

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 7:31 p.m. and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rilling asked for a moment of silence in memory of Norwalk Police Officer Caesar Ramirez.

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	Ms. Dominique Johnson
	Mr. Manny Langella	Mr. Nick Sacchinelli
	Ms. Barbara Smyth	

District A: Mr. David Heuvelman

District B: Ms. Darlene Young

District C:	Mr. John Kydes	Mr. George Theodoridis
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District D:	Mr. George Tsiranides	Mr. Tom Keegan
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District E:	Mr. Thomas Livingston	Ms. Lisa Shanahan
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At Roll Call there were thirteen (13) Common Council members present and two (2) absent (Mr. Dumas and Mr. Roberts)

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

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: January 14, 2020

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 3: first motion should read: Tad Diesel ZBA alternate

Page 9: Last paragraph – six seeks should read – six weeks

Page 9: Last paragraph – add Mr. Keegan asked if the cost estimate was increased. Mr. Lo said it was not.

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. SACCHINELLI)**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Ms. Lisa Brinton welcomed Mr. Ford to Norwalk and said she wanted to make him aware of the multiunit assessment problem. She said she believes he has the expertise with this. She said that City Hall salaries and benefits continue to rise. Housing shifts require good recordkeeping. Ms. Brinton added that there are also instances of illegal housing units. She said homeowners face public shaming and tax sales but multi-unit land lords do not face the same. She said that 62% of the students likely reside in such units.

Mr. John Flynn said he supplied e-mails to the City regarding 13 outstanding ethics complaints, but he has not heard back. He said nothing was done about the Vesta lawsuit. Mr. Flynn said people are calling him, but he is at his limit. He talked about his tenth civilian complaint to the Norwalk Police Department.

Mayor Rilling reminded him that he could only speak about an item that is on the agenda. He told him if he has a complaint about the Police Department to contact the Police Chief. Mr. Flynn responded to Mayor Rilling that if he wanted to be personally liable, it was fine with him.

Ms. Lisa Henderson said the Common Council holds little regard for the residents when they approve \$50,000. She told them they were elected to represent the residents of Norwalk and not Senator Duff's campaign.

Mayor Rilling explained that this item was on the last agenda.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were none this evening.

APPOINTMENTS:

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT**

WILLIAM J. FORD, TAX ASSESSOR

Ms. Smyth spoke in support of the appointment. Mayor Rilling also spoke in support and said he looked forward to having Mr. Ford on board.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REAPPOINTMENTS:

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REAPPOINTMENTS:**

DORIS ASH, ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS, ALTERNATE

JOSEPHINE DEUPREE, ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS, ALTERNATE

CINDY ELLERMAN, ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS, ALTERNATE

JUDITH HYERS, ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS, ALTERNATE

JANE READY, ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS, ALTERNATE

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REAPPOINTMENT:**

John J. Bove, Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Tsiranides spoke in support of the reappointment.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling announced that the Brien McMahon Winter Mania Guard Show will be held on February, 1, 2020. Registration for Recreation and Park's Play and Learn Camp will open on Monday, February 3, 2020.

Mayor Rilling congratulated Ralph Bloom on his 21st year of volunteering with the Norwalk Public Library. This year, National Wear Red Day will be held on February 7, 2020. This is to raise awareness of heart disease. VITA Tax Preparation will be available at City Hall every Tuesday starting on February 4, 2020 until April 14, 2020.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

VII.A.1, VII.D.1, VII.E.1

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

1. APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 32, CODE OF ETHICS:

- SECTION 32-16: INCURRING OF COSTS BY BOARD OF ETHICS; STAFF.**
- SECTION 32-17: REPRESENTATION OF RESPONDENT(S) BY CITY.**

D. HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO HAVE EVERSOURCE ELECTRIC TO INSTALL ONE (1) NEW STREET ON THE EXISTING UTILITY POLE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF ST. PAUL'S PLACE AND PARK STREET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED PLAN AT AN APPROXIMATE COST OF \$20 PER MONTH, TO BE PAID FOR FROM ACCOUNT NO. 0140 21-5241.

E. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

1. TECHNICAL CORRECTION ITEM #VII.B.10 ON THE COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA OF JANUARY 14, 2020 WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO

ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FLOWBIRD FOR THE PURCHASE OF 4 CWTCC PAY STATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,740.00. ACCOUNT #014150-5585

NEW ACTION AUTHORIZATION REQUEST: AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CALE AMERICA INC DBA FLOWBIRD FOR THE PURCHASE OF 4 CWTCC PAY STATIONS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,740.00. ACCOUNT #014150-5585

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

B. FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

1. RESOLVED, THAT A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000, BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY TRANSFERRED FROM FUND BALANCE TO OPERATING ACCOUNT 01-7029-5A0620 TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE YMCA BUILD-OUT OF THE CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUBJECT TO CONTRACT APPROVAL.

Mr. Burnett reviewed the item and said they are now at the point of formalizing the partnership between the City of Norwalk and the Riverbrook Regional YMCA. He said the \$1M special appropriation will be matched by the YMCA.

Mr. Burnett said he was elated by the services that will be offered to the community.

Mr. Kydes noted that work began years ago. He said that the funding for the YMCA will come from private donors and he urged people to give.

Mayor Rilling said this was an exciting time and thanked all those involved. He said the building has been vacant for too long and will now be a place for people to get various services.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT

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

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH THE RIVERBROOK REGIONAL YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN

ASSOCIATION, INC. (YMCA) FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, USE/OCCUPANCY OF THE BUILDING AND CONTINUED MAINTENANCE/REPAIR/ IMPROVEMENT OF CITY OWNED BUILDING LOCATED AT 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET. TERMS OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT SHALL BE AS OUTLINED IN THE LEASE TERM SHEET IN MEMO PREPARED BY DARIN CALLAHAN, ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL DATED JANUARY 27, 2020.

Mr. Livingston said this was an outstanding result for this building. He explained that an RFP went out about a year ago and they got one bid. He said this will be a great addition to the City and will provide important services to the City.

Mr. Livingston explained the lease agreement and said the City is putting in \$1 million and the YMCA is putting in at least \$1 million, if not \$2 million.

Mr. Robert McDowell, CEO, Riverbrook Regional YMCA said their board is committed to raising \$2.5 million and will have sustained funding on an annual basis.

Ms. Smyth thanked Mr. McDowell for his work and for being so responsive to the community.

Mr. Livingston said the YMCA showed great flexibility and that was appreciated. He thanked Mr. Lo, Mayor Rilling and the Corporation Counsels.

Mayor Rilling said it was a wonderful opportunity and thanked all those involved in making this a reality.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:01 P.M. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

1. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCERNING LEASED PROPERTY. DISCUSSION OF MEMORANDUM OF ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL (DARIN L. CALLAHAN) DATED JANUARY 14, 2020 PURSUANT TO CONN. GEN. STAT. §§ 1-200(6)(E) AND 1-210(B)(10).

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The members of the public were excused and left the Common Council Chambers.

The members of the Common Council came out of Executive Session at 8:09 p.m.
During Executive Session, no motions were made and no votes were taken.

X. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Donna King, City Clerk