

CITY OF NORWALK
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE
AUGUST 19, 2024

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via e-mail 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 start time. Please email Garrett Bolella at gbolella@norwalkct.gov to provide written comment prior to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Rilling; Commissioner Collier-Clemmons; Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Paladino; Commissioner Sumpter

STAFF: Kyle Benjamin, Traffic Analyst; Chief James Walsh, Deputy Chief Joseph Dinho; Deputy Chief Melissa Lepore; Sergeant Ryan Evarts

OTHER” Cheryl Podob; James Whipple; Anna Breault; Kiki Cross

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:02PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 15, 2024

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2024, AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 29, 2024

**** COMMISSIONER PALADINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 29, 2024, AS SUBMITTED.**

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

3. APPROVE THE PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S EVENT ON OCTOBER 20, 2024, FROM 8:30AM TO 1:30PM

Mayor Rilling asked if the route will be the same as it has been in the past years. Ms. Tarr said they have made a slight adjustment to the route coming back, but it will not interfere with anything.

**** COMMISSIONER PALADINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S EVENT ON OCTOBER 20, 2024, FROM 8:30AM TO 1:30PM**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. APPROVE THE FULL & PARTIAL CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL GARAVEL SONO HALF MARATHON AND 5K ON OCTOBER 6, 2024, FROM 8:30AM TO 12:00PM

Mr. Whipple said this is the 10th year the event will be held and said last year's event was great and they received no complaints. He said as of now the route will stay the same and will stay in contact with the Police Department as they always do. Mayor Rilling said he also did not receive any complaints last year.

****COMMISSIONER SUMPTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE FULL & PARTIAL CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL GARAVEL SONO HALF MARATHON AND 5K ON OCTOBER 6, 2024, FROM 8:30AM TO 12:00PM**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. APPROVE THE FULL & PARTIAL CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL HALLOWEEN NIGHT FAIR ON OCTOBER 26, 2024 FROM 8:00AM TO 11:55PM

Ms. Breault provided an overview of the event and said this year it will be only held for one day instead of the two days, and will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 2:00PM to 10:00PM but are requesting that the closures begin at 8:00AM and continue on until midnight so that the vendors can get out safely, and the closures will be the same as last year. Commissioner Lopez asked if the number of police are adequate at all points. Ms. Breault said “yes” and is something that is still being discussed. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked why the event will only be held one day. Ms. Breault said last year the attendance was incredible on the first day and approximately 6,000 people attended, but on the second day it did not have the same energy so figured by doing it one day with longer hours and more events would generate more attendees. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked if they are expecting more than 6,000 attendees this year. Ms. Breault said “yes” and are expecting approximately 10,000 attendees. Mayor Rilling asked if people will still be able to get in and out of the Pearl. Ms. Breault said “yes”, and the complete closure ends right before the Pearl from North Main Street and from the Pearl to Water Street will be open to local traffic so all the residents can access the parking lot. Mayor Rilling asked if there will be adequate detour signs and traffic control. Ms. Breault said “yes” and will be contacting all the businesses in the area making them aware of the event.

COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FULL & PARTIAL CLOSURES FOR THE ANNUAL HALLOWEEN NIGHT FAIR ON OCTOBER 26, 2024, FROM 8:00AM TO 11:55PM
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. APPROVE THE RACE ROUTE FOR THE SAINT GEORGE WALKATHON & 5K FUN RUN ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 FROM 6:00AM TO 12:15PM

Ms. Cross said this event has been on a hiatus for approximately 10 years and are excited to bring it back and is scheduled to be held on Saturday, September 7, 2024, and will be just over three miles and will begin in the St. George parking lot. Mayor Rilling asked how many participants they are expecting. Ms. Cross said that there are 55 walkers that are currently signed up and don’t anticipate anymore than 70-75. Commissioner Lopez asked what time the event will be held. Ms. Cross said it will begin at 9:00AM with a set up time of 8:00AM and plan to be cleaned up by noon. Ms. Cross said they would like to have the event without police presence and asked if police will be required. Chief Walsh said that police would definitely be required, and he will have Sergeant Evarts contact her tomorrow.

**** COMMISSIONER SUMPTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RACE ROUTE FOR THE SAINT GEORGE WALKATHON & 5K FUN RUN ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 FROM 6:00AM TO 12:15PM. SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF TRAFFIC CONTROL OF SERGEANT EVARTS.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON THE PERRY AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT CLOSURE

Mr. Benjamin provide an update and said that the Department of Public works had provided proof of their due diligence of sending letters to the surrounding residences and businesses that will be affected that was requested at the last meeting. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked what percentage of people on the list received the letter. Mr. Benjamin said by looking at the spread sheet provided approximately 60%.

8. APPROVE THE OSTA SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION REQUEST FOR THE FLAX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD

Mr. Benjamin said TMP is requesting the speed limit be reduced from 30MPH to 25MPH due to the improvements that have been made in the past and improvements they plan on doing. Commissioner Paladino asked if there is anything built into this reduction other than signage. Mr. Benjamin said when the road is striped with the edge lines, they have seen speed reductions as well as by adding sidewalks which has been done in many cases and will also be adding a bike lane on Keeler Avenue.

**** COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE OSTA SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION REQUEST FOR THE FLAX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd