

Public Safety and General Government Committee of the Common Council

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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.



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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 Michele DeLuca at mdeluca@norwalkct.gov with the subject line "Public Comment" to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Public Safety and General Government Committee of the Common Council

March 28, 2024, 7:00pm VIA Zoom

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Public participation
- IV. Acceptance of minutes- February 22, 2024
- V. New Business

Fire Department

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents, agreements, instruments and amendments necessary with Everbridge for use of their Mass Notification Pro Software for Residents for three years.

Cost for year 1: \$31,053.00. Costs for years 2 and 3: \$25,697.78 **GSA Contract #** 511210-Everbridge- 101-00-22-8606-000. **Account #:** 0131-60-5258

Registrar of Voters:

Discuss and vote on whether to approve additional early voting locations within the City of Norwalk.

VI. Discussion

VII. Adjournment

Next Meeting: April 25, 2024 at 7:00p

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC SAFETY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2024**

Attendance: Jenn McMurrer, Chair; Jalin Sead; Josh Goldstein; James Frayer (arrived at 7:29PM)
Douglas Sutton (arrived at 7:33PM)

Staff: Michele DeLuca, Deputy Director Emergency Management; Police Chief James Walsh;
Fire Chief Gino Gatto; Tina Fogel, Personnel Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. McMurrer called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. McMurrer called the roll and all members that are listed were in attendance.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments this evening.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES- JANUARY 25, 2024

****MR. SEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**

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

V. NEW BUSINESS

Police Department

- 1. AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNERS OF 132 WATER ST. LLC. FOR FIVE YEARS FOR \$71,200 PER YEAR WITH 3.0% INCREASES IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS FOR THE NORWALK POLICE MARINE DIVISION BASE, ITS PUBLIC SAFETY VESSEL AND STORAGE SPACE. ACCOUNT# 013023-5297**

Chief Walsh said the Norwalk Police Marine Base has been a good point for well over 40 years but has reached a point where they need to relocate as noted in the backup material he provided to the committee. The building has many structural issues and has flooded three times in the past year, and last month's flooding had over 18" of water and cost \$5,000 to clean it up, and the electrical service has been in disrepair and one of the boats almost incurred a fire and one of the officers sustained an electrical shock and had to relocate the boat to Veteran's Park temporarily while the repair was being made. He said they are proposing to move the Norwalk Police Marine base to 132 Water Street as it is a more suitable location and there will be a lease for five years and would provide sufficient dock space for all three police vessels as well as an office space that is suitable for four officers and is located on the ground floor so will have public access and has garage space for storage as there is a lot of equipment associated with the Marine base. He said after several discussions with the landowner they do believe this is a great move and will also provide them with a better response time because it is located further south in the harbor and out of the wake zone and is a more suitable location. He said they understand it is an increase from the current rent, but the current market value is reasonable of what they are asking and with a 3% increase per year but will be a significant improvement for the officers that serve at the Marine base as there conditions have been less then stellar and he thinks its time to provide them an area that they can professionally perform their service considering the Norwalk harbor is getting busier by the day and public safety vessels are continually needed especially with the Walk Bridge project.

Mr. Goldstein asked who the landowner is at 132 Water Street. Chief Walsh said 132 Water Street, LLC., and is owned by Gary Wetmore and Ted O'Neil. Mr. Goldstein asked if there was ever a discussion or exploration to purchase the property rather than engaging in a lease agreement. Chief Walsh said over the past three years he has researched areas in East and South Norwalk that could be feasible to relocate the Marine base and have settled on this location and the building is a multi-use building and would cost millions of dollars to purchase and the goal is to rent the building for five years and work with Recreation and Parks and Economic Development to work on obtaining a permanent marine base owed by the city.

Ms. McMurrer asked if the plans don't move forward as quickly as they would like them to have a marine unit building built on city property would they have the option to extend the lease. Chief Walsh said "yes" that has been discussed.

Mr. Sead said with the land the state purchased for the Walk Bridge project and once the project has been completed that may be a great opportunity. Chief Walsh said that has been looked at and discussed but part of the issue is that they need a location south of the Stoffolino bridge because they can't be inhibited by the bridge openings and most of the parcel will be used for the project for the next eight to nine years.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNERS OF 132 WATER ST. LLC. FOR FIVE YEARS FOR \$71,200 PER YEAR WITH 3.0% INCREASES IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS FOR THE NORWALK POLICE MARINE DIVISION BASE, ITS PUBLIC SAFETY VESSEL AND STORAGE SPACE. ACCOUNT# 013023-5297**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Goldstein recused himself from the next discussion item and left the meeting at 7:10PM.

2. AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE RECORDS FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE

Deputy Chief Lepore said the Norwalk Police Department implemented the use of body cameras in 2015 to record all calls for service that the officers respond to and at that time any person who would present an FOI request or a records request there was a charge of \$29 per disc which was based upon a fee that was in place in the records division. In December of 2020, a request was made to the Police Commissioner to reduce the cost of the body camera videos to \$5.00 as they felt the \$29 fee was too high, so it was reduced. Since 2018, the request for videos has more than doubled and now have more than 400 requests per year. In 2020, the department implemented dashboard video also associated with the Police Accountability Act, so the video account has also doubled. In 2023, a survey was conducted by her office for the fees that are charged from the surrounding cities and towns and her recommendation is charging a flat fee of \$30 per hour of video.

Ms. Ayers said for clarification there would no longer be a fee of \$5.00 per disc but will now be \$30 per hour per disc. Deputy Chief Lepore said that is correct and the \$30 per hour fee is what they can charge in accordance with records fees for FOI so that they can cover the cost of the disc and the hours that are put into researching and redacting and preparing it to be released to the public. Ms. Ayers asked how often a request is made by a citizen for a disc. Deputy Chief Lepore said over the past four days there have been 11 requests made.

****MR. SEAD MOVED TO APPROVE TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE RECORDS FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Goldstein rejoined the meeting at 7:20PM

Personnel Dept.

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THREE (3) YEAR AGREEMENT WITH HARFORD HEALTHCARE MEDICAL GROUP FOR THE 426R- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

There was no discussion.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THREE (3) YEAR AGREEMENT WITH HARFORD HEALTHCARE MEDICAL GROUP FOR THE 426R- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER AND /OR DESIGNEE TO ISSUE TWO (2) ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSIONS ON THE HARTFORD HEALTH CARE MEDICAL GROUP CONTRACT

There was no discussion.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER AND /OR DESIGNEE TO ISSUE TWO (2) ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSIONS ON THE HARTFORD HEALTH CARE MEDICAL GROUP CONTRACT.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE NON-UNIT PERSONNEL BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION POLICY/ORDINANCE SALARY SCHEDULE THAT WAS BEFORE THIS SUBCOMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 28, 2023. THE INCORRECT VERSION OF THE POLICY WAS ATTACHED AT THAT TIME. WE ARE RESUBMITTING THIS POLICY TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Ms. McMurrer said that she had forwarded Ms. Fogel a question that Mr. Wells had. Ms. Fogel said there was no change to the pay plan and there was an attachment to the pay plan which there were no changes to and the two positions in the Registrar's office are listed, and that section on the policy is not where the error was made and she can submit that to Mr. Wells and if he has any additional questions he can reach out to her.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE NON-UNIT PERSONNEL BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION POLICY/ORDINANCE SALARY SCHEDULE THAT WAS BEFORE THIS SUBCOMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 28, 2023. THE INCORRECT VERSION OF THE POLICY WAS ATTACHED AT THAT TIME. WE ARE RESUBMITTING THIS POLICY TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. DISCUSSION

a. Budget development/priorities with Fire and Police Chiefs

Chief Walsh provided an overview of the budget and said the operating budget is at a 2.94% increase and 1.4% of that is salary based so there is an increase of 1.5% for operational costs but that does include two initiatives that are important which is the proposed marine division increase in rent and two Axon body camera programs which will increase accountability and ease management and efficiency.

Ms. McMurrer asked what was cut from the budget upon advisement. Chief Walsh said various operational accounts, but the Axon program is a priority, and he hopes that it is supported by this committee and the Common Council as it will increase efficiency and accountability.

Chief Gatto provided an overview of the budget and said they had requested four additional firefighters to be put on the rescue truck which is the only vehicle that responds with less than four people which came is at \$335,000 which put a 4% increase for the operating budget, but the finance department said those positions will not be funded so they withdrew the request and are now at a 3% increase.

Ms. McMurrer asked Chief Gatto to provide an overview of the presentation that he had given at headquarters as they people that had attended were very in favor of increasing the staff since it is such a busy station and there is still some time to advocate for items in the budget and this is one that she would like to advocate for. Chief Gatto said the manpower for the rescue truck is part of their goal for

the future and would include the renovation of the Westport Avenue station. He said they requested the renovation in last year's budget, but it was cut and were told it would be funded for this year, but the price increased because it was delayed and requested \$3 million dollars in the capital budget, and it got cut again. He said eventually they would like to put that addition and increase the station from a 4-firefighter to an eight-firefighter station which would help with the response time. Ms. McMurrer asked how many calls station four receives. Chief Gatto said that is the second busiest station the city, but he does not have the exact number of calls but engine two out of headquarters does approximately 3,000 calls per year and the engine out of the Westport Avenue station is in the range of 2,500 calls per year.

Mr. Goldstein asked if the applicants that took the last exam correlated with the four new openings that were requested. Chief Gatto said "no" at that the Fire Commission did not want to hire anyone else from the previous list which was three-year-old and there are seven to eight vacancies but there was a request made by the Finance Department to not fill the vacancies, but the positions are funded, and it would cost more in overtime. Mr. Frayer asked if overtime is more expensive than full-time employees. Chief Gatto said "yes".

Mr. Frayer joined the meeting at 7:29PM.

Mr. Sutton joined the meeting at 7:33PM.

Chief Gatto said they had requested eight different projects on the capital budget totaling \$6.466 and were decimated and only got approved for \$876,000 due to the removal of the \$3 million dollars for the Westport Avenue Station and wanted to put a placeholder in of \$2.5 million dollars for a new ladder truck and would not take delivery for four years or longer and that was also not funded. Ms. McMurrer asked if the finance department was made aware of the supply chain issues. Chief Gatto said "yes", and he spoke to the purchasing agent and she said they will not put a placeholder in unless there is funding in place. Mr. Goldstein asked if by doing that it would lock the price in. Chief Gatto said "yes". Ms. McMurrer said it is concerning to her not to put the placeholder in because everything has increased so significantly in price and that the same ladder truck was significantly less a few years ago. Ms. McMurrer asked Chief Gatto if the committee was to advocate for one of these things, if he would prefer the ladder truck or the improvements to station four. Chief Gatto said the improvements to station four as it is a building from 1964 and the only thing that has been done as far as improvements was to replace the boiler and install a roof, but there are asbestos tiles and air issues etc. Ms. McMurrer asked although not ideal if the project could be done in stages. Chief Gatto said "no" he does not believe so. Mr. Frayer said he does not quite understand that the funds cannot be allocated for the firetruck that they won't take delivery on for four years as it is a five-year capital budget and because it is not being bonded for and can always leave it out of the budget when it comes time to bond for it and asked if there is deposit that is required. Chief Gatto said "no" just a purchase order would be required. Mr. Sead said this is a public safety issue and the city is growing and it would be foolish not to invest in the fire department for these capital projects especially with all of the apartments being built around the city which is putting a huge strain on the fire department, and if the city is not going to invest the development needs to slow down which doesn't seem like is going to happen so they will need to find a way to invest in this because of the public safety of our city. Mr. Frayer asked if the current ladder truck will last for five years. Chief Gatto said "yes" and that the 10-year-old ladder truck was just refurbished and are hoping to get five plus more years out of that but that is why they would like to order a new one now because the delivery takes so long.

Chief Gatto and Chief Walsh left the meeting at 7:45PM.

- b. Optional Additional Early Voting Locations in Municipalities with a Population of 20,000 or more-Registrar of Voters.

Mr. Wells said there is a provision in the early voting law that states the committee decides whether additional voting locations are needed and if not need to explain why. He said the Registrar of Voters office or the Town Clerks office are recommending one and are adamantly opposed to adding one at this time as there is enough capacity at city hall to handle the expected voters for the primary election that is coming up and at that time will determine if another location will be needed for the Presidential election, as well as the increase in cost.

Mr. Goldstein said he thought there were various acts that were currently before the state legislature or had previously been at the state legislature in an effort to help subsidize these efforts. Mr. Wells said they may or may not be putting up some money and that the city received \$10,500 and are requesting more money for the fall which they may or may not receive. Mr. Frayer asked what the increased cost would be. Mr. Wells said approximately \$5,000 per day. Mr. Frayer asked if there is a deadline when the state would need a response. There was further discussion ensued and it was decided that Ms. McMurrer would reach out to the Corporation Counsel's office to get a clear understanding and bring the item to the full Common Council if a vote is needed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. AYERS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd

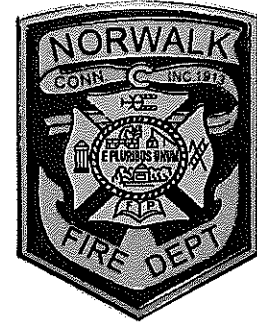
MEMO

To: Common Council, Public Safety and General Government Committee

From: Michele DeLuca, Deputy Director- Emergency Management

RE: Common Council Authorization- Everbridge

DATE: March 21, 2024



Background:

For approx 15 years, the City has used the same vendor for mass notification services to residents (often referred to as Reverse 911 or Code Red). While there are no issues with this vendor, we are paying a lot of money for a system that is used sparingly, especially as we face annual price increases.

The City has historically used the system for emergencies and updates related to emergencies (extreme weather, COVID, shelter in place alerts), rather than using it for routine notifications and special event announcements.

The State of CT uses Everbridge software for mass notifications to residents and municipal officials and has access to a more extensive database of residential and cellular numbers for emergency calls (E-911 database). Connecticut Emergency Alerting and Notification Systems

Building off the State's Everbridge system, Connecticut Municipalities have the following 2 options:

- Municipalities can use Everbridge at no cost for Emergency calls/life threatening calls only. Since this uses the E-911 database, there are clear guidelines and restrictions for what is considered life threatening.
- Municipalities can also contract with Everbridge to use their system for emergency and non-emergency use. For example, post storm updates regarding FEMA assistance, all clear notifications following a shelter in place, or debris pick up. In the case of COVID, the majority of updates sent would've been considered non-emergency.

While the free option is financially appealing, the second option makes the most sense for now. It gives us engage other departments, complete training and use the tools and system. (Note: only the Mayor's office, Combined Dispatch and Emergency Management could launch emergency calls). After we've used the system for 2-3 years, we can either step down to the free service or continue as is.

Everbridge has a variety of tools that we could consider for non-emergency updates, such as allowing residents to opt-in for alerts by texting specific keywords. This could enable more departments to use the system for updates since residents are choosing to receive those updates (possible uses may include Fireworks, hazardous waste days, shellfish bed status, etc).

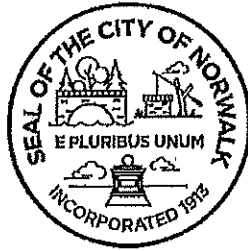
Compared to our current vendor, the savings for the first year of service are approximately \$6,000. For years 2 and 3, the savings would be approximately \$12,000. First year costs include initial implementation and set-up of the system, as well as user and administrator training.

I'm sure it will be a learning process, but that was the case when we started with CodeRed. The biggest challenge/opportunity is we can't export the cell phone data that residents entered into the Code Red database, this would only be an issue for non-emergency notifications since we'd use the State E911 database for emergency/life-threatening calls. We'll have a new opt-in page ready to launch on July 1 and we'll direct residents to this portal as often as possible.

Action Item:

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents, agreements, instruments and amendments necessary with Everbridge for use of their Mass Notification Pro Software for Residents for three years.

Cost for year 1: \$31,053.00. Costs for years 2 and 3: \$25,697.78 **GSA Contract # 511210-**
Everbridge- 101-00-22-8606-000. **Account #:** 0131-60-5258



DEPT OF FINANCE - Purchasing Department

NONCOMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM

DATE: 3/21/24

DEPARTMENT: Fire Dept- OEM

Procurement by non-competitive proposals may be used only when the award of a contract is infeasible under informal competitive Quotations (§3-204), Informal Competitive Request for Proposals (§3-205), seal bids, or competitive proposals and at least one of the following circumstances applies:

Check One:

☐	1	The item is available only from a single source (justification is attached). The provisions of this regulation apply to all sole source procurements unless emergency conditions exist as defined by Purchasing Guideline on Emergency Procurements
☐	2	After solicitation of several sources, competition is determined inadequate (record of source contacts and/or attempts to obtain pricing is attached)
☐	3	The compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is of paramount consideration
☒	4	The item/service is available on a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (please provide the organization name, quote, and the contract/agreement number)
☐	5	The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation (documented emergency contingency is attached). Please forward this form and supporting documentation within 48 hours of the Emergency
☐	6	Other, please explain:

TOTAL COST: \$25,897.78 (+\$355.62- year one set up costs and training) MUNIS Account: 0131-60-5258

VENDOR: Everbridge

Purchasing Agent Signature	The Purchasing Agent		Department Head Signature
Sharon Digitally signed by Sharon Purchasing Agent Name Date: 2024.03.21 09:32:34 -04'00'	☒	Supports	
	☐	Does Not Support	Department Head Name
	☐	Single Source Requires Common Council Authorization (in excess of \$20,000.00)?	Michael DeLuca Date: 3/21/2024

JUSTIFICATION:

GSA Contract: #GS-35F-0692P

Vendor: Everbridge. Service: Mass Notification Pro

For almost 15 years, the City has used the same vendor for mass notifications to residents. (note; the vendor has been purchased multiple times over this period so the Company name has changed. It's currently OnSolve).

While there have been no issues with the vendor, we are paying a significant amount of money for a service that isn't used that often. Historically, the City has used the system for significant events (extreme weather, COVID) rather than community happenings (parades, beach updates)

The State of CT has been using Everbridge for mass notification services to residents and municipal officials for years and has access to a more extensive database of residential and cellular numbers for emergency calls. For post-storm and other non-emergency updates, Everbridge offers more tools for outreach and resident interaction. Since Everbridge is extensively used in the State, there are CT based, SMEs available that can provide assistance/trouble shooting.

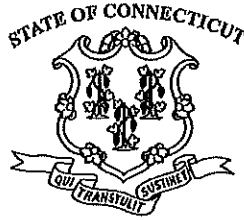
While there are one-time set up fees and training costs added onto the first year costs, the base price is approx \$12k less than our current vendor.

ANY OTHER VENDORS CONTACTED FOR PRICING? (Please attach quotes): _____

Vendor 1: Current Vendor- OnSolve \$37,958 for 23-24. No quote for 24-25 but expected to increase

Vendor 2: _____

EMERGENCY: Explain in detail the nature of the emergency



Substitute House Bill No. 5004

Public Act No. 23-5

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING EARLY VOTING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) (1) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a regular election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each regular election held on or after January 1, 2024.

(B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the fifteenth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such regular election, and (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

(2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a primary, other than a presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each primary, other than a presidential preference primary, held on or after January 1, 2024.

Substitute House Bill No. 5004

(B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the eighth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such primary, other than a presidential preference primary, and (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

(3) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a special election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each special election held on or after January 1, 2024.

(B) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a period of early voting at each presidential preference primary held on or after January 1, 2024.

(C) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2 of the general statutes, commence on the fifth day prior to and conclude on the second day prior to such special election or such presidential preference primary, except that such commencing and concluding days shall be adjusted to exclude from such period March 31, 2024, and any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4 of the general statutes, and (ii) consist of four total days between and inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, as may be adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and at such times as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 9-174 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

Substitute House Bill No. 5004

(4) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-19e, 9-23a, 9-26, 9-31a, 9-55, as amended by this act, 9-56 and 9-57 of the general statutes:

(i) In the case of an unaffiliated elector who wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such elector shall be eligible to so vote if such elector's application for enrollment with the political party holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day on which such period of early voting commences.

(ii) In the case of a person who is not admitted as an elector and who wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such person shall be eligible to so vote if such person's application for admission as an elector and enrollment with the political party holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day during such period of early voting on which such person offers to vote at such primary.

(B) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an individual who enrolls in a political party during a period of early voting at a primary from voting by absentee ballot, if eligible, or in person on the day of such primary.

(b) (1) The registrars of voters of each municipality shall designate a location for the conduct of early voting, which location shall be the same for the duration of the period of early voting except as otherwise specified in this subdivision, provided (A) the registrars of voters have access to the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and (B) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the State not later than one hundred twenty days prior to the day of a regular election or a primary, other than a presidential preference primary, or not later than twenty days prior to the day of a special election or a presidential preference primary. The written certification under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision shall provide (i) the name,

Substitute House Bill No. 5004

street address and relevant contact information associated with such location, (ii) the number of election or primary officials to be appointed by the registrars of voters to serve at such location and the roles of such officials, and (iii) a description of the design of such location and a plan for effective conduct of such early voting. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written certification not later than ninety days prior to the day of a regular election or a primary, other than a presidential preference primary, or not later than fifteen days prior to the day of a special election or a presidential preference primary. If the Secretary disapproves such certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the appointment of additional election or primary officials or the alteration of such design or plan. After having received approval of such certification or having complied with any order for corrective action to the Secretary's satisfaction, as applicable, the registrars of voters shall determine the site of such location designated for the conduct of early voting at least thirty-one days prior to a regular election or a primary, other than a presidential preference primary, or at least eleven days prior to a special election or a presidential preference primary. Such location shall not be changed within such period, except, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters unanimously find that such location has been rendered unusable within such period, such clerk and registrars shall forthwith designate another location for the conduct of early voting to be used in place of the location so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such location has been so changed. The provisions of sections 9-168d and 9-168e of the general statutes shall apply to such location designated for the conduct of early voting.

(2) In any municipality with a population of at least twenty thousand, the legislative body may hold a public hearing on whether to designate any additional location in such municipality for the conduct of early voting, which public hearing, if any, shall be held not later than fifteen

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days prior to the time for designating any such location set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Any legislative body holding such a public hearing shall properly notice such public hearing not later than ten days prior to such public hearing in a newspaper having general circulation in such municipality and on the Internet web site of the municipality. For any such municipality in which such a public hearing was not held, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary of the State with a detailed explanation for such determination. For any municipality in which such a public hearing was held, not later than three days after the conclusion of such public hearing, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary with a detailed explanation for such determination. If the legislative body determines that any such additional location be designated, the registrars of voters shall so designate such additional location and the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to such additional location. The Secretary shall take no action on any detailed explanation submitted under this subdivision with regard to the number of additional locations designated in such a municipality, and shall preserve each such detailed explanation as a public record open to public inspection. For the purposes of this subdivision, "population" means the estimated number of people according to the most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

(3) At each location designated for the conduct of early voting, the registrars of voters shall provide to prospective electors during the early voting period the opportunity to apply for same-day election registration, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 9-19j of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for such application and for the completion and processing of any such application.

(4) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which early