



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT**

**QUESTIONS TO DIRECTORS
MARCH 4, 2019
6:00 PM**

MINUTES

The Special Meeting, the Questions to Directors Workshop of the Common Council of the City of Middletown, was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Monday, March 4, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski
Councilman Robert Blanchard (arrived 6:30PM) Councilwoman Eugene Nocera
Councilman Carl Chisem Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilman Gerald Daley Councilwoman Linda Salafia
Councilwoman Grady Faulkner Councilman Robert Santangelo
Councilman Sebastian Giuliano

Absent: Corporation Counsel Daniel Ryan, Esq.

Also Present:

Council Clerk – Linda S.K. Reed Library Director – Ramona Burkey
Arts Coordinator - Keisha Michael Parking Director – Geen Thazhampallath, Esq.
City & Town Clerk – Ashley Flynn, CCTC Planning & Zoning Dir. – Joseph Samolis
Communications Dir. -- Wayne Bartolotta Police Department – Chief William McKenna
Equal Opp. & Diversity – Faith Jackson Public Works Director – William Russo
Finance Director – Carl Erlacher, CPA Public Works Dep Dir – Christopher Holden
Fire Department – Chief Robert Kronenberger Recreation & Sr Serv. Dir. – Cathy Lefkowitz
General Counsel – Brig Smith, Esq. Registrar of Voters (Republican) – David Bauer
Asst. Dep. Gen Coun -- Christopher Smedick, Esq. Technology Services – Bryan Skowera
Health – Kevin Elak, R.S. Water & Sewer Dir -- Joseph Fazzino
Human Resources – Justin Richardson Youth Services Coord. – Justin Carbonella, MPA

Members of the Public: 50

1. Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Robert Santangelo, calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and leads the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk reads the Call of the Meeting and Deputy Mayor Santangelo declares the call a legal call and the meeting a legal meeting.

2. Questions to Directors Opens

The Chair asks if anyone has questions for any directors. The Chair calls on Councilman Eugene Nocera.

Councilman Nocera calls Faith Jackson, Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity & Diversity management to the podium. He asks Director Jackson for a brief update on the Committee's work over the past six (6) months, working on community equity and justice, providing the Council with information on this initiative.

Director Jackson explains that this is a Council project. She refers that Councilmembers to the package that she provided, noting that it gives them a journey of how the project has progressed since given the charge and where they are today. She explains that the Committee is at the point where we want to bring on the consultant, the firm best needed to suit their needs. This firm is The National Conference for Community & Justice, which is based in Windsor, CT. The firm is currently working with the Middletown Board of Education. They have done a great deal of community work in Connecticut, including in New Britain, so the Committee felt that that they were best suited to help further the objectives and goals, the tasks that the Committee wants to accomplish relative to racial justice and equity. This consultant will raise awareness of systemic inequities through a series of discussions and training. They intend to hold three (3) community discussion, engaging up to 40 participants each; two (2) focus groups, which will collect more drill-down data from individual participating, and up to 20 participants each for 2-day training on anti-racism, and action planning engaging up to 25 participants. They will identify where systematic inequities exist in the community and focus on these items. They intend to engage form faith-based groups and the North End a

number of stakeholders. They will train these individual as part of an investment in the project and as a commitment to move this forward. She notes that this is not a process that will be completed in a short period of time. It will take about 9 months with further work to follow. It will give Middletown a sense of where it stands with systematic inequities and injustice. She is asking for this appropriation because, in the original submission, the request was for \$25,000, but the Council approved \$20,000 for this project. The Committee found that, to engage this consultant, they do need an additional \$5,000 to be able to enter into the agreement and move forward with the project.

Councilman Nocera commends Director Jackson and Justin Carbonella, Youth Services Coordinator for their work with the Committee and for finding the most appropriate consultant, who is a match for the community. It was not an easy task. They led the Committee through discussions and now almost have the right consultant on board.

Director Jackson agrees that the Committee wanted to follow through with the appropriate process. She recounts that the Committee issued an RFP. There were three (3) responses. One consultant did not submit on time; another withdrew; and the 3rd consultant, whom they have selected, is known by Justin Carbonella as well as one of the HR Commissioner, Precious Price, is familiar with this entity and has offered good feedback. The consultant is excited to work with Middletown. The Commission is excited about the project and believes it is on the cutting edge as a City that wants to get the pulse and ideas to be a better City embracing all. It will be a journey, but it is a good start.

The Chair calls on Councilman Pessina for this director.

Councilman Pessina indicated that he wishes to address Public Works Director William Russo. Mr. Russo steps to the podium.

Councilman Pessina states that there have been some emails, some misunderstanding, on field usage and ability of residents and their children use the fields. He asks Mr. Russo to explain his understanding of the system should the Council approve Ordinance D and the proposed rates.

Director Russo replies that the field user agreement is confusing, adding that the City Attorney's Office reviewed the language and, along with Public Works, agreed that the text needed to be cleared up. It basically recognizes what has been in the City for the past 50 years with Little League, Youth Football, and Youth Soccer, and Youth Lacrosse, a lot of the teams that are recognized as priority users for field use.

Councilman Pessina asks about flexibility of use for the different tiers. Councilman Pessina adds, "What is your intention?"

Mr. Russo states that there are different levels; priority One Users, Priority Two, and Priority Three. They did research, looking at other towns, and trying to do what towns around Middletown are doing. He explains that Priority Two users will be lowered to 60% Middletown residents. Basically, hardball for example, when dates are available for Pat Kidney and Palmer field, when dates are open, other users will be able to use these facilities.

Councilman Pessina remarks that flexibility is definitely built in.

Mr. Russo replies, "definitely," noting that there are no fees for practices across the board.

Councilman Pessina notes that he just wanted to have this information for the general edification of the Council given these misunderstandings.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski. Councilwoman Kleckowski replies not for this Director. The Chair calls on Councilman Gerald Daley.

Councilman Daley has one question, adding that he appreciate Councilman Pessina having raised those points. He asks, in terms of some of the information posted on line, there was a reference that Xavier – why should they have use of these fields. He asks what took place when Pat Kidney was under construction and what Xavier did for the City for field use.

Director Russo replies that all four high schools – Xavier, Mercy, Middletown, and Vinal – last year when Pat Kidney Field was closed, under construction, the Xavier Athletic Director Tony Jaskot offered the use of the ball fields at Xavier at no charge. Residents are allowed to walk the track; soccer teams are allowed to use the turf field at no cost. He notes that the shared services that these schools gave to the City is a great working agreement. He notes that at Vinal, the City put six (6) fields there and, on a weekend, there are some 300 kids playing.

Councilman Daley states that he raised this item because, in his opinion, Xavier was wrongly, they were maligned unfairly.

Mr. Russo replies, that is not the case; Xavier has been great.

Councilman Daley remarks that, as far as American Legion being Priority One, he believes that this program has been around since the 1960s.

(Unidentified speaker) 1946.

Councilman Daley recalls watching games with Coach Bill Pomfret, after whom the field is now named. It is Middletown Post, which he understands is a designated area under American Legion rules, so that any young person in any town within this region is only allowed to play for Middletown Legion. He also recalls two (2) American Legion World Series, which have been held at Palmer Field. He notes that Middletown made a significant investment to draw people to this facility. He states that, as Economic Development Committee Chair, there is a tremendous economic benefit, especially during tournaments, patronizing local hotels and restaurants. He asks if this was factored in to why they should be Priority One.

Mr. Russo clarifies that, when American Legion plays at Palmer Field, the fee structure is in place for them to pay. He recounts that about four (4) years ago Parks and Public Works consolidated. They found that Middleton Legion is, by far, the largest payer of sports, having paid \$17,750 over four (4) years, which is about \$4,400 per year to pay to play there.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner for this Director

Councilman Faulkner states that Councilman Daley covered his areas of concern in his questions. He explains that he received communications about Xavier and Mercy having been designated as Priority Users and was looking to know why: percentage of Middleton residents on the team or another reason. He has his answer.

Mr. Russo reminds the Council that it is all shared services with these schools.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta for Director Russo.

Councilwoman Bartolotta asks that he go back and revisit the payment schedule. It covers Legion and why as well as the amount of money. She asks that he speak to the overall reason as to why the items listed are not going to be charged, not just Legion, as are Second and Third Priority Users.

Mr. Russo replies that the City looks at them as recreation and, some of the dates . . . Middletown Little League is recreation. He believes that they are able to hold down the costs for these reasons. He suggests that, during the 7:00 PM meeting, the Council will hear from Presidents of those leagues. They are able to put kids on the fields at a minimal cost, The City recognizes that there are different levels and people who chose to play and pay plenty of money, but the City is recognizing Middletown Youth Sports along with the high schools as top priority users. He believes that the shared services that these four (4) high schools give to the City at no charge is a wash. He reiterates that they are just recognizing something that has gone on for a long time for all youth. There are Board of Education teams; Woodrow Wilson team playing at night at Pat Kidney; Ahern Whalen out there, adding that these leagues have distasted forever. Many fields are named to honor the people, who started these leagues. The \$75,000 spent on the Parks Study in 2015 was to study all recreation teams, including those discussed tonight. The question comes upon: do we need more fields. For the teams studied, the answer is clear: no we do not. He believes that they are looking at adding a new soccer/ lacrosse field at Woodrow Wilson Middle School. Once installed, needs will be met.

Councilwoman Bartolotta wants to clarify for the record, noting that this might help: the moneys being waived for the Priority Teams. Ahern Whalen goes before the Recreation committee for grant funding to ensure that every child plays. This was one example as to why priority users are not being charged because it would place an undue burden on them. She asks if this can be said for all groups on the priority user list.

Mr. Russo states that there is a different fee schedule at Palmer Field. Looking at summer baseball, the American Legion, they pay because they charge. No other field in Middleton has a gate fee. They charge a fee and, in turn, pay the City \$100 per game. Other users – Little League, Ahern Whalen, lacrosse, Youth Soccer – they do not turn anyone away. In the agreement, it provides . . . CIAC is bringing tennis to Middleton with finals at Wesleyan, They will send donation to camp fund so that the Recreation Director has funds to send kids to camp. In the agreement, he, as Public Works Director, and the Commission, will hear this and determine the fee and it will go back to the camp fund. He concurs with Councilwoman Bartolotta: these groups make sure that no child is turned away.

Councilman Bartolotta states that her last question is that soccer has three (3) levels. As for the travel teams, which are not all Middleton residents, she asks if they will they be considered priority users or is it just for recreational soccer.

Mr. Russo replies that, under the 60%, there are about 1,000 kids in Middletown Youth Soccer and some 900 are from Middletown. It qualified under the 60% rule. He adds that, although this might need a legal opinion, there is a lease agreement with youth soccer and he believes that the agreement supersedes anything that may go on with Youth Soccer.

Councilwoman Bartolotta clarifies, asking, if the lease agreement covers those travel teams. There is an umbrella, with three (3) levels of soccer. She believes that everyone understands that recreational soccer does a wonderful job, accepting every child, including those who cannot pay the fee. If the other levels fall under the lease agreement, is it correct that they are not also falling under the priority user agreement. .

Mr. Russo replies that this is a shared service with youth soccer because youth soccer . . . we look at everything that has “Middletown” in front of it. Middletown Youth Soccer will pay for the electricity at Country Club Road. They will pay for the irrigation, the repairs; they more than do their part. Those things are pretty expensive so this is shared services under their umbrella whether it is Level One, Two, or Three. They pay for a lot that goes on Country Club Road and Long Hill Road.

The Chair calls on Councilman Eugene Nocera.

Councilman Nocera states that he wants the public to be aware that the Public Works Commission, of which he is a member, review the new field use ordinance and the fee structure extensively over the past six (6) to nine (9) months. It was approved unanimously Middletown is unique as it has a public high school and three (3) other high schools, a feature that is unique for a community of this size: a State school (Vinal) and two (2) parochial Schools (Xavier and Mercy). The Commission felt strongly that there is a significant percentage of local students who attend those schools. Additionally, those schools have a great relationship with the community, sharing fields when there is a need. That is why those schools are priority schools, embracing the idea of community education. There are many reasons that this is important.

Mr. Russo replies that, yes, the Commission did look at all of those elements over the course of nine (9) months.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski. She asks Human Resources Director Justin Richardson to the podium.

Councilwoman Kleckowski has two (2) questions. Regarding the truancy officer position, she asks how they will handle the situation when the hire has three (3) months to obtain the Class V license. How will this work with transporting students?

Mr. Richardson replies that they will work with the Board of Education to find someone to transport those students.

Councilwoman Kleckowski confirms that there are other employees at the Board of Education, who are licensed.

Mr. Richardson replies that he believes so. He explains that they worked with the Board of Education to develop the wording, so there are a number at the Board who currently transport children. He states that he did ask the Union, but did not get a response.

Councilwoman Kleckowski states that she believes that there are people there. She states that, when this question came up before General Counsel Commission, the Union indicated that they were not involved. She asks Mr. Richardson explain that process for the record. She adds that the only change that she sees is the V license and the three (3) month window within which to obtain that license.

Mr. Richardson replies that is correct, adding that the wording of education requirements has also been changed to “any combination,” making it more inclusive.

Councilwoman Kleckowski notes that this language is found in most of the City’s job descriptions.

Mr. Richardson replies, “Yes.” He adds that the Union was notified of the changes on December 20th. The Board of Education was copied. A follow-up was sent in January and again immediately before the General Counsel Commission meeting. They waited as long as possible: 11 weeks. The Union has not met with them; however, they had a sit down -- some discussions – so he believes there may be language yet to be incorporated.

Councilwoman Kleckowski asks if there will be a further change.

Mr. Richardson replies that it is possible.

Councilwoman Kleckowski replies that she thinks that the language right now is good.

Mr. Richardson notes that they have to consult the Union, which he believes they have done.

Councilwoman Kleckowski indicates that the Union had a change -- an election – recently.

Mr. Richardson, confirms, noting that the Union had an election around December 12th. He states that, since the first submission, the Union had 11 weeks to talk among themselves. He also points out that under management rights, the City has the right to change a job description and bargain impact. He opines that, this being a positive impact to the union, he does not see how there could be an objection unless it is something like “a candidate has the ability to,” or something like that. The result would be impact bargaining after this job description is adopted.

Councilwoman Kleckowski asks if it would be easier to table this item until the next meeting to allow the Union an opportunity to have its say without going through this process twice.

Mr. Richards replies that he believes that the job description, as written, should move forward.

The Chair calls on Councilman Philip Pessina. Councilman Pessina states no questions for this director. Councilman Pessina asks Deputy Assistant City Attorney Christopher Smedick to the podium.

Councilman Pessina states that, on tonight's agenda, there is the LGBTQ+ parade and three events on June 15th. The original budget was set for a certain figure and has been changed. He asks Attorney Smedick to explain the lesser appropriation request was determined.

Attorney Smedick replies that, initially, when the budget was proposed, it was set at \$75,000. It was an more ambitious plan. After receiving some pushback and questions about the \$75,000, they looked the event and cut part of the event that was planned for Harbor Park. The festival part of the event is now consolidated on the South Green. They also had planned on live performances, but eliminated that from the budget to accommodate a lower price. In other words, by eliminating some events, the budget has been reduces to approximately \$60,000.

Councilman Pessina commends Attorney Smedick for his work and leadership for this project.

The Chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner.

Councilman Faulkner states that, in reading this title "Middletown Pride, he asks if any other groups will be engage in the planning of this event.

Attorney Smedick replies, "Absolutely." He explains that the City is partnering with the Chamber of Commerce as a leading partner for this event. In turn, the Chamber will be partnering with an LGBT organization, The Triangle Community Center, which is based in Norwalk, Connecticut. They do a lot of programming for LGBT youth and run a lot of Pride parades and festivals in Connecticut. It is a welcoming event, so to the extent they can get more groups involved, absolutely. They would love to see that,

Councilman Faulkner agrees that it is important to get other groups involved such as NAACP and groups like that. His notes that his concern is that we are to be embracing people so other groups should be involved.

Attorney Smedick replies, "Absolutely," noting that if there other groups or contacts that they should reach out to, please pass along that information. And he will promptly contact them. The bigger the better.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski.

Councilwoman Kleckowski asks Attorney Smedick to explain what festivities . . . first what is the organization, noting that she read the Chamber and JCC. Also, she asks what activities are envisions for the South Green and Harbor Park.

Attorney Smedick replies that they have partnered with the Chamber and also with The Triangle Community Center, which is the TCC. That group has boots on the ground, that ability to plan these types of events. They will coordinate and manage, which is why that contract is before the Council tonight. The scope of the event is a parade starting at about 2:00 PM. Immediately after the parade, there will be a festival on the South Green. We are working with the Chamber to get vendors and entertainment for the South Green. There will no longer be an evet at Harbor Park. We are working with the Canoe Club and Lady Katherine to create programming, as we are with all local businesses, for the day of this event. Events will be cross-promoted, but there is no City sponsored event at Harbor Park.

Councilwoman Kleckowski asks how the dollar amount -- \$60,000 – was determined. It is an unusual expense to ask for money to pay for a festival.

Attorney Smedick replies that it is not an unusual request; rather, it is a new request to pay for anew event. This dollar amount can to be after sitting with the Chamber and The Triangle Community Center (TCC) group to budget for how much items would cost. The first avenue was looking at the cost of City services: Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, parks. He got quotes from those City departments. They subsequently looked at promoting the event, including merchandise to promote the event. He notes that the whole point is to try to make the event self-sustaining. Working with the Chamber and local businesses, he notes that they are trying to create revenue streams to fund the event in the future. He explains that he is a onetime cost for flags and banners as we do not have a Pride flags or banners that say "Middletown Pride." The quotes are from local vendors to get these items. The overall cost includes a DJ, an MC to jeep the crowd alive. They are considering having a beer garden. To do so, the need to fence the area in; therefore, they have a vendor with that cost. He notes that a lot of the budget, in working with TCC they have done this before so they have a projected budget, information as to how much things cost. At this point they are gestating the cost, adding that they are hoping to get some revenue back from the event.

Councilwoman Kleckowski states, this means that this event will have a line item with the City. She asks where this line will go, the revenue stream, where does it go to the City.

Attorney Smedick replies that, since Planning, Conservation & Development did the appropriation and works with the Chamber, it seems like a natural for to put it there. The City will enter into a contract with the

Chamber, retaining funds for the City's costs. The balance of the funds will go to the Chamber, adding that they are at the point where they are booking DJs, getting banners – they are at the point where they need money to start buying things for the June 15th event.

The Chair calls on Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta. Councilwoman Bartolotta has no questions for this director.

The Chair calls on Councilman Gerald Daley

Councilman Daley asks, in terms of clarification, Pride events are not unique to Middletown, noting there are Pride events planned in major cities in June, Pride events are not simply a party for the LGBTQ community; rather, it is intended to be an affirmation of openness and human dignity, including for the LGBTQ community. It is a recognition of that everyone is entitled to respect and human dignity. He adds that this year is the 50th anniversary of a specific event, which occurred in New York City. He asks Attorney Smedick to tell the council a bit about that event, why it adds special significance to affirming and recognizing everyone's human dignity.

Attorney Smedick replies that Pride events are common in major cities. In Connecticut, a few cities have Pride events, but, with the exception of Norwalk, which is week prior to Middletown Pride, this Middletown event is the only one having a parade during the month of June, which is pride month. He explains that June is Pride month because, on June 28, 1969, there was an uprising at the Stonewall Tavern. Essentially, the New York City Police came in and tried to arrest members of the LGBT community, so, at that moment in time, the LGBT community started to fight back. This is the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, which marks the beginning of the modern gay right movement, adding to its significance. Also, this year, in New York City at the end of June, World Pride will occur for the first time in the United States, noting that it would be a great year to get on board.

Councilman Daley states that in terms of Economic development, they expect a significant boost to the local economy by the fact that the Pride event will attract many, many – probably thousand – of people to Middletown, who will frequent local businesses and help local economy.

Attorney Smedick replies, "Absolutely," noting that it is not just a party, but the purpose is to be educational, to expose people to a way of life that they may not see every day, to reduce prejudice. He adds that is his mission to work with the Chamber and local businesses to get everyone involved to create a strong economic impact on Middletown so this event happens in the future. The overwhelming response in the community has been very positive, everyone is very excited. He notes that, as a government worker, it is wonderful to see people so excited about a City event.

The Chair calls on Councilman Philip Pessina.

Councilman Pessina states, relative to Councilwoman Kleckowski's questions, it was their goal on the planning committee, based on the other events that take place in the State and throughout the country, that this event will eventually become self-sustaining. She asks if that is the goal.

Attorney Smedick replies, "Absolutely."

Councilman Pessina continue, this is so that the group will not have to come back to the Council, reiterating that it will be self-supporting.

Attorney Smedick states that they are working with local businesses to create revenue streams; they will work aggressively with the Chamber to get sponsors for the event, adding that a lot of corporations like to donate as it is philanthropic. They expect a large sponsorship, so that between these sponsorships and the revenue streams, the event will become largely, if not fully, self-sustaining.

The chair calls on Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta. Councilwoman Bartolotta replies that she has no questions for this director, but has questions for the City's Genial Counsel, Attorney Brig Smith, if he is here, and for the Planning Director, Joseph Samolis.

Councilwoman Bartolotta notes that she asked both the podium as they may want to call on each other for this item. She asks about the RFP for St. Vincent de Paul, which is on this evening's agenda. Knowing that it failed for the 8-24 review – rather that it did not have a positive report for the 8-24 review – what does that mean for tonight's council vote.

Attorney Smith replies that Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24 sets the requirements for the Planning & Zoning Commission to look at a property's re-use or redevelopment, as is being done with Green Street. The Planning & Zoning Commission, as he understands it, noting that the Planning Director will not better than he, but rejected the proposal by 1 to 6.

Planning Director Joe Samolis, replies, "Yes, that is correct."

Attorney Smith states that now, before the Council, is the proposal to be considered. Under the statute, if the Council, by a 2/3 majority votes to approve it, then they override the Planning & Zoning Commission, so it is a done deal at that point.

Councilwoman Bartolotta asks if the Council then does not have to address the 8-24 language this evening, that the Council is overriding that.

Planning Director Samolis states (inaudible).

Attorney Smith replies that, if it is the same proposal that was in front of Planning & Zoning (Commission) and the resolution before Council then passes – the same proposal, then the Council would not need to explicitly mention it in the resolution. It would probably not hurt to mention it in the motion that it is regarded as the override, so the record is clear, but no magic language in the resolution is needed.

Councilwoman Bartolotta asks what happens if the proposal is different.

Attorney Smith replies that, if the proposal is different, then his read, his office's read of Section 8-24 is that it is different under Section 8-24, unless it is a *de minimus* change, it really is a new proposal and a new vote. In that case, if it is a different proposal, or a tweak on an existing proposal that is not *de minimus*, Council would consider it, in the first instance by majority vote. At that point, it would have to go back to the Planning & Zoning Commission for their consideration, and, again, it would be a majority vote in the first instance. Now, playing three (3) steps ahead, if that proposal then failed, it would then come back to the Council with a 2/3 majority requirement that faces the current proposal.

Councilwoman Bartolotta replies that, essentially, if it is not the same proposal this even that gets voted on -- say it is amended -- than that would need to go back to the Planning & Zoning Commission for an additional review. If it failed again, then it would have to come back to the Council again.

Attorney Smith replies, "Correct, absolutely correct."

The chair calls on Councilman Grady Faulkner.

Councilman Faulkner recalls Attorney Brig Smith and Planning Director Joseph Samolis to the podium.

Councilman Pessina makes a point of order, asking if the doors can be closed because they cannot hear the conversations here.

(Unidentified) The doors must remain open during a public meeting.

Councilman Faulkner asks, recalling that he spoken with both Attorney Smith and Mr. Samolis, regarding this topic. One thing he is curious about is the RFP is how information was distributed that the building was available.

Mr. Samolis replies that the Office of Planning, Conservation & development knew of several groups that were interested in Green Street Art Center. They made sure that those organizations received either an electronic copy or hard copy of the proposal. In addict, he notes that the City's purchasing guidelines and the Green Street Art Center guidelines that the City has adopted, require that it has to be advertised in a periodical or newspaper. He adds that, in this case, the notice was done by the Purchasing Department in the Hartford Courant.

Councilman Faulkner asks it was strictly for human services or wide open.

Mr. Samolis replies that it was a wide open RFP. It was reviewed by the Economic Development Commission in this room about a year ago and was drafted to leave it open for anyone to apply. They were welcoming all ideas for the use of this potential structure.

Councilman Faulkner states that his other concern is that his is similar to Oddfellows where the City was leasing the building, but this is an actual change of ownership.

Mr. Samolis replies, "Yes," adding that the way the current proposal – noting that Attorey Smith can speak to in greater depth in terms of the contract -- is a purchase and sale agreement rather than a lease agreement, so this – what you have in front of you – would be sold to St. Vincent de Paul.

3. Questions to Directors Closes

There being no further question, the Chair closes the Questions to Directors session at 6:49 PM.

4. Meeting adjourned

Councilman Gerald Daley moves to adjourn. Councilman Sebastian Giuliano seconds the motion. The Chair calls for the vote. It is unanimously approved with 11 aye votes. The Chair states the motion passes unanimously. The meeting is adjourned at 6:50 PM.

ATTEST:

LINDA S.K. REED,
COMMON COUNCIL CLERK

K: review/ minutes – 19 March 04 -- questions to directors – 4 March 2019