CITY OF NORWALK
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024
VIA TELECONFERENCE

ATTENDANCE: Josh Goldstein; Chair, Jim Frayer, Heather Dunn, Jalin Sead, Barbara Smyth, Darlene Young

STAFF: Sabrina Godeski

OTHER: Dajuan Wiggins; Common Council Member, Anne Wennerstrand; Common Council Member, Thomas Livingston; Chief of Staff, Jim Travers (7:02 p.m.).

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Goldstein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called as stated above. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no one present who wished to participate.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the Minutes of September 19th, 2024 special meeting.

** **MR. FRAYER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 29TH MEETING.**
** **THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE AYES AND ONE ABSTENTION (BARBARA SMYTH).**

Mr. Travers joined the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. TRANSPORTATION, MOBILITY, AND PARKING

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into any and all Project Authorization Letters and other documents required by Conn. DOT needed for expenditure of funds

under the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Urban Action Grant (UAG) Program for Improvements to Richards Avenue and West Cedar Street as part of State Project No. DOT01020376GR.
Acct. No.363701 4120 G0060
363701 5799 G0060

** **MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION TAKE THE ITEM TO THE COUNCIL.**

Mr. Travers gave a description of the two grants and in what capacity they would be used. He stated the first grant would allow them to engage with the consultant and begin the design. He noted the second grant would go for construction after they get the design. He pointed out there would be community meetings throughout the process. It was noted that this was a Complete Streets project.

Ms. Smythe inquired how this project would dovetail with the paving project on Richards Avenue. Mr. Travers explained the process they went through to ensure minimal impact on the budget and the residents.

Mr. Frayer was curious about the impact the project would have on the bridge construction on West Cedar. Mr. Travers stated they hoped that the work could be done concurrently but should it not negatively affect the bridge project. He assured the committee that they would make every effort to avoid detouring traffic. There was a discussion about the roundabout size. Mr. Traverse explained how the area could be affected.

** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to execute any and all agreement(s) and other documents necessary to accept and receive the benefit of the EECBG Program Technical Assistance Voucher in the amount of $144,600.

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

Mr. Travers described the nature and purpose of the voucher. He noted they would work with the program to determine the quantity and placement of EV chargers. Mr. Goldstein wanted clarification about who would be using the EV chargers. Mr. Travers noted the chargers were not for the municipal fleet, they would be in preparation for the growing EV market. Mr. Frayer wanted an estimate of the potential number of chargers. Mr. Frayer described the process for deciding where and how many chargers would be at a chosen location. He noted the placement could be on both city and private parcels. In response to Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Travers speculated the project could start in the middle part of 2025.

The question was posed whether the project is taking into consideration upcoming development in South Norwalk. Mr. Travers responded that nothing had been decided and the process wouldn't begin until the required forms were signed by Mayor Rilling. Mr. Travers noted that the grant would give them the guidance and process that will take into consideration the growth of the South Norwalk area.

** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into a Maintenance Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation for State Project 102-375 (East Norwalk Connectivity Enhancements) for non-standard items.
   Acct. No. 0924 3750 5777 C0562

** **MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION**

Mr. Travers described the particulars of the project along with the implementation of a previous plan. He indicated which elements of the project were non-standard items for the DOT. He stated they those items would need to be addressed by the municipality.

** **THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE AYES AND ONE ABSTENTION (HEATHER DUNN).**

III. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

Mr. Goldstein mentioned discussing the capital budget at the next meeting. He noted with budget season beginning they needed to talk about capital budget considerations.

ADJOURNMENT

** **MR. FRAYER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**
** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
China Mayhew
Telesco Secretarial Services