

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC SAFETY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2026**

Attendance: Nicole' Eaddy, Chair; Nicol Ayers, Vice Chair; Brian Bailey; Jalin Sead; Josh Goldstein

Staff: Michele DeLuca, Deputy Director, Emergency Management; Chief James Walsh, Norwalk Police Department; Melissa Lepore, Deputy Chief, Norwalk Police Department

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Eaddy called the roll, and all members listed were in attendance. There was a quorum present.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: September 25, 2025

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) ABSTENTIONS- MR. BAILEY, MR. FRAYER AND MS. AYERS**

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, BARBARA C. SMYTH, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, APPLICATIONS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES/PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY (DESPP/DEMHS) FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM (EMGP) AND REGIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY PLANNING AND FUNDING ACTIVITIES.

Ms. DeLuca said that one of the requirements of the State of Connecticut for Emergency Management is to have a blanket resolution authorizing the mayor to sign grant documents and reimbursement requests. There was one in place for Mayor Rilling that could last the entire term, but two years ago, she refined the language, the legal department reviewed it, and this committee, along with the Common Council, approved it. There will be no changes to the language other than replacing the mayor's name.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. 1. AUTHORIZE MAYOR, BARBARA SMYTH, TO EXECUTE A THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN RECOVERY NETWORK OF PROGRAMS, INC. AND CITY OF NORWALK COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,528.00 TO BE PAID FROM ACCOUNT #013026-5258.

Chief Walsh said Deputy Chief Lepore will address the items this evening. If anyone on the committee has any questions or concerns regarding public safety or the police department, they should reach out to him or to the command staff, who are always available.

Deputy Chief Lepore said the City of Norwalk had entered into an MOA in August 2022 with the Recovery Network Program for the embedded social workers within the police department. This MOA establishes a collaborative relationship between the Recovery Network and the city, assisting with the growing need for social service professional assistance for mental health, social support, and intervention services out of the police department. The mission of the Recovery Network is to restore hope, health, and well-being for individuals and families in a recovery environment that embraces compassion, dignity, and respect. The memorandum provides two full-time social workers to the police department within the behavioral health network and works with an officer embedded in that network. The Recovery Network employees respond to and assist police department calls for service and provide appropriate mental health and non-violent substance-related calls. The employees also conduct mental health assessments, coordinate care, referrals, and linkage for emotionally disturbed persons. They utilize community resources, along with an extensive program infrastructure, to assist persons in need of various treatments. They also conduct after-care and follow-ups to ensure people are stable and connected to care, reducing repetitive calls for service and achieving successful quality-of-life

improvements for anyone in need. The program is successful in helping citizens in our community.

Mr. Frayer said it is a needed and very effective program, and he is glad to see it can continue.

Mr. Goldstein said this has been a massively successful program, that a substantial number of assistance calls come in every year, that it is a real service that has genuinely helped a substantial number of people, and that there is zero doubt we should continue to do this.

Mr. Bailey asked if more would be needed in the future. Deputy Chief Lepore said that at this time, they are interviewing another candidate, so the part-time person will become full-time. Chief Walsh said they are working with Mr. Daniels to get on board an opioid recovery coach, which will be funded through a community care grant. He said they are always evaluating their services and continue to expand.

Ms. Eaddy asked if the person in need would have to be the one to call for help, or if anyone could recommend that someone needs help. Deputy Chief Lepore said anyone can call.

**** MR. SEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. 2. AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF NORWALK PURCHASING AGENT, TO EXECUTE PURCHASE ORDERS ON BEHALF OF THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO THE RECOVERY NETWORK PROGRAM UTILIZING NPD ACCOUNT #013026-5258 BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$300,528.00.

**** MR. SEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C 1. AUTHORIZE THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO UTILIZE A NONCOMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM WITH LEXIPOL FOR PAYMENT OF CORDICO MOBILE APPLICATION SOFTWARE. THIS PAYMENT IS FOR A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES COMMENCING FEBRUARY 1, 2026, AND ENDING JANUARY 31, 2027.

Deputy Chief Lepore said the Norwalk Police Department is requesting payment to renew its Lexipol subscription for the Cordico mobile application. It is a portable wellness application that provides comprehensive mental and physical health support, specifically designed for law enforcement personnel. It is a unique wellness solution that meets their needs in critical areas, helping overcome the stigma of asking for help and addressing the cumulative effects of chronic stress on first responders, both active and retired. There is no other mobile application that offers

the level of support, on-demand access, and a confidential interface. This is a budgeted item, and the funding is available.

Mr. Goldstein asked how the software works. Chief Walsh said last year, after a tragic suicide death of one of their officers, they found this application that all of the active and retired officers have, as well as the dispatchers, which is completely connected to every member of the peer support team and is completely confidential and reaches every kind of service that is available and is very successful. Deputy Chief Lepore said that 46% of the department has accessed the application.

**** MR. BAILEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C 2. AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF NORWALK PURCHASING AGENT, TO EXECUTE PURCHASE ORDERS ON BEHALF OF THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LEXIPOL LLC. UTILIZING NPD ACCOUNT #09213610-5777-C0638 BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$21,600.00.

**** MR. BAILEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D 1. AUTHORIZE MAYOR BARBARA SMYTH TO EXECUTE AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH FLEET AUTO SUPPLY, UNDER RFP PROJECT NUMBER 4123 FOR THE UPFIT OF POLICE VEHICLES UNTIL FEBRUARY 28, 2027, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$290,000.00 PER YEAR.

Deputy Chief Lepore said the City of Norwalk currently has an agreement with Fleet Auto Supply for the upfitting of police vehicles. The agreement was entered into in May 2022 and is in effect until February 28, 2026, with an option for two additional one-year renewals. We have already renewed the first one-year renewal last year, so this will be the second. The police department is requesting to exercise the option for the second one-year term in the amount of \$290,000, and the agreement shall have the same terms and conditions as the initial term, with the extension period beginning on March 1st and concluding on February 28, 2027.

**** MR. FRAYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D 2. AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF NORWALK PURCHASING AGENT TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE ORDERS ON BEHALF OF THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO FLEET AUTO SUPPLY UNDER RFP PROJECT NUMBER 4123 FOR THE UPFIT OF POLICE VEHICLES BASED ON UNIT PRICING AND THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS NOT TO EXCEED \$290,000.00.

- ** MR. FRAYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. DISCUSSION CONCERNING PERSONNEL MATTER; MAYORAL STAFFING

- ** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The executive session began at 7:30 PM.

The executive session ended at 8:15 PM.

During the executive session, no motions were made, and no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MS. AYERS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd