grants FY20-21 RES 47-20 – 6 July 2020

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN: That Recreation and Community Services Department's $40,000 Youth Grant (FY 20/21) is allocated as follows.

Agencies	Amount
Ahern Whalen	$4,400
Middletown Youth Soccer, Inc.	$6,000
Middletown Youth Lacrosse	$7,200
Middletown Jr. Dragons	$9,000
Prof. Galitto Girls Basketball	$2,000
Prof. Galitto Boys Basketball	$3,200
Little League	$8,200
TOTAL	$40,000

Fiscal Impact: No impact on FY 20/21 budget, the grants are fully funded

Councilman Philip Pessina reads the motion and moves to approve. Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo states that, for the record, he assumes that these are rants that have been traditionally provided.

Councilman Pessina interjects, saying "That is correct."

Councilman Loffredo continues, that these are grants that we provide in the normal opportunity to active participation in these various activities versus whether or not we are paying the same amount for virtual activities he asks for clarification, noting that these are sports and he does not know to what extent these are and if the Covid situation is taken into account. He asks if someone can address these questions.

Councilman Pessina states that these have traditionally, when they gave these sports grants out, they brought out $60K to support various youth sports in the City. The Council decided that we should get that down to $40K. A letter was sent to the various grant recipients and they were told that of they could not uses these funds this year due to Covid, they expect that the funds will be used in future years. As a result, the City reserves the right to modify allocations if there are unexpected funds during these challenging times. The funds have been allocated with the open that leagues will run. They are being judicious and will make decisions on future applications with these issues in mind. The letter was sent out he recipients by Recreation Director Lechowicz.

Director Lechowicz states that the letter has not yet gone out, but will go with the grant after the Council approves the awards. In addition, every year when a grant applications submitted, the applicants are interviews, so this will be part each process for next year's grant, understanding how Covid affected this year's activities and, could affect next year's grants. The concern in waiting to award these grants is that the leagues need to plan now and may have upfront costs. They will discuss the impact on funding for this year and modify finding in the future based on responses.

Councilman Loffredo states that they paly teams outside of Middletown. He asks if they are engaged without communities. To have these activities occur.

Director Lechowicz states that it depends the league. For example, Middle Youth Soccer is only Middletown residents. Basketball is only Middletown residents. Football teams are smaller and play other communities as with lacrosse. It is based on the league and the number involved.

Councilman Loffredo asks if the activities are under CIAC oversight or independent.

Director Lechowicz replies that it is independent of the league, noting that there are different oversight committees. CIAC is primarily high school, not recreational.

The Chair call on the Council Clerk.

The Council Clerk states that, for the record, the speaker was Cathy Lechowicz the Recreation & Community Services Director. She also asks Councilman Pessina to email that letter so it may be included

in the meeting minutes. Councilman Pessina asks Director Lechowicz to send that letter to the Council Clerk for the minutes.

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
Recreation & Community Services
61 Durant Terrace
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 638-4505 phone

Dear Sports Grant Recipients,

Please see the attached resolution for the approved amounts for sports grants recipients.
When you submit your grant application in January 2021 for next year, you will be expected to report on this year's grant spending. If you are not able to utilize these funds this year due to COVID-19, we expect that you will be able to use it in future years. As a result, the City reserves the right to modify future allocations if there are unexpended funds.

We recognize these are challenging times for sports leagues, so we wanted to allocate this year's funding with the hope that leagues can run. We hope you understand that we also need to be judicious with taxpayer dollars and will make decisions on future applications with these issues in mind.

Please let us know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Cathy Lechowicz Director	Phil Pessina, Chair Councilman	Jeanette Blackwell Councilwoman

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

E. Approving that Tall Timbers Road is accepted as a City street by the City of Middletown
RETURNED TO FINANCE & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION NO. 48-20; K: review/ resolution/ PW Tall Timbers RES 48-20 – 6 July 2020

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Public Works & Facilities Commission voted 3-0, at its meeting held on June 10, 2020, to accept and move to the Common Council, the following private street to be accepted as a City street: Tall Timbers Road; and

WHEREAS, prior to the Public Works & Facilities Commission meeting, Tall Timbers Road is an existing private driveway, approximately 900 feet long, with a 50 foot Right-of-Way. The road that was constructed in 2007 as a private driveway, and

WHEREAS, the South Gate Homeowner's Association has petitioned the Public Works and Facilities Commission to become a City Street and presented information regarding the road construction; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission completed an 8-24 review on June 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the subdivision, South Gate Subdivision, received final approval June 27, 2007; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN: That Tall Timbers Road be hereby accepted as a City street by the City of Middletown:

Street	Limits	Length

Tall Timbers Road	from Arbutus Street to the end.	0.17 mi.

Fiscal Impact: It is estimated that it will take $100,000 to improve the road and unknown for an annual maintenance, based on unknown weather conditions. The homeowners association is planning on transferring a 3.86 acre lot to the City.

Councilman Edward Ford, Jr. state that he is offering a substitute resolution. Councilman Ford reads the substitute resolution and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

Councilman Edward Ford states that this action includes 3.86 acres of land to the City, which offsets the costs, which are estimated at $100,000 He calls Public Works Director William Russo to offer more information about this deal and action.

Director Russo states that the residents of Tall Timbers came to them at least four (4) different times at Pubic Works & Facilities Commission meetings, asking that they accept Tall Timbers as a City Street. Councilman Ford has indicated, the street is 22 feet wide. With the $100,000, it can be improved to the standard width of 28 feet, adding that are not talking a long distance of the street that needs to widen to that width. There is open space there, but, until we get to the point where the Council accepts this, then we will engage with them about the land swap of 3.8 acres. That will be done by the City Attorney's Office and the Public Works Commission. He reiterates that the residents have come to the Commission about four (4) times and this motion passed 5-0 with Public Works & Facilities Commission to accept this as a City street. With the six (6) foot widening, it will bring it up to standard, as every developer does when a street is put in. It will meet City Standards.

The Chair calls on the Council Clerk.

The Council Clerk states that they received a letter and it was requested by the sender that the letter be read into the record.

July 6, 2020

David Bauer, Dobson Circle, Middletown

I am in opposition to Agenda Item 18E – Tall Timbers

First, this resolution departs from the practice of containing a Fiscal Impact Statement. This glaring omission, given the nature of the proposed action, should be enough for the Council to send this Resolution back to Committee for the required analysis of the financial implication of the action of 18E.

Second, the financial implication – and there certainly is one – constitutes what I would term a "Reverse Robin Hood" of taking from the struggling Middletown Taxpayers and giving to the relatively affluent residents of Tall Timbers. The Developer of Tall Timbers profited by creating a Driveway instead a Public Road, and the Tall Timber Residents paid less to live on a Driveway instead of a Public Road. Do the Tall Timber residents pay for this upgrade to value to their properties? No, the cost will be borne by the struggling residents of Middletown.

To the Councilpersons who support 18E, I don't know a specific number, but there will come a time after you have approved enough "Reverse Robin Hood" resolutions, that you will try to turn on your "Virtue Signal" and find it doesn't work anymore.

Please send 18E back to Committee, or just vote this down.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Linda Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that she has a question: because there is a fiscal -- a monetary -- value, and an expenditure, why was this item not sent to Finance & Government. Shae adds that the original resolution said that it was voted to come to Council without a recommendation. She asks if Public Works & Facilities Commission met again and re-vote. She asks when that happened. She reiterates the question as to why the item did not go to Finance & Government Operations. She states that, in her opinion, it should have. Given this information, she moves t to refer the matter back to Committee so it can go to Finance & Government and also back to Public Works & Faculties, so they can vote gain, of they have not already done so.

Councilman Vincent Loffredo seconds the motion to refer back to appropriate committees for review.

The Chair calls on Councilman Anthony Mangiafico.

Councilman Mangiafico states, that he is not sure what is being considered. If it is a substitute resolution or is it already in the agenda. He asks because Councilman Ford read what was already on the agenda.

The Chair calls on the Council Clerk.

The Council Clerk explains that, if Councilmembers look at the documents on Granicus, the original resolution, as submitted, included all the elements with the exception of the required financial impact

statement. After receiving Mr. Bauer's letter today, the Clerk realized that the Financial Impact statement had, indeed, been omitted. The substitute resolution now includes the fiscal impact statement and Director Russo has explained the estimated $100,000 cost and the open space, which was addressed by both Director Russo and Councilman Ford. In the review, it was reviewed by Public Works & Facilities Commission and also by the Planning a & Zoning Commission as an 8-24 review, which is statutorily required because of its location relative to the town line.

The Chair calls on Councilman Eugene Nocera.

Councilman Nocera states that, as far as financial implications for what's on the agenda tonight, if he understands it correctly, if the Council approved this road acceptance, it them goes on the next road bond, which he believes the Public Works will soon be discussing. It needs to go to Finance & Government because it is road bond issue. Tonight's vote is to approve it as a City street. The funding will be through a road bond.

Councilman Pessina replies, "That is correct."

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that it is her understanding that items that have a cost go to Finance & Government. How that cost is paid is a different subject. Basically, they are now asking us to improve the street, just take it over and make improvements that cost $100,000. That's not fair. The Council needs to know that information up front before approving the street. She asks why all of a sudden this street will be a road bond issue when other streets, that we already own, are in dire need of repair. This street will bump existing streets. She asks if the plan is to spend $100K and then pay it back. She does not think that is being done correctly

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo asks about the open space: is it on the market; is it useable. It is three to four acres: is it hillside? When was the development done? Was this land defined as open space back then? The value has to be determined. On a road bond issue, how many years from now will we address this if we do this now. *(Inaudible*) for the cost now, where will the money come from? That is a future vote. He would like some clarification and the history of this development how it was allowed to be built. There was a roadway put it for public safety, utilities, fire, and so forth. What was going on? This raises many questions for him. We need to go back and get clearer information on all of these aspects. If this road is so out of kilter, we need to know why. This is raising too many issues and possible precedents that we would be setting in approving as to what happened when, adding that it is coming to the Council at this stage of the project. He asks that, at a minimum, clarification be provided.

The Chair calls on Director Russo to reply.

Director Russo replies that, based on these comments, he has not released the new road bond yet. This would be the first piece to get funding for any road work. In response to Councilwoman Salafia, this would not take away from any other roads that are approved now or in the future. That would not happen. If the Council approves this, the next step for him would be to have this given to the Public Works Commission for its approval and, if approved, it would move forward. Obviously, if it did not get approval, this would not be on the road bond. It is not presently on the bond. This development was built a while ago, adding that he does not want to speak for zoning, he notes that it was at least 10 years ago. The developer was given the standards and chose to build it to 22 feet. There was only one (1) house, perhaps two (2) houses on the street. As people bought, their concern arose. That is how we needed up where we are today. The Public Woks Commission has heard the Tall Timbers Association about four (4) different times. They presented the reasons. The question as to whether they asked for that. He does not think so as they are on a private road. They pay taxes just like everyone else. That's what got us to this point. They did mention that the 3.9 acres. That has not been discussed with the Commission as it has not been accepted road so there is no reason to discuss it. If we do get to that point, then we can discuss it, starting with the City Attorney and Public Works, and the Tall Timbers Association. Is it developable? Not if we get our hands on it as open space, it stays as open space. The City does not sell open space for housing or anything like that. He does not know if that answers the question.

The Chair calls on Councilman Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo asks, as open space, does that mean space that anyone in the City of Middletown, as with other open spaces that we have in Middletown, can go on that land – behind homes or wherever it may be -- if it is designed as open space. So the citizens of Middletown have access to use it, is it useable open spec or is it a tree presence. They have no details. Is it simply left over?

Director Russo replies that they don't have the details since it's not a City road so it's not City property. All of the pieces are for passive recreation, so not developable. There may be a hiking trail in it. Any other property where we can do something like that, we would do it. At this stage of the game, the Public Works Commission may say we don't want the open space, but accept it as a City road, noting that is a possibility also.

Councilman Grady Faulkner asks if they want *(inaudible*) since we are buying it. He assumes that they will not have to plow it.

Director Russo indicates that he could not hear Councilman Faulkner. He believes that the question is about plowing and the road maintenance. He assures that the City would accept the responsibility for the maintenance of that road. It goes on the list so we get money from the State for road miles and things like that. It is a small portion of road for bonding that is available. The answer to the question is "yes," if it is accepted by the Council. The City would maintain it.

The Chair calls on Councilman Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo asks if there are other examples of other roads put in by developers that do not meet standards.

Director Russo replies that there are, but that the Public Works Committee will take this as they come to us. If we put together a road bond, that road bond is good for three (3) years. If someone comes in a month from now and we are already in the process, we won't be financially in a position to accept it.

The Chair calls on Councilman Philip Pessina.

Councilman Pessina states that, for a point of clarification, Public Works Commission looked at this application. They got a letter from South District Fire, asking Director Russo to correct him if he is wrong, indicating that their trucks can get in and get out, there's just an issue of parking, which residents agreed to have off street parking. Also, to the author of the letter, it is very insulting to the residents, who live on that street, to even make an implication of "Robin Hood." These residents are paying taxes like everyone else. They are being shortchanged because they are not getting the services that the rest of the City gets from their taxpayer dollars. To the person, who wrote that letter, he is offended. Secondly, in due difference to Councilwoman Salafia, just because this gets approved as a road does not mean that it will jump ahead. There are 2 or 3 road bonds for streets already.

Councilwoman Salafia interjects saying, "That is not what I said."

Councilman Pessina replies, "That's the way it came across," adding however, those residents, in particular, in particular a couple of the families, set the benchmark for getting this approved as a City street. They really worked hard to try to get this approval for a City street, they went beyond the requirements. They went down manholes to check culverts, they did everything and even more than we asked for they came to the Public Works Commission, and we heard them. We understood and we passed this, okay. They have done their due diligence and we have done ours to meet that. Any implications as "Robin Hood" are totally outrageous that he would say that in a letter.

Multiple speakers - inaudible.

The Chair asks Councilmembers to speak one at a time. He states that he will first call on Councilwoman Salafia followed by Councilman Faulkner. The Chair calls on Councilwoman Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that there are procedures and we have, we are skipping procedures left and right around here. The procedure, when there is cost involved, and there is cost involved for this, how we pay for it is not the question, there is a process. The procedure is that the request goes to Finance & Government. They skipped it. All of this explanation that they are doing tonight should have been done at Finance & Government, instead of using a half hour here. We are skipping procedures and have to stop doing this. There is a process and it is to notify Finance & Government. We need to follow this standard procedure. She reiterate: notify Finance & Government; get approved by Finance & Government. No problem as all the questions are answered.

The Chair states that we have a motion on the table.

Multiple speakers – inaudible.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo speak, saying it is to this issue and he asks if General Counsel Brig Smith is still available. He is concerned that this particular action, if approved in the forum that we are doing -- adding that he appreciates everyone's assistance -- we are setting a legal precedent, which will be cited and utilized. He notes that he asked earlier how many similar roads – 22 feet width, not built in conformance with road stands – for some reason, somehow the developers get this opportunity. Moving forward on this, when to what degree are we bound in a legal fashion or can we put language in her, if it does, recognizing that it is *de novo*, we would be looking at each one independent and separately and that his case does not set any precedent. He asks for clarification from the City Attorney.

General Counsel Brig Smith replies that the short answer is "No," there is no legal principle that says just because we do something here that we have to do so there. The acquisition as City property is a necessary condition to expend money for it, but it is not sufficient to say that every time we do this, we have to do this in the same way and for the same *(inaudible).*

Councilman Loffredo states that he understands this to mean that this does not set any precedent and the record will show that based on what you just said.

Attorney Smith replies that, legally, it does not set a precedent.

Councilman Edward McKeon interjects, asking to call the question.

The Chair state that, for the record, the vote in on the motion to send this item back to committee

Councilman Darnell Ford makes appoint of order. He believes that the Chair had indicated that Councilman Faulkner was also going to speak, but he does not believe that Mr. Faulkner has spoken.

The Chair thanks Councilman Darnell Ford and calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman McKeon retracts his request to call the question so that Councilman Faulkner may speak.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner states that the developer built that road. It was approved by someone, unless we don't want to touch this because someone *(inaudible).*

Councilman Edward McKeon calls the question.

The question having been called, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell asks for clarification as to the motion for this roll call vote.

The Council Clerk reiterates that Councilwoman Salafia moved to send this matter back to committee, to Finance and Government. That motion was seconded by Councilman Loffredo.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye

Councilman Loffredo makes a point of order, asking if he vote is on the motion or on the request to call the question. The Chair states that this vote is to call the question. If that is approved, then the Council will vote on Councilwoman Salafia's motion to send the item back to committee.

Councilman McKeon asks that the vote on calling to question begin over again.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to call the question is approved unanimously with 12 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia). The Chair states the matter is approved.

With the vote approving the motion to call the question, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, on Councilwoman Salafia's motion to send the matter back to committee. The Chair asks the Council Clerk to call the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	nay
Councilman Edward Ford	nay
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	nay
Councilman Pessina	nay
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to return the matter to committee is approved with eight (8) ayes and four (4) nays. (Voting "aye: Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico, McKeon, and Salafia; voting "nay: Councilmembers D. Ford, E. Ford, Nocera, and Pessina). The Chair states the matter is approved by a vote of 8 to 4.

The Chair advised Director Russo that the Council will revisit this mater in the future.

F. Approving that the City of Middletown recognizes that LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual) rights are human rights, and that all residents of the City of Middletown should be treated fairly and equally regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; and that the City of Middletown endorses and lends its support to the proposed Equality Act (H.R. 5, 119th Congress), which would prohibit discrimination against the LGBTQIA community by specifically adding the terms sexual orientation and gender identity to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and codifying the protections granted by the Supreme Court under federal law; and that the City of Middletown will continue to strive to promote justice, champion equity, ensure all voices in the community are represented, end oppression, and ensure that the promise of equality is realized for all, including for the members of the LGBTQIA community, and for the City's Black and Black transgender residents.

APPROVED

RESOLUTION NO. 48-20; K: review/ resolution/ Legal Equality Act RES 49-20 – 6 July 2020

WHEREAS, the City of Middletown supports the rights, freedoms, equality and well-being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning, Intersex and Asexual ("LGBTQIA") citizens in Middletown; and

WHEREAS, promoting justice, championing equity, ending oppression, and ensuring that all voices in the community are represented is necessary to advocate for a culture of respect and equality towards all persons, especially with regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; and

WHEREAS, the month of June is recognized internationally as Pride Month to commemorate the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 in New York City, when people—particularly transgender women of color and drag queens—at great personal and physical risk to themselves, courageously fought back against increasing hostility and discrimination they faced from police officers at the Stonewall Inn, which was a refuge for queer people of color, homeless young people, and drag queens; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, for the first time, the United States Supreme Court held that the marriage of same-sex couples was constitutionally protected under the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2019, the City of Middletown, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, and Wesleyan University, in collaboration with the Triangle Community Center, held the City's first ever Pride celebration, which included a parade down Main Street and a festival on the South Green with hours of live entertainment, drawing approximately 15,000 people from all over New England; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, the City of Middletown held its third annual flag raising of the rainbow pride flag at City Hall; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, the Supreme Court of the United States held, for the first time, that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 bars employers from firing gay and transgender employees because of the fact that they are gay or transgender; and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2020, since the Middletown Pride 2020 parade and festival were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Middletown, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, and Wesleyan University, in collaboration with the Triangle Community Center and the Russell Library, hosted its first online Middletown Pride event entitled STREAM Middletown Pride, and collaborated with Cinder & Salt to host a Pride street cleanup of downtown Middletown; and

WHEREAS, this year the LGBTQIA community is called upon to be strong allies and to use its platform during Pride month to shine a spotlight on and support the Black Lives Matter movement, including Black transgender people, to stand with them to fight against discrimination and to end systemic racism.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN THAT:

1) The City of Middletown recognizes that LGBTQIA rights are human rights, and that all residents of the City of Middletown should be treated fairly and equally regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; and

2) The City of Middletown endorses and lends its support to the proposed Equality Act (H.R. 5, 119th Congress), which would prohibit discrimination against the LGBTQIA community by specifically adding the terms sexual orientation and gender identity to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and codifying the protections granted by the Supreme Court under federal law; and

3) The City of Middletown will continue to strive to promote justice, champion equity, ensure all voices in the community are represented, end oppression, and ensure that the promise of equality is realized for all, including for the members of the LGBTQIA community, and for the City's Black and Black transgender residents.

Fiscal Impact: None

Councilman Anthony Mangiafico reads the resolution and moves to approve. Councilman Vincent Loffredo seconds the motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner asks why (*inaudible).* He continues, indicating that the City has the advisory committee, asking if this resolution came for that committee.

The Chair replies that he does not believe it came from that's specific committee but he could be mistaken.

Councilman Faulkner notes that this case was decided yesterday by the United State Supreme Court and it seems (*inaudibl*e). He wonders why it is necessary to bring this up.

The Chair replies that the Supreme Court ruling is cited in the resolution. It creates workplace protections, but the Equality Act that it refers to, through Congress, would extend those protections to other areas outside of the workplace, which he believes is the spirit in which it is being offered., He asks if Councilman Mangiafico or any other Councilmembers to speak to that.

Councilman Mangiafico states that he is not on the city's LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee so he defers to Councilman Pessina. He understand that is a resolution, knowing how Middletown wants to ensure equity to al groups. Also, June was Pride Month and these was no resolution on the Council agenda. To answer Councilman Faulkner's question, the Supreme Court case could be overturned one day so, if codified into law, law cannot be changed unless Congress does so. He believes that the impetus from having this codified as law, not just a Supreme Court decision. It is to ensure these protections.

Councilman Pessina interjects, saying that Councilman Mangiafico is absolutely correct. When Chris *(no last name)* put this together, they had discussions concerning it. They want to ensure that they protect the community, as Councilman Mangiafico has stated. That is why this resolution is important, because they didn't do one in June, which was an oversight.

Councilman Faulkner states that the other issue he is curious about is, if we have the LGBTQ Board, but her we have other letters IA and he does not know what it means. He asks if there is something new.

Councilman Pessina replies that the 1st paragraph of the resolution states "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning, Intersex and Asexual citizens in Middletown,' noting that is the complete overview of the LGBTQIA members of society. It covers all.

Councilman Faulkner replies that he does not know what half of those are.

There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	nay
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion is approved with 11 aye votes And one (1) nay votes (Voting "aye" Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia; voting "any" Councilman Faulkner.) The Chair states the matter is approved.

G. ORDINANCE: Approving that Chapter 14 ("Boards, Committee and Commissions") of the City of Middletown Code of Ordinances be amended, adding Article XX, creating the City's Permanent Task Force on Anti-Racism

APPROVED, AS AMENDED

ORDINANCE No. 04-20; K: review/ ordinance/ CC antiracism taskforce ORD 04-20 – 6 July 2020

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN: that Article XX be added to Chapter 14 of the Middletown Code of Ordinances (Boards, Committees, and Commission) as follows:

ARTICLE XX: PERMANENT TASK FORCE ON ANTI-RACISM

§ 14-62. Purpose.

The City of Middletown recognizes that communities of color historically and currently battle systemic and structural racism in covert and overt methods. The purpose of the task force is therefore to put into action efforts to combat racism in our community and our country. Its purpose is to supplement, not supplant, the work of the City's other agencies in fighting racism, including the Commission on

Human Relations. The task force will provide advice to the Mayor and the Council, including, but not limited to, written quarterly reports, and will consider various matters relating to racism, including, but not limited to, housing, employment, health care, educational equity, policing, inclusion, and criminal justice.

§ 14-63. Membership and Terms.
The task force will consist of 15 members to be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Common Council, including three Council Members. Membership terms will be four (4) years and appointments to the task force will comply with statutory requirements for minority party representation. The members will be Middletown electors. The original members of the task force will be appointed as follows: five will serve four year terms; five will serve three year terms; and five will serve two year terms. Future vacancies will be appointed in a manner that maintains the staggered term expiration dates. New task force members appointed to fill unexpired terms will serve the remainder of the term. New task force members appointed at the start of a new term after the original membership terms expire or task force members being reappointed after this initial service will be appointed to four year terms.

§ 14-64. Coordination with Commission on Human Relations.
The task force will coordinate with the Commission on Human Relations in order to effectuate the goal of fighting racism locally and beyond. While the focus of the commission is on fostering understanding of, and conversations on, racism, the focus of the task force is to take concrete steps to translate discussion into action.

Councilwoman Meaghan Carta reads the motion and moves to approve. Councilman Philip Pessina seconds the motion.

Councilwoman Carta states that this Ordinance, as worked on by the General Counsel Commission with Attorney Brig Smith. They gave it a lot of thought and gave it a lot of discussion to be sure that ordinance laid out a defined purpose and defined membership terms. The General Counsel Commission was in full support the ordinance. She notes that the ordinance now makes no reference to religion, which was questioned by a member of the public during public comment.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Linda Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that she would like to offer a friendly amendment. Perhaps the last paragraph of the resolution, requiring the reports, be incorporated into this resolution and not necessarily the next resolution because it is referred to here, having another resolution for duties of the taskforce. She would like to discuss amending this resolution to include the last paragraph requiring quarterly reports.

The Council Clerk asks, to be sure for the record, is this to amend the ordinance or the resolution in the next item.

Councilwoman Salafia states that it is the resolution for the taskforce. She apologizes indicating it is an ordinance.

The Council Clerk thanks Councilwoman Salafia, indicating that this is asked to ensure that the minutes are clear.

The Chair states that we are discussing language that appears in the next item, Item 12H. He calls on Councilman Darnell Ford of that matter.

Councilman Darnell Ford asks for clarification: is it Item 12H or 18H.

The Chair states that it is Item 18H.

Councilwoman Salafia offers to make a motion, adding the language from Item 18H into this ordinance, the language referring to the requirement of quarterly reports. Councilman Eugene Nocera seconds that motion.

The Chair calls on Councilman Nocera.

Councilman Nocera states that was the intention as written in Item 18H, so he agrees that this ordinance should include the same language as the resolution because quarterly reports are important.

The Chair calls on Councilman Anthony Mangiafico.

Councilman Mangiafico states that, to clarify, this ordinance will require that the Anti-Racism Task Force file quarterly reports. He asks if this should be left up to the Task Force to determine. Under this requirement, the committee would file a report every three (3) meetings, adding that he thinks it should be left more open-ended. It might be more feasible to file a report three times a year or twice a year or only if something meaningful happens.

The Chair calls on Councilman Vincent Loffredo.

Councilman Loffredo states that he supports the motion for quarterly reports, noting that the response could be that they have nothing new to add at this time. Asking for a quarterly report is appropriate given the

concerns that we all have. He supports the requirement, adding that they may have nothing to report or may not be meeting. They can handle it appropriately.

The Chair calls on Councilman Edward McKeon. Councilman McKeon ask for clarification. Are the quarterly reports all the actions of the committee or just concerns? Quarterly reports (*inaudible)* **. . .**

Councilwoman Salafia replies that it is all of their actions.

The Council Clerk asks, for purposes of the motion and the record, where in the body of the ordinance text should this language be placed. I looking at the document, it seems that in the first section -- 14-62, Purpose -- there is a section that states:

> **. . .** The task force will provide advice to the Mayor and the Council and will consider various matters relating to racism, including, but not limited to, housing, employment, health care, educational equity, policing, inclusion, and criminal justice.

It seems that the place to add this language might be:

> **. . .** The task force will provide advice to the Mayor and the Council, **<u>including, but not limited to, quarterly reports</u>** **. . .**

Councilwoman Salafia agrees.

Councilman Pessina interjects, adding that it is best to put it in there because it gives them latitude, we are not bounding their hands.

The Council Clerk asks the Chair if she should read the language back to the Council

The Chair relies, "Yes."

The Clerk reads that in Section 14-62, the last sentence will read:

> **. . .** The task force will provide advice to the Mayor and the Council, **<u>including, but not limited to, quarterly reports,</u>** and will consider various matters relating to racism, including, but not limited to, housing, employment, health care, educational equity, policing, inclusion, and criminal justice.

Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell adds that they should be written quarterly reports.

The Council Clerk notes the new language:

> **. . .** The task force will provide advice to the Mayor and the Council, **<u>including, but not limited to, quarterly reports,</u>** and will consider various matters relating to racism, including, but not limited to, housing, employment, health care, educational equity, policing, inclusion, and criminal justice.

Councilwoman Salafia states that she accepts this as a friendly amendment to her original amendment.

Councilman Edward McKeon makes a point of order. He asks if there are other boards and commission from whom the Council asks for quarterly reports.

The Chair states that the Human Relations Commission gave quarterly reports while doing this special project work. He believes that other committees – building committees – have been asked to provide quarterly reports.

Councilman Nocera replies, "That is correct, Mayor."

Councilman McKeon states, to follow-up, was there a City staffer on the commission to create the quarterly report.

Councilman Nocera replies, "Yes."

The Chair asks if Councilman McKeon means historically.

Councilman McKeon states that he is trying to get clarification. He has nothing against quarterly reports or getting the work done. He want to be sure that, somehow, they need to be sure that they are not creating requirements of this commission that they don't replace on other commissions and it has the wherewithal to get the work done so it is not sitting on a volunteer's desk.

The Chair replies, "Understood, absolutely."

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Salafia.

Councilwoman Salafia states that she is simply asking that the language be removed from the next resolution, which is requiring that the task force give quarterly report, and moved into the ordinance, which creates the task force.

Councilman McKeon states that they have not yet voted on that resolution, so he does not know it if is an appropriate thing to do. He believes it is an appropriate question to ask because it creates a new commission. He wants to be sure that this commission has the wherewithal to provide the information as any other commission does.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner notes that this task force *(inaudible)*

The Chair calls on Corporation Counsel Dan Ryan.

Attorney Ryan indicates that they are voting on Councilwoman Salafia's motion to amend with the friendly amendment from Councilwoman Blackwell. That has been seconded and will be voted on now.

There being no further discussion on the proposed amendment, the Chair calls for a roll call vote, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	nay
Councilman McKeon	nay
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	nay
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to approve the amendment, including the friendly amendment, is approved with nine (9) aye votes and three (3) nay votes (Voting "aye" Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Nocera, and Salafia; Voting "nay" Councilmembers Mangiafico, McKeon, and Pessina). The Chair states the matter is approved by a vote of 9 to 3..

The Chair asks if there are any further comments on the motion to approve the ordinance, as amended, noting it has been the subject or lengthy discussion and public comment. There being no further discussion, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the proposed ordinance, as amended, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	nay
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to approve the ordinance, as amended, is unanimously approved with 1 aye votes. (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia) The Chair states the matter is approved.

H. Approving that, In light of its longstanding concern for, and commitment to, the rights and liberties of all people, the City of Middletown declares that racism and any health crisis, including, but not limited to any pandemic-like crisis such as Covid-19, which may pose a threat to the health, safety, welfare, and/or well-being of any of the City's constituents, especially to people of color, is a public health crisis; and that every effort must be made to catalyze and authorize data analysis and policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and to ensure the implementation of policies and actions to dismantle, to course-correct unjust health care systems, and to implement systems essential to the health, safety, and welfare of this City and its inhabitants and which are a source of inclusive, community strength rather than causes of discrimination, segregation, and restricted opportunity.

APPROVED, AS AMENDED

RESOLUTION No. 50-20 K: review/ resolution/ CC racism & health RES 50-20 – 6 July 2020

WHEREAS, following the senseless and continuous deaths of, and violence against, people of color at the hands of law enforcement agencies nationally and the extraordinary adverse effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on people of color in Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, these recent events cast a light on and laid bare the historic and ever-present impact of racism in our society, particularly with respect to racial inequality in our health care system; and

WHEREAS, declaring racism a public health crisis offers a clear path to acknowledge intentionally and to address disparities and inequities; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Middletown, the *Ministerial Health Fellowship* and *Middlesex County COVID-19 People of Color Initiative* have brought this important issue to the forefront by advocating for people of color, but, also, by raising the alarm and by educating the community as to the unimaginable scope, scale, and adverse impact of this pandemic on people of color and, thus, on this City as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the City of Middletown, in conjunction with *The Greater Middletown Health Enhancement Community* ("Greater Middletown HEC"), supports a community-based initiative, which supports long-term, collaborative, and cross-sector efforts to improve community health in our defined geography through broad, systemic change; and

WHEREAS, the main goal of such initiative is to advance health equity by working in partnership to improve the social, economic, and physical conditions that enable individuals and families to meet their basic needs, achieve their health and well-being goals, and thrive throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Middletown's Common Council has acknowledged continually, and remains united in, its longstanding, bipartisan commitment to guarantee and protect the fundamental rights and liberties for the City and its inhabitants as collectively set forth in the United States Constitution, State and Federal laws, and Federal courts, acknowledging that differences of race, creed, and national origin are essential to the health, safety and welfare of this City and its inhabitants, and serve as a source of strength rather than as causes of discrimination, segregation, and restricted opportunity.

WHEREAS, the Common Council's bipartisan commitment to the issues and concerns surrounding the rights and liberties of all people is longstanding, evidenced by adoption of an Ordinance in February 1978, some 42 years ago, creating a permanent City authority – the Commission on Human Relations -- to ensure that this commitment be fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, given that longstanding commitment, and in response to growing unrest, on October 2, 2017, the Common Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 124-17, which authorized a special project under the auspices of the City of Middletown's Human Relations Commission. That project was to determine specifically how the City could foster the fundamental rights and liberties of all people with a particular focus on race and equality. The findings of that Human Relations Commission project work are summarized in the *Final Report on Anti-Racism Initiative in the City of Middletown*, which was presented publically to the Common Council during its regular meeting on July 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in its continued commitment to all people, on June 11, 2020, the Common Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 36-20, requesting that the City attorney immediately draft an ordinance to create a *Permanent Taskforce on Anti-Racism*, designed to build upon the City's existing law under which the Commission on Human Relations currently functions, and that such proposed amendment be ready for the Common Council's consideration at the Common Council's meeting on July 6, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN: In light of its longstanding concern for, and commitment to, the rights and liberties of all people, the City of Middletown declares that racism and any health crisis, including, but not limited to any pandemic-like crisis such as Covid-19, which may pose a threat to the health, safety, welfare, and/or well-being of any of the City's constituents, especially to people of color, is a public health crisis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that every effort must be made to catalyze and authorize data analysis and policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and to ensure the implementation of policies and actions to dismantle, to course-correct unjust health care systems, and to implement systems essential to the health, safety, and welfare of this City and its inhabitants and which are a source of inclusive, community strength rather than causes of discrimination, segregation, and restricted opportunity.

Financial Impact: None

Councilman Darnell Ford reads the resolution and moves to approve.

Approving that, in light of its longstanding concern for, and commitment to, the rights and liberties of all people, the City of Middletown declares that racism and any health crisis, including, but not limited to any pandemic-like crisis such as Covid-19, which may pose a threat to the health, safety, welfare, and/or well-being of any of the City's constituents, especially to people of color, is a public health crisis; and that every effort must be made to catalyze and authorize data analysis and policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and to ensure the implementation of policies and actions to dismantle, to course-correct unjust health care systems, and to implement systems essential to the health, safety, and welfare of this City and its inhabitants and which are a source of inclusive, community strength

> rather than causes of discrimination, segregation, and restricted opportunity; and that, having acknowledged that racism is directly linked to the inequalities of health status and health care and the resulting public health crisis, especially as now seen in the Covid-19 health crisis, the Common Council hereby requests that, beginning in October 2020, the Permanent Taskforce on Anti-Racism timely and promptly provide written quarterly reports -- January, April, July, and October -- which set forth the Taskforce's work, including, but not limited to, any and all measures and actions taken of the following: efforts to catalyze data and data analysis, policy analysis to prevent unintentional injustices, and the implementation of policies and actions correct, and, where needed, any recommendations to dismantle, properly, problematic systems during a public health crisis.

Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell seconds the motion.

Councilman Darnell Ford recognizes everyone's hard work, noting that this document was prepared over the past weekend. They realize how important the issue is and how important it was to put it in writing. He recognizes Councilman Nocera, Councilman Loffredo, Council Clerk Linda Reed, the Mayor, and Attorney Brig Smith.

Councilman McKeon for coming together and putting it in writing what we have been hearing from the public and the various organizations that came together to give us the information that we needed. To solidify in Middletown what his means to us and what this crisis is. This should set the precedent for what Middleton is going to look like with these injustices that live in Middletown.

The Chair calls on Councilman Edward McKeon. In light of the last amendment in the previous item, he offers friendly amendment to strike the quarterly riots from this resolution.

The Chair asks Councilman Darnell Ford if this friendly amendment is amenable to him.

Councilman Darnell Ford replies, 'It is."

Councilman McKeon commend Rev. Robin Anderson for her efforts to make this possible. She has been pushing for this statement, which has been adopted by several cities in Connecticut and in the nation. She is not the only one, but she had his ear and convinced him it was important.

The Chair echoes those comments, adding thanks to Health Department Manager Kevin Elak for researching some of the other ordinance and that quick turnaround. The Chair calls on The Council Clerk.

The Council Clerk asks to confirm that the entire paragraph is being removed.

The Chair and Councilman Nocera say that is correct. The Clerk thanks them, noting that she wanted to be sure of the language change.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr.

Councilman Faulkner states that he has a question. Looking at the overall task force, *(inaudible*). He doesn't see any problem there.

The Chair states it was accepted as a friendly amendment, so he is not sure if they need to have vote, if there is opposition or not. The Chair defers to Corporation Counsel Dan Ryan.

Attorney Ryan replies that it has been accepted as a friendly amendment, so they just vote on the resolution.

Councilman Faulkner states that he would like to offer another friendly amendment. In a communication from *(inaudible)*, one of the things in the 4th "Whereas," it states:

> **WHEREAS,** in the City of Middletown and *Middlesex County COVID-19 People of Color Initiative* . . .

Councilman Faulkner states that he would like to insert *Ministerial Health Fellowship* in this resolution.

> **WHEREAS,** in the City of Middletown, the *Ministerial Health Fellowship* and *Middlesex County COVID-19 People of Color Initiative* **. . .**

Councilman Faulkner asks Councilman Loffredo if he can read that. He states that they both played a role: Middlesex County COVID-19 People of Color Initiative and then the involvement of the Ministerial Alliance as well, they should be properly represented in the resolution.

The Chair states that he understands that Councilman Faulkner is recommending friendly amendment.

Councilman Faulkner replies, "Yes, if that is possible."

Councilman Nocera states that he agrees with Councilman Faulkner. It was in the original draft and was mistakenly left out.

The Chair replies that it was in the original draft, but must have been removed in the editing process. The Chair calls on the Council Clerk.

The Council Clerk confirms for the record that the 4th paragraph of the resolution will now read:

> **WHEREAS,** in the City of Middletown, the *Ministerial Health Fellowship* and *Middlesex County COVID-19 People of Color Initiative* have brought this important issue etc. **. . .**

Councilman Faulkner confirms the group's name as Ministerial Health Fellowship.

The Council Clerk asks if the placement in the body of the text correct. Councilman Faulkner replies, "Yes."

Corporation Counsel Dan Ryan asks if there is a second to that amendment.

Councilman Loffredo remind the Council that it is a friendly amendment and, if everyone agrees **. . .**

(*Multiple speakers – inaudible).*

Councilwoman Salafia states that Councilman McKeon needs to accept it as a friendly amendment. She ask if the Ministerial Health Fellowship is a different organization than the organization referenced in the next paragraph, which is The Greater Middletown Health Enhancement Community (HEC). She asks to confirm whether or not this is a different organization

Unidentified speaker: It is separate.

Councilwoman Salafia, reiterates that there are three (3) different organizations.

Councilman McKeon states that it is not he who needs to accept the amendment, it is Councilman Darnell Ford.

Councilman Darnell Ford replies that there are three (3) separate organizations and that he accepts the friendly amendment.

The Chair asks if there are any further comments on the underlying motion. There being none, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the resolution, amendment, asking that the Council Clerk read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	aye

The Chair states that the motion to approve the resolution, as amended, is unanimously approved with 12 aye votes. (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico, McKeon, Nocera, Pessina, and Salafia) The Chair states the matter is approved.

19. Mayor's Appointments

The Chair offers the following appointments:

Russell Library Board of Trustees:

- **Gregory Harris (U):** appoint as regular member to the balance of the 3-year term to May 31, 2022, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Bruce Markot in August 2018

South Fire District Building Committee:

- **Philip Pessina (R):** appoint as Common Council representative, replacing former Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta

LGBTQ+ Advisory Board:

- **Philip Pessina (R):** reappoint as regular member to balance of 3-year term to September 30, 2022
- **Salvatore Uccello (D):** reappoint as regular member to balance of 3-year term to September 30, 2022

Councilman Vincent Loffredo moves to approve the proposed appointments. Councilman Grady Faulkner, Jr. seconds the motion.

The Chair asks if there are any further comments on the underlying motion. There being none, the Chair calls for a roll call vote on the proposed appointments, asking the Council Clerk to read the roll.

Councilwoman Blackwell	aye
Councilwoman Carta	aye
Councilman Faulkner	aye
Councilman Darnell Ford	aye
Councilman Edward Ford	aye
Councilman Gennaro	aye
Councilman Loffredo	aye
Councilman Mangiafico	aye
Councilman McKeon	aye
Councilman Nocera	aye
Councilman Pessina	aye
Councilwoman Salafia	absent

The Chair states that the motion to approve is unanimously approved with 11 aye votes. (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico, McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina. Councilwoman Salafia is absent.) The Chair states the matter is approved.

20. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair calls for motion to adjourn.

Councilman Eugene Nocera moves to adjourn. Councilwoman Jeanette Blackwell seconds the motion.

There being no discussion, the Chair calls for a vote on the motion to adjourn. The Chair states that the motion to adjourn is approved unanimously with 11 aye votes (Councilmembers Blackwell, Carta, Faulkner, D. Ford, E. Ford, Gennaro, Loffredo, Mangiafico McKeon, Nocera, and Pessina. Councilwoman Salafia is absent.) The Chair states the matter is approved.

The meeting is adjourned at 11:07 PM.

ATTEST:
LINDA S.K. REED,
COMMON COUNCIL CLERK

_____

K: review/ minutes 20 July 06 -- regular meeting minutes – 06 July 2020