

**CITY OF NORWALK
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 25, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Riling; Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons,
Commissioner Charles Yost

STAFF: Police Chief Thomas Kulhawik, Deputy Chief Susan Zecca,
Deputy Chief James Walsh; Michael Yeosock, Assistant Director;
Fred Eshraghi, Traffic Engineer; Kathryn Hebert, Director - TPM

OTHERS: James Whipple, SoNo Half Marathon; Marie Iannazzi, Italian
American Police Society; Krissy Ramsey, Maritime Operations
Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Riling called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. James Whipple introduced himself to the Commissioners and said that the SoNo Half Marathon and 5K run was looking to keep the same course from last year. He added that next year, the 5K course may change by having the runners go through Oyster Shell Park as part of the route.

Ms. Marie Iannazzi of Kingsbury Street greeted the Commissioners and said that the Italian American Police Society among others would be sponsoring a parade between Belden Avenue and Heritage Wall from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. on October 7, 2017. She said that it would be a small group and that people from Saint Anne's and the Sons of Italy would also be involved.

Ms. Krissy Ramsey, the Maritime Operations Assistant, introduced herself and said that she was present to request that the Traffic Authority permit the Aquarium to change the bus drop off area traffic pattern during construction.

BUSINESS

Approval of the minutes of Monday, July 16, 2018

The following correction was noted:

Page 1, under **STAFF**: please add "Deputy Chief James Walsh".

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2018 AS CORRECTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the closure of Calf Pasture, Gregory Boulevard, Sylvester Court, Dorlon Street and Blackstone Drive as required on Saturday, October 13, 2018 for the 1st Annual Light for Kara 5K for Maternal Mental Health Run and Walk between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Mayor Rilling expressed concern about closing Gregory Boulevard and the surrounding streets every time there is this type of race. Mr. Whipple, who is involved with the SoNo Half Marathon, said that he had heard they were expecting to cone off one lane leaving Calf Pasture. Mayor Rilling said that last year, there was a resident who was in the late stages of pregnancy and was forced by the event organizers to park elsewhere and walk to her house.

Mayor Rilling said that someone from the organization should have been present to answer questions.

Mayor Rilling said he would like to table the item contingent upon the organizers bringing an alternated route. Commissioner Yost suggested an alternative route involving Marvin and Canfield Avenue.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO AMEND THE ITEM TO INCLUDE AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE THROUGH MARVIN AND CANFIELD AVENUE RATHER THAN GREGORY BLVD.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the closure of West Avenue from Wall to Heritage Wall as required for the first annual Columbus Day parade sponsored by the Italian American Police Society on Sunday, October 7, 2018.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Chief Kulhawik said that the one issue would be the route on West Avenue would require many officers. Ms. Iannazzi said that there had been concerns about the music disrupting the church services. Chief Kulhawik said that there were 7 different intersections involved. Ms. Iannazzi said that the group would start at 12 noon and be at the wall by 1:00 p.m. Discussion followed about the details of closing the various intersections followed.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the closure of identified roadways in South and East Norwalk during the times noted for the SoNo Half Marathon/and 5K race on October 20, 2018.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Whipple was present. Mayor Rilling said that there had been significant complaints from the residents at Marvin Beach. It will be important to make sure the residents are able to get in and out of their homes. Chief Kulhawik said that this event was large and 38 officers would be involved, which means that they will have to have extra officers come in. Mayor Rilling said that while this brings people into South Norwalk, it is still an extreme source of frustration to the local residents. It will be important to work closely with the residents

Mr. Whipple said that Sgt. Gallena has worked with him and they are working on putting out yard signs and sending thousands of post cards about the time of the race. Mr. Whipple said that during the race last year, there should have been large gaps in the racers so the lady who was expecting should have been able to get to her house. He said that he believed that they were getting better at notifying the residents. The businesses have people come in after the race. Mr. Whipple said that he did not know what would happen next year.

Mayor Rilling said that he would like the Traffic Department, Sgt. Gallena and the organizers meet after the event to work out issues.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the installation of “No Parking Anytime” signs on both sides of Jennings Place.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Eshraghi said that there are commuter cars parking on the street during the mornings.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the installation of “No Parking between 9:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. Monday to Friday” signs on Deane Court.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Eshraghi said that this was a problem with commuter parking also.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the temporary traffic diversionary plan for Pine Street Extension beginning September 20, 2018 and continuing through November 16, 2018.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

The representative said that this request was for making Pine Street one way. Bloomingdales will have a traffic plan completed in October.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve temporary traffic pattern for N. Water Street bus drop off during construction, anticipated to occur between November 5, 2018 and July 4, 2019.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Yeosock said that they would have to take part of the road for the construction equipment. Ms. Ramsey said that the current pattern would have the students off loading right next to the construction site. This would have the students off load to the island and corralled by their chaperones before crossing to the sidewalk and walking to the new entrance area.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the temporary removal of parking spaces on Water Street between Raymond Street and Concord Street during the construction of Washington Village.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Yeosock said that this would involve about half a block where the buildings will be demolished. The residents have been relocated.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION.

Appoint LTA designee.

Mayor Rilling said that they had the appointment worked out.

Update on Chestnut Street one way operation.

Mr. Yeosock said they are starting to get complaints from the businesses. It was suggested that the street be one way during school bus hours and then revert back to two way traffic. Discussion followed about Concord and Chestnut details.

Macedonia Church. – establishing parking restrictions on 2 existing parking spaces on Pine Street.

Mayor Rilling said that normally they don't designate parking spaces on public streets, so this should be reviewed by the Legal Department.

176/178 Ponus –

There are vehicles parking on the snow shelf and it makes leaving the driveway very dangerous. The Police will investigate.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, October 15, 2018 - 4:00 p.m.

Norwalk Police Department, One Monroe Street

ADJOURNMENT.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services