DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

CITY OF NORWALK
Department of Engineering
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Norwalk, CT 06851
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CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 6, 2024

ATTENDANCE: James Frayer, Chairman; Barbara Smyth; Nora Niedzielski-Eichner; Melissa Murray; DaJuan Wiggins; Heather Dunn

STAFF: Vanessa Valadares, Chief of Operations and Public Works; James Meehan, Principal Engineer; Chris Torre, Superintendent of Operations; Thomas Szabo, Waste Program Manager; Garrett Bolella, Assistant Director of TMP; Greg Pacelli, Transportation Planner; Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer

OTHERS: Johan Lopez, Common Council Member; Diane Lauricella, Resident; Tanner Thompson, Bike Commission

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

ROLL CALL

Chairman Frayer called the Roll: James Frayer, Barbara Smyth, Heather Dunn, Nora Niedzielski-Eichner, Melissa Murray, DaJuan Wiggins

At Roll Call there were six (6) Committee members present constituting a quorum. Darlene Young was absent.

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. Her focus was on Solid Waste and Food Scrap recovery. She asked about the status of the contract. She is speaking as the organizer of the Norwalk Zero Waste Coalition. She said they met with Ms. Valadares, Ms. Smyth and Mr. Szabo and were told that the public would be part of the RFP process. Hasn't heard anything since April 2023. Wants to know the status of the Waste Characteristic Study. She mentioned that she does that professionally and feels it is very important to have data potential and a future for recycling and trash. She believes in making opportunities or teachable moments and has felt the public participation in any of the waste streams can be much more robust and creative. Her suggestion is to send out reminders via social media and press, which she is willing to write, to ask residents to donate their left-over food from Super Bowl Sunday. She gave examples on how to utilize the leftover food.

Tanner Thompson of 16 Hillside Place. He is the Chair of the Bike/Walk Commission. He supports the project on East Wall Street and Landmark Square and is excited to know construction will begin soon. He thanked TMP for all the great work. He is glad to see the sidewalk project going forward on Morton and Senga. He asked about the big rock that is in the way of the sidewalk and asked when it can be removed. He invited a member of Public Works to visit the Bike/Walk Commission. In the ordinance it states that the public works department can have a representative serve on the commission as a non-voting member. He said they would love to have a representative to discuss issues and others as they arise.

Chairmen Frayer closed public input at 7:08p.m.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 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 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND TIGHE & BOND, INC. FOR PROJECT DPW2024-2 ON-CALL CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION - OBSERVATION SERVICES. THE AGREEMENT IS FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS, BILLABLE ON AN HOURLY BASIS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $350,000.00/ANNUALLY, WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR TWO (2) ADDITIONAL TERMS OF ONE (1) YEAR EACH.

ACCOUNT NO. **13 4010 5796 APW01**
13 4010 5796 APW10
09 24 4021 5777 C0021
09 24 4021 5777 C0302
09 24 4021 5777 C0315
09 24 4021 5777 C0318
09 24 4021 5777 C0440

09 24 4021 5777 C0471

09 23 7100 5777 C0583

Mr. Meehan reported on this. He stated they received 10 bids for this project and narrowed it down to three (3) bids and set up interviews for them. He stated they have a need for full-time inspection services for their projects. They chose the best firm based on price and quality of work.

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

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AUGUST 2, 2021, AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND ALMSTEAD TREE AND SHRUB CARE COMPANY, LLC., FOR TREE REMOVAL AND TRIMMING SERVICES FOR THE SUM NOT TO EXCEED $60,000.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 23 6030 5777 C0830
09 24 4021 5777 C0318
09 24 4021 5777 C0021

Ms. Valadares reported on this. She explained that they have a few larger trees that the in-house crew are not equipped to deal with and need the extra funds to cover those costs.

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

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAJOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO SIGN THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN, PREPARED BY CDM SMITH, TO CERTIFY THE SUBMITTED INFORMATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22A-6 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, PURSUANT TO SECTION 53A-157B OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES.

Ms. Valadares reported on this. She stated they received ARPA funds last year to fund a consultant that will assist with the MS4 Storm Management Plan which is a requirement for their permit. She explained that they hired CDM Smith and have been working with them for the past seven (7) months or so for the DEEP requirement. They need the mayor's signature as the official required to sign. Although the plan is not yet complete as they continue to work on the draft, they would like authorization for the mayor to sign the plan. She said it will be posted online and everyone will have an opportunity to comment.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner inquired about not seeing the plan before authorizing the mayor's signature. She stated the Committee should be able to review the plan and make/give comments and feedback before allowing the mayor to sign any document.

A brief discussion ensued about the authorization, and it was decided to table the item until the next committee meeting so more information can be provided.

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

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY H. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A 2ND AMENDMENT TO THE JANUARY 24, 2022 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND COLONNA MASONRY CONCRETE & ASPHALT PAVING, LLC., FOR PROJECT DRG 2021-1 DREAMY HOLLOW/BETTS BROOK DRAINAGE, SANITARY SEWER & WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $350,000.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 24 4062 5777 C0361
09 21 4021 5777 C0440
09 24 4021 5777 C0440

Mr. Meehan reported on this. He briefly explained the project to the Committee. The sanitary sewer systems is causing problems for people in the area and they are going to separate them. This would be part of the larger drainage project.

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

6A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH WATERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, TMP2023-2 EAST WALL STREET – LANDMARK SQUARE SAFETY, ACCESSIBILITY AND STREETSCAPE (STATE PROJECT NO. L102-0004), FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $2,061,000.89.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 24 3750 5799 C0845
09 23 3750 5777 C0800

Mr. Bolella reported this. He stated that there are several stages to this project, and this is Phase I A of the Wall Street Corridor Improvement Project. The project is estimated to be 27 million dollars in total. Phase I A includes Wall Street and East Wall Street between the intersections of Main and Brook Street. The improvements will be to the sidewalks. He explained what the sidewalk project includes. They received four (4) bids. The project is due to begin in April 2024 and should be a yearlong project. The funding is a 99% grant. He discussed having future public meetings about the project.

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

6B. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING, TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON CONTRACT WITH WATERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, TMP 2023-2 EAST WALL STREET – LANDMARK SQUARE SAFETY, ACCESSIBILITY AND STREETSCAPE (STATE PROJECT NO. L102-0004), FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $206,100.09.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 24 3750 5799 C0845
09 23 3750 5777 C0800

Mr. Bolella stated this is just the 10% contingency for the project.

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

7. **AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE AND INCREASE THE PURCHASE ORDER TO THE GRASSO COMPANIES LLC. FOR PROJECT PM2023-4 PAVING AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $70,000.00**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 24 4021 5777 C0021

Mr. Meehan reported on this. This was a stand-alone paving project which mostly was financed by state grants. Due to unforeseen field conditions as well as storms, this estimation will cover the costs of work completed.

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

8. **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 RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $322,000 FROM THE NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION AND ITS LONG ISLAND SOUND FUTURES FUND GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PROJECT 'PLANNING TO IMPROVE RESILIENCY, HABITAT AND PUBLIC ACCESS AT VETERAN'S PARK'.**

Ms. Cherichetti reported on this. They applied for a grant in 2023 and were awarded the grant. She gave a little background on the grant. The funding will go toward design and feasibility studies for the park. It will make it more flood resilient and improve the habitat for the long island sound, pedestrians and those visiting the park. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation administers a variety of grant funds and one (1) of the tenets of the program is that they are here to establish a funding project pipeline. She explained the next steps to the Committee.

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

9. **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 RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $502,700 FROM THE NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION AND ITS NATIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PROJECT 'PLAN DEVELOPMENT FOR FLOOD RESILIENCE USING SALT MARSH REHABILITATION AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE'.**

Ms. Cherichetti reported on this. They applied and were awarded the grant. She said this will be an expansive and robust design grant looking at storm water management in or around the proposed South Norwalk School. They will be looking at roadways there and opportunities to improve storm water management with the installation of green infrastructure. They will also be looking at where the storm water discharges. She explained how the design would work to the Committee.

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

10. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AUTHORIZE A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE ORDER TO ASSET WORKS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWELVE DUAL ELECTRICAL CHARGER 40AMP UNITS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED $125,000.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 24 4031 5777 C0313
09 24 4031 5777 C0681
09 24 6030 5777 C0684
09 24 4021 5799 C0847

Ms. Valadares reported on this. This is a continuation of their commitment to be more sustainable and greener. They currently do not have any Electric Vehicle Chargers at any of their facilities. This item is just for units. They will be adding two (2) types of units within three (3) locations. This is called behind the fence. She described the EV Chargers to the committee. Those chargers will only be used to charge hybrid vehicles and electrical vehicles and those chargers will not be used for the public. The locations are police headquarters, operations center and city hall. Next month they should have what is called outside the fence. Their goal is to have them installed by the end of Spring. They discussed the fleet management system and how it will be able to track the new electric vehicles as well.

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

11. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH SAFETY MARKINGS LLC FOR PROJECT TMP2024-1 PAVEMENT MARKINGS, SYMBOLS, AND LEGENDS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $149,500.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 18 4021 5777 C0598
09 20 4120 5777 C0598
09 21 4120 5777 C0598
09 24 3570 5777 C0562

Mr. Pacelli reported on this. He gave a brief background on this item. This contract is to keep the existing pavement markings refreshed and refurbished. They are looking to have two (2) vendors as part of the contract (see item 12). He said there is limited time with this type of project because it is seasonal. They are going with two vendors to be more responsive, so they don’t fall behind on pavement markings for the upcoming 2024 pavement markings season. A discussion ensued about the two (2) vendors. Safety Markings does a lot of cities across the state so they decided to use a second vendor, so they don’t fall behind. These two (2) vendors have to use the best quality product per their bid requirements.

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

12. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH K5 CORPORATION FOR PROJECT TMP2024-1 PAVEMENT MARKINGS, SYMBOLS, AND LEGENDS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $80,500.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 18 4021 5777 C0598
09 20 4120 5777 C0598
09 21 4120 5777 C0598
09 24 3570 5777 C0562

Mr. Pacelli reported on this. He added by doing this capital region bid with other municipalities, they were able to get a much lower unit price.

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

13. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE CT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INSTALL, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE A CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERA ON THE PROPERTY OF 2 SOUTH SMITH STREET IN ORDER TO VIEW, MONITOR, AND COLLECT VIDEO ON THE PROJECT KNOWN AS WALK RAILROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT.

Ms. Valadares reported on this. CONNDOT requested installation of a camera to monitor the construction of the WalkBridge. They have done this in the past with the Maritime Aquarium construction.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM**
****MR. WIGGINS ABSTAINED**
****MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION**

<u>INFORMATION / DISCUSSION</u>

A. TREE OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING
Mr. Torre reported that 12 trees were removed, and 11 trees were pruned. Ms. Valadares added that they do not plant trees during the winter.

B. MONTHLY SOLID WASTE REPORT – NOVEMBER 2023
Mr. Szabo reported that there were no major changes in tonnage for the month. They wrapped up the Christmas tree collection that was citywide. The city website has been updated with all the upcoming dates for collection. They discussed how they can promote upcoming dates, other than the website, so more residents can be aware. They also promote through the city's social media platforms, outreach and have an annual open house.

C. FOOD SCRAP DROP-OFF REPORT – NOVEMBER 2023
Mr. Szabo reported on the numbers for each site.

D. CURRENT / UPCOMING PROJECTS STATUS

1. Construction
   - DRG2019-1 Dreamy Hollow Storm Drainage Improvements
   - PM2023-2 Permanent Roadway Repairs & Surface Restoration
   - PM2023-5 Pavement Management Program
   - RD2022-2 Curbs and Sidewalks for Senga and Morton Areas
   - RA2022-2 467 West Avenue Utility Infrastructure Upgrade
   - BR2022-1 Bonny Brook Road & Cannon Street
2. Advertised for Bids / Pending Contract
   - DRG2022-1 Lockwood Lane and Heather Lane Storm Drainage
   - PM2024-2 Permanent Roadway Repairs & Surface Restoration
   - PSC2023-1 On-Call Surveying and Mapping
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
   - RA2023-1 South Norwalk Equitable TOD Infrastructure Improvements
   - RD2024-1 Curb and Sidewalk for Berkeley Avenue Area
   - RD2024-2 Curb and Sidewalk for Beacon Street Area

Mr. Meehan, Principal Engineer, reported on the current project status. He gave the Committee a breakdown of each project and said everything is ongoing and on task.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Murray moved to adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:32p.m.

NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024**
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
7:00 P.M. LOCATION TBD