

**CITY OF NORWALK
HEALTH, WELFARE, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
May 24, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Nick Sacchinelli, Chairman; Barbara Smyth; Doug Stern;
George Tsiranides; Chris Yerinides; Doug Hempstead

STAFF: Deanna D'Amore, Director of Health; Tom Kulhawik,
Police Chief; David Walenczyk, Director of Youth Services

I. WELCOME - ROLL CALL

Mr. Sacchinelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated that the above members were in attendance and there was a quorum present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 26, 2018

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF APRIL, 2018 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH (5) FIVE IN FAVOR AND (1) ONE ABSTENTION (MR. HEMPSTEAD).**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one from the public commented.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS:

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY. RILLING, TO SIGN A RENEWED JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD (JRB) SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WESTPORT AND THE CITY OF NORWALK. WESTPORT WILL PAY NORWALK THE SUM OF \$18,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-19 AND \$20,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 FOR PROVISION OF JRB PROGRAM AND SUPPORT SERVICES OF UP TO 15 CASES PER EACH FISCAL YEAR.

Mr. Welencheck stated that there has been an existing agreement with Westport that has been in place for five years, and they have been paying \$15,000 per year for 15 cases. He said that labor rates have adjusted over the years and they have not adjusted the rate in which they have been paying, and he had met with them and they are very amenable to the rate increase. He said that they have never exceeded 15 cases per year and in some years have used less, but the agreement states up to 15 cases but if they use less there is no refund in the agreement. Mr. Tsiranides asked what if 15 cases are exceeded. Mr. Walencyk said that they have not had that instance as of yet and have discussed with them if they were to exceed the 15 cases or if they wanted more we would need to negotiate that.

Mr. Walencyk gave an overview of the JRB process and said that it is a court diversion program and said that over 170-180 cases are heard per year, and approximately 13-15 of those cases are from Westport. He said the JRB program has a success rate of 85%-90% which is defined as no new arrest or referral within 12 months of completing the program, and the overall goal of the program is to keep kids out of the criminal justice system because they are then less likely to end up as adult offenders. He said the other service that Youth Services provides is youth counseling and youth development programming and many of the kids that are part of the JRB program are also using those services and that 40% of counseling services come through the JRB. Mr. Stern asked if there are partnerships with other towns. Mr. Walencyk said “no” and that at this point they do not have to add any additional staff as a result of adding Westport and Weston because the cases can be absorbed by the current staff, but ultimately they would like to regionalize and possibly add another town because there is a potential in the future to qualify for a regionalization grant that we could apply for to help subsidize what they do.

**2.AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO SIGN A NEW
AGREEMENT FOR JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD (JRB) SERVICES
BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WESTON AND THE CITY OF
NORWALK. WESTON WILL PAY NORWALK THE SUM OF \$15,000
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-19 FOR PROVISION OF JRB PROGRAM
AND SUPPORT SERVICES OF UP TO 12 CASES PER FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2018 TO JUNE, 2019.**

Mr. Walencyk said that they have not yet contracted with Weston and they will be doing a pilot program for up to 12 cases this year and may renegotiate with them next year depending on the number of cases for this year.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1 AND 2.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Walencyk stated that he is aware of the Mayor's proposed reorganization and there is no Youth Services department in the proposals which he was surprised, and the staff has been dispersed to other departments and it doesn't make a lot a sense for a variety of reasons. Mr. Sacchinelli said that there is an adhoc committee that has been established to review the proposed reorganization in which he is on and he suggested that Mr. Walencyk send him an email with his concerns and he will share it with the committee.

Discussion Items:

1. Norwalk Health Department Environmental Health Software

Ms. D'Amore said that they have been using electronic software since mid 1980's to keep all records of inspections, permits, licenses that they have been having some issues with the existing software, and there are some features that do not work and the main one is the reporting. She said that they would like to transition to a new software system called MuniCity which is the same system that other city departments are currently using and has been working with the IT Department. She said that it has been put into the capital budget request in 2016 and was approved so there is funding available for the transition to a new software system and they will

be bringing it to the ITT Committee for approval on June 6, 2018. She said that if it is approved by the ITT Committee, it will go to the Finance Committee of the Common Council for approval. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if an RFP will be required for the software change. Ms. D'Amore said that the city already has an existing contract with MuniCity so the contract would just need to be amended. Mr. Tsiranides asked if it will be easier to access footage with the new software. Ms. D'Amore said she believes it will be and that there will also be some features available to the public. Mr. Tsiranides asked if they will be responsible for updating the software. Ms. D'Amore said that there will be a maintenance fee that should cover the updates but that she will confirm that with Ms. Del Vecchio. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if it is a single license or if it is per uses. Ms. D'Amore said that it is per user for the mobile use and they will start out with ten. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if they will be transferable. Ms. D'Amore said "yes".

V. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion Items:

1. Norwalk Police Department Body Camera Program

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE AND AGREEMENT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE, DELIVER, AND USE AND SUPPORT OF AXON PRODUCTS AND SERVICES RELATED TO BODY CAMERAS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$288,136.84.

Chief Kulhawik provided an overview of the body cameras from four years ago compared to where they are now and why they are requesting to move forward with the new purchase. He said for a variety of reasons they have chosen Axon (Taser) which includes a pre-event buffer, extended battery life and the transfer of data while on the docking station. He said the data is stored on the cloud through a secured site. He said that the initial program which is what they are currently using today consisted of 35 body cameras which included the docking station and storage and the cost was

approximately \$50,000 and was funded by donations. He said that the contract for the three years that they have had the body cameras ends in May and have explored other vendors and have decided to stay with Taser which is what they currently have, and the only difference is that it is now called the Axon 2 which is a newer version of the same camera and the contract will be for five years beginning June 1, 2018 and should be getting \$196,000 reimbursed from a state grant, and the only thing the state grant does not reimburse is storage. Mr. Yerinides asked if everyone will be issued a new body camera. Chief Kulhawik said “yes”.

**** MR. YERINDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services