

**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 Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and asked the Girl Scouts to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Girl Scouts presented the flag guard and opening ceremony and sang the national anthem, and read the proclamation by Mayor Rilling to dedicate Girl Scout week in the City of Norwalk.

**I. ROLL CALL**

City Clerk King called the roll. The following Council Members were present:

Council at Large: Mr. Richard Bonenfant Mr. Douglas Hempstead  
Mr. Glenn Iannaccone Mr. Bruce Kimmel Ms. Sharon Stewart  
District A: Ms. Eloisa Melendez Mr. David Watts  
District B: Ms. Phaedrel Bowman Mr. Travis Simms  
District C: Mr. John Kydes Ms. Michelle Maggio  
District D: Ms. Shannon O'Toole-Giandurco Mr. Jerry Petrini  
District E: Mr. David McCarthy Mr. John Igneri

Mayor Harry Rilling; Attorney Mario Coppola, Corporation Counsel;  
Donna King, City Clerk. Fifteen members present, none absent.

City Clerk King read the notice that this meeting is being recorded for public broadcast and video tapes are available for viewing upon request.

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - Regular meeting – February 25, 2014**

**\*\* MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, 2014 AS SUBMITTED  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Rilling asked City Clerk King to call those who signed up to speak to come forward when their names were called.

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

1. Israel Navarro, 4 Lincoln Avenue spoke in support of the appointment of Nabil Valencia to the Fair Rent Commission. He described her as passionate and an active member of the community who works hard to get things done. He stated that he is proud to speak on her behalf and asked the Council to vote in favor of the appointment

Public Comments -- continued.

2. Warren Pena, 8 Felix Lane spoke in support of the appointment of Nabil Valencia to the Fair Rent Commission and stated that she is a founding member of the Better SONO Team, and active in many organizations and aspects of the South Norwalk community. He added that she works hard, is articulate and dedicated to get things done, and she will be a fine addition to the Commission.

Mayor Rilling asked if there were others who wished to make comments, and hearing none closed the Public Participation portion of the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS --

RESIGNATIONS:   Ralph Bloom – Library Board  
                          Jessica Fogg – Human Relations Commission

Mayor Rilling noted that Mr. Bloom has agreed to resign following an error with a re-appointment, and Ms. Fogg has resigned due to time commitments.

APPOINTMENTS:

NABIL E. VALENCIA- FAIR RENT

Mr. Simms stated that he was pleased to support the appointment of Nabil Valencia to the Fair Rent Commission and stated that she is an active member of the South Norwalk community and has been involved in the Better SONO team, who works hard to get things done. He stated that he is proud to speak on her behalf and that she will be a fine addition to the Commission and can be a voice for those who are not being heard.

Ms. Bowman stated that she also wanted to speak in support of Nabil Valencia that she is a hard worker on the Better SONO team.

- \*\*     MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF  
NABIL E. VALENCIA TO THE FAIR RENTCOMMISSION WITH A TERM TO  
EXPIRE 7/1/2016.  
\*\*     THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

JOSEPH S. KENDY, Jr - OAK HILLS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCarthy noted that Mr. Kendy brings a suitable background to the authority. Mr. Hempstead said Mr. Kendy has impressive credentials and the Oak Hills Authority members have specifically been asking for an attorney, and they now have it with the legal experience of Joe Kendy. Mr. Watts added that he is a great guy that he met on the campaign trail. MR. Bonenfant added that Mr. Kendy does his homework on issues and he has a lot to offer to the authority.

**COMMON COUNCIL  
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT**

**MARCH 11, 2014  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

- \*\* MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF  
TO THE OAK HILLS AUTHORITY FOR TERM TO EXPIRE 06/24/2016.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Rilling thanked the Girls Scouts for leading the assembly with opening ceremony and for being a fine organization that makes great contributions to society. He acknowledged the volunteers and parents for their hard work. Mayor Rilling extended birthday wishes to Eloise Melendez in celebrating her 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Ms. Melendez commented that other council members' had recent and birthdays in March, and acknowledged Ms. Maggio and Mr. McCarthy. She thanked the council for the birthday wishes and Mr. Hempstead for the cupcakes from Stew Leonard's.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. Hempstead noted that there are upcoming events for the non-profit organizations coming up in March and April including the Seaport Association Pirate Gala this Friday, and fundraisers for the Open Door Shelter, and the Historical Society. He encouraged Council members to make their best effort to attend the events.

Councilman Travis Simms announced that the Democratic caucus has agreed to change leadership in the caucus, and going forward, and he would be taking over as the minority leader. He thanked John Igneri for his leadership in the caucus, and thanked the fellow council members and caucus members for giving him the opportunity to be the minority leader for the caucus.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS FOLLOWS:  
VI. A.1 (move to end) VII. A.1, A2a, 2b; A3, A4; B1,a.b.c.d. , 2a, 2b;  
C.1(on consent to be sent back to Committee); D1.  
\*\* MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR PASSED  
UNANIMOUSLY.**

*Items on the Consent Calendar are in bold as follows:*

**V. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS**

**A. CORPORATION COUNSEL**

**1. Authorize the Mayor to retain the law firm of Halloran & Sage, LLP to represent the City with regard to cases pending in the CT Appellate Court, known as Barton, Et.Al. v. City of Norwalk, AC 36040 and AC 36270 (On consent to move to the end of the agenda)**

**VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement with the State of Connecticut entitled the "Third 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**

**2.a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Agreement with The Grasso Companies, LLC for Project No. PM 2014-1 Pavement Management Program for a sum not to exceed \$2,932,829.00.**

**2.b. Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute Orders on Contract with The Grasso Companies, LLC for Project No. PM 2014-1 Pavement Management Program for a Account Nos. 0913 4021 5777 C0021; 0914 4021 5777 C0021; 030000-2602; 0913 4027 5777 C0302; 0914 4027 5777 C0302; 0914 4021 5777 C0318; 0912 4021 5777 C0503 0913 3110 5777 C0509**

**3. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an agreement entitled "Metro North Railroad Company Permit to Enter Upon Railroad Property" and force account agreement, in relation to the Replacement of the Perry Avenue Bridge over the Norwalk River. (Federal Share = 80%, City Share = 20%)**

**4. Approve the following resolution:**

**RESOLVED: that the Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Use of State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management 2011 Regional Performance Incentive Program Grant and Ownership of Equipment Acquired with Grant Funding, and to authorize Mayor Harry W. Rilling to sign such documentation on behalf of the City of Norwalk, is hereby APPROVED.**

**The Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, is hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the City of Norwalk all contracts, leases and other agreements pertaining to this grant.**

**B. LAND USE & BUILDING MANAGEMENT**

**1a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a Contract with Alberca Construction Co., LLC for asbestos floor tile abatement at Norwalk Senior Center, Roosevelt Center building for a total not to exceed \$13,800.00. Funds are available from State Social Services Grant.**

**1b. Authorize the Office of Building Management to execute Change Orders on Contract for a total not to exceed \$2,000.**

**1c. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a Purchase Order to Bartholomew Company for the installation of new vinyl floor tile at Norwalk Senior Center for a total not to exceed \$6,064.00. Funds are available from State Social Services Grant.**

**1d. Authorize the Office of Building Management to issue increases to Purchase Order for a total not to exceed \$1,000.**

**Consent Calendar – continued.**

**2a. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a Contract with Pro Gas, LLC for the installation of an additional boiler and equipment at the DPW Garage for a total not to exceed \$176,287. Acct #'s 09064071 5777 C0348; 09074071 5777 C0387; 0912/13 7100 5777 C0119 and 09137100 5777 C0476.**

**2b. Authorize the Office of Building Management to issue Change Orders on contract for a total not to exceed \$17,629.**

### **C. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**1. Authorize the Mayor to sign the Amended and Restated Lease by and among the City of Norwalk and the Maritime Aquarium**

**On consent to be sent back to the Planning Committee.**

Mr. Hempstead said the Planning Committee hasn't had a response on the information requested on the lease proposal

### **D. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

**1. Proposed revisions to City Code Chapter 103, Taxation**

A. 5. Approve the following resolution:

Resolution Declaring March as Women's History Month in Norwalk

Sponsored by Councilwoman Michelle Maggio

Ms. Maggio stated that this resolution is co-sponsored by Sharon Stewart, Eloisa Melendez and Shannon O'Toole Giandurco, declaring March as "Women's History Month in Norwalk."

Ms. Melendez stated that she wanted to include an acknowledgement of the late Councilwoman Doris Ross, the city's first African-American woman on the Council.

Ms. Maggio read the resolution as follows:

Resolution Declaring March as Women's History Month in Norwalk

Co-sponsored by Councilwomen Michelle Maggio, Sharon Stewart,  
Eloisa Melendez and Shannon O'Toole Giandurco.

Whereas, Women's History Month began as a grassroots effort to recognize and honor the contributions of women - contributions that were largely ignored by the US educational system up through the 1970s;

Whereas, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County, California Commission on the Status of Women selected the week of March 8 for Women's History Week beginning in 1978 in order to coincide with International Women's Day which is celebrated on March 8th;

Whereas in 1981, the first Joint Congressional Resolution declaring a National Women's History Week was co-sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Rep. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD);

Whereas in 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress and the National Women's History Month Resolution was approved with bipartisan support in the House and Senate;

Resolution- Women's History Month – continued...

Whereas, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation, State and the City of Norwalk in countless recorded and unrecorded ways;

Whereas, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home;

Whereas, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation;

Whereas, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements;

Whereas, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history:

Whereas, in Norwalk the contribution of women has been long and legendary and has stretched to the top of the political and business ladders of success;

Whereas, Jennie Cave was a member of the League of Women Voters and was president of the Norwalk chapter for six years. She was the first woman member of the Norwalk Planning Commission, the first woman member of the Norwalk City Council, the first woman member of the Board of Estimate and Taxation and the first and only woman (so far) elected Mayor of the City of Norwalk;

Whereas, Jennie Cave is an inspiration and paved the way for scores of women to follow in her footsteps;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Norwalk, that March is designated as Women's History Month in Norwalk.

The Citizens of Norwalk are called upon to observe March as Women's History Month with appropriate consideration and study. The accomplishments of Jennie Cave and other Norwalk women should be taught and discussed and most of all remembered.

**\*\* MS. MAGGIO MOVED TO ADOPT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED.**

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

#### **A. CORPORATION COUNSEL**

1. Authorize the Mayor to retain the law firm of Halloran & Sage, LLP to represent the City with regard to cases pending in the CT Appellate Court, known as Barton, Et.Al. v. City of Norwalk, AC 36040 and AC 36270.

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION OF AUTHORIZATION TO RETAIN THE LAW FIRM OF HALLORAN & SAGE, LLP TO REPRESENT THE CITY WITH REGARD TO CASES PENDING IN THE CT APPELLATE COURT, KNOWN AS BARTON, ET.AL. V. CITY OF NORWALK, AC 36040 AND AC 36270.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**The meeting entered into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. with Council Members in attendance as listed above.**

**The meeting was reconvened into Public Session at 9:12 p.m.**

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO RETAIN THE LAW FIRM OF HALLORAN & SAGE, LLP TO REPRESENT THE CITY WITH REGARD TO CASES PENDING IN THE CT APPELLATE COURT, KNOWN AS BARTON, ET.AL. V. CITY OF NORWALK, AC 36040 AND AC 36270**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ELEVEN VOTES IN FAVOR, ONE OPPOSED (WATTS), AND THREE ABSTENTIONS (BOWMAN, MELENDEZ, SIMMS).**

**IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE – none**

**X. SUSPENSION OF RULES - none**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

- \*\* MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox;  
Telesco Secretarial Services