

**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.org/meetings Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.

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Members of the public who wish to view the meeting, but are not participating, can view a live stream on the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. This stream is delayed by approximately 20 seconds. Please find the information using the link above. The meeting recording and minutes will be posted on the City of Norwalk website within seven (7) days after the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email 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 Irene Dixon at idxon@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rilling asked for a Moment of Silence for the victims of the Covenant School in Nashville. He called for an end to gun violence.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Dixon called the Roll:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett	Mr. Edwin Camacho (7:37 P.M.)
	Mr. Joshua Goldstein	Ms. Nora Niedzielski Eichner
	Ms. Barbara Smyth	

District A: Ms. Nicol Ayers Mr. David Heuvelman

District B: Ms. Diana Revolus Ms. Darlene Young

District C: Mr. John Kydes Ms. Jenn McMurrer

District D:

District E: Mr. Thomas Livingston Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were twelve (12) Council members present and three (3) absent (Mr. Camacho, Mr. Meek and Ms. Alterman). A Quorum was present.

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

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Special Meeting: March 7, 2023

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Regular Meeting: March 14, 2023

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**
**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. MCMURRER)**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted. Speakers are Norwalk residents unless otherwise noted.

Mr. Camacho joined the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Mr. Howard Dixon spoke in support of the appointment of Ms. Toni to the Board of Ethics. He noted her position at the Norwalk Hospital.

Mr. Tod Bryant, President of the Norwalk Preservation Trust, spoke in support of the revisions to the demolition delay Ordinance. He said he was disappointed that they did not approve the 180 day delay, but this is a good start. It will make a difference in the codification of penalties. These penalties may have been a deterrent to what happened with the demolition of the home on Willow Street. These changes will safeguard historic buildings and other buildings in Norwalk.

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Ms. Dana Laird, Chair, Norwalk Historical commission spoke in support of the demolition delay Ordinance. She said it is important to save the physical fabric of the City.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were no resignations announced this evening.

APPOINTMENTS:

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF DAISY M. FRANKLIN TO THE FAIR HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Ms. Young and Ms. Ayers spoke in support of the appointment.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REAPPOINTMENTS: There were no reappointments announced this evening.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling announced that the City of Norwalk transitioned its website from .org to .gov. He announced that the City's MLK Corridor Initiative is making major investments in the South Norwalk community through the South Norwalk Investment Program.

Mayor Rilling acknowledged the passing of Carol Andreoli, the first female Fire Commissioner of the City of Norwalk. He expressed his gratitude for her service to Norwalk and extended his deep condolence to her husband, Pete.

Mayor Rilling wished those who celebrate a Happy Ramadan.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

RESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were no resignations announced this evening.

APPOINTMENTS:

**** MR. GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF PATRICIA F. TONI TO THE BOARD OF ETHICS**

Mr. Goldstein, and Ms. Young spoke in support of this appointment. Mayor Rilling also spoke in support.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REAPPOINTMENTS: There were no reappointments announced this evening.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Mr. Burnett announced that Mr. Kydes would be reading this evening's Consent Calendar.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR A HOUSING PLAN BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND THE URBAN LAND INSTITUTE (ULI) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000 BY WAY OF SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT.
ACCOUNT NO. 133710 5796 AEC25**

C. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DEEDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO CONVEY 23,484± SQ. FT. OF 60 SOUTH SMITH STREET AS SHOWN ON RIGHT OF WAY SURVEY ENTITLED "TOWN OF NORWALK, MAP SHOWING LAND ACQUIRED FROM CITY OF NORWALK BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WALK RAILROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, SCALE 1" = 40' FEBRUARY 2022" PREPARED BY SCOTT A. HILL, P.E. DATED JANUARY 27, 2022. COMPENSATION TO THE CITY: \$378,000.00.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO FIREMATIC SUPPLY COMPANY, INC, EAST YAPHANK, NY FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) FIRE ENGINES, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$1,839,225.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09233110 5777 C0437

2. AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO HAVE EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC INSTALL ONE (1) NEW STREETLIGHT ON THE EXISTING UTILITY POLE AT THE EAST SIDE OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15 NAROMAKE AVENUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED PLAN AT AN APPROXIMATE COST OF \$25 PER MONTH.
ACCOUNT NO. 0140 21 5241

3. AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO HAVE EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC TO INSTALL A NEW POLE AND THE ASSOCIATED WIRE FOR ONE (1) NEW STREETLIGHT ON THE WEST SIDE OF RAMPART ROAD AT THE INTERSECTION OF BEAUFORD ROAD WITHIN THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED PLAN AT AN APPROXIMATE ONE-TIME COST OF \$2,500.00.
ACCOUNT NO. 0140 21 5241

4. AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO HAVE EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC TO INSTALL ONE (1) NEW STREETLIGHT ON A NEWLY INSTALLED UTILITY POLE ON THE WEST SIDE OF RAMPART ROAD AT THE INTERSECTION OF BEAUFORD ROAD WITHIN THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED PLAN AT AN APPROXIMATE COST OF \$25.00 PER MONTH.
ACCOUNT NO. 0140 21 5241

E. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO EXTEND THE STUDENT PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT.

2A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM OPTIMUS HEALTH CARE INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF

\$300,117 PER YEAR FOR CONTRACT PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027 FOR THE WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) PROGRAM.

2B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE WIC PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2022, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027.

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO EXTEND THE AFTER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK HOUSING AUTHORITY BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026.

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY WITH EMILY MELNICK CONSULTING, LLC TO PERFORM STRATEGIC PLANNING CONSULTING SERVICES TO NORWALK COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 TOTAL. FAMILY NAVIGATOR GRANT ACCOUNT # 352011-5258 \$ 8,437.50 & FAIR RENT ACCOUNT #011000-5272 \$ 1,562.50.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 55: DEMOLITION DELAY (SECTIONS 1 THROUGH 10).**

Ms. Shanahan turned this item over to Mr. Livingston who reviewed the changes to the Ordinance. The thanked all involved who worked on the proposed revisions. He asked Mr. Ireland, Chief Building Officer, if wanted to add anything. Mr. Ireland said this was a much better Ordinance than they had before and thanked Mr. Bryant. He added that he looked forward to enforcing this Ordinance.

Mr. Camacho offered two friendly amendments. He said he ran these proposed amendments by the Corporation Counsel who advised that these amendments would not require a return public hearing.

**** MR. CAMACHO MOVED THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:**

§ 55-3. PERMIT REQUIRED, SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

NO PROPERTY OWNER SHALL DEMOLISH ANY BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR PART THEREOF WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A PERMIT FROM THE CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL.

§ 55-8. VIOLATION AND FINES; LAPSE OF PERMIT SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

A. IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTIES AND REMEDIES PROVIDED BY LAW, ANY PROPERTY OWNER WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE FINED \$250 PER DAY, WITH EACH DAY OF SUCH VIOLATION CONSTITUTING A SEPARATE VIOLATION. ALL FINES IMPOSED UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE COLLECTED AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL FINES IMPOSED ON A PERSON UNDER THIS CHAPTER FOR A SINGLE VIOLATION SHALL NOT EXCEED THE LESSER OF \$30,000 OR, IN THE CASE OF THE UNAUTHORIZED DEMOLITION OF BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR PART THEREOF, 10% OF THE ASSESSED VALUE OF SUCH BUILDING, STRUCTURE OR PART THEREOF.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said she had hoped they would reconsider the 50-year timeframe in the Ordinance. She said that every regulation should be looked at for affordable housing. She said she hopes they will re-visit the Ordinance.

**** THE AMENDMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** THE MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MS. NIEDZIELSKI EICHNER)**

E. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Ms. Revolus noted that it is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.

Due to a potential conflict of interest, Ms. Revolus recused herself and left the meeting.

**** MR. HEUVELMAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY WITH THE NORWALK PARTNERSHIP – POSITIVE DIRECTIONS TO SERVE AS FIDUCIARY, TO SUPPORT NORWALK TEEN NIGHTS OUT IN THE**

**AMOUNT OF \$50,000.00 TOTAL DURING THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2023, TO
AUGUST 30, 2023. ARPA ACCOUNT # 132010-5796 ACS02**

Mr. Heuvelman spoke in support of this item. He said that even before the Pandemic, teens needed outlets and places to go.

Ms. Ana Vivian Estrella explained that this money was designated for Youth Services through ARPA.

Ms. Smyth said this was an extraordinary partnership and suggested thinking about how to fund this initiative after the ARPA funds run out.

Mr. Goldstein said he hoped this initiative was the first of what they can do for kids' mental health.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

There were no resolutions proposed this evening.

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were no motions postponed 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 8:24 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Irene Dixon, City Clerk