

**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 8:00 p.m. and He then went on to introduce the Girl Scouts of the USA and asked them to come and lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, the Mayor requested that the Council remain standing for a moment of silence for former Council members Thomas Richardson and John Lombardi who passed away.

I. ROLL CALL

Assistant City Clerk Tammy McPherson called the roll. The following Council Members were present: Council at Large: Mr. Douglas Hempstead Mr. Fred Bondi Ms. Sarah Mann

Ms. Anna Duleep

District A: Mr. Matthew Miklave

Mr. David Watts

District B: Mr. Carvin Hilliard

Mr. Michael Geake

District C: Ms. Michelle Maggio

District D: Mr. Jerry Petrini

Mr. Bruce Kimmel

District E:

Mr. John Igeneri

Mayor Richard A. Moccia; Attorney Robert Maslan Corporation Counsel;

Ms. Tammy McPherson, Assistant City Clerk. Twelve members were present.

Absent: Kydes, McCarthy, Peña

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular meeting – February 26, 2013

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2013 AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Moccia stated the rules for public comment and asked those that had signed up to speak to state their name, affiliation and to keep comments civil in nature with no personal attacks and to be related to the agenda to a limit of three minutes.

*Public Comments represent summarizations of comments made, unless otherwise noted.*

1. Mike Mushak, (no address given) spoke about Sunshine Week that has been started as an effort to raise awareness and promote transparency and open government with effective and efficient practices.

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Mr. Mushak stated he wanted to speak about two items on the agenda, the Deering Contract under DPW and NASA Contract under Personnel. He reviewed some history with complaints about Deering with safety violations and incidents with less than satisfactory performance of paving projects. He referred to an article where Hal Alvord was quoted with statements of complaints about Deering with delays and inadequate completion of work and so many delays that he finds it hard to believe that they are actually being recommended for this huge contract. He added that he hopes the RFP process does not just choose the lowest bidder but evaluates the qualifications and history with vendors. He added that in addition, bike lane studies should be addressed with double lanes and need to be restriped during this paving project. He asked that these complaints be addressed by the council prior to approving the contract. In regards to the item of the NASA contract, it was never elevated to include performance reviews of senior staff, and he would like to have the contract examined to include this important part. He added that there is no policy in place for management reviews and they should not be getting raises without performance evaluations. He added that he would like to see a schedule of how and when these reviews are taking place and how the evaluations are processed, and requested that this be addressed tonight by Mr. Hasselkamp.

Mayor Moccia stated that there were no other names signed up to speak, asked if there was any member of the public who wished to comment, and hearing none, closed the participation portion of the meeting.

MAYOR

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Patricia K. Gill, A.I.A., Board of Building Appeals  
Stephen Smith, Board of Building Appeals  
Kevin C. Vallerie, Board of Building Appeals  
Paul Zeiss, Board of Building Appeals

Mr. Petrini requested to move all of the above appointments as one item and stated that he is proud to support these individuals. He added that he knows them all to be hard working and dedicated members of the community, and they will all do a good job on the Board of Building Appeal.

**\*\* MR. PETRINI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE APPOINTMENTS AS LISTED TO THE BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS WITH TERMS TO EXPIRE FEBRUARY 2, 2017.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

REAPPOINTMENTS: Mary Ellen Barrelle, Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate)  
Arlene M. Cioffi, Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate)  
Donald D. Overton, Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate)  
Harriet Petrides, Board of Assessment Appeals (Alternate)

Reappointments – continued

Mr. Kimmel stated that he knows this Board is a most difficult one to serve on as it is a very  
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involved and tedious process of property evaluations, and he his appreciative of the willingness to serve. He added that he is pleased to support the above reappointments as he knows they will continue to serve with dedication to the City.

- \*\* MR. KIMMEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REAPPOINTMENTS AS LISTED AS ALTERNATES TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS WITH TERMS TO EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30, 2013.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

William N. Andriopoulos, R.A., Board of Building Appeals

- \*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM ANDRIOPOULOS TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS WITH TERM TO EXPIRE FEBRUARY 2, 2017.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Remarks:

The Mayor stated a Happy St. Patrick's Day and a Happy Sunshine week to everyone. He mentioned that Mr. Hempstead has had a difficult few weeks with his wife's health and wanted to extend best wishes for her recovery.

Mayor Moccia stated that the Board of Ethics appointments are solely the role of the Council and are not mayoral appointments. Mayor Moccia stated that he wanted to acknowledge a member of the Board of Ethics and Council President Hempstead and Acting Minority Leader Watts to assist him with presenting Reverend Marlon V. Smith with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service. Reverend Smith Was presented with the certificate and acknowledged with applause by the Council.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Mr. Hempstead thanked those for their kind words and of the very powerful work of prayers

CONSENT CALENDAR

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR CONSENT:  
Board of Ethics Commission Appointments: **TABLED**  
CONSENT CALENDAR **VII.A.1, VI.I.C.1****
- \*\* MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS UNANIMOUS.**

*The following items in bold are approved on the Consent Calendar:*

**VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES  
A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

- 1. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Bridge-Haven Ford**

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**Truck Sales Inc. dba Gabrielli Truck Sales of Milford for the purchase of a 2014 Mack GU713/Aquatech B15 vacuum truck for a sum not to exceed \$282,280.00.**

**Account No. 0912/13 4031 5777 C0313**

**C. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

- 1. Approve City of Norwalk Language Access Plan.**

**VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

2. a. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with Deering Construction, Inc. for Project No. PM 2013-1 Pavement Management Program for a sum not to exceed \$3,793,795.00.

2. b. Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute Orders on Contract with Deering Construction, Inc. for Project No. PM 2013-1 Pavement Management Program for a sum not to exceed \$379,379.50. Account Nos. 0911 4021 5777 -- C0021 0912 4027 5777 C0021 - 0913 4027 5777 C0021 - 030000-2602 - 0913 4027 5777 C0302 - 0913 4021 5777 C0318.

Mr. Bondi moved the items for discussion.

Mr. Watts stated that he was excited about the paving projects as these are important programs for the City, and asked Mr. Alvord to address the concerns expressed during public comments. Ms. Alvord came forward and stated that there were past problems with Deering, they met with them and analyzed the bid requirements and have worked out guidelines of holding them accountable and they have since been very compliant and have had satisfactory completion of projects. He explained that while they had concerns over cleanliness and project schedule completion, but their last four projects have all gone smoothly and on budget. He added that there have been compliments from residents and he feels comfortable with the quality of their work.

Mr. Kimmel stated that there were discussions in Committee and there has been a world of difference on working out solutions to past problems. He added that they were the lowest qualified bidder by \$117,000 and they are a Norwalk based company.

Mr. Bondi stated that he did vote against them in the past, but based on the West Avenue project, those situations have been rectified, and they are satisfactorily compliant with guidelines. He added that they are Norwalk based and they do employ a number of Norwalk firms and workers.

Mr. Hempstead echoed the above comments and is also assured that they are a qualified vendor and they have shown good progress with their project completion and evaluations.

Mayor Moccia stated that residents have been pleased and he feels assured that Deering is a qualified vendor that is back on track with compliance with projects and they are also a Norwalk based company.

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM TO AUTHORIZE THE  
MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH DEERING**

**CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR PROJECT NO. PM 2013-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$3,793,795.00.**

**AND TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON CONTRACT WITH DEERING CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR PROJECT NO. PM 2013-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$379,379.50. ACCOUNT NOS. 0911 4021 5777 -- C0021 0912 4027 5777 C0021 - 0913 4027 5777 C0021 - 030000-2602 - 0913 4027 5777 C0302 - 0913 4021 5777 C0318.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute an Agreement with Milone & MacBroom, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services for the Storm Drainage System Evaluation at s elected locations, for a sum not to exceed \$300,000.00.

Account Nos. 0911 0400 40270 5777 C0440 - 0912 0400 40270 5777 C0440

Mr. Kimmel stated that this was an extremely important issue for residents along this area with flooding issues that impact their ability to live a normal life. He sated that he is pleased with the comprehensive plan for in land flooding and amidst the extreme weather events and storms to tackle this with a systematic approach. He explained that the areas include Oak Hills, Ponus Park Hill Avenue and Fodor Farms areas, and added that the vacuum truck authorized on consent is part of this project that brings a total of \$600,000 to address these serious concerns to bring Norwalk to be a model community for other towns with rivers that run through. Mayor Moccia thanked all the residents who have asked about more funding for flooding assistance amidst the extreme weather.

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH MILONE & MACBROOM, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM EVALUATION AT SELECTED LOCATIONS, FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$300,000.00. ACCT NOS. 0911 0400 40270 5777 C0440-0912 0400 40270 5777 C0440.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### B. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

1. Approval of tentative agreement between City and NMEA.
2. Approval of tentative agreement between City and NASA.

Mr. Hempstead moved the items for discussion and stated that the negotiations represent significant savings to the City over five years, and the Personnel Department is to be commended with the process as it puts the City in a positive position for future contracts.

Mr. Watts asked about the negotiation process with NASA, and Mr. Haselkamp came forward to address questions. He stated that in the past evaluations were not in the contract and this negotiation was an improvement where there is nothing that prohibits these reviews from taking place and has to be part of the employment contract.

Mr. Miklave asked if there is language in the contract that permits evaluations and if there are contracts with limitations of reviews of NASA staff. Mr. Haselkamp replied that there is no language or limitations that prohibit evaluations.

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Mr. Kimmel asked about the wage increases and the net cost to the city, and Mr. Hamilton came forward to address questions. He reviewed the cost analysis that was provided and explained that the cost of the settlement of the contracts was 2.5% or 2.8% without roll up impact of wage in or non wage items and the affect of social security and Medicare increases. He added that the review of annual increases over five years does not include pension coalition that was negotiated separately. He further explained the defined benefit plan is closed to new hires.

Mr. Kimmel asked about the wellness plan and if programs have been worked out with incentives and Mr. Hamilton replied yes. Mr. Kimmel added that the 2% net cost range percentages are good progress with escalating benefit costs and the City has made good progress that will lead us into a good trend for the City with future savings.

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND NMEA AND THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND NASA.
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL - none.

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE - none

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES none

XI. ADJOURNMENT

- \*\* MR. BONDI MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Knox,  
Telesco Secretarial Services