

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC SAFETY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 27, 2023**

Attendance: Jenn McMurrer, Chair; Josh Goldstein; Diana Revolus; Edwin Camacho

Absent: Heidi Alterman; Bryan Meek; Nicol Ayers

Staff: Michele DeLuca, Deputy Director Emergency Management; Chief James Walsh, Police Department; Chief Gino Gatto, Fire Department; Asst. Chief Edward McCabe, Fire Department; Asst. Chief Mark Conte, Fire Department

I. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

McMurrer called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. McMurrer called the roll.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: SALE OF CITY-OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY:

- Fire Department Vessel: M/V “Robert Bedell”, Aluminum fire response vessel; RAIV Hybrid Patrol SAR; 38 feet w/4’ side dive platform; 300 gallons fuel capacity; built by Almar-North River in 2011.
- Police Department Vessel: TP Marine, RIB police response vessel, 26’ w/4’ engine bracket, powered by Twin Evinrude Etec, 300 HP, outboard motors, built in 2006.

Ms. McMurrer opened the public hearing at 7:04PM.

Ms. McMurrer closed the public hearing at 7:05PM.

No one from the public attended.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments this evening.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES- JUNE 22, 2023

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION- MR GOLDSTEIN.**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. McMurrer said that although there is quorum present, they will not be able to vote this evening because one of the members cannot communicate at this point, but they will go through the agenda items and have a discussion but will not act on them and she will have them moved to the full Common Council for the next meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK TO SELL A FIRE DEPARTMENT RESCUE BOAT ON PUBLIC SURPLUS, A PUBLIC AUCTION WEBSITE, AT A STARTING BID OF \$300,000

Mr. Goldstein asked where the money will be spent assuming the boat sells. Chief Gatto said they are planning to use the funds from the sale and the balance of \$240,000 that is in the Port Security grant and purchase a new 31' boat that is safe. Ms. McMurrer asked how much is needed for a new boat. Chief Gatto said anywhere from \$400,000-\$600,000. Ms. McMurrer said once approved by the Common Council how long before the auction will be held and for how long it will be open. Chief Gatto said that is handled by the Purchasing Agent.

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH MAGGIORE CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR THE MEADOW STREET FIRE STATION (STATION 5) BATHROOM RENOVATION FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$84,560.00 ACCOUNT# 09243110-5777-C0673

Asst. Chief Conte provided an overview of the project said they have been working with the architects and will be renovating the existing bathroom to make it adequate for all members of the department and were able to utilize the existing plumbing and will be upgrading the ventilation system. Ms. McMurrer asked what the timeline of the project is once approved by the Common Council. Asst. Chief Conte said it should take about a month.

3. AUTHORIZE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$3,440.00 ACCOUNT# 09243110-5777-C0673

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK TO SELL A POLICE DEPARTMENT RIB RESPONSE VESSEL ON PUBLIC SURPLUS, A PUBLIC AUCTION WEBSITE, AT A STARTING BID OF \$10,000

Ms. McMurrer asked why this boat is only being auctioned for \$10,000. Chief Walsh said that is what the value of the boat is and is a lot smaller than the Fire Department's boat and has been replaced with a boat that they had purchased two years ago with the Port Security grant. Ms. McMurrer asked if the boat sells where the money will be spent. Chief Walsh said it may go into the general fund and but back into their operating budget.

2. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT SHARON CONNORS TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO COLONIAL MUNICIPAL AUTOMOTIVE GROUP (CMG) FOR THE PURCHASE OF TEN 2023 CHEVY POLICE PACKAGE UTILITY VEHICLES UNDER THE COLLECTIVE PURCHASING OF THE GREATER BOSTON POLICE COUNCIL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$453,000. ACCOUNT# 09243010-5777-C0665

Ms. McMurrer noted that the period in the authorization will be changed to a comma to reflect the actual cost of \$453,000 and not 453.00. Chief Walsh said it is the fleet purchase for next year and probably won't come into fruition for another six to seven months. Mr. Goldstein asked out of the 10 hybrid cars that were purchased last year how many are currently being used. Chief Walsh said that order was canceled in January as Ford cancelled the order due to manufacturing issues and they had taken 9,000 orders that there were not able to fill that is why they moved to a different manufacturer.

3. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT SHARON CONNORS TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO COLONIAL MUNICIPAL AUTOMOTIVE GROUP (CMG) FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE 2024 CHEVROLET 3500 HD UTILITY CREW CAB PICKUP TRUCK UNDER THE COLLECTIVE PURCHASING OF THE GREATER BOSTON POLICE COUNCIL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$53,000. ACCOUNT# 092430010-5777-C0665

Chief Walsh said the current pickup truck is 14 years old and they try to be as self-sufficient as they can and move the boats out of the water in the spring with the truck and they tow the variable message signs, use it for transporting traffic control equipment, and will give the scuba team the ability to tow its trailer that they currently do not have the capacity to do so they will be able to accomplish a lot with this truck. Mr. Goldstein said assuming the purchase is approved when it is expected to be operational. Chief Walsh said he thinks it will take four to five months to be built and he is hoping to have it by the spring. Mr. Goldstein asked if any issues are anticipated for the rest of the summer given the issues with the current truck and if there any temporary solutions to deal with this issue. Chief Walsh said the older truck is still working but just can't pull the boats out of the water and will also ask DPW for their assistance if need be as they have been more than gracious. Ms. McMurrer asked if DPW will be asked to pull the boats out of the water. Chief Walsh said they usually hire private vendors to do that. Ms. Revolus asked if DPW can take the boats out of the water rather than hiring a vendor to save on the cost. Chief Walsh said "yes" that can be explored and he will reach out to DPW staff.

4. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT SHARON CONNORS TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO FLEET AUTO SUPPLY, LLC FOR EMERGENCY LIGHTING AND UP FIT FOR 10 POLICE UTILITY VEHICLES, AND ONE CHEVY CREW CAB UTILITY PICKUP FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$240,000. ACCOUNT# 09243010-5777-C0665

Chief Walsh said this is for the equipment that will need to be installed in the new cars.

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE A THREE (3) YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE OPTION OF (2) TWO (1) ONE YEAR EXTENSIONS WITH EVERYTHING PARKING INC DBA CROSS SAFE FOR PROJECT 4280 FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$388,000. ACCOUNT# 013026-5258

Chief Walsh said several years ago they endeavored to privatize the school crossing guard services and was approved in the operating budget last year and went through the RFP process and Cross Safe filled all of the requirements and the price was within budget. He said they will provide, manage, and train for all of the school crossing guards with the city and takes it off of the burden of the police department. Ms. McMurrer said she thinks this will be a benefit to everyone involved but said there are some great crossing guards and asked if they will have the option if they want to stay in that position if they reach out to Cross Safe. Chief Walsh said "yes" and that has already been discussed with Cross Safe. Mr. Goldstein asked if other municipalities were contacted that have used this service and have, they reviewed them

favorably. Chief Walsh said “yes” and that when they were doing the research on this last fall, he reached out to a few in Westchester as well as a few in Connecticut and they all got favorable reviews.

Ms. McMurrer said they are planning to cancel the August 24, 2023, meeting but if there are any action items, she will send a note to the committee members and will move them to the full Common Council do that no business is held up from a timing standpoint.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd