

ALL COMMON COUNCIL ACTIONS TAKEN AT THIS MEETING TO APPROVE EXPENDITURES AND CONTRACTS OR TO ACCEPT BIDS AND OTHER PROPOSALS REQUIRING THE EXPENDITURE OF CITY FUNDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

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**CITY OF NORWALK
COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 30, 2020
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Mayor Rilling called the special meeting of the Common Council to order at 6:31 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. King called the Roll and read the announcement.

The following Common Council members were present:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett Mr. Manny Langella Ms. Barbara Smyth	Ms. Dominique Johnson Mr. Nicholas Sacchinelli
District A:	Mr. David Heuvelman	Mr. Kadeem Roberts
District B:	Ms. Darlene Young	
District C:	Mr. John Kydes	Mr. George Theodoridis
District D:	Mr. George Tsiranides	Mr. Tom Keegan
District E:	Mr. Thomas Livingston	Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were 14 (fourteen) Common Council members present and one (1) absent (Ms. Revolus). A Quorum was present.

Also present were Mayor Harry Rilling, City Clerk, Donna King, Corporation Counsel, Darin Callahan and Director of Health, Deanna D'Amore

II. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**** MR. SACCHINELLI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE THE CDC COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM ("PROGRAM") PROVIDER AGREEMENT AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.**

Mr. Livingston asked for an explanation of this item. Ms. D'Amore explained that the CDC requires that anybody in Connecticut who provides the Covid-19 vaccine has to enroll in the Connecticut Vaccine program and have this this agreement. She said they anticipate the vaccine will be approved and authorized as early as next month.

Ms. D'Amore said there will be a phased in approach. The local Health Departments are tasked with providing vaccines to the critical workforce, such as the Police, Fire and EMS as well as collecting information from those who work in the schools. She added that health care providers and workers will also be a priority, but that will be handled by a different sector.

Mr. Livingston asked what the City was committing to do. Mr. Callahan explained that the CDC came up with a series of requirements for the distribution of the vaccine and this

agreement memorializes what those are. It requires the Health Departments to comply with CDC protocols and guidelines for the distribution of the vaccine to the general public.

Mr. Livingston asked if there is any liability. Mr. Callahan said there is some liability in any agreement, but there is no indemnification obligation.

Ms. Young asked if they would see any documentation. Mr. Callahan said he believed it had been distributed. Common Council members commented that they did not see it. Mr. Callahan said it is an eight page document and the agreement is set forth in two pages. He said it is streamline and intended for a fast turnaround. Ms. D'Amore explained there are standard requirements whenever vaccines are given.

Mr. Burnett asked if there was a financial liability by the City. Mr. Callahan said there is no financial commitment on the City. The way this is written is to be sure the City follows the CDC guidelines as far as the administration of the vaccine. He said there is no direct monetary agreement by the City. Ms. D'Amore said they recently received funding and part of that funding will provide additional nurses. In addition 50 Emergency Response Volunteers have signed up to help.

Mr. Burnett said he is supportive, but this is somewhat of an open ended approach. He said this is not going to be free and it would be helpful to know what the City's obligation is going to be so that they are in the best position to administer the vaccine. Mr. Callahan said there are no costs associated with obtaining the vaccine under this agreement, but there will be soft costs to distribute the vaccine.

Ms. D'Amore said that this Health Department vaccinates, although not all do. She said they built the infrastructure over the years. She noted that the Health Department will not vaccinate the entire population. Doctors, pharmacists and others will also vaccinate.

After the critical workforce has been vaccinated, they will look at those who do not have as much access to health care services. Ms. Young asked about what other population will be next in line. She explained that there are a lot of conversations that the minority population has been disproportionately impacted by Covid -19. She asked Ms. D'Amore what her plans were. Ms. D'Amore said the Federal Government and the State will provide guidance; the Health Department will follow what the health officials guide them toward. She added that she knows this is a group they are looking at in terms of vaccinations.

Ms. Johnson said she read that the FDNY does not required their First Responders to get vaccinated. She asked if any First Responders opt out of the vaccine, will that put the City in non-compliance. Mr. Callahan said that would not put the City in non-compliance, provided there is no shift in the CDC guidelines. If there is a change, they will have to make a decision on what to do.

Ms. Johnson said that a lot of vaccines need special freezer units. She asked if that would be an outlay the City would have to consider. Ms. D'Amore said she anticipates the Health Department will get the Moderna vaccine and that does not need special freezer units. She said she heard they will be getting groups of 100 doses at a time, but she is waiting for the final guidance.

Mr. Keegan asked Ms. D'Amore when she expects the vaccinations to start happening. Ms. D'Amore said she believed approval will be given in December and they are looking at receiving the vaccine at the end of December or January.

Ms. Shanahan asked about the protocol for the vaccine because it has to be given in two doses. Ms. D'Amore explained that this is not the only vaccine that has multiple doses. They will follow the same protocols they follow with those to be sure people are able to finish the series.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN)**

III. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Donna King, City Clerk

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November 30, 2020

Common Council Special Meeting

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Via Teleconference

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*****SPECIAL MEETING*****

AGENDA

I. **ROLL CALL** 14, Ms. Revolus absent

II. **COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

A. **HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program ("Program") Provider Agreement and any other necessary documents to participate in the program. **AUTHORIZED**

III. **ADJOURNMENT** 6:51 PM