

**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**

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone, Zoom, and/or the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at [norwalkct.gov/meetings](http://norwalkct.gov/meetings)

Members of the public who are unable to attend the meeting in person may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial \*9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who are unable to attend the meeting in person and wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comments are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Irene Dixon at [idxon@norwalkct.gov](mailto:idxon@norwalkct.gov) with the subject line "Public Comment" to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

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

Ms. Dixon called the Roll:

|                   |                              |                      |
|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Council at Large: | Mr. Gregory Burnett          | Mr. Joshua Goldstein |
|                   | Ms. Nora Niedzielski Eichner | Ms. Barbara Smyth    |
| District A:       | Ms. Nicol Ayers              | Mr. Jalin Sead       |
| District B:       | Mr. Dajuan Wiggins           | Ms. Darlene Young    |

|             |                   |                    |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| District C: | Ms. Jenn McMurrer | Ms. Melissa Murray |
| District D: | Ms. Heather Dunn  | Mr. Doug Sutton    |
| District E: | Mr. James Frayer  | Ms. Lisa Shanahan  |

At Roll Call there were fourteen (14) Common Councilmembers present and one (1) absent (Mr. Lopez. A Quorum was present.

Also present were Mayor, Harry Rilling; City Clerk, Irene Dixon and Corporation Counsel, Mario Coppola.

## **II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting: April 23, 2024

**\*\* MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) ABSTENTIONS (MS. NIEDZIELSKI  
EICHNER, MS. MURRAY AND MR. GOLDSTEIN)**

## **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public who wished to comment this evening.

## **IV. MAYOR**

### **A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

There were no resignations or appointments announced this evening.

### **B. MAYOR'S REMARKS:**

Mayor Rilling announced that he met with the leadership of the Republican Town Committee where they made recommendations for appointments.

Mayor Rilling talked about the accident on I-95/Rt7 area that resulted in the loss of structural integrity of the overpass. He provided an update on the Fairfield Avenue bridge reconstruction and thanked Norwalk Fire Department, Norwalk Police Department, CT DOT crews and contractors, Governor Lamont, the Federal Highway Administration, the Biden-Harris administration and Secretary Pete Buttigieg of the U.S. Department of Transportation. He also

thanked King Industries who arrived on the scene with their foam truck. Nothing went into the Norwalk River or Long Island Sound.

Mayor Rilling highlighted that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and touted the success of the 3rd Annual NorWALK for Mental Health: Walk + Wellness Fair. In addition to Mental Health Awareness Month May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and also it is Haitian Heritage Month. A Haitian flag will be raised this Saturday at 10:30 AM at the Heritage Wall. He also reminded folks of Norwalk's Annual Veterans Memorial Ceremony at the Shea Magrath Memorial at Calf Pasture Beach on May 19th beginning at 12:30 PM. He also mentioned both Memorial Day parades.

#### **V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

##### **A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

There were no resignations or appointments announced this evening.

Ms. Young provided comments about the I-95/Rt 7 incident and expressed gratitude to the Fire Department. She also recognized four heroes who saved a gentleman from a fire. Ms. Young recognized the volunteers who cleared the Norwalk River Valley trail.

Ms. Young announced that Ms. Shanahan was reading this evening's Consent Calendar.

##### **B. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**\*\* MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**VII.A.1, VII.A.2, VII.A.3, VII.A.4A, VII.A.4B, VII.A.5, VII.B.1, VII.B.2, VII.C.1A, VII.C.1B, VII.D.1A, VII.D.1B, VII.E.1, VII.E.2, VII.E.3**

#### **VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### **VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

##### **A. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**1. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO CONNECTICUT MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORY, INC. FOR MATERIALS TESTING AND FIELD INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH NORWALK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$104,665.00 PLUS A CONTINGENCY ALLOWANCE OF \$30,000.00**

**TO COVER ACTUAL TESTING AND INSPECTION SERVICES PERFORMED. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCOUNT ACCT. #09225010 5777 C0808.**

**2. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO CONNECTICUT MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORY, INC. FOR MATERIALS TESTING AND FIELD INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$510,479.80 PLUS A CONTINGENCY ALLOWANCE OF \$50,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCOUNT ACCT. #09215010 5777 C0787.**

**3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION, ACCEPTANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A GRANT FROM HUD – COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING FOR THE PROPOSED NORWALK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER AT 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000,000.**

**4A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TITAN ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE NORWALK CONCERT HALL TERRACE. STAIRS AND ADA RAMP IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$308,500.00. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ACCOUNT #0923/247100 5777 C0439, #0920/211000 5777 C0536, #0923/247100 5777 C0476.**

**4B. AUTHORIZE THE OFFICE OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$30,850.00 ACCT. #0923/247100 5777 C0476.**

**5. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO NORTHEAST GENERATOR COMPANY FOR EMERGENCY GENERATOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR 3 YEARS AT CITY HALL, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, FIRE HEADQUARTERS, POLICE HEADQUARTERS, BELDEN MAIN LIBRARY AND PUBLIC WORKS CENTER/GARAGE FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$21,324. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS BUILDING OPERATING ACCOUNTS.**

**B. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE THE FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT AUTHORIZATION LETTER FOR STATE PROJECT NO. 102-295, I-95 MEDIAN RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING, FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK'S REMAINING DEMAND DEPOSIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE YANKEE DOODLE TRAIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$186,452, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MASTER**

**MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF NORWALK AND THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.  
ACCOUNT NO. 09 23 4021 5777 C0816  
09 23 4021 5777 C0818**

**2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A NO-  
COST FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE JUNE 13, 2023, AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE CITY OF NORWALK AND IRECYCLE INC DBA EYERECYCLE, LLC. FOR  
COLLECTION AND RECYCLING OF GLASS BOTTLES AND CANS VIA  
POPUV EVENTS IN THE CITY OF NORWALK.**

**C. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY  
AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT  
FUNDS FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
FOR THE IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN (IAP) PROGRAM IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$1,783,646.00 FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2025.**

**1B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY  
AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR  
AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE  
IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN (IAP) PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD JULY  
1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2025.**

**D. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO A  
CONTRACT WITH ALLOY DESIGN STUDIO PLLC, FOR PROJECT #4358,  
URBAN GRANT IMPROVEMENTS TRAIL DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT, IN  
AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$49,600.00.  
ACCOUNT NO. 0924 6030 5799 C0846**

**1B. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS TO ISSUE  
CHANGE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH ALLOY DESIGN STUDIO  
PLLC, FOR PROJECT #4358, URBAN GRANT IMPROVEMENTS TRAIL  
DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,960.00.  
ACCOUNT NO. 0924 6030 5799 C0846**

**E. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BROWNFIELD MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT OF 55 MLK DRIVE (WEBSTER STREET LOT)**

**WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO C.G.S SECTION 32-763 THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS; AND**

**WHEREAS, IT IS DESIRABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE CITY OF NORWALK & NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE FOR \$3,000,000 IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE THE 55 MLK (WEBSTER STREET LOT) BROWNFIELD CLEANUP PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF NORWALK**

**1. THAT IT IS COGNIZANT OF THE CONDITIONS AND PREREQUISITES FOR THE STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IMPOSED BY C.G.S SECTION 32-763**

**2. THAT THE FILLING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE CITY OF NORWALK & NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000,000 IS HEREBY APPROVED AND THAT MAYOR HARRY RILLING IS DIRECTED TO EXECUTE AND FILE SUCH APPLICATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, TO PROVIDE SUCH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, TO EXECUTE SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED, TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS OFFERED, TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, DECISIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO, AND TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK.**

**2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND 2030 PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE REDEVELOPMENT OF 55 MLK DRIVE (WEBSTER STREET LOT)**

**WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO C.G.S SECTION 32-285A THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IS**

**AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS; AND**

**WHEREAS, IT IS DESIRABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE CITY OF NORWALK & NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE FOR \$8,000,000 IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE THE 55 MLK (WEBSTER STREET LOT) COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF NORWALK**

**1. THAT IT IS COGNIZANT OF THE CONDITIONS AND PREREQUISITES FOR THE STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IMPOSED BY C.G.S SECTION 32-285A.**

**2. THAT THE FILLING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE CITY OF NORWALK & NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,000,000 IS HEREBY APPROVED AND THAT MAYOR HARRY RILLING IS DIRECTED TO EXECUTE AND FILE SUCH APPLICATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, TO PROVIDE SUCH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, TO EXECUTE SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED, TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS OFFERED, TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, DECISIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO, AND TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK.**

**3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH PLACER LABS, INC. FOR A DATA SOFTWARE UNLIMITED LICENSE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,000 VIA SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT.**

**ACCT: 0924 3710 5777 C0773**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**E. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**\*\* MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

4. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a 3-year contract with two 1-year extension options with ARC Sound, Stage, Lighting, LLC in the amounts of \$92,510 for year one, \$97,585 for year two, and \$102,760 for year 3 for Purchasing Project: 4341R Stage, Lighting, and Sound Services.

ACCT: 0925 3780 5777 C0680

0924 3710 5777 C0773

0925 3710 5777 C0773

Mr. Goldstein explained that this a contract for the sound stage to help the City put on three popular events. He said these special events are important to the community and increase economic development and inspire joy.

Ms. Vonashek, Chief of Economic and Community Development, Ms. Godeski, Director of Business Development and Tourism and Ms. Breault, Special Events Coordinator offered a presentation showing core objectives, goals and the return on investments for the events. In order to achieve their goals, they are striving for more partnerships.

Mr. Wiggins asked what was being done to make these events more diverse, for example, Juneteenth. Ms. Breault said they are looking for different partnerships. She said she has been going to businesses in person or sending e-mails.

Ms. McMurray said she heard negative feedback regarding the costs. She said the events in Westport do not spend this much money and asked about looking at cost savings. Ms. Breault noted that some of these events generate interest in the area.

Ms. Ayres suggested holding events in other areas of town that could use a push in economic development. Ms. Breault said they are brainstorming different opportunities for different neighborhoods.

Ms. Dunn explained that the first thing to do would be to create a sponsorship package. She encouraged collaboration with non-profits; the budget has to come before anything else.

Mr. Goldstein noted this is a long term investment in the overall economic success of Norwalk. This is Ms. Breault's first year and she did a marvelous job. He said he hopes this Common Council will be committed to making this investment.

Ms. Smyth said these events support the community. It is important to look at sponsorships to support these events. She noted that ARC has done an excellent job in all of their events; they are a local business, own their own equipment and are very professional.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said she will vote in favor this time, but hopes to see the return on investment and sponsorships increase.

Mr. Sead said he was torn on this in committee because of the budget but said it would not be wise to not fund this item because they approved Placer Labs.

Mr. Frayer said he researched the cost of events and spent time talking to fundraisers. He said that by putting on professional entertainment they will get sponsors. This money is being spent to get the economy growing.

Ms. Young said they have to be thoughtful and having quality events is what is going to grow Norwalk, She suggested holding an event at Veteran's Park.

Mayor Rilling said an idea that needs to be explored is a Downtown Special Services District.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MS. DUNN)**

**VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL**

There were no resolutions presented this evening.

**IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE**

There were no postponed motions this evening.

**X. SUSPENSION OF RULES**

There were no suspension of the rules this evening.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Irene Dixon, City Clerk