CITY OF HARTFORD COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA



MONDAY JULY 12, 2021

LIVESTREAMING ON <u>WWW.HPATV.ORG</u>
7:00 PM

Attest: Noel F. McGregor, Jr. Town & City Clerk



Court of Common Council

REVISED

COUNCIL'S AGENDA MEETING OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL JUNE 28, 2021

COMMUNICATIONS ACTION TAKEN

- 1. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution requesting that pursuant to City Charter Chap. X, Sec. 7, the Court of Common Council hereby authorize the Mayor to expend Uncommitted FY'21 Budget Surplus, after transfers to Fund Balance and CIP/Pre-funding of school construction projects, for purposes of allocations approved in the ARP.
- 2. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution that would authorize the City to accept a \$200,000 grant from the State Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development to initiate a comprehensive environmental assessment of the Burgdorf/McCook Campus at 80 Coventry St.
- 3. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution authorizing the City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services to receive annual grant in order to support public health emergency preparedness activities funding from the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG).
- 4. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution authorizing the City to apply for and accept approximately \$3 million in Ryan White Part A federal grant funds to provide core medical and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS in Hartford and surrounding areas.
- 5. MAYOR BRONIN, with accompanying resolution authorizing the City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services to receive funding from the Environmental Protection Agency to strengthen public outreach on EPA-approved disinfectants and their use, and to train community health workers to help residents reduce exposure to environmental hazards.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

6. (COUNCILMAN LEBRON) (COUNCILMAN GALE) Ordinance Amending Chapter 28, Article IX, OF THE Municipal CODE OF Hartford to Align Standing Building Committee FOR School Building Projects With State Law – Special Act 01-7.

Hearing Date Monday July 19, 2021

FOR ACTION

7. ORDINANCE as amended Chapter 2, Appointments of Departments Heads Requirements, Section 850 Residency requirements of the Municipal Code.

RESOLUTIONS

- 8. (MAJORITY LEADER CLARKE II) (COUNCILWOMAN SURGEON) Resolution requesting that the Court of Common Council appoints Martin B. John to the Internal Audit Commission.
- 9. (COUNCILWOMAN BERMUDEZ) (COUNCILMAN MICHTOM) Resolution requesting that the City of Hartford will designate an employee to operate as a liaison for organizations and groups within the city that represent and serve the city's many immigrant and refugee communities

Attest: Noel F. McGregor, Jr. Town & City Clerk



AGENDA ITEM #1

July 12, 2021

Honorable Maly D. Rosado, Council President, and Members of the Court of Common Council City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

RE: American Rescue Plan Projects

Dear Council President Rosado,

As you know, the City Council approved the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) spending plan on May 19, 2021 and authorized my office to sign documents and enter into agreements to effectuate the terms of the spending plan. At the time of approval of the plan, the U.S. Treasury had issued tentative final guidelines for the use of those funds under the Act.

In order to ensure that the City can fully execute the plan presented and approved by the Council, I am seeking authority, as specified in the attached resolution, to allocate from Uncommitted FY'21 Budget Surplus funds that may be necessary to fund some identified projects within the specific ARP spending categories, notwithstanding that the Final Rules of Treasury might preclude such expenditures under ARP.

It is our view that the allocation plan approved by Council meets the criteria set forth in the ARP legislation. However, Treasury guidelines appear to be interpreting the legislation more narrowly. With the adoption of this Resolution, the City will have some insurance against having to forego some of our proposed efforts. This may be particularly important under the category of Economic and Community Development.

Our team is happy to answer any questions you may have. We respectfully ask Council to take action on this resolution as we are currently trying to finalize the spending plan and the allocation process. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke A. Bronin

Luke A. Bronin, Mayor

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, On May 19, 2021, the Court of Common Council unanimously adopted a Resolution authorizing a multi-year \$116, 698,000 spending plan under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARP"); and

WHEREAS, said spending plan approved allocations among several spending categories consistent with ARP. Among those categories are: Youth Services and Support; Community Safety and Wellness; Business Support and Activation; Housing-focused Non-profits; Arts and Culture; Economic and Community Development; and Revenue Replacement; and

WHEREAS, the US Treasury is responsible for issuing more detailed guidelines for the expenditure of ARP funding, and in so doing, appears to have more narrowly interpreted some the ARP provisions, which could impact the allocation of some funds under the approved City Allocation Plan; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, pursuant to City Charter Chap. X, Sec. 7, the Court of Common Council does hereby authorize the Mayor to expend Uncommitted FY'21 Budget Surplus, after transfers to Fund Balance and CIP/Pre-funding of school construction projects, for purposes of allocations approved in the ARP Allocation Plan, approved by the Council, if in the Mayor's discretion there is a concern that certain projects/programs may not qualify for funding under the Final Treasury Guidelines under the American Rescue Plan Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all manner of other documents and to take such other actions as he and the Corporation Counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interest of the City, in order to expend the above referenced uncommitted surplus; and be it further

RESOLVED, that no person or entity shall be entitled to rely on, or otherwise claim any benefit by reason of this Resolution.



AGENDA ITEM #2

July 12, 2021

Honorable Maly D. Rosado, Council President, and Members of the Court of Common Council City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

RE: Brownfield Assessment Grant

Dear Council President Rosado,

Attached for your consideration is a resolution that would authorize the City to accept a \$200,000 grant from the State Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development to initiate a comprehensive environmental assessment of the Burgdorf/McCook Campus at 80 Coventry St.

The Department of Development Services is happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke A. Bronin

Luke A. Bronin, Mayor

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, On June 24, 2021 the City of Hartford (the "City") was awarded a grant in the amount of \$200,000 under the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development ("DECD") Round 13 Brownfield Municipal Grant Program – Assessment-only to initiate a comprehensive environmental assessment of the Burgdorf/McCook Campus, 80 Coventry Street, Parcel ID 193-056-071 (the "Property"); now, therefore, be it

RESOVLED, That the Hartford Court of Common Council ("Council") hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Hartford to accept \$200,000 in funding from the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development ("DECD") to initiate a comprehensive environmental assessment of the Burgdorf/McCook Campus, 80 Coventry Street, Parcel ID 193-056-071 (the "Property"); and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to apply for and accept such further sums as may be additionally awarded by the grantor under the same program, for the same authorized contract period or any immediate extension thereof, for the same purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all manner of other documents and to take such actions as he and the Corporation Counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the City in order to receive, contract and expend the above referenced funding; and be It Further

RESOLVED, That no person or entity shall be entitled to rely on, or otherwise claim any benefit by reason of this resolution should the Mayor fail to execute the aforementioned agreement or the other documents, or to take any of the aforesaid actions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all approvals and authorizations provided hereby are contingent upon, and only shall be effective on or by the parties executing such documents, and taking such action, all of which shall be, in form and substance, acceptable to the Mayor and the Corporation Council.



AGENDA ITEM #3

July 12, 2021

Honorable Maly D. Rosado, Council President, and Members of the Court of Common Council City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

RE: Capitol Region Council of Governments Public Health Preparedness Grant Funds

Dear Council President Rosado,

Attached for your consideration is a resolution authorizing the City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services to receive funding from the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG).

For many years, the City has received this annual grant in order to support public health emergency preparedness activities. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant will pay the salary and the fringe benefits of one HHS staff, along with the cost of program supplies and materials. This grant totals approximately \$79,000 and no matching funds are required.

The Department of Health and Human Services is happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke A. Bronin

INTRODUCED BY: Luke A. Bronin, Mayor COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, City of Hartford, Health and Human Services Department from many years receives an annually grant in order to provide local public health emergency preparedness activities in accordance with Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Fiscal Assistance; and

WHEREAS, These activities will include but not limited to: 24/7 Coverage Plan; Health Care Coalition Development; HCC Response Plan Development; Characterize Probable Risk; Characterize Populations at Risk; Education and Training; Drills (Exercises and Real Events); Emergency Operations Coordination; Emergency Communications; Strengthen Countermeasures and Manage Access to and Administration of Pharmaceutical and non-Pharmaceutical Interventions; and

WHEREAS, Capitol Region Council of Governments has awarded to the City of Hartford, Health and Human Services Department a Grant of \$78,855.94 for the time period July 1, 2021 through and including June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, The acceptance of these funds will serve to pay the salary and the fringe benefits of the program staff coordinator, and the cost of program supplies; now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is hereby authorized to accept such further sums from the Capitol Region Council of Governments and support as may be additionally awarded by the Grantor under the same program, for the same authorized contract period and for the same purpose; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all manner of other documents and to take such other actions as he and the Corporation Counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the City in order to receive, contract and expend the above referenced grant funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That no person or entity shall be entitled to rely on, or otherwise claim any benefit by reason of this resolution should the Mayor fail to execute the aforementioned agreement or other documents, or to take any of the aforesaid actions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all approvals and authorizations provided hereby are contingent upon, and only shall be effective on and by means of, the parties executing such documents and taking such actions, all of which shall be, in form and substance, acceptable to the Mayor and the Corporation Counsel.



AGENDA ITEM #4

July 12, 2021

Honorable Maly D. Rosado, Council President, and Members of the Court of Common Council City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

RE: Ryan White Part A Resolution

Dear Council President Rosado,

Attached for your consideration is a resolution authorizing the City to apply for and accept approximately \$3 million in Ryan White Part A federal grant funds to provide core medical and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS in Hartford and surrounding areas.

These annual funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through its Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), would cover a three-year period between 2022 and 2025 and will have no impact on the City's General Fund.

The Department of Health and Human Services is happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke A. Bronin

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

Luke A. Bronin, Mayor

City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, Since 1996, the Ryan White Part A Program has provided medical and support services to individuals with HIV/AIDS whose incomes are 300% or less of the Federal Poverty Level, and

WHEREAS, Ryan White Part A grants funds have been provided to the City by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), through its Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and such funds are managed by the Hartford Department of Health & Human Services, and

WHEREAS, The City will submit a grant application for annual funding of \$3,171,274 in formula and supplemental financial assistance under Part A of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 covering the three year period March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2025, and

WHEREAS, These funds will be allocated through contracts with various health and support providers selected through the City's procurement process, to provide medical care and support services for low-income families and individuals in the Greater Hartford TGA, now, therefore, be it

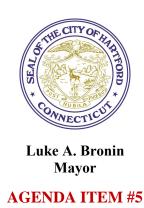
RESOLVED, That the Court of Common Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to apply for and accept approximately \$3,171,274 in annual grant funding from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, under Part A of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009, to implement a program for services for persons living with HIV/AIDS covering the three year period of March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2025, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to accept such further sums as may be additionally awarded by the grantor under the same program, for the same authorized contract period, and for the same purposes, and be it further

RESOLVED That the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all manner of other documents and to take such other actions as he and the Corporation Counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the City in order to receive, contract and expend the above referenced grant funds, and be it further

RESOLVED, That no person or entity shall be entitled to rely on, or otherwise claim any benefit by reason of this resolution should the Mayor fail to execute the aforementioned agreement or other documents, or to take any of the aforesaid actions, and be it further

RESOLVED, That all approvals and authorizations provided hereby are contingent upon, and only shall be effective on and by means of, the parties executing such documents, and taking such actions, all of which shall be, in form and substance, acceptable to the Mayor and the Corporation Counsel.



July 12, 2021

Honorable Maly D. Rosado, Council President, and Members of the Court of Common Council City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

RE: Environmental Protection Agency Funding

Dear Council President Rosado,

Attached for your consideration is a resolution authorizing the City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services to receive funding from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The City has received this grant funding to strengthen public outreach on EPA-approved disinfectants and their use, and to train community health workers to help residents reduce exposure to environmental hazards. This grant totals \$200,000, and no matching funds are required.

The Department of Health and Human Services is happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke A. Bronin

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

Luke A. Bronin, Mayor

City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, The Hartford Health and Human Services Department has applied for and received a cooperative agreement from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be used by the City of Hartford conduct a public outreach campaign and train community health workers; and

WHEREAS, the EPA has informed the City of Hartford will receive funding up to \$200,000 in funds; and

WHEREAS, The funding will be used by the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) to increase the number of residents reached through a public outreach campaign on EPA-approved disinfectants and their use, and to train community health workers to reduce resident exposure to environmental hazards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Hartford Court of Common Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Hartford to accept up to \$200,000 in funding for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to accept such further sums as may be additionally awarded by the grantor under the same program, for the same authorized contract period, and for the same purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any and all manner of documents and to take such other actions as he and the Corporation Counsel may deem appropriate and in the best interests of the City in order to receive, contract and expend the above referenced grant funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That no person or entity shall be entitled to rely on, or otherwise claim any benefit by reason of this resolution should the Mayor fail to execute the aforementioned agreements or other documents, or to take any of the other aforesaid actions, and be it further

RESOLVED, That all approvals and authorizations provided hereby are contingent upon, and only shall be effective on and by means of, the Mayor executing such agreements and documents, and taking such actions, all of which shall be, in form and substance, acceptable to the Mayor and the Corporation Counsel.

Introduced by:

AGENDA ITEM #6

Councilman Nick Lebron

Councilman John Q. Gale

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 28, ARTICLE IX, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF HARTFORD TO ALIGN STANDING BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS WITH STATE LAW – Special Act 01-7.

AND
PURPOSE

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL, CITY OF HARTFORD

July	12,	2021	

Be It Ordained by the Court of Common Council of the City of Hartford:

ARTICLE IX. - STANDING BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

Sec. 28-189. - Creation of committee; general purpose.

A standing committee (hereinafter referred to in this article as the "committee") is hereby established to serve as the building committee for all school building projects which are, or which are in the process of being, undertaken on or after October 13, 1997, other than those specific projects which constitute special school building projects as herein defined. For purposes of this article, a special school building project shall be any regional or cooperative school building project undertaken pursuant to article VIII above or any other school building project which the court of common council exempts from the provisions of this article, after a public hearing.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-190. - Composition of committee; terms; vacancies.

- (a) The committee shall consist of [the following] seven (7) members: three (3) members of which shall be appointed by the Hartford Board of Education, three (3) [public officials as one or more of the same may be replaced pursuant to the provisions of this article: the mayor, the city manager, the Superintendent of the Hartford Public Schools, two (2)] members of which shall be appointed by the court of common council (the "council"), and one (1)[two (2)] member of which shall be chosen by a vote of the other members[s of the Hartford Board of Trustees (or any successor authority)]. The initial members appointed by [of]the council and the board of education[trustees] who are to serve on the committee shall be selected by their respective bodies within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this article.
- (b) The term of office for each member shall be coincident with his or her term of by reason of which he or she has been appointed to serve on the committee. Any

member of the committee whose term thereon expires by virtue of the expiration of his or her term as a member of the council or board of trustees shall be replaced by the respective body of which he or she was a member within thirty (30) days of the expiration of his or her term of office. Otherwise, any vacancy in the membership of the committee shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the departing member's term by the city manager. Any such alternate members shall, when seated, have all the powers and duties of a member of the committee.

(c) The members of the committee shall receive no compensation for their services as such but shall be reimbursed for their necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-191. - Chair person.

- (a) The [city manager] <u>chief operating officer</u> shall serve as the chairperson of the committee.
- (b) The chairperson of the committee shall have full responsibility for determining the time, place and agenda of the committee's meetings and, subject to such procedures as are adopted pursuant to section 28-192 below, the conduct thereof; providing, however, that the committee shall meet at least once every year; and providing further, that all of such meetings shall be held in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (G.S. § 1-21) and other applicable laws and regulations. The chairperson may designate another member of the committee to act as the chairperson in his or her absence.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-192. - Organization; bylaws.

Except as otherwise provided in this article, the committee may draft and adopt bylaws, elect officers and do such other things as it deems necessary in the organization and implementation of its affairs.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-193. - Staff support.

The city may provide staff and other indirect support to assist the committee as deemed necessary or appropriate by the city for that purpose from time to time.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-194. - Powers and duties of committee.

The committee shall have all of the power and responsibilities granted to, or which of necessity must be exercised by, school building committees pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes and any regulations adopted thereunder. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the committee also shall have the responsibilities and authority to:

(1) Provide oversight during all phases of design development for each school

building project (including, without limitation, the development of final plans and specification and contract documents for each such project) and to make recommendations to the board of trustees regarding all of the same;

- (2) Review all change orders which are proposed to be entered into in respect of any project and provide its recommendation to the <u>chief operating</u> officer[city manager] in respect thereof;
- (3) Establish uniform standards for recurring capital expenditure items;
- (4) Review and evaluate performance standards of all contractors (including but not limited to, all design and construction professionals) and subcontractors on each project;
- (5) Review all deficiencies and delays which may occur in respect of any project; and
- (6) Inspect all school facilities, along with appropriate staff, to determine that they have completed in accordance with the plans approved by the committee.

(Ord. No. 21-97, 10-14-97)

Sec. 28-195. - Cooperation by other city agencies and departments.

Each officer, board, commission and department of the city government shall cooperate with the committee in the performance of its duties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the director of public works shall provide periodic oral and written reports to the committee relative to the progress of each school building project as and when requested by the committee. Further, no change order shall be executed by or otherwise approved on behalf of the city in respect of any school building project unless and until the committee has been given sufficient opportunity to review the same.

(Ord. NO. 21-97, 10-14-97)

AGENDA ITEM #7

MAYOR BRONIN

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 850 OF THE HARTFORD MUNICIPAL CODE

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL,
CITY OF HARTFORD

June 28, 2021

Be It Ordained by the Court of Common Council of the City of Hartford:

That Chapter 2, Section 850, of the Municipal Code of the City of Hartford be amended as follows:

(A) All council and Mayor appointees and Unclassified Employees employed by the City, shall maintain a continuous residence in the City during the period of such appointment or employment. This section shall not apply to new employees or appointees during the first six (6) months of such employment or appointment. If such individual ceases to be a bona fide resident of the City once the residency has been established or fails to become a bona fide resident within six (6) months of the appointment or employment, the Council shall, by a vote of seven (7) members, send notice to the mayor that pursuant to the provisions of Chapter V, section 3(c) of the Hartford Charter, the office or position of the individual who has failed to remain a bona fide resident of Hartford shall thereupon become vacant, and such appointment or employment shall terminate.

Bona fide resident is defined as:

- (1) An employee who has a Hartford mailing address. A post office address does not qualify as a bona fide Hartford address:
- (2) Be a registered Hartford voter; and
- (3) If the employee owns a motor vehicle, said motor vehicle must be registered in the City of Hartford.
- (B) The provisions of subsection (A) above shall not apply to individuals who were employees and appointees at the time of the effective date of this section.
- (C) Notwithstanding the requirements established in Section (A) above, the Mayor may request from the Court of Common Council a waiver of the bona fide residency requirement by resolution for directors of the following departments: i) Management, Budget and Grants, ii) Metro Hartford Innovation Services, iii) Emergency Services and Telecommunications, and iv) Finance, provided that (a) prior to making such a request for any individual for whom the Mayor requests a waive the residency requirement, the open position shall have been publicly posted and advertised for a period of not less than one month, (b) shall have been actively promoted on public message boards, city newsletters, city website, and social media accounts, as well as through Neighborhood Revitalization Zones, and (c) the Mayor shall interview any applicants who are Hartford residents and who have been deemed to meet the eligibility requirements for these positions prior to requesting the waiver. A resolution by the Court of Common

Council granting the waiver of the bona fide residency requirement at the request of the Mayor shall specify (a) the means by which the open position was made known to the public, and (b) the nature of the technical knowledge or specific training, experience or certification required to effectively perform the responsibilities of the position. The waiver of the requirements of Section (A) may be granted by a majority of the Council members present and voting.

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(D) The maximum salary for any Department Head for whom the residency requirement is waived pursuant to subsection (C) shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) from that set forth in the applicable pay scale. The maximum salary will no longer be subject to said reduction if the Department Head ultimately establishes Hartford residency as defined in subsection (A) and provides proper notice to the Department of Human Resources and Labor Relations.

AGENDA ITEM #8

INTRODUCED BY:

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

Thomas T.J. Clarke II, Majority Leader Shirley Surgeon, Councilwoman City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 2-41 of the Municipal Code of the City of Hartford establishes the Internal Audit Commission; and

WHEREAS, Membership of the Commission shall consist of three members, no more than two of whom are members of the same political party; and

WHEREAS, One member of the Commission shall be appointed by majority vote of the Court of Common Council; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Court of Common Council hereby takes into consideration the recommendations from our top ten tax payers in The City of Hartford; now be it further,

RESOLVED, That the Court of Common Council appoints Martin B. John to the Internal Audit Commission.

AGENDA ITEM #9

INTRODUCED BY:

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

Councilwoman Wildaliz Bermúdez

City of Hartford, July 12, 2021

Councilman Josh Michtom

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HARTFORD'S LEADERS FOR THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford is a diverse, welcoming, and multicultural community; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford values all of the service providers and organizations that work to serve, enrich, and advocate for the immigrant and refugee communities here in our city; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford values the attentive work and the services performed by the City's Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford's Commission on Refugee and Immigrant Affairs (CRIA) released its Bi-Annual Report on the State of Refugees and Immigrants in 2019, in which it recommended that the City "Enhance networks of collaboration and communication among agencies and organizations (including faith-based and ethnic community-based organizations) providing services to immigrants and refugees through a central department or agency;" and

WHEREAS, CRIA released their follow-up Annual report in 2021, re-emphasizing this suggestion as one of the community's biggest needs; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor of Hartford held a press conference in July 2021 to voice support for welcoming Afghan refugees to Hartford, and noted that "the success of those individuals will depend on the support that we provide;" now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City of Hartford will designate an employee to operate as a liaison for organizations and groups within the city that represent and serve the city's many immigrant and refugee communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this designated liaison will coordinate with, and enhance communication among, the many local groups working with refugees and immigrants in the Greater Hartford area; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this designated liaison will work with members of CRIA to implement a plan on how to best achieve the goals outlined in their request for increased communication.