

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 1, 2025
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone and/or Zoom, or a recording in the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at norwalkct.gov/meetings.

Members of the public may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial *9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Monique Cipriano at mcipriano@norwalkct.gov with the subject line "Public Comment" to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Frayer called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Chairman Frayer called the Roll: James Frayer, Barbara Smyth, Heather Dunn, Darlene Young, Anne Wennerstrand, Nora Niedzielski-Eichner

At Roll Call there were six (6) Committee members present constituting a quorum. Dajuan Wiggins was not present.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: MARCH 4, 2025

Ms. Wennerstrand noticed her first name was spelled incorrectly. The correct spelling of her name is Anne Wennerstrand and not Ann Wennerstrand, for the record.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH CORRECTION**

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation. Chairman Frayer closed public participation at 7:03p.m.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A.

1. **AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC FOR PROJECT RD2025-1 - ROADWAY PAVING AND SIDEWALKS FOR FLAX HILL ROAD (FROM ARBOR DRIVE TO HIGHLAND AVENUE) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$1,801,903.30.**

ACCOUNT NO.

09 24 4021 5777 C0021

09 25 4021 5777 C0021

09 19 4021 5777 C0318

09 25 4021 5777 C0318

09 25 4021 5777 C0440

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2. **AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC FOR PROJECT RD2025-1 - ROADWAY PAVING AND SIDEWALKS FOR FLAX HILL ROAD (FROM ARBOR DRIVE TO HIGHLAND AVENUE) FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$180,190.33.**

ACCOUNT NO.

09 24 4021 5777 C0021

09 25 4021 5777 C0021

09 19 4021 5777 C0318

09 25 4021 5777 C0318

09 25 4021 5777 C0440

Chairman Frayer read both items together.

Mr. Meehan reported on this. He explained the bid project design work to do construction on Flax Hill Road for the realignment of the road and bike paths. He stated they received three (3) bids. They have worked with The Grasso Companies in the past and would like to recommend them for this work. He said that this is an ambitious project, and they are confident that they can handle this project in the given amount of time they were allocated. DPW is following the Complete Streets Design for every project they put out. TMP signs off on the projects to ensure they are aligned with it. DPW and TMP collaborate on many projects.

They are hoping to keep all disruptions at a minimum. They are looking to begin as soon as June with a deadline for October. They are not anticipating going past that timeframe. When the time comes close to begin, all residents will be notified prior to that. There is going to be drainage work in that area by another company through the on-call drainage project in preparation for this upcoming project. They will begin with concrete curbs and sidewalks and then follow-up with paving and striping.

****MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

B.

1. **AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO INCREASE THE PURCHASE ORDER FOR THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE APRIL 9, 2024, AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND BURNS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., FOR PROJECT PM2024-2 – PERMANENT ROADWAY REPAIRS AND SURFACE RESTORATION, BY AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$400,000.00.**

ACCOUNT NO.: 03 00 00 2602

Mr. Meehan reported on this. Eversource has done work on West Cedar Street, Elizabeth St., and South Main Street. Public Works believe that they can restore this area faster under their own contract with Burns Construction. They would like to implement this and are confident in their work.

Ms. Valadares gave the timeline schedule. Elizabeth St. and South Main Street will be on April 14, 2025 and West Cedar Street will happen on April 21, 2025. She explained the undergrounding of utilities there.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VI. REPORTS

A. TREE OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING

Mr. Torre reported on this. There were three (3) removals at the parks, two (2) removals at the schools and 11 removals within the Right-of-Way. They pruned one (1) tree in the park, zero at the schools and 24 trees within the Right-of-Way. Mr. Torre spoke about the Tree Canopy Meeting held by Recreation and Parks. He stated it was a workshop. He said they need to commit to planting every year for the next 25 years to get where they need to be. A discussion ensued about where the trees should be planted based on the Master Plan and the other factor it entails. Also, it was mentioned that perhaps Planning and Zoning should be involved with this when it comes to new developers coming into town. They should be required to plant trees, especially when they take them down. The concern is to keep it green.

B. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT

Mr. Szabo reported on this. The transfer station will receive a new data collection system anticipated before July of this year. Recycling is down. They have begun tagging carts that have contamination and Win Waste has been keeping track of that. They are starting to see more cart tags being placed. They require the residents to remove the garbage or whatever is in there that shouldn't be, or the residents would have to bring it to the transfer station themselves. Mr. Szabo said that the lower numbers aren't necessarily bad because they are getting better recycling. They are continuing to monitor that. They are going to support the tagging of the cars with recycling education so if they tell someone they're doing something wrong they could fully understand and correct it. As part of the new contract with Win Waste, Win Waste is developing a lot of educational flyers and mailers. As June approaches, Win Waste will send out an envelope with all the program information regarding recycling, garbage, and collection requirements. They will be switching to new uniform garbage and recycling carts to all eligible residents. The carts will be 65 gallons for garbage and recycling. He said another thing that they may underestimate is the bottle/can collection. They are working with Tracey School to help kick off their bottle/can collection. Eyecycle popup for bottles/cans will start on April 21, 2025. This will be held at Veteran's Park across from the boat ramp.

C. FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF REPORT

Mr. Szabo reported on this. The food scrap was slightly down in February. For the past two (2) months the Transfer Station had more than the Rowayton Community Center.

They are projected to beat last year's total food scrap. The Food Waste Prevention Week is coming up and they will post on social media. It is focused on meal preparation and food storage to try to eliminate waste. There will be a Pledge to Recycle Right art class at Cranberry School. Cranberry School has a food compost in their cafeteria. The food scrap program is still a pilot program and has been included in the new budget.

D. UPCOMING PROJECTS STATUS

Mr. Szabo stated that he has been working with Win Waste for Earth Day flyers for recycling. The idea is to try to engage people in recycling. Earth Day will be held on April 26th on the Norwalk Green from 11:am to 3:00pm. The yard waste site will open this Saturday and then every Saturday for the rest of the summer. Yard waste collection begins next week, and they will post on social media. The disposal passes are available now for residents. They are updating the solid waste ordinance and will have a public hearing on this later in the month. The mattress recycling event will be on Saturday, April 12th. The State of Connecticut has two (2) groups, Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee has monthly or quarterly seminars that Mr. Szabo usually attends. The State of Connecticut also revamped the Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management, they began meeting again and it is statewide. It is a coalition to share the collective interest of recycling and composting and managing all their resources. This coalition is more focused on waste. DEEP runs the coalition.

Mr. Meehan gave an update on upcoming construction and design. The construction on Lockwood/Heather Drainage Project is ahead of schedule. There will be a ribbon cutting for the Dreamy Hollow Drainage project on April 9, 2025 at 2:00p.m. The second phase on Flax Hill has been advertised.

VII. DISCUSSION

There was no report on this item.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Smyth moved to adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:13p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A. TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025 **7:00P.M., LOCATION TBD**

