

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Harry W. Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Dixon called the roll as follows:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett Mr. Johan Lopez Ms. Barbara Smyth	Mr. Joshua Goldstein Ms. Nora Niedzielski-Eichner
District A:	Mr. Jalin Sead	Ms. Nicol Ayers
District B:	Mr. Dajuan Wiggins	Ms. Darlene Young
District C:	Ms. Nicole Eaddy	Ms. Anne Wennerstrand
District D:	Ms. Heather Dunn	Mr. Douglas W. Sutton
District E:	<i>Mr. James Frayer</i>	<i>Ms. Lisa Shanahan</i>

There were thirteen (13) present at Roll Call. Two were absent (Mr. Frayer and Ms. Shanahan).

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Special Meeting: July 14, 2025

****MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Regular Meeting: July 22, 2025

****MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 22, 2025 REGULAR MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Mark Allen, President of the Wall Street Neighborhood Association, strongly supported infrastructure improvement projects listed under Item VII.C, including the aesthetic enhancements to Yankee Doodle Garage, planning and design of roadway improvements for Route 1, and increased engineering services under the Fuss and O'Neill contract. He emphasized these initiatives, alongside converting Burnell Boulevard to two-way traffic, would revitalize the district, attract visitors and businesses, and improve community engagement.

Ms. Betty Ball spoke in support of renewing the lease for the Center for Contemporary Printmaking, citing its importance to the arts, cultural education outreach, and economic contributions through tourism and exhibitions. She noted the Center's scholarship program for Norwalk high school juniors and seniors.

Ms. Diane Lauricella urged the Council to delay the Yankee Doodle Garage project, voicing concerns over the \$639,000 expenditure, suggesting postponement until after evaluating Burnell Boulevard impacts and redirecting priorities toward a lead inspector and a grant writer.

Mr. Jason Milligan applauded the City for the Yankee Doodle Garage project and expressed surprise it might be in jeopardy, stressing that the project followed years of community engagement and planning, and was widely supported in the Wall Street district.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. RESIGNATIONS

a. CHERYL BROWN, CONSERVATION COMMISSION

B. MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Rilling highlighted Norwalk's designation as a Purple Heart City and described the Purple Heart Day ceremony that included highway signage at Exit 15. The Mayor reported that the Norwalk Transit District reduced bus routes from fourteen to seven to improve efficiency, with free fares for the first thirty days. He invited residents to Norwalk Night Out at the Police Department, praising officer outreach programs for the City's declining crime rate. He also reported on the successful summer concert series.

Mayor Rilling reminded residents of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on August 23. He discussed the City's first Arts and Cultural Plan and urged residents to complete the public survey. He reflected on long-standing stalled progress in the Wall Street area and expressed pride in current redevelopment efforts.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Ms. Smyth announced there would be a Special Meeting on August 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. for Charter Revision votes, and that the regular meeting scheduled for August 26, 2025, was canceled.

****MS. DUNN READ THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS FOLLOWS:**

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

2. AUTHORIZATION:

The City of Norwalk is hereby authorized to purchase, acquire and/or take by exercise

of eminent domain the real property and parcel known as 493 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut (the "Property") for sanitary sewer purposes, and further, that the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling or his designee is authorized to execute and deliver any and all instruments necessary to purchase, acquire and/or take by exercise of eminent domain power the Property.

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

1.a. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Imagine Learning, Inc., for software, for an amount not to exceed \$38,279.28, account 09255010-5777-C0112.

b. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Follett Software, LLC, for software, for an amount not to exceed \$25,655.65, account 09255010-5777-C0112.

c. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Capstone, for software, for an amount not to exceed \$33,906.60, account 09255010-5777-C0112.

d. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Otus, LLC, for software, for an amount not to exceed \$159,600.00, account 09255010-5777-C0112.

2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Total Communications, Inc. for a three-year agreement covering five (5) licenses of the Cisco Webex Desk Phone Application, in an amount not to exceed \$1,461.10. Account # 011370-5245 Telephone

B. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement for the use of Brien McMahon High School Casagrande Field and immediate surrounding grounds by Brien McMahon High School Band Parents for their Cavalcade of Sound to be held on Saturday, September 13th, 2025 from 9:00 AM. to 11:00 P.M. Approximately 1500 people.

2. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement for the use of Mathews Park and the immediate surrounding grounds by LGBT Center of New York and Wheelhouse Events for their Cycle for a Cause to be held on Saturday, September 20th from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Approximately 100 people.

C. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a contract agreement with Giliberto and Sons, LLC., in the amount of \$638,518 for project NPA2024-02, Aesthetic Enhancements (Painting & Select Demo) at Yankee Doodle Garage.

ACCT(S)

0920 4095 5777 C0303
0921 4095 5777 C0303
0923 4095 577 7 C0303

2. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with AKRF for an amount not to exceed \$62,985.00, with a 10% contingency of \$6,298.00 for planning and design of potential roadway improvements of Route 1, Cross St/North Ave, between Wilton Ave and East Ave.

ACCT(S)
0925-3750-5777-C0528
0924-3750-5777-C0528
0925-3750-5777-C0824

3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to execute an amendment to increase the Fuss and O'Neill contract by \$380,000 for Additional Transportation Engineering and Related Design Services for Wall Street Corridor Improvements.

ACCT(S)
0926 3750 5777 C0800
0926 3750 5777 C0824

4. Authorize the Director of Transportation, Mobility and Parking to execute the amendment to increase the contract with Fuss and O'Neill, for an amount not to exceed \$38,000

ACCT(S)
0926 3750 5777 C0800
0926 3750 5777 C0824

5. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Agreement between the City of Norwalk and AECOM Technical Services, Inc., for Professional Consulting Services for the development of a Citywide Community Flood Resilience Plan, for a sum not to exceed of \$192,500.

ACCT(S)
36-3730-5258-G0051
36-3730-5298-G0051

6. Authorize the Mayor, Harry Rilling, to execute an Agreement between the City of Norwalk and the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation regarding the occupation of rail infrastructure for the maintenance of the SONO sign under the railroad trestle on Washington Street.

7. Authorize the Mayor, Harry Rilling, to execute an Agreement between the City of Norwalk and AGW SONO Partners LLC regarding the temporary occupation of 99

Washington Street to utilize the vacant office space.

8. Authorize the Mayor, Harry Rilling, to execute an Agreement between the City of Norwalk and The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk LLC to install a "live feed" video display in the City Hall lobby.

LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Amendment to the Lease Agreement with the Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Inc. to extend the Lease for the Carriage House and Gardener's Cottage retro-actively for 10 years from February 1, 2025, to January 31, 2035. The remaining terms of the lease to remain unchanged.

2a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a contract with A.V. Tuchy Builders Inc. for the replacement of the apparatus floor at Broad River Fire Station (Station 1), located at 90 New Canaan Ave. for an amount not to exceed \$604,723.00. Account # 09263110-5777-C0854.

b. Authorize a 10% Change Order contingency allowance for a total not to exceed \$60,472.00. Account # 09263110-5777-C0854.

3. Authorize to RESCIND Common Council Action of January 7, 2025 Item VII. D. 1 to 4 which authorized the execution of agreements with Energy Resources USA, LLC and Eversource Energy for LED lighting retrofits at Norwalk City Hall, Norwalk Health Department, Nathaniel Ely Center and Roosevelt Center.

4a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with Tri-State LED to provide LED Lighting Retrofit Services at City Hall for a total not to exceed \$282,138.00 (\$268,703.57 plus 5% contingency). Payment to be made via Eversource incentives and on-bill financing.

b. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents with Eversource Energy to apply and accept Energy Efficient Upgrade incentives and Financing through Eversource on-bill financing program for the City Hall LED Lighting Retrofit project.

5a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with Tri-State LED to provide LED Lighting Retrofit Services at the Norwalk Health Department for a total not to exceed \$73,175.00 (\$69,690.05 plus 5% contingency). Payment to be made via Eversource incentives and on-bill financing.

b. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents with Eversource Energy to apply and accept Energy Efficient Upgrade incentives and Financing through Eversource on-bill financing program for the Norwalk Health Department LED Lighting Retrofit project.

6a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with Tri-State LED to provide LED Lighting Retrofit Services at the Nathaniel Ely Center for a total not to exceed \$86,975.00 (\$82,833.77 plus 5% contingency). Payment to be made via Eversource incentives and on-bill financing.

b. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents with Eversource Energy to apply and accept Energy Efficient Upgrade incentives and Financing through Eversource on-bill financing program for the Nathaniel Ely Center LED Lighting Retrofit project.

7a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with Tri-State LED to provide LED Lighting Retrofit Services at the Roosevelt Senior Center for a cost not to exceed \$47,898.00 (\$45,617.86 plus 5% contingency). Payment to be made via Eversource incentives and on-bill financing.

b. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all documents with Eversource Energy to apply and accept Energy Efficient Upgrade incentives and Financing through Eversource on-bill financing program for the Roosevelt Center LED Lighting Retrofit project.

8. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to amend the Purchase Order to TOTAL Communications (State Contract #18PSX0202) for the TE-01 LAN Network Switches for the South Norwalk Elementary School for a revised total sum of \$169,831.66. Funds are available in Acct. #0922 5010 5777 C0808.

9. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a Purchase Order with Ambient AI, INC for AI security camera enhancements at the middle and elementary schools for a total not to exceed \$263,916.00.
Funds are available in account #0926 5010 5777 C0537

E. PUBLIC WORKS

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Amendment to the December 23, 2024 Agreement between the City of Norwalk and ARC Document Solutions LLC, for Project 4370, Document Scanning Services, for an amount not to exceed \$228,745.00.

Account No.
01 13 70 5742
03 00 00 2602

2. Technical Correction of the Common Council Action of February 11, 2025, Item VII.B.1 to add an account number 520000-5796-MLK08 designated for On-Call Surveying Services.

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Amendment to the February 6, 2024 Agreement between the City of Norwalk and AI Engineers Inc. for Project

PSC2023-1 On-Call Surveying and Mapping Services. The Amendment is to extend the Agreement for a period of one (1) year at a sum not to exceed \$200,000.00 with an option to extend for one (1) additional term for one (1) year.

Account No.

09 25 4021 5777 C0318
09 25 4021 5777 C0021
09 25 4021 5777 C0302
09 25 3750 5777 C0824
520000 5796 MLK08

3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute the Second Amendment to the March 11, 2021, Agreement for the Transportation and Disposal of Street Sweepings/Catch Basin Grit and Broken Structural Concrete between the City of Norwalk and D.W. Transport & Leasing Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.
Account No. 01 40 42 5299

5a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Agreement between the City of Norwalk and Alcaide Inc. D/B/A A&J Construction for Project PM2025-2 – Pavement Management Program (LOCIP Reimbursement) for a sum not to exceed \$1,352,530.00.

Account No.

09 25 4021 5777 C0021
09 26 4021 5777 C0021
09 25 4021 5777 C0318
09 26 4021 5777 C0318
09 25 4021 5777 C0440
09 26 4021 5777 C0440

b. Authorize the Chief of Operations and Public Works to execute orders on the contract with Alcaide Inc. D/B/A A&J Construction for Project PM2025-2 – Pavement Management Program (LOCIP Reimbursement) for a sum not to exceed \$135,253.00.
Account No.

09 25 4021 5777 C0021
09 26 4021 5777 C0021
09 25 4021 5777 C0318
09 26 4021 5777 C0318
09 25 4021 5777 C0440
09 26 4021 5777 C0440

****MS. SMYTH MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CORPORATION COUNSEL

1. Executive Session - Authorization to Settle Claim:

Authorize Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into and/or execute the Participation and Release Form, any and all other agreements and/or other documents necessary to effectuate the proposed settlement of the National Opioid Litigation as to the following defendants: Purdue and the Sackler Family.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner recused herself.

It was determined this item did not require an Executive Session due to prior written explanation distributed to members. The settlement is part of a nationwide agreement in which nearly all municipalities are participating.

****MAYOR RILLING MOTIONED TO APPROVE AUTHORIZATION TO SETTLE CLAIM.**

****THE MOTION PASSED.**

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner returned.

FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a MOU with the Norwalk Board of Education ("BOE") stipulating the City and BOE respective obligations to fund the Internal Services Insurance Fund, a fund primarily maintained to fund liability claims and settlement within coverage deductible limits.

****MR. BURNETT MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Burnett explained that the proposed MOU provides guidance and clarity for both the City and the Board of Education regarding appropriate funding sources for the Internal Services Fund. The Internal Services Fund addresses employee healthcare, liability, automobile and property claims, and workers' compensation costs.

Mr. Burnett noted the BOE supports the MOU and formally approved it in June 2025. The agreement ensures funding availability to address various claims involving either the BOE or the City. BOE obligations toward employee health costs are explicitly addressed in the MOU.

****THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. DUNN).**

RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement for the use of Washington Street Plaza and immediate surrounding grounds by Sono Entertainment for their Black Heritage Parade to be held on Saturday, September 13th, 2025 from 11:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. Set-up time by 7:00 A.M. with tear-down by 10:45 P.M.

Approximately 100 people.

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Sead highlighted the success of the Juneteenth Carnival earlier this year, which ran smoothly and was well received by the community and law enforcement alike. Mayor Rilling noted this event originated from a conversation with community leader Melody “Sweet Melody” Reagan, commending her initiative.

Several members encouraged other cultural groups (e.g., Puerto Rican Day Parade organizers) to create similar celebrations to reflect Norwalk’s diversity. Ms. Eaddy detailed the historical background of Norwalk’s former African American Day Parades, praised Ms. Reagan for reviving the tradition, and emphasized broad community support.

**** MAYOR RILLING MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE BLACK HERITAGE PARADE.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC WORKS

4. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute the Second Amendment to the February 23, 2021, Agreement for the Transportation and Disposal of Yard Waste Materials between the City of Norwalk and Win Waste Innovations Holdings (formerly City Carting) for an amount not to exceed \$275,000.
Account No. 01 40 42 5299

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

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner opposed the extension in its current form, urging the City to instead adopt an in-house composting solution that could cut costs and allow reuse of yard waste as compost for athletic field maintenance.

Members acknowledged ongoing challenges. Discussion occurred on exploring regional composting partnerships with neighboring municipalities. Members agreed that composting remains a priority for cost savings and environmental efficiency.

****THE MOTION PASSED WITH 1 (ONE) OPPOSITION (MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER) AND 2 (TWO) ABSTENTIONS (MS. DUNN AND MR. WIGGINS).**

LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT

10. Executive Session: Discuss Attorney-Client Privileged Memorandum issued by Law Department dated August 7, 2025.

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Wiggins recused himself.

The Council entered Executive Session at 8:19 PM.

The Council returned to public session at 8:47 PM.

No motions were made, and no votes were taken in Executive Session.

11. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to grant the ingress and parking easements over a portion of 3 Belden Avenue identified in the map entitled “Temporary Easement Map” prepared by Landtech dated January 10, 2025.

****MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO GRANT THE INGRESS AND PARKING EASEMENTS OVER A PORTION OF 3 BELDEN AVENUE.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

XI. ADJOURNMENT

****MR. BURNETT MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

****MR. SUTTON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Baldwin