

CITY OF NORWALK
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**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
JUNE 5, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: John Igneri, Chair; Thomas Livingston; Doug Hempstead; George Tsiranides; Eloisa Melendez

STAFF: Bruce Chimento, Director; Vanessa Valadares, Senior Civil Engineer; Chris Torre, Superintendent of Operations

OTHERS: Nancy Rosett, Chair of the Bike/Walk Commission; Matt Finelli, P3GM; Diane Lauricella

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC INPUT

Diane Lauricella commented on a few items. Ms. Lauricella said that she wanted to advocate for the bike share program and thinks it is a good idea. She said that she doesn't know all the details but if there is no cost to the City she thinks it is terrific. She asked the Committee to consider using electric vehicles or vehicles that have better gas mileage when the Public Works Department or any department within the City is looking to purchase vehicles. She said that she has been talking about this for quite some time. Ms. Lauricella mentioned The Grasso Companies LLC and stated that she does not agree with the discussions in the past and the son's company renting property from the father. She wanted to know if The Grasso Companies LLC are currently in compliance. She said that she was told they are doing a great job but still does not agree. She said that she had met with Mr. Chimento about recycling. Ms. Lauricella suggested a more robust recycling plan for the City. She said since the July 4th holiday is approaching, it would be great to start there with the collection of water bottles, cans and plastic bottles during and after the fireworks. She proposed that the Committee form a subcommittee that include citizens like herself that have a professional background in recycling. She said that there are plenty of men and women that would love to help and improve the City in recycling. She said that they should try to help the waste management person and all staff. She then asked to speak to the Chairman soon

regarding projects that are easy and cheap to do. She said that she keeps reading that they are within their budget for recycling, the recycling percentage is at times really going down if not remaining. Ms. Lauricella said that she would like to propose re-educating people so we can meet our goals per the DEEP. She said that she will send Mr. Chimento a list of other towns that are doing a much better job in recycling than Norwalk. She asked again to speak with the Chairman on cross contamination. She said that she is in the waste management business and was told by Mr. Chimento that all of their materials are dumped on one floor in Stamford along with other towns. She said that could leave the City potentially liable for cross contamination should someone get hurt at City Carting if all of the materials are dumped together. She said that she respectfully disagrees with Mr. Chimento on the issue of cross contamination.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018.

There was no discussion on this item.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM**

****MS. MELENDEZ ABSTAINED**

****MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION**

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH P3 GLOBAL MANAGEMENT, INC. TO OPERATE AND MANAGE A CITYWIDE BIKE SHARE PROGRAM. NO COST TO THE CITY. (PRESENTATION BY BIKE/WALK COMMISSION).

Mr. Hempstead stated that since they just got the contract, he would like to send the sample contract from New Haven to the Law Department first instead of sending it to the full Council for authorization. He said that they asked for it at the last meeting and it was not in the packet. He said that he would like to amend the motion to send the New Haven contract to the Law Department so they can draft a contract with terms specifically for Norwalk.

Mr. Chimento stated that there is a page in the packet regarding this. He said they took the comments made last month and put together a document that would be in the contract. These are all the comments that were made by the Committee Members.

Mr. Livingston replied that they are not. He said he asked for performance measures which are not included. He said that is his concern. He said that he is in favor of the bike share program and would like to see the performance measures.

Mr. Hempstead said that they also requested a template.

Mr. Chimento asked if they want the Corporation Counsel to draw up a contract.

Mr. Hempstead replied yes.

Mr. Chimento said that they do not normally do that but that would be fine.

Mr. Tsiranides asked if the Corporation Counsel had a chance to look at it.

Mr. Chimento replied yes. He said they have had several meetings with them.

Mr. Tsiranides asked if they gave any input.

Mr. Chimento replied no.

The Committee began a discussion on whether to forward the contract to the Law Department or table the item. The Committee decided to table item #2.

Mr. Igneri made a motion to table item #2 until the next Committee meeting.

****MS. MELENDEZ MOVED THE ITEM**

****MR. IGNERI MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

3a. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH SUMCO ECO-CONTRACTING, LLC FOR PROJECT CONS2018-1, FLOCK PROCESS DAM REMOVAL PROJECT, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$454,500.00.

**ACCOUNT NO. 35 3372 5790
35 3375 5258**

3b. AUTHORIZE THE SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH SUMCO ECO-CONTRACTING, LLC FOR PROJECT CONS2018-1, FLOCK PROCESS DAM REMOVAL PROJECT, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$45,450.00.

**ACCOUNT NO. 35 3372 5790
35 3375 5258**

Mr. Hempstead asked if it is a State allocation or if it's in the budget.

Ms. Valadares said that they have grants to this contract. She said that the funding is a little over \$750,000. She said they received eight (8) bids and the lowest was \$454,500.

Mr. Hempstead asked if the funds go back to the Feds.

Ms. Valadares explained that the City gets reimbursed for all direct expenses, therefore all extra funds will be returned. She said that it is very crucial that this item is approved today because the grant will expire soon, and the City has already asked for the extensions for the grant. Also, she said that the work usually starts in the river around June or July. Ms.

Valadares explained that even with today's approval and going to the Council to get a contract,

the earliest to begin work would be around late September. She said that they asked DEEP for a permit to exceed the time they could stay in the river. Ms. Valadares said that they have been trying to get this bid out for a couple of years and now the grant will go away if they don't use it.

Mr. Hempstead said that he has never heard of that company before.

Ms. Valadares said that they are a very specialized company. She said that they called DEEP and DEEP are very happy with the work the company has accomplished throughout the State. She said that they had received a lot of information about them prior to selecting them for this project.

Mr. Igneri stated that the range of bids were phenomenal.

Ms. Valadares said at the bid opening, the very first bid was for \$940,000.

Mr. Livingston asked if the Committee discussed this project at a prior meeting.

Ms. Valadares responded yes it was approved before they had the bid opening. She said at the last meeting or so the Committee approved the AECOM contract to inspect this project.

****MR.IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**TECHNICAL CORRECTION OF COMMON COUNCIL ACTION OF MARCH 13, 2018,
ITEM VII.A.3 TO ADD ACCOUNT NUMBERS 09 19 4095 5777 C0303 AND 09 18 4095 5777 C0303:**

- 4a. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC FOR PROJECT PM2018-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$2,875,598.75.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 17 4021 5777 C0021
 09 18 4021 5777 C0021
 09 18 4027 5777 C0302
 09 17 4021 5777 C0515
 03 00 00 2602
 09 18 4095 5777 C0303
 09 19 4095 5777 C0303**

- 4b. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC FOR PROJECT PM2018-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$287,559.87.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 17 4021 5777 C0021
09 18 4021 5777 C0021
09 18 4027 5777 C0302
09 17 4021 5777 C0515
03 00 00 2602
09 18 4095 5777 C0303
09 19 4095 5777 C0303

Mr. Chimento said that this was a previously approved contract for the paving of the schools and they just added the Liberty Square Parking Lot. He said this was approved by the Norwalk Parking Authority and they are only asking to add two additional account numbers that are underlined.

Mr. Livingston asked if The Grasso Companies, LLC are in compliance. He said that he will contact Michael Wrinn from Planning and Zoning also.

Mr. Chimento responded that he spoke with Michael Wrinn yesterday and as far as he knows they are in compliance.

Mr. Livingston added that they are doing something down there, changing a line or something.

Mr. Chimento said that they applied for a permit from zoning to do somethings.

Mr. Livingston said that he knows the contractor has been trying to get a permit for something he has been doing and asked if that would effect this item.

Mr. Chimento responded no.

****MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT WITH SEALCOATING, INC. FOR PROJECT PM2018-3 CRACK SEALING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$93,447.50.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 17 4021 5777 C0021

Mr. Chimento stated that this is to increase the work in order to get more roads completed.

Ms. Valadares said that since they have more funds, they just want to add work to the list to complete more roads. She said that all roads are put on the list by priority.

Mr. Tsiranides asked how much more are they able to add.

Ms. Valadares answered that it would depend on how critical the roads are. She said that they make a list of the worst ones and the quantity they do not know until the work begins.

Mr. Livingston asked if this was to fill in the cracks.

Ms. Valadares answered yes.

Mr. Livingston asked how much life you can get out of sealing the cracks.

Mr. Chimento said that they are sealing the cracks in the road to stop the water from getting into them and freezing. He said that those are the squiggly lines in the roads. He said that it is a process to see, compressed air is blown into the cracks to clean them out then filled with material.

Mr. Livingston wanted to know if it is worth spending more money for this to save on paving cost.

Mr. Chimento replied absolutely.

Ms. Valadares said that when they get the paving list it has the roads that are about due for paving. She said that they have certain years that the roads go back on the list. Ms. Valadares said that these roads are the ones that are not due for a full paving but need to be sealed therefore giving them extra years of life before they have to be paved.

Mr. Chimento said that there are many types of paving. He said there is a reclaim which basically takes the road down to the sub-surface and then there is a milling of paving. He said that if they can preserve the surface of the road by crack sealing and all they would have to do is mill and pave it that would save a lot of money. He said that most of the things they are doing now is milling and paving. He said there are a few roads that have to be reclaimed meaning taking the entire road out and redoing. He said that helps to protect the road.

Mr. Igneri asked about the sealing he has seen throughout town and wanted to know why some were shiny and if that would make the road slippery.

Mr. Chimento replied no.

Mr. Torre said that the mix in the sealing makes it shiny. He used Beach Road as an example stating that there was glass used in the mixture which made it shiny but doesn't make it any more slick than normal just shiny.

Mr. Chimento said that it was an experiment to use ground glass which is nothing but sand. He said that some people became leery about it because at night it would light up and they didn't know what to expect so it didn't go over well with the public.

Mr. Hempstead said that during the winter people would slow down because they weren't sure if there was ice on the ground because it was so shiny. He said that crack sealing could buy an extra five (5) years.

****MR.IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 6. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT WITH THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC FOR PROJECT RD2018-2 CONCRETE CURBS AND SIDEWALKS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$326,000.00.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 19 4021 5777 C0318

Ms. Valadares stated that there was a typo in the project # which should read RD2017-2 and not RD2018-2.

Mr. Igneri stated that the Project number change is noted.

Mr. Livingston asked if this was just to amend the contract.

Ms. Valadares said that this amendment is to complete the South Main Street portion of the project. She said that the first authorization was a little over \$900,000 with additional extra costs that were drainage on Couch Street and then extra work on Summit Avenue and South Main Street that added up to another \$400,000. She said that they received a grant from Fair Rent because of the ADA ramps for \$75,000 and that is why they are requesting the \$326,000 to finish South Main Street.

Mr. Livingston asked if they should re-bid this project.

Ms. Valadares said no because it is part of the original contract and all of the extra work was a changed order to the contract.

****MR.IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 7. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC., FOR INSPECTION SERVICES REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REHABILITATION OF JAMES STREET BRIDGE OVER THE SILVERMINE RIVER, CONNDOT PROJECT NO. 102-320, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$481,500.00 (FUNDING 80% FEDERAL, 20% CITY).**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 13 4021 5777 C0496
09 18 4021 5777 C0496

Mr. Livingston asked if this was standard.

Ms. Valadares answered yes, this is the contract for the inspection services.

Mr. Livingston asked if they had a problem with the company with the Perry Avenue Bridge.

Ms. Valadares replied no not with the inspection. She said the problem was with some work. She said that the problems were with the scope, there were some unforeseen conditions for extra support of excavation in the design.

Mr. Livingston asked if there was a claim for that.

Ms. Valadares answered no there was no claim.

Mr. Chimento said that the State had agreed that the work that needed to be done that is added to the contract is reimbursable by the State.

Mr. Livingston asked for the company's name.

Ms. Valadares answered that it is AECOM formerly known as URS. She said that they would do the design and the other part of the firm would do the inspection.

Mr. Livingston asked if this was the same company.

Ms. Valadares responded yes. She said that they are happy with their work. She explained an incident that happened at the Perry Avenue Bridge. She said that the design for Perry was over ten years ago with the work being on and off. She said that there were a lot of different teams that ended up working on the design and that is when a lot of things could happen but they are not expecting that to happen with James Street.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 8. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO C.N. WOOD OF CONNECTICUT, LLC, FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TRACKLESS MT7 ARTICULATING TRACTOR AND V-PLOW ATTACHMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$124,630.00.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 19 4031 5777 C0313

Mr. Livingston said that he would like to see a picture of the Trackless MT7 Articulating Tractor and V-Plow.

Mr. Torre said that it is the same as the one they purchased last year and the Recreation and Parks Department has one as well. He said that it is a tractor machine, it bends in the middle and it holds one person approximately the size of a golf cart.

Mr. Livingston asked how long does it last.

Mr. Torre said that Recreation and Parks purchased theirs in 1999 and all of the attachments are interchangeable.

****MR.IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

9. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO C.N. WOOD OF CONNECTICUT, LLC, FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2019 MACK GU713 REAR REFUSE LOADER NOT TO EXCEED \$237,611.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 19 4031 5777 C0313

Mr. Livingston asked if it is a dump truck.

Mr. Torre replied no it is a garbage truck. He said that they have four (4) garbage trucks now that are from 1996 and the packer blades are breaking. He said that it is \$20,000 to replace a packer blade which is not cost effective. He reminded the Committee about a video he showed them displaying a crusher that actually crushed a car and told them that this purchase is for that.

Mr. Chimento said that this crusher would be used for the bulky waste collections and yard and leaf collections. He said that he will give them a report about this. He said so far the bulk waste collections are doing well although they have had a few frequent flyers which have been dealt with. Mr. Chimento said that this is a service for the people to pick up possibly two to three times a year but not every month. He said that they schedule these things for individual pickup. He said that if someone calls five or more times for pickup then he will make a phone call to the resident.

Ms. Melendez asked if it is a home or a business.

Mr. Torre responded a home.

Mr. Chimento said that he doesn't want to discuss where the items come from but if a resident calls too many times for pickup then he would make the call to them. He said that the staff would like him to put a restriction on how many times a year a resident could call for a pickup but he doesn't necessarily want to put a cap on it. He said most people stay with what they have. He said that he would like to do it all year long such as fall, spring etc.

Mr. Livingston asked what is said to a person when he makes the call if there are no guidelines to refer to.

Mr. Chimento responded that he says the program is for a bulk waste collection for the resident to put out once or twice a year. He said that he doesn't want it to be a monthly pick up per resident. He said when the resident calls and tells us what it is for example if it is metal that is picked up separately.

Mr. Livingston asked if they look at fuel economy when purchasing these vehicles.

Mr. Chimento responded that they look at what the truck is capable of and what it is needed for. He said that there is not very many that is using natural gas plow trucks, diesel is used.

He said that diesel is quite efficient. He said that they are looking at the cars that are used for various city agencies, thinking about possibly using electric or hybrid vehicle.

Mr. Torre said that they looked at natural gas and electric as options. He said that he spoke with the IT department into putting in charging stations at City Hall at maybe one of the upper lots.

Mr. Livingston asked if Norwalk as a City could give a tax incentive for residents using those vehicles.

Mr. Chimento responded no.

****MR.IGNERI MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

A. JAMES STREET BRIDGE BID DISCUSSION

Ms. Valadares said that the bid is out and due on June 15, 2018. She asked the Committee if they could go straight to the Common Council once they receive the lowest bidder since the July 3, 2018 meeting may be cancelled. She said that the project should be around three (3) million dollars and is 80% Federal/State funded. She continued to say that they cannot approve the lowest bidder until the State does their approval. She said that State will review the bids beside the Public Works Department.

Mr. Livingston asked for the status of the James Street Bridge.

Mr. Chimento said that it is operational.

Ms. Valadares said that it is open and the reason they want to do this is because the way the bid was put out is to minimize the closure in that neighborhood. She said that they would have to shut down the bridge in order to replace it. She said they want to minimize the time that closure would take place so that it is during one construction period. She said two (2) things need to happen before that, utilities need to be moved, particularly the water and they had to put in a temporary water main. Ms. Valadares said that they also have poles that need to be changed. She said that they believe if they are awarded now by the end of the year they can have the contractor and utility company complete all the work. She continued saying that they have liquidated damages for the closure and believe that the contractor, weather permitting, in February 2019 may be able to close the road and get the work done and paved by November.

Mr. Livingston said by November of next year the work should be completed and the road is going to be closed until November.

Ms. Valadares said yes and it should take about 240 days. She said that there were several public hearings on this project so the neighborhood is aware of what is happening. She said the goal is to not have two (2) seasons with the bridge closed. She said that is why it is so urgent to get

approval now because if they push back too much into the fall they are afraid that the relocation of the utilities unfortunately depends on the contractor.

Mr. Livingston asked how the decision was made to do this work.

Ms. Valadares answered that the State decides and they were very vocal about doing this work and the State accepted and agreed.

Mr. Hempstead asked when did they make the decision since meeting with the residents was about eight (8) years ago.

Ms. Valadares said that this process began before she started and has been going on for a while.

Mr. Hempstead asked if they have seen the final design.

Ms. Valadares said that she and Mr. Chimento met with the residents and they asked to change the color of the bridge railings that they chose and the State approved the color. She said that the neighborhood is very involved in the process.

Mr. Chimento said that this was done because of flooding in 1955 and needed to replace the bridges in 1955 and 1956.

Ms. Valadares said that this bridge is the last one to be replaced.

Mr. Hempstead asked if that takes care of all the City owned bridges

Ms. Valadares responded that there was a request for the West Cedar Bridge to be replaced a month and a half ago. She said that the report showed that bridge needed to be replaced also.

Mr. Chimento said that hopefully they will receive the OK from the State and then they will go to the Council Chairman for permission to move directly to the Council. He said that they cannot award until the State says it is OK to award so they are waiting for that confirmation then they will bring it to the Council at their 1st meeting in July.

Mr. Tsiranides asked if Perry Avenue Bridge will be completed by then.

Ms. Valadares answered that the Perry Avenue Bridge is complete and the contractor is working on punch list items and the signal has to be coordinated with Metro North. She said the final inspection was on May 9th.

Mr. Livingston said he saw a man on his knees with a paint brush.

Ms. Valadares said that they forgot to paint the bolts on the bridge so they were doing so.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Recycling Article

Mr. Chimento reported on the recycling article. He said that China shut down all its ports to clean up their recycling because they have been getting contaminated items. He said that they are becoming more environmentally sensitive. He said he wanted to share the article because it has some of the same issues they are up against.

Mr. Livingston asked if they need to better educate people on recycling.

Mr. Chimento said that he has had meeting s with City Carting. He said overall meaning is that they are fortunate financially to have a fixed rate. He said that they have had discussion on changing some of the ways they do recycling. He said that City Carting would like to get involved with education programs.

The Committee began to discuss educating the residents, how residents have gotten better at recycling. There was talk about reducing the plastic bottles and having recycle bins located at the beach and the parks. The Committee talked about a stop the straw program and how to control the recycling in the City. There was discussion about getting the schools to buy in with recycling education by allowing recycling flyers for the kids and have the schools get their custodians to do more with recycling. It was said that it is a State law that when the City puts out garbage bins there must be a recycling bin next to it. The Public Works Department provides recycling toters for the special events in the City. The Committee continued to discuss options.

2. Chimento Retirement

Mr. Chimento informed everyone that he will be retiring in September 2018.

3. Norwalk Public Works Exceptional Work

Mr. Chimento said that several weeks ago they assisted Brookfield with storm cleanup. He said that he received a letter from a resident thanking them for all the work and support they received from Public Works.

Mr. Torre held a meeting with the staff and read the letter aloud to everyone. He said that it is nice to be recognized for their professionalism from other towns.

Mr. Livingston asked if this happens a lot.

Mr. Torre replied no. He said that a few years ago when the State received large amounts of snow, they sent crews out to Region 1 (Greenwich to Milford, Trumbull, Monroe) to help out. He said that there is a State Law for mutual aid and the City would be covered for any workman's compensation claims.

C. DISCUSSION

1. Reschedule July 3, 2018 Meeting

The Committee discussed the next meeting date and decided to cancel the meeting. The next meeting will be held in August.

****MR. IGNERI MOVED TO CANCEL THE JULY 3, 2018
MEETING
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

D. CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORT – MAY 2018

Mr. Chimento gave a brief report to the Committee. He said that Customer Service is running rather well and all reports have been on time. He said there were 876 service calls with 768 calls for request for service related to Public Works. He said that Customer Service also assist walk-ins as well.

Mr. Igneri stated that he has received numerous compliments about Customer Service.

E. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT – APRIL 2018

Mr. Chimento gave a brief report to the Committee. He said that recycling is right where it should be. He said that there may be some changes on recycling and garbage. He said that he has not been approached by City Carting for an increase in payment. He said that they will be discussing more options during contract renewal.

Mr. Hempstead asked if City Carting could put down the gates and check for permits.

Mr. Chimento said that they do that but he would make a point of discussing it with them.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2018 in Room 225.

****MS. MELENDEZ MOVED TO ADJOURN**
****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique Cipriano
Executive Assistant
Public Works Department