



DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING

CITY OF NORWALK
Department of Engineering
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851
www.norwalkct.gov

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 6, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: James Frayer, Chairman; Barbara Smyth; Nora Niedzielski-Eichner; Heather Dunn; Darlene Young; Dajuan Wiggins (7:15p.m.)

STAFF: Vanessa Valadares, Chief of Operations and Public Works; James Meehan, Principal Engineer; Thomas Szabo, Waste Program Manager

OTHERS: Johan Lopez, Common Council Member; Nicole Eaddy, Common Council Member

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comments are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting's start time. Please email Monique Cipriano at mcipriano@norwalkct.gov to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Chairman Frayer called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

At Roll Call there were five (5) Committee members present constituting a quorum. Dajuan Wiggins arrived at 7:15p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT

PUBLIC INPUT (GUESTS AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS MAY SPEAK TO ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA. COMMENTS SHALL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN THREE (3) MINUTES PER SPEAKER.)

Diane Lauricella of 21 Little Fox Lane greeted the committee. She said she is interested to hear about the discussion items specifically the Stormwater Management Plan MS4 draft. She had been following and reading previous MS4 reports and while all of them have the requisite language in

them, one part of it is the need for public participation. She said there is also a need for education. She said there was a survey that was poorly rendered, presumptuous and alarming to taxpayers. She asked about the tagging systems process and how that works. She said if a person/address keeps getting tagged then there is a need for education and coaching. Ms. Lauricella stated that the food scrap program should go out to bid so they can optimize the program and include more education. She mentioned that she is disappointed with the undergrounding of the utilities on Elizabeth Street and feels they could have routed the Eversource lines further north, closer to the railroad instead of putting the boaters in jeopardy.

It was acknowledged by The Committee that an email was sent on August 6, 2024 at 11:52a.m. by Ms. Lynnelle Jones related to Stormwater Management.

Chairmen Frayer closed public input at 7:09p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024.

There was no report on this item.

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

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE DECEMBER 12, 2023 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND M. RONDANO INC. FOR PURCHASING PROJECT 4322, DRG 2023-3 ON CALL DRAINAGE AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$750,000.00.

ACCOUNT NO.	09 20 4062 5777 C0361
	09 24 4062 5777 C0361
	09 24 4021 5777 C0302
	09 22 4021 5777 C0021
	09 24 4021 5777 C0021
	09 21 4021 5777 C0440
	09 22 4021 5777 C0440
	09 24 4021 5777 C0440
	09 25 4021 5777 C0440
	09 20 4027 5777 C0643
	09 21 4021 5777 C0643
	09 22 4021 5777 C0643

Mr. Meehan reported on this. He stated this is an existing contract and they are looking to increase the funding. The contractor has been doing a good job. They would like to continue with paving and addressing small drainage issues that are happening spontaneously throughout the city.

****MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. TECHNICAL CORRECTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL ACTION OF JUNE 11, 2024, ITEM VII.B.8A TO ADD ACCOUNTS DESIGNATED FOR PURCHASING

PROJECT 4366, BLDG2024-1 PAVING OF BEN FRANKLIN, KENDALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND ROWAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITY PARKING LOT. ACCOUNT NO. 09 25 7100 5777 C0583

Chairman Frayer stated that the technical correction is to add an account to the previously approved project.

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

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE JULY 20, 2023 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND CDM SMITH INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PROJECT DRG 2023-2 ENGINEERING SERVICES – MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4), FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.00.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 19 4027 5777 C0425

09 24 4027 5777 C0425

09 25 4027 5777 C0425

Ms. Valadares reported on this item. She explained what the task orders are to the committee members. The city has the obligation with CT DEEP to put out a stormwater management plan which includes investigating all the outfalls to see if there is any combined sewer that is being discharged illegally. If they find that, it would be their job to find out where and disconnect. There are over a thousand outfalls and CDM has begun this work.

Ms. Young asked if there would be any costs to the homeowners.

A discussion ensued about this project. She said the plan still has things that needs to be addressed. She stated in regard to the study, if they find any property that is illegally discharging to water system, the property owner has the obligation to disconnect which could be at the cost of the homeowner. She said the city has a lot of obligations related to the storm water system now. They are proposing the need to increase the rotation of that cleaning. There will be a cost to the city to do that which may be part of the storm water utility.

****MS. DUNN MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 5. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AUTHORIZE A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE ORDER TO FREIGHTLINER OF HARTFORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) M2 CHIP BODY TRUCK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$167,230.30.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 25 4031 5777 C0313

Ms. Valadares reported on this item. This is part of their fleet management plan. She explained the type of truck to the committee and the process of purchasing the truck.

****MS. DUNN MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE OCTOBER 13, 2021 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND ALMSTEAD TREE & SHRUB CARE COMPANY LLC FOR THE SUPPLY AND PLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS, PROJECT #4130 FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000.00.**

Ms. Valadares reported on this item. She explained the contract to the committee and what they are looking for. She mentioned that they are listing the grant/donation account as well.

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 25 4021 5777 C0233
 09 25 6030 5777 C0830
 38 380000 5790 XXXX**

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

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

A. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN MS4 2024 DRAFT

**PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO VIEW THE DRAFT:
[HTTPS://WWW.NORWALKCT.GOV/1734/STORMWATER-MANAGEMENT](https://www.norwalkct.gov/1734/stormwater-management) THIS
LINK WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR 90 DAYS TILL OCTOBER 21, 2024. PLEASE
SEND ALL COMMENTS TO NEYLA BAUER @ NBAUER@NORWALKCT.GOV**

Ms. Smyth asked if DPW has the staff to manage the recommendations stated by the plan. Ms. Valadares replied not yet. She said they are proposing to do more than what they are doing now and there will be a cost to the operations division. She briefly explained the plan. Chairman Frayer asked if they could hire workers on a contractual basis. Ms. Valadares stated no that would be against the union. Chairman Frayer asked about apprenticeships. Ms. Valadares stated it is possible.

B. TREE OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING – JUNE 2024

Ms. Valadares reported on this. She stated they do not plant trees in the Summer. They will begin tree plantings in the Fall.

C. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT – JUNE 2024

Mr. Szabo reported on this. There was a drop in the solid waste collections and recycling for June. He said that residents going on vacation could be a factor. He said he is not too alarmed about the drop.

D. FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF REPORT – JUNE 2024

Chairman Frayer stated that they are about to make a 100-ton milestone in composting. Mr. Szabo reported on this. Mr. Szabo said that is will be a great achievement when they officially pass 100 tons next month. He said he added information on why composting is important to the education table. His goal is to encourage people and think about the benefits of composting. Ms. Smyth stated that she drops off at the Cranbury Park site and asked how often it is picked up. She noticed that people seem to be dumping on top of the bins and things are laying around. Mr. Szabo said he visited the site locations and noticed that some of the bins need to be rinsed out. He will reach out to the company so they can rinse out the bins and keep it clean and presentable.

Ms. Smyth asked about the sign that is in a planter. She said it is overgrown and the sign can't be read. Mr. Szabo said he would look into that. Ms. Smyth asked about displaying guidelines as well, so residents know the rules. Mr. Szabo went over some of the improvements he was hoping to make at the sites.

E. CURRENT / UPCOMING PROJECTS STATUS

Mr. Meehan reported on this. He went over the projects and asked for any specific questions regarding any of the projects.

1. CONSTRUCTION

- **DRG2019-1 DREAMY HOLLOW STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**
- **RA2022-2 467 WEST AVENUE UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE**
- **RA2023-1 SOUTH NORWALK EQUITABLE TOD INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS**
- **RD2024-1 CURB AND SIDEWALK FOR BERKELEY STREET AREA**
- **DRG2022-1 LOCKWOOD LANE AND HEATHER LANE STORM DRAINAGE**
- **PM2024-2 PERMANENT ROADWAY REPAIRS & SURFACE RESTORATION**
- **RD2024-2 CURB AND SIDEWALK FOR VARIOUS LOCATIONS**
- **RA2024-1 REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED SOIL AT 30 MONROE STREET**

2. ADVERTISED FOR BIDS / PENDING CONTRACT

- **RD2024-3 CURB AND SIDEWALK FOR BEACON STREET AREA**
- **BLDG2024-1 PAVING OF BEN FRANKLIN, KENDALL AND ROWAYTON SCHOOL**
- **PM2024-3 CRACK SEALING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS**
- **RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES AND TRANSFER STATION OPERATIONS**

3. DESIGN

- **PROJECT 102-366 WEST CEDAR STREET OVER FIVE MILE RIVER**
- **STORM DRAINAGE EVALUATION AT SELECTED LOCATIONS**
- **RNP2022-1 VETERANS PARK VISITOR DOCK REPLACEMENT**
- **RD2023-2 UNDERGROUNDING OF ELIZABETH STREET OVERHEAD UTILITIES**
- **BR2023-1 BRIDGE PRESERVATION PROJECTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Dunn moved to adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:50p.m.

NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
7:00 P.M. LOCATION TBD