

**COMMON COUNCIL
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT**

**DECEMBER 9, 2008
8:00 P.M. EST COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moccia called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following this, the Mayor requested a moment of silence in memory of Tony Doumlele, one of Norwalk's prominent residents who had frequently participated in the City's government. Mr. Doumlele had passed away earlier.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Roman called the roll.

Fred Bondi	Amanda Brown
Michael Geake	Richard McQuaid
Douglas Sutton	Richard Bonenfant
Steven Serasis	Carvin Hilliard
Laurel Lindstrom	William Krummel
Rev. Phyllis Bolden	Nicholas Kydes
Kelly Straniti	Andrew T. Conroy

ABSENT: Douglas Hempstead

There were fourteen members (14) present and one (1) member absent.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular meeting – November 25, 2008

**** MR. KYDES MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 25, 2008 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Regular meeting – November 12, 2008

**** MR. KRUMMEL MOVED THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2008.**

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the corrections to the minutes. Ms. Lindstrom object to the manner in which the corrections for previous minutes are currently handled. At the conclusion of the discussion, it

was decided that the Draft copies of the minutes will be updated with the corrections cited during the following meeting by the City Clerk.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2008 AS CORRECTED BY THE CITY CLERK PASSED WITH TWELVE IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, SUTTON, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND TWO ABSTENTIONS (CONROY AND KYDES).**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Daisy Franklin came forward and said that she was very pleased with the Council's election of Rev. Bolden as Council President.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Resignations:

The Mayor announced the following two resignations at this time:

Mr. Andrew Kyriadkides from the Conservation Committee and

Mr. Joseph Santo from the Parking Authority.

Appointments:

Joseph Pramer – Pension Board of Trustees

**** MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTEMENT OF MR. JOSEPH PRAMER TO THE PENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, CONROY, KYDES, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND ONE ABSTENTION (SUTTON).**

Emily Wilson – Conservation Commission

**** MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. EMILY WILSON TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, CONROY, KYDES, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND ONE ABSTENTION (SUTTON).**

Reappointments:

Kathleen Clement – Board of Assessment Appeals

**** MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MS. KATHLEEN CLEMENT TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, CONROY, KYDES, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND ONE ABSTENTION (SUTTON).**

Sheldon Miller – Board of Health

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. SHELDON MILLER TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.**

Mr. Kydes praised Mr. Miller for his current service and said that his continued service would be an asset to the City.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, CONROY, KYDES, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND ONE ABSTENTION (SUTTON).**

Edward Tracey, M.D. – Board of Health

**** MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF EDWARD TRACEY, M.D. TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH.**

Mr. McQuaid said that Dr. Tracey was well known in Norwalk and that Dr. Tracey was willing to continue his service on the Board.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THIRTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, LINDSTROM, CONROY, KYDES, STRANITI AND KRUMMEL) AND ONE ABSTENTION (SUTTON).**

B. REMARKS

Mayor Moccia said that he had submitted an application for Federal assistance for the demolition of the old police station. He then reviewed the details of this and the ninety-day application window.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

Council President Bolden then announced that Agenda Item VII A3

Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with CRW Systems, Inc. to provide permit and project administration software, data conversion, training, technical support and implementation for a sum not to exceed \$150,000. Account Number 03 0000 2602

would be sent back to committee.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT BOLDEN THEN MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

VI. AGENCIES, BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH DW TRANSPORT AND LEASING TO EXTEND UNTIL FEBRUARY 28, 2009 THE EXISTING AGREEMENT FOR THE TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE. ACCOUNT NO. 014042 5299

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN (VHB) FOR THE EAST AVENUE CORRIDOR SIGNALIZATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION AND AS-BUILT DRAWINGS OF THE COMPLETED TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000.00. ACCOUNT NO. 09074120 5777 CO397.

B. HEALTH, WELFARE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT, GERALD FOLEY, TO EXECUTE PURCHASE ORDERS FOR THE FOLLOWING POLICE TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES, FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE COPS TECHNOLOGY GRANT AND PURCHASED IN ACCORDANCE TO THE CITY'S PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES.

CAD/GIS PACKAGE – ACCOUNT #35309A-5744, NOT TO EXCEED \$19,198.00

ANTI-VIRUS/SPYWARE PACKAGE – ACCOUNT # 3509A-5742, NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00

AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READER – ACCOUNT # 35309A-5745, NOT TO EXCEED \$64, 147.67

MOBILE DATA TERMINALS – ACCOUNT # 35309A-5741, NOT TO EXCEED \$54,960.00

TRAINING STATIONS – ACCOUNT # 35309A-5747, NOT TO EXCEED \$6,700.00

PORTABLE CAMERA PACKAGE – ACCOUNT # 35309A-5724, NOT TO EXCEED \$2,785.00

FORD EXPEDITION ORDINANCE VEHICLE - ACCOUNT # 35309A-5735, NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000 FULLY EQUIPPED.

FORD CROWN VICTORIA THERMAL IMAGING - ACCOUNT # 35309A-5731, NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000 FULLY EQUIPPED, PURCHASED OFF STATE BID CONTRACT #06PSX0135.

**FORD CROWN VICTORIA LICENSE PLATE READER, ACCOUNT # 35309A-5745,
NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000 FULLY EQUIPPED, PURCHASED OFF STATE BID
CONTRACT #06PSX0135.**

2 a. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF HEALTH FOR THE LEAD POISONING PROGRAM FOR A PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,027.00 AND JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010 FOR AN AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED.

2b. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE LEAD POISONING PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009 AND JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010.

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO SIGN A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH NORWALK BOAT CLUB FOR WINTER BERTHING OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BOAT.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. Approve proposed revisions to the Department of Public Works Rates and Fees.

**** MR. KRUMMEL MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** MR. KRUMMEL MOVED TO APPROVE A CHANGE IN THE DPW FEES AS THE FOLLOWS :**

ORDINANCE 94 -3.4 RECYCLING

BLUE BINS	FROM \$5.00	TO \$10.00
*With Senior Discount	\$2.50	\$5.00

Mr. Serasis said that he had difficulty with the 100% increase in the fees particularly with the economy. Mr. Geake said that he objected to the fees and while he was aware of the budget situation in the City, he felt that the increase in fees was wrong. Ms. Straniti said that she agreed with Mr. Geake and was against the increase in fees. Mr. Hilliard said that he was against the fees because 2009 would economically be worse before it got better. Ms. Brown said that she agreed with Mr. Geake and Ms. Straniti. She said that there was no justification for the increase. She then asked about the drop of the \$82.00 fee and asked why this was.

Mr. Krummel replied that in the past the Council had decided that the users should be the one paying the cost for the service.

Mr. Alvord said that the rate for the bins was established in 1991 and that the City had sold about 800 a year. Many of them are for people who want one or more for their household. Mr. Conroy said that he had seen people totting sports equipment in blue bins because they were cheap. Mr. Conroy said that while he didn't like the fees, there were many specific fees for the special services. Mr. Bonenfant then asked what the cost of the blue bin was. Mr. Alvord said that it cost the City over seven dollars for a replacement bin. Mr. Kydes said that while he did have problems with the fees, but that there were services that cost the City money, such as the bounced check fee. It is important for the citizens to feel that they are getting the services they pay for with their taxes. If the fees are justified, then they should be supported. Mr. McQuaid said that he would rather see the fines increased, like the returned check fine, and the fees decreased. He then suggested that this item be sent back to committee. Ms. Lindstrom said that when this was discussed in committee, it was brought out that this was a cost of living issue and that the timing of these increased fees was unfortunate. Ms. Brown asked how much the increase fees would generate. Mr. Alvord explained that each fee was considered to determine exactly what it cost to perform the service. Ms. Brown then asked if the City could get the recycling bins at a better cost. Mr. Alvord said that the City was already purchasing the bins in volume at the best possible price. Ms. Brown then had several detailed questions about the driveway inspections. Mr. Alvord then reviewed the details of the permitting process.

Mr. Serasis then gave a quick overview of the percentage increases and said that he felt that the 100% increase for the return check fee because a \$50.00 return fee could be someone's electric bill. Mayor Moccia said that it would be important to look at the fines and then reviewed where the funding revenue was allocated. Mr. McQuaid recommended that this be sent back to Committee for reevaluating the fines.

**** MR. KRUMMEL WITHDREW HIS MOTION TO APPROVE A CHANGE IN THE DPW FEES AS FOLLOWS:**

ORDINANCE 94 -3.4	RECYCLING		
BLUE BINS	FROM \$5.00	TO \$10.00	
*With Senior Discount	\$2.50	\$5.00	

**** MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM VII A 1 - APPROVE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RATES AND FEES.**

Atty. Maslan pointed out that most of fees are governed by Section 92 of the Code. If the Council does not act within 30 days of the fees being submitted to the City Clerk, the proposed schedule would automatically go into effect. Mr. Conroy then asked what would happen if the council voted down the fees. Mr. Maslan said that the process would have to start all over again. Mr. Maslan then cited Section 90-4-A.

RECESS

Mayor Moccia called for a recess at 8:57 p.m. The Council reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE CONT'D

**** MR. MCQUAID WITHDREW HIS MOTION TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM VII A 1 - APPROVE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RATES AND FEES.**

**** MR. KRUMMEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 94-10.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 94-10 FAILED WITH ONE IN FAVOR (KRUMMEL) AND THIRTEEN AGAINST (BONDI, BROWN, GEAKE, MCQUAID, SUTTON, BONENFANT, SERASIS, BOLDEN, HILLIARD, KYDES, LINDSTROM, STRANITI, AND CONROY).**

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

There were no resolutions from the Common Council at this time.

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were no motions postponed to a specific date.

X. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

There were no suspensions of the rules.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS BROWN MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

