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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 idixon@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Dixon called the Roll:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett	Mr. Joshua Goldstein
	Ms. Dominique Johnson	Ms. Nora Niedzielski Eichner
	Ms. Barbara Smyth	

District A: Ms. Nicol Ayers Mr. David Heuvelman
District B: Ms. Diana Revolus
District C: Ms. Jenn McMurrer
District D: Ms. Heidi Alterman Mr. Thomas Keegan
District E: Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were twelve (12) Council members present and three (3) absent (mr. Kydes; Mr. Livingston and Ms. Young. A Quorum was present.

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

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: June 14, 2022

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

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to comment this evening.

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were no resignations announced this evening.

APPOINTMENTS: There were no appointments announced this evening.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF LISA BIAGIARELLI, TAX COLLECTOR**

Mr. Burnett spoke in support of the reappointment and reviewed Ms. Biagiarelli's credentials. Mr. Keegan also spoke in support of the reappointment and told Ms. Biagiarelli it has been an honor and privilege to work with her for the last few years. Mr. Heuvelman spoke in support of the reappointment and said he learned so much from Ms. Biagiarelli. Ms. Revolus spoke in support and expressed her appreciation to Ms. Biagiarelli.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Biagiarelli said she greatly appreciated all the support and the opportunity.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling announced that Norwalk has submitted its application for the South Norwalk School to the State of Connecticut. He said it is going to be a wonderful building. In addition, they are investing \$1.5 million in improvements to the surrounding area. It is the greatest investment in South Norwalk Schools in a generation.

Mayor Rilling discussed the partnerships and investments being made in the MLK Corridor Initiative. International Domestic Worker's Day was recognized and proclaimed as June 16th. With June coming to an end, comes the end of Pride Month. Mayor Rilling said that each of our differences makes us stronger.

Independence Day Fireworks will be back at Calf Pasture Park this July 3rd. He asked for everyone's patience when exiting Calf Pasture. The Summer Concert Series will begin July 20th at Calf Pasture Beach.

Mayor Rilling thanked Council Member Tom Keegan for his service on the Common Council, noting that he was a member of every committee. He said he was a real team player and disagreed with class. He yielded the floor for Common Council members to add their comments. Several Common Council members thanked Mr. Keegan for his service and dedication.

Ms. Shanahan said she and Mr. Keegan started on the Common Council together and that she would miss his counsel greatly. Mr. Goldstein said Mr. Keegan was a pros pro and showed how important it is to work together toward the shared goals of the City. Ms. McMurrer said Mr. Keegan taught her so much and she was going to miss him. He said he brings positivity to the job and will be dearly missed.

Ms. Smyth said it was a pleasure working with Mr. Keegan and that she admired his integrity and honesty. She said he was a model of cooperation and collaboration. She said she appreciated the respect he brought to this job. Ms. Smyth said she will never forget the time, during a snowstorm, when he picked her up and brought her to the Public

Works Operations Center. Ms. Smyth presented a plaque acknowledging Mr. Keegan's service on the Common Council.

Mr. Heuvelman said every time they were together, there was no sense of party. Instead, they always had conversations about the City they love and never debates. He said he will miss those conversations. Mr. Burnett said he will miss the phone calls before the Finance Claims Committee meetings and Mr. Keegan's common-sense approach to everything. He said they put aside their party affiliations. He said he appreciated his down to earth discussions and while they did not always agree, it was done with class.

Ms. Johnson said that Mr. Keegan was the first one to welcome her to the Common Council and told him that he was her favorite Republican. She told him that he thinks about community with a sense of hope. Ms. Ayers wished Mr. Keegan health, happiness and joy and told him to have some fun. She told him that he was the best Republican and that there will never be another Tom Keegan.

Ms. Revolus told Mr. Keegan that he was one of the first people she talked to on the Common Council. She noted that he always talked about the districts that needed more services. She spoke about Mr. Keegan's humanity and she his Spirit is whole and loving. She expressed her appreciation.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner told Mr. Keegan that he was a model public servant and expressed her gratitude to have him as a role mode. She wished him a relaxing rest and said Florida was luck to have him.

Mr. Keegan said he was overwhelmed and thanked everyone for letting him be a part of the team. He said everyone has been important to him in their serving the people of Norwalk. He acknowledged the staff and said they have been so accommodating. Mr. Keegan said he was humbled to have been able to play a part in this.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

In Mr. Livingston's absence this evening, Ms. Smyth was acting Common Council President.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Ms. Smyth announced that Mr. Keegan would be reading this evening's Consent Calendar. Mr. Keegan thanked Ms. Revolus for giving him the opportunity to read this evening's Consent Calendar, since it was her turn.

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

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

1. Settlement: Christopher Paladino v. Anthony Delpino, et al. – EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK CONSERVATORY OF THE ARTS FOR THEIR BROADWAY IN THE PARK EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 20, AND 27, 2022 FROM 3:30 PM TO 8:30 PM.

SET-UP TO BEGIN 9:00 AM WITH TEAR-DOWN AT 9:00 PM. RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 21 AND 28, 2022. APPROXIMATELY 500 PEOPLE.

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH GEESE RELIEF LLC FOR GEESE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT CALF PASTURE BEACH AND VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$33,900.00.

3. AUTHORIZE THE RECREATION AND PARKS DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO ISSUE THE TWO 1-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSIONS ON THE GEESE RELIEF LLC CONTRACT.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MOORING PERMIT FEES AS DISCUSSED AND APPROVED BY THE RECREATION AND PARKS COUNCIL COMMITTEE

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO APPROVE THE ALLOCATION OF \$2,000,000 OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS TO THE CITY OF NORWALK'S RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT TO BE EXPENDED AS FOLLOWS:

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,400,000 FOR PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENTS AT BOUTON STREET AND FLAX HILL PARK, AND KENDALL SCHOOL PLAYGROUND AND A

COMPLETE REDESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND LANDSCAPE AT MEADOW STREET PARK PLAYGROUND; AND THE REPLACEMENT OF 1000 LINEAR FEET OF A WOODEN FENCING STRUCTURE AT OYSTER SHELL PARK; AND, STAFFING AND EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$380,000 FOR SYNTHETIC FIELD GROOMING EQUIPMENT; THREE NEW TRUCKS FOR NEW STAFF AND ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE AND RECREATION STAFF HOURS; AND, PLANNING AND SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$220,000 FOR FUNDING FOR THE NEW FIELD, PROGRAM, EVENTS, AND FACILITY SCHEDULING SYSTEM, A PROJECT COORDINATOR FOR THE NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ACCREDITATION PROGRAM; AND A FEES AND CHARGES DEMAND STUDY TO BRING ABOUT EQUITY IN FEES AND CHARGES AND CREATE MORE ACCESS TO PROGRAMS. (CONSENT TO REFER BACK TO COMMITTEE)

C. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

2. REQUEST FOR PROPOSED NEW SUBSECTION TO CITY CODE. CHAPTER 72, SUBSECTION 5: 72-5D

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY WITH MID-FAIRFIELD CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER, INC., FOR CONTINUED IN-HOME MENTAL HEALTH AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN UNDER THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$399,996. ACCOUNT #012010-5298.**

Ms. Johnson introduced Dr. Gail Melanson who reviewed the program. She said the referrals come from the schools and then the families decide which services they want. Ms. Johnson expressed her thanks to Mr. Daniels for his leadership and to Dr. Melanson. Dr. Melanson said that all of the staff members are bi-lingual and bi-cultural.

Ms. Revolus expressed concern that the staff are bi-lingual (English and Spanish), but pointed out that over 64 languages are spoken in Norwalk. In addition, Norwalk has a very large Haitian community. Dr. Melanson explained that this program is in English and Spanish, but there are Haitian Creole staff members. They will also use the Language Line. Other programs service other communities.

Ms. Revolus asked Dr. Melanson if they were going to go after funding to serve these other communities. She said it is frustrating to be a part of the community that gets overlooked.

Ms. Smyth thanked Dr. Melanson for the very fine work and said that as a teacher she saw the very professional work addressing what the students experienced coming in from the border.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSED NEW ORDINANCE TO THE CITY CODE: HEALTHY OUTDOOR PUBLIC SPACES (PESTICIDES)**

Ms. Shanahan read the Preamble of the Ordinance. She encouraged people to watch the March Ordinance Committee meeting where they listened to testimony. She thanked the members of the Ordinance Committee, especially Mr. Livingston, Mr. Keegan, Mr. Candela and the City staff who enthusiastically endorsed this practice. Mr. Goldstein thanked Ms. Shanahan and Mr. Livingston for shepherding this Ordinance.

Mr. Heuvelman thanked Ms. Shanahan and Mr. Livingston and all who worked on this Ordinance. He said this is very important especially due to Norwalk's geographic location. This is a big step for Norwalk.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner thanked the staff who pioneered this and for Ms. Shanahan for spearheading this.

Mayor Rilling thanked Ms. Shanahan and expressed appreciation for her leadership.

Mr. Stowers said he looked forward to assembling the pest management team. He said he and his team are dedicated to this and thanked Ms. Shanahan and Mr. Livingston for their willingness to listen to the staff.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH SUBMISSION OF THE PY48 AAP TO HUD.**

AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE APPROVED PY48 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN.

MS. SMYTH EXPLAINED THAT OVER \$1 MILLION OF FUNDING WILL GO TO SEVERAL AGENCIES IN NORWALK.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. REVOLUS)**

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Irene Dixon, City Clerk