

**COMMON COUNCIL
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT**

**REGULAR MEETING MARCH 14, 2023
COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS & VIA
TELECONFERENCE**

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

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

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:31 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. Nora Niedzielski Eichner

Ms. Barbara Smyth

District A: Ms. Nicol Ayers Mr. David Heuvelman
District B: Ms. Diana Revolus Ms. Darlene Young
District C: Mr. John Kydes
District D: Ms. Heidi Alterman
District E: Mr. Thomas Livingston Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were twelve (12) Councilmembers present and three (3) absent (Mr. Edwin Camacho, Ms. Jenn McMurrer and Mr. Bryan Meek). A Quorum was present.

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

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: February 28, 2023

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

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS: There were no resignations announced this evening.

APPOINTMENTS:

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING
APPOINTMENTS**

**MEGGAN DOUGLAS, BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, ALTERNATE
HARRIET PETRIDES, BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, ALTERNATE**

Mr. Livingston spoke in support of the reappointments.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REAPPOINTMENTS:

- ** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REAPPOINTMENT
JOHN BOVE, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

Ms. Smyth spoke in support of the reappointment.

- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling announced that March is Women's History Month; a time to honor all the contributions made by women. He expressed gratitude to all the women who serve on the Commission on the Status of Women.

Mayor Rilling wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day, this Friday. Last Saturday, the Norwalk Emerald Society hosted the 2023 St. Patrick's Day parade. He said this is the sixth year and it gets bigger each year.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Mr. Burnett announced that Mr. Heuvelman would be reading this evening's Consent Calendar:

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- ** MR. HEUVELMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- 1. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO FREIGHTLINER OF HARTFORD FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) M2 106 SIGN TRUCK FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$174,999.30.
ACCOUNT NO. 09 23 4031 5777 C0313**

2A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH BURNS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR PROJECT PM2023-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$2,478,440.89, WITH THE OPTION TO EXTEND THIS AGREEMENT FOR ONE (1) ADDITIONAL TERM OF ONE (1) YEAR.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 20 4021 5777 C0021

09 22 4021 5777 C0021

09 23 4021 5777 C0021

09 24 4021 5777 C0021

09 24 4021 5777 C0503

09 18 6030 5777 C0588

09 22 6030 5777 C0588

09 23 6030 5777 C0588

03 00 00 2602

2B. AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS TO EXECUTE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT WITH BURNS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR PROJECT PM2023-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$247,844.09.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 20 4021 5777 C0021

09 22 4021 5777 C0021

09 23 4021 5777 C0021

09 24 4021 5777 C0021

09 24 4021 5777 C0503

09 18 6030 5777 C0588

09 22 6030 5777 C0588

09 23 6030 5777 C0588

03 00 00 2602

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH M&J ENGINEERING P.C., TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND INSPECTION SERVICE FOR TMP, WEST AVENUE TRAFFIC ADAPTIVE SYSTEM, PROJECT NUMBER # 102-364, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$59,843.36.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 22 4120 5777 C0232

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FUSS & O'NEILL/ M&J ENGINEERING P.C., TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICE FOR TMP, PHASE 3 TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE, PROJECT NUMBER # 102-374, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09 22 4120 5777 C0232

5. WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO PUBLIC ACTS 16-4 MSS, SEC. 2(A)(1), AND 17-02, SEC. 378(A)(1) (FOR TOD AND PREDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE POWER GRANTED BY THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (OPM) IS AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECTS UNDER THE TOD AND PREDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM;

AND WHEREAS, IT IS DESIRABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE CITY OF NORWALK MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE FOR \$2,000,000 IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE THE PINNACLE TOD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK

1. THAT IT IS COGNIZANT OF THE CONDITIONS AND PREREQUISITES (INCLUDING THE MATCH OBLIGATIONS) FOR THE STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IMPOSED BY TO PUBLIC ACTS 16-4 MSS , SEC. 2(A)(1), AND 17-02, SEC. 378(A)(1) (FOR TOD AND PREDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE GUIDELINES OF THE TOD AND PREDEVELOPMENT OR RESPONSIBLE GROWTH INCENTIVE FUND PROGRAM;

2. THAT THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY CITY OF NORWALK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$2,000,000) IS HEREBY APPROVED AND THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, IS DIRECTED TO EXECUTE AND FILE SUCH APPLICATION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, TO PROVIDE SUCH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, TO EXECUTE SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED, TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS OFFERED, TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, DECISIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO, AND TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF CITY OF NORWALK.

3. THAT IT AGREES TO FULFILL THE FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT (55%) LOCAL CASH MATCH AS PRESENTED IN THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE CITY OF NORWALK TO THE OPM IN RESPONSE TO THE COMPETITIVE

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE TOD AND RESPONSIBLE GROWTH INCENTIVE FUND PROGRAM AND TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT AS SPECIFIED IN OPM'S AWARD LETTER AND SCOPE OF WORK.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

1. THAT THE NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY IS APPROVED AS THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$2,000,000);

2. THAT THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, IS DIRECTED TO EXECUTE SUCH AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO PASS-THROUGH THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND THE CITY OF NORWALK ON TO THE NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS OFFERED TO THE CITY OF NORWALK, AND TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, DECISIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO, AND TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF CITY OF NORWALK.

B. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT WITH NORWALK SEAPORT ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR THE CITY TO PROVIDE THE ASSOCIATION AND THEIR PATRONS WITH ACCESS TO THE HOPE DOCK AT NORTH WATER STREET PARKING LOT FROM APRIL 1, 2023 TO MARCH 31, 2024. ALL REMAINING TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT TO REMAIN UNCHANGED.

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH NORWALK/STAMFORD GRASSROOTS TENNIS AND EDUCATION, INC. (AKA NORWALK GRASSROOTS TENNIS, INC.) FOR THE USE OF THE PORTABLE CLASSROOMS AT NATHANIEL ELY CENTER TO EXTEND THE LEASE PERIOD TO DECEMBER 31, 2028 AT \$1 PER YEAR. GRASSROOTS SHALL CONTINUE TO HAVE FULL OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OVER THE LEASED PREMISES.

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A SHORT TERM LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AMERICARES FREE CLINICS, INC., AN AFFILIATE OF AMERICARE FOUNDATION, INC. FOR THE CONTINUED

USE OF A PORTION OF 98 SOUTH MAIN STREET TO PROVIDE MEDICAL RELATED SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE AS OUTLINED IN ALAN LO'S MEMO DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2023.

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH INTEGRATED SYSTEM SERVICES, LLC. FOR THE ENHANCEMENT TO SCHOOL SECURITY - ACCESS CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS AT BROOKSIDE, KENDALL, SILVERMINE, TRACEY AND WOLFPIT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$157,205.00. ACCT #09235010-5777-C0537

5. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO OMNI DATA FOR SECURITY CAMERA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT BRIEN MCMAHON AND NORWALK HIGH SCHOOLS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$80,000.00. ACCT #092350105777 C0537.

6A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TITAN ENTERPRISES, INC. TO PROVIDE INTERIOR RENOVATIONS AT THE SONO LIBRARY FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$314,100.00. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:

ACCOUNT NO. 09186210 5777 C0605 - \$ 12,344.29 (SONO REPURPOSING PROJECT)

ACCOUNT NO. 09206210 5777 C0605 - \$ 37,527.20 (SONO REPURPOSING PROJECT)

ACCOUNT NO. 09236210 5777 C0605 - \$164,752.51 (SONO REPURPOSING PROJECT)

ACCOUNT NO. 09196210 5777 C0625 - \$ 8,435.00 (SONO PROFESSIONAL PAINTING PROJECT)

SNEW LIGHTING GRANT - \$ 91,041.00 (ACCOUNT TO-BE-DETERMINED)

**6B. AUTHORIZE THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$43,196.49.
ACCOUNT NO. 09236210 5777 C0605**

**7A. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER WITH SILENT WATCHMAN SECURITY SERVICES LLC. TO PROVIDE SMOKE DETECTOR HEAD REPLACEMENT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$25,860.00
ACCOUNT NO. 09237100 5777 C0137**

7B. AUTHORIZE A CONTINGENCY ALLOWANCE FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$2,586.00.

ACCOUNT NO. 09237100 5777 C0137

D. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TRIANGLE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE USE OF VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS FOR THEIR PRIDE IN THE PARK EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023 FROM 12:00 PM TO 8:00 PM. SET-UP TIME TO BEGIN ON SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023 AT 8:00 AM WITH TEAR-DOWN AT 10:00 PM. RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023. APPROXIMATELY 6,000 PEOPLE.

2. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO R&S RENTALS AND SALES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$36,140.11 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A KUBOTA L4760HST TRACTOR OFF SOURCEWELL CONTRACT: 031121, ACCOUNT # 0923-6030-5777-C0771.

E. FINANCE AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

1. ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE DATED: MARCH 2023

2. FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY: NARRATIVE ON TAX COLLECTIONS DATED MARCH 2023

3. FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY: MONTHLY TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORTS DATED FEBRUARY 2023

4. RESOLUTION: REQUESTING FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ARPA PROJECTS IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$260,000 FROM THE ARPA (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT) FUND. ACCOUNTS: \$180,000 133710-5796-AEC24 ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS AND \$80,000 133710-5796-AEC25 URBAN LAND INSTITUTE-ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAM.

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY ALL AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO TRANSITION

FROM ITS CURRENT LEGAL DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT PROVIDER, WORLDOX TO ACQUIRING COMPANY, NETDOCUMENTS. YEAR 1, \$7,900.92; YEAR 2, \$6,581.47; YEAR 3, \$8,814.96 ACCOUNT NO. 011370-5742.

6. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, FOR TYLER HOSTING AND SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE FOR THE MUNIS FINANCIALS, HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, REVENUE, AND PRODUCTIVITY MODULES, FOR THE CITY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION, FOR A THREE-YEAR RENEWAL TERM FOR AMOUNTS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAR 1, \$323,144.85; YEAR 2, \$323,144.85; YEAR 3, \$323,144.85. ACCOUNT 011370-5742 IT SOFTWARE.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

C. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND AKRF, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$120,000. ACCOUNT NUMBER 133710-5796-AEC22**

Ms. Jessica Vonashek, Chief of Economic and Community Development reviewed the item. She said they were excited to achieve a goal identified by the community and put a plan in place that offers additional affordable housing units.

Mr. Steven Kleppin, Director of Planning and Zoning reviewed the state legislation that has been on the books since 2017, but with no guidance. He said a State commission was formed to look at land use in the State and they put out guidance. He said they put out an RFP and received one response. They were very pleased with that response and pending approval by the Common Council are ready to enter into a contract. The next step would be to form a committee.

Mayor Rilling said this was great, but there also needs to be a study for people earning \$35,000 - \$65,000. Ms. Vonashek explained that funding is being set aside to go through an advisory council and look at affordable housing and develop best practices.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

D. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO FINCH TURF, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$28,499.00 FOR THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF A REDEXIM VERTI TOP 1800, ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD GROOMER, FROM ACCOUNT #0923-6030-5777-C071.**

Ms. Shanahan said she wanted to take this opportunity to discuss the danger of turf fields. She said the greatest danger the artificial field poses is to the drinking water. She said the artificial fields never breakdown and the chemicals according to the Department of Environmental protection are more dangerous than previously believed. She challenged this Common Council, Mayor and staff to do the research and said she would be voting against this item.

Ms. Alterman thanked Ms. Shanahan for bringing this up and said she would also be voting against this item. Mr. Heuvelman said he would also be a no vote on this. Ms. Revolus said she appreciated the information provided by Ms. Shanahan and would be a no vote. She said there are several things they want to do better for the community for the long haul.

Mr. Burnett said he knows several residents raised concerns about artificial turf fields and invited He referenced a letter submitted by Ms. Diane Lauricella. He asked Mr. Stowers to share his experience in this area. He added that they take this very seriously, but depend on data and expertise.

Mr. Robert Stowers, Director of Recreation and Parks explained that this is not a vote to install turf, but is a vote to maintain the millions of dollars spent on the fields. It is more dangerous to not maintain the fields. He said this was discussed last year as a way to maintain the fields for a longer period of time.

Mr. Stowers said they are working with a consultant and will be prepared to meet and hear all sides of the issue. In his experience, the crumb was the most controversial issue. Withing five years they will eliminate the crumb rubber and use cork. It is his intent to vacuum up the crumb and refill it with a non-controversial material. Mr. Stowers said they will be prepared to address this in a special meeting.

Mr. Stowers reiterated that this is a vote to maintain the existing fields. Last year, they planned to buy this machine, but there were delays. They found a vendor request that the Common Council vote in favor to maintain the existing fields.

Ms. Young said this is a vote to maintain what they have. There needs to be a balanced conversation about the fields, but feels they need to move this item so they can maintain the existing fields.

Ms. Smyth agreed with Ms. Young and thanked Ms. Shanahan for sharing the information. She said that as Mr. Stowers pointed out, they need to maintain the fields they spent millions of dollars on.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH EIGHT (8) VOTES IN FAVOR (MR. BURNETT; MR. GOLDSTEIN; MS. NIEDZIELSKI EICHNER; MS. SMYTH; MS. AYERS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. LIVINGSTON) AND FOUR (4) VOTES IN OPPOSITION (MR. HEUVELMAN; MS. REVOLUS; MS. ALTERMAN; MS. SHANAHAN)**

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MGT FOR A STUDY AND ANALYSIS OF THE CITY OF NORWALK-CONNECTICUT'S RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT FEES AND CHARGES, AND TO RECOMMEND A FEES AND CHARGES POLICY FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$61,550.00 FROM ACCOUNT NUMBERS # 134010-5796-ARP02 AND 134010-57960-ARP03.**

Mr. Stowers reviewed the item. He said when he arrived, he saw the need for a policy on revenues. He said this firm has that experience and reviewed the deliverables. The study will give them empirical evidence and is needed as a companion piece to the Master Plan.

Mr. Stowers said the residents would rather pay a user fee rather than a tax. He added that all fees will have to go to the Common Council for approval. He added that the backup provides studies the consultant completed for comparable cities. Ms. Young asked if this study was a requirement for accreditation. Mr. Stowers said it is required to have a pricing model and a policy on how the fees are set.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said she has no objection to raising fees, but is surprised by the price of the study. She said \$60,000 seems to be high for a narrow issued and wants to understand the cost benefits. Mr. Stowers explained that this study will generate more revenue than the amount they pay for the study. It will be well worth the cost to do this study. This is a market study that is done by experts in the field.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner asked Mr. Stowers if he has a prediction or guarantee on the return on investment and if there are alternate ways that are less costly and would achieve the same objective. Mr. Stowers said that it has been his experience that doing a comparative cost study with surrounding towns will not provide accurate results. The consultants will conduct focus groups and surveys. He said he has not found a cheaper way to get these results. He said he can't predict, but in his experience, there will be a significant increase in revenues.

Mr. Kydes said he does not want to price out the residents. He would like to see what the revenues are vs. the expenditures. He added that he did not want to raise fees.

Ms. Vanessa Valdares, Chief of Operations and Public Works said they on the operational side, they need to find a way to raise fees without impacting the residents. They want to do this the right way and not just as a comparison with neighboring towns.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MS. NIEDZIELSKI EICHNER)**

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Irene Dixon, City Clerk