

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 Moccia called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. The Girls Scouts presented the Colors and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, singing the National Anthem and reciting the Girl Scout Pledge.

One of the Girl Scouts read the Mayor's Proclamation: the Girl Scouts of the USA "Make the World a Better Place" week.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Halsey called the Roll. The following Council Members were present:

Council at Large: Anna Duleep Douglas Hempstead Fred Bondi
Warren Pena Joanne Romano

District A: Matthew Miklave David Watts
District B: Carvin Hilliard Michael Geake
District C: Michelle Maggio Nicholas Kydes
District D: Jerry Petrini
District E: John Igneri

There were thirteen (13) Council Members present and two (2) absent: Mr. Kimmel and Mr. McCarthy.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: February 28, 2012

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to speak this evening.

IV. MAYOR

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A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: Martha Lemmon, Oak Hills Authority

Mayor Moccia announced the resignation of Ms. Lemmon from the Oak Hills Authority. He said that it was with deep regret that he accepted her resignation and that she did a yeoman's job while serving on the Authority.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Moccia stated it was an interesting display of democracy where the Girl Scouts witnessed a peaceful demonstration and freedom of speech from the demonstrators present this evening. He thanked them for their show of courtesy and for being so respectful.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

There was no general Council business discussed this evening.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

VII A: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Finance/Claims Committee)

VII B: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a & 5b (Public Works Committee)

VIII (Resolution from Common Council)

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. FINANCE/CLAIMS COMMITTEE

1. Accept and Approve the Report of the Claims Committee Dated:
March 8, 2012
2. For informational purposes only: Monthly Tax Collector's Report Dated:

February 29, 2012.

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3. For informational purposes only: Narrative on Tax Collections dated March 8, 2012.
4. Authorize a reduction in the amount of \$49,000 to the approved capital appropriation for the SoNo Railroad Station structural repairs (Account 09114095-57777-C0358), from \$952,000 to \$903,000.
5. Authorize a special capital appropriation in the amount of \$49,000 for the replacement of the floor membrane in the Maritime Parking Garage above the commercial space (Account 09124095-5777-C0464).
6. Authorize a reduction in the amount of \$120,000 to the approved capital appropriation for the purchase of an emergency generator for SoNo Railroad Station (Account 09124095-5777-C0498), from \$300,000 to \$180,000.
7. Authorize a special capital appropriation in the amount of \$120,000 for the purchase of an emergency generator for the Maritime Parking Garage (Account 09124095-5777-C0464).

B. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an agreement with the State of Connecticut entitled the "First Supplemental Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the City of Norwalk for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates in Conjunction with the Rehabilitation of the James Street Bridge (Bridge No. 04989) over the Silvermine River, utilizing Federal Funds from the Highway Bridge Program." State Project No. 102-320, Federal Aid Project No. 6102(012). Funding 80% Federal, 20% City.

Account No. 09 10 4021 5777 C0392

2. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services for the design of the new water main crossing and support system for the James Street Bridge over the Silvermine River (Bridge No. 04989), in an amount not to exceed of \$13,000. Funding 80% Federal, 20% City.

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Account No. 09 10 4021 5777 C0392

3. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an agreement with the State of Connecticut entitled the "Second Supplemental Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the City of Norwalk for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates in Conjunction with the Rehabilitation of the Perry Avenue Bridge (Bridge No. 04154) over the Norwalk River, utilizing Federal Funds from the Highway Bridge Program." State Project No. 102-319, Federal Aid Project No. 6102(009). Funding 80% Federal, 20% City.

Account No. 09 10 4021 5777 C0392

4. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services for the design of the new water main crossing and support system for the Perry Avenue Bridge over the Norwalk River (Bridge No. 04154), in an amount not to exceed of \$13,000. Funding 80% Federal, 20% City.

Account No. 09 10 4021 5777 C0392

- 5.a. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with Alcaide Inc. d/b/a A & J Construction for Project No. PM 2012-1 Pavement Management Program for a sum not to exceed \$2,178,821.55.
- 5.b. Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute Orders on Contract with Alcaide Inc. d/b/a A & J Construction for Project No. PM 2012-1 Pavement Management Program for a sum not to exceed \$217,882.16.

Account Nos. 0912 4021 5777 C0021
0912 4027 5777 C0302
030000-2602
0912 4021 5777 C0318

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

Whereas, The State of Connecticut Educational Cost Sharing grant system is Connecticut's primary education equalization aid program; and

Whereas, the ECS formula is designed to allocate grant funds to school districts

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to fairly reflect student need as a function of poverty, test performance and limited English proficiency as well as district wealth, and

Whereas, it is the contention of the Common Council of the City of Norwalk that, when compared with other Connecticut municipalities of similar sociological composition, the ECS grant allocation to the City of Norwalk is substantially smaller; and

Whereas, the Council sites as example the following data:

The growth of Norwalk's percentage of students from non-English Language homes from 24.3% in the year 2000-2001 to 35.0% in the year 2005-2006, and the growth in the percentage of non-English language speaking students from 7.7% to 12.5% during the same period (while the across the State comparable percentage increased from only 3.7% to 5.2%).

The growth in numbers of Norwalk children eligible for free or reduced priced meals from 23.1% in 2004-2005 to 39.9% in 2009-2010 (while the comparable State-wide percentages increased from 26.4% to 32.9%).

The percentage of Norwalk's educational costs derived from Connecticut Educational Cost Sharing Grants decreased from 11.7% to 11.1% between 2001 and 2008, ranking Norwalk second-to-last in the percentage category and last in actual revenue sharing dollars received among Connecticut's cities as demonstrated in the following chart:

District	% of School Revenues Provided By State	2007-2008 Budget (\$ millions)	State Portion (\$ millions)
Bridgeport	68.2	268	183
Danbury	69.2	119	83
Hartford	63.2	364	230
New Britain	60.4	137	83
New Haven	60.9	312	189
Norwalk	11.1	160	18
Stamford	8.8	234	21
Waterbury	56.2	232	130

Pastoral communities without apparent urban challenges often receive comparatively higher ECS support than the City of Norwalk.

District	ECS % 2007-2008
Canterbury	46.5
Canton	18.2
Hebron	35.0
Mansfield	33.3
Watertown	35.6
Wethersfield	18.5
Wolcott	44.7
Woodstock	35.4
Norwalk	11.1

and,

Whereas, the Common Council of the City of Norwalk, lacking more conclusive argument that the allocation of grants resulting from State ECS formula has been adjusted to reflect rapid sociological and demographic changes of the past decade, and that these changes would increase Norwalk's portion of the State Grant allocation.

Now, therefore, be it resolved: The Norwalk Common Council respectfully requests, on behalf of the citizens of Norwalk, that Connecticut Education Cost Sharing Grants be reviewed and appropriately revised to reflect recent changes in sociological, economic and demographic information; and adjusted favorably to account for such changes.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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**** MS. ROMANO MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Erin Halsey, City Clerk