

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

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of Senator John McCain of Arizona.

Ms. King read the notice stating that the meeting was being audio recorded and videotaped with subtitles for public broadcast. She asked everyone to speak clearly, one at a time, into the microphone and said that assisted listening devices were available

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. King called the Roll. The following Common Council members were present:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett Mr. Michael Corsello Ms. Barbara Smyth	Mr. Nicholas Sacchinelli Mr. Douglas Stern
District A:	Ms. Eloisa Melendez	Mr. Chris Yerinides
District B:	Mr. Ernest Dumas	Mr. Travis Simms
District C:	Mr. John Kydes	Ms. Beth Siegelbaum
District D:	Mr. Douglas Hempstead	Mr. George Tsiranides
District E:	Mr. John Igneri	Mr. Thomas Livingston

At Roll Call there were fifteen (15) Common Council members present.

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

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: August 14, 2018

**** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED
** MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE (5) ABSTENTIONS (MR. STERN; MR. YERINIDES; MR. SIMMS; MR. TSIRANIDES AND MR. LIVINGSTON)**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Mr. Diane Lauricella spoke about the purchase of the South Norwalk Community Center building. She expressed concerns She said she believed the City Charter allows the City to have a social service agency. She asked the Common Council to go back to the drawing board and do their due diligence. She said she was not sure who was on this agency's board and if it is viable and if there are meeting minutes.

Ms. Lauricella said it might be better for the City to purchase the building and create a new social services agency. The two entities could not manage their funds toward the end and did not prove themselves able to handle public funds. She asked the Common Council to oppose the vote to purchase the building.

Mayor Rilling noted the City is planning to start a totally new agency.

Mr. Robert Burgess spoke about the purchase of the South Norwalk Community Center building. He said he was in several meetings about the make up of the new board. Mr. Burgess said he wants to make sure one agency is not treated differently from the other. He does not want there to be a double standard for the two agencies. He added that no one should move forward until financial questions are answered.

Mr. John Mosby spoke about the purchase of the South Norwalk Community Center building. He said he was on the Board of Directors of NEON and said he told the Common Council about the problems. He said the community has to be on the Board. Mr. Mosby said he told people about the problems, but then was thrown off the Board.

Mr. Mosby said he wants oversight on the new board. He said if the City opens a new organization the community has to pick who they want, because they are using taxpayer money. If not, he said, he would go to court. Mr. Mosby said he wants the community to have a board. He told the Common Council that they have to show responsibility.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were none this evening.

APPOINTMENTS: There were none this evening.

REAPPOINTMENTS: There were none this evening.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling noted that Norwalk Public Schools open tomorrow and asked everyone to slow down in school zones and to look out for buses.

On September 9th the 18th Annual United Ride will take place.

The Norwalk Seaport's 41st Oyster Festival will take place from September 7th to September 9th.

Norwalk's 911 Remembrance ceremony will be held on Tuesday, September 11th where the 14 residents who lost their lives on 911 will be remembered.

The Mayor's Golf Tournament will take place on September 24th.

Mayor Rilling wished everyone a happy Labor Day and said it is a day to honor working people across the country.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were none this evening

APPOINTMENTS: There were none this evening

REAPPOINTMENTS: There were none this evening

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
VII.C.1,**

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
VII.D.1A, VII.D.1B, VII.D.2, VII.D.3, VII.D.4**

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

B. BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

C. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**1. APPROVAL OF AND VOTE ON CANDIDATE FOR COMPTROLLER
– CHITSAMAY LAM.**

D. HEALTH, WELFARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE
ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND
AMENDMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT
FUNDS UNDER THE FY2018 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE
ASSISTANCE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,609.00.**

**1B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE
ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND
AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT
ALL PROGRAMS THROUGH THE FY 2018 EDWARD BYRNE
MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT LOCAL SOLICITATION
PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.**

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO OR AMEND CONTRACTUAL INSTRUMENTS IN THE NAME AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NORWALK WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CHILD DAY CARE PROGRAM OPERATED BY THE CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO CONTRACT # 18OECDC01NWK WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD FOR THE 2018-2020 CHILD DAY CARE PROGRAM TO BE FUNDED BY THE CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD.

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE SUBGRANT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND I) STEPPING STONES MUSEUM FOR CHILDREN, INC., II) GROWING SEEDS TOO CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, INC. AT BEN FRANKLIN CENTER, III) ODYSSEY LEARNING, INC. AT NATHANIEL ELY CENTER, AND IV) CONNECTICUT INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITIES, INC., FOR FUNDING, UNDER THE CHILD DAY CARE PROGRAM, FOR THE PROVISION OF CHILD CARE SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT # 18OECDC01NWK.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Lam was introduced and welcomed by Mayor Rilling.

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

**** MR. BURNETT MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

A. FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. RESOLUTION: APPROVE SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS TOTALING \$5.0 MILLION TO INCREASE THE AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN, PROJECT 09185010-5777-C0610.

2. RESOLUTION: APPROVE THE REDUCTION OF \$5.0 MILLION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE JEFFERSON SCHOOL, PROJECT 09195010 5777-C0618, FROM \$23.902 MILLION TO \$18.902 MILLION.

Mr. Burnett explained the overall net would reduce the present allocation from Jefferson School by \$5 million and re-appropriate \$5 million toward the master plan at Norwalk High School.

Mr. Thomas Hamilton explained that the numbers several months ago showed a \$4 million potential shortfall at both Ponus and Nathan Hale middle schools and then the \$5 million for Norwalk High School. The District is committed to moving forward on the three projects. He said they know Jefferson will be delayed. The \$24 million appropriation was put in before it was needed. That project has to take place in sequence with Ponus Ridge Middle School. The appropriation is needed for Norwalk High School; this is a temporary use of Jefferson funds.

Mr. Hempstead said the deficits need to be addressed. Mr. Hamilton said they have an allocation of \$130 million of local funds that was approved by the Common Council. The District is moving forward with badly needed renovation work at a number of sites in the City. He said the capital needs of the school system are great and the District expects to come back for additional capital approvals that extends beyond the \$130 million.

Mr. Hempstead asked if the \$5 million is beyond the original \$130 million request. Mr. Hamilton said it was determined that the \$6.5 million allocated to Norwalk High School was not sufficient.

Mr. Hempstead said this \$5 million is outside of the scope of the original presentation of the Board of Education. He said he understands cost overruns but has long term concerns.

Mr. Yerinides asked if the \$5 million helps offset the \$12.6 million. Mr. Hamilton said it would help offset that. Mr. Kydes added that he believes the recent state legislation helps offset that. Mr. Hamilton said the legislation, sponsored by Senator Duff provides that the City will get 100% reimbursement up to \$600,000 on the West Rocks Middle School project. Mr. Kydes noted that Norwalk High School is showing its age.

Mr. Hamilton said they expect to complete Jefferson School in 2023-2024. They expect to be back for a funding request at Jefferson School in fy 18/19, because it won't go into design until 2020.

Mr. Hempstead asked for an explanation on the special legislation. Mr. Hamilton said the 100% reimbursement is on a portion of the West Rocks Middle School project related to environmental remediation.

Mr. Alan Lo explained that all reimbursable school projects were done in 2000. He said that the population of Jefferson School will drop when a lot of the kids move to the elementary part of Ponus Middle School. Mr. Hempstead said he was torn.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:18 P.M.**

B. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1, AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE AND SALES AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH NORWALK COMMUNITY CENTER, INC. TO PURCHASE A ONE-HALF INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY AT 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SOUTH NORWALK, CT. EXECUTIVE SESSION

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The public was excused and left the Common Council chambers.

The Common Council members came out of Executive Session at 9:37 p.m. During Executive Session no motions were made and no votes were taken.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

B. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1, AUTHORIZE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE AND SALES AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH NORWALK COMMUNITY CENTER, INC. TO PURCHASE A ONE-HALF INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY AT 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SOUTH NORWALK, CT.

Mr. Livingston added stipulations. He said the current lease is unattainable and can't work for the City. He noted this is a deteriorating asset and the City can't wait. Mr. Livingston said this is essentially a new entity with a new Board running the operation.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO (2) VOTES IN OPPOSITION (MR. DUMAS AND MR. SIMMS)**

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

There were none this evening.

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Donna King, City Clerk