

**CITY OF NORWALK
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 15, 2019**

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

STAFF: Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Kathryn Hebert, Director, TMP; Mike Yeosock, Assistant Director TMP;

OTHERS: Lucille Weldon

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:00PM. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one from the public wished to participate.

**1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING OF
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019.**

On page 2, third bullet point remove “a” and change “residence” to “residents”
On page 5, change “Commission” to “Commissioner”

**** MS. COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2019 AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING
OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019.**

**** MS. COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. AMEND THE MARCH 27,2019 APPROVAL DATE FOR THE SONO HALF MARATHON AND 5K RACES TO REFLECT THE NEW DATE OF OCTOBER 6, 2019.

Mayor Rilling said the request is to change the date of the race to October 6, 2019, as there are no other events going on it Veterans Park or Calf Pasture Beach that day that would interfere with the race and he recommends moving forward with it.

**** MS. COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO AMEND THE MARCH 27, 2019 APPROVAL DATE FOR THE SONO HALF MARATHON AND 5K RACES TO REFLECT TH NEW DATE OF OCTOBER 6, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. APPROVE THE ST. MARY’S CHURCH PASSION OF CHRIST PROCESSION ON FRIDAY, APRIL, 19, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock gave an overview of the event and said the procession goes from West Avenue down Leonard Street. Mayor Rilling asked if there are any concerns from the Police Department. Deputy Chief Zecca said her only concern is if a police officer has been hired for the event. Mayor Rilling asked if a map of the route has been provided. Mr. Yeosock said “no” but they had gone to the special event signing that was held last week. Mayor Rilling asked if a representative for the police department had attended. Deputy Chief Zecca said “yes” she believes so. Mayor Rilling requested that the police department contact the City Clerk’s Office to obtain the route map and if there are any concerns to reach out to the representatives of the church.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE ST. MARY’S CHURCH PASSION OF CHRIST PROCESSION ON FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. APPROVE THE BEAR BREAKAWAY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock provided on overview of the event and said it will take place in the area of Norwalk High School.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE BEAR BREAKAWAY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. APPROVE THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY WALK FOR MENTAL HEALTH ON SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event and said that it begins at the green and precedes down East Avenue and will only be on the sidewalks. Mayor Rilling asked if they have met with the Police Department. Deputy Chief Zecca said that she will confirm with Sergeant Gulino. Mayor Rilling asked if a representative for the event had attended the special event permit signing. Mr. Yeosock said “yes”.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY WALK FOR MENTAL HEALTH ON SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. APPROVE THE PARTIAL CLOSURE OF GRANDVIEW AVENUE FOR THE JEFFERSON PTO FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ON FRIDAY, MAY 10 FROM 5PM TO 8PM.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event. Mayor Rilling asked why Grandview Avenue will need to be closed. Mr. Yeosock said so that the participants of the event can cross the street.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARTIAL CLOSURE OF GRANDVIEW AVENUE FOR THE JEFFERSON PTO FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ON FRIDAY, MAY 10 FROM 5PM TO 8PM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE NORWALK MOTHER’S DAY RACE ON SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event and said that the race will begin at Calf Pasture Beach. A representative for the event said that the route has been revised to eliminate the crossing near I-95 and that the event will begin at 9:00AM and be over by 11:00AM.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE NORWALK MOTHER’S DAY RACE ON SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE O’NEILL’S RACE ON SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event and said that the race will begin on Ann Street.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE O’NEILL’S RACE ON SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF WALL STREET FROM ISAACS STREET WEST TO THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK ON SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019 FROM 9:00AM TO 3:00PM FOR THE HILLSONG CONNECTICUT FATHER'S DAY FESTIVAL.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event and said that this is the second year that the event will be held. Ms. Zanvettor said that she had attended the event permit signing and that she spoke with Mr. Torre regarding the barricades that will be needed, and she also spoke with Sgt. Gulino regarding police presence.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF WALL STREET FROM ISAACS STREET WEST TO THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK ON SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019 FROM 9:00AM TO 3:00PM FOR THE HILLSONG CONNECTICUT FATHER'S DAY FESTIVAL.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019.

Mr. Yeosock provided an overview of the event and said that it will take place at Calf Pasture Beach. Mayor Rilling asked if the route is the same as it has been in the past. Mr. Yeosock said "yes". Mayor Rilling asked if a representative for the event had attended the special permit signing. Mr. Yeosock said "no" they had not but did go through the permit process.

**** COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

12. APPROVE THE PARKING AND STRIPING PLAN FOR THE WALL STREET AREA INCLUDING RIVER STREET AND MAIN AVENUE.

Mr. Yeosock presented a map of the parking and striping plan. Mayor Rilling said this is a new way of parking and that they are looking to install reversed angled parking on Wall Street, River Street and Main Avenue for safer parking, and it also narrows the road and creates a traffic calming device. Mr. Yeosock said that backing out of a space onto a busy street is not safe and this type of parking is encouraged in many other areas. Ms. Hebert said it will also increase the parking by 13 spaces in the area. Commission Collier-Clemmons said that the reversed angled parking is used in Brooklyn and that it works very well and the cars don't travel as fast. Ms. Hebert said that there will be Ambassadors to assist people and that a lot of signage will be installed. Mayor Rilling said that he has also spoken with the Chairman of the Parking Authority to possibly have a test location where people can practice the reversed angled parking. Mr. Yeosock said as part of the plan there will be parking on Mill Hill and will also have a dedicated bike lane.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARKING AND STRIPING PLAN FOR THE WALL STREET AREA INCLUDING RIVER STREET AND MAIN AVENUE.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. NATIONAL DRIVER DISTRACTION MONTH

Mr. Yeosock said that April is National Driver Distraction Month. Deputy Chief Zecca said that the police department has been doing a lot of public outreach.

2. CT DOT RESPONSE REGARDING WINFIELD STREET

Mr. Yeosock said that a few months ago he was asked to request that the State perform a survey of Route 136 and they found that the speed limit was supposed to be 35 miles per hour but that it has been posted for 30 miles per hour for many years, and they have agreed to keep the speed limit at 30 miles per hour.

3. EAST NORWALK- PLATT STREET AREA

Mr. Yeosock said that they have received complaints over the past few weeks regarding vehicles parking on Platt Street and have determined that there are commercial vehicles parking there for an extended amount of time on both sides of the street. He requested police enforcement in the area.

4. ORCHARD STREET- PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE

Ms. Hebert said that she had received an e-mail from Asst. Chief King of the Fire Department stating that he recommends there only be parking allowed on one side of the street, because as it stands today the street is narrow and by putting parking back on the other side of the street would prohibit them from safely responding to any fires in the area. Ms. Weldon said that emergency vehicles would most likely be entering Orchard Street from West Avenue, and she is on the opposite end of Orchard Street from where the sidewalks were redone and made the street narrow, therefore the width is the same on her end of the street that it has always been. She said the apartment buildings have parking garages to accommodate the residents and business's and they don't have that same privilege, and if they have a visitor there is nowhere for them to park and they need to be accommodated for visitor and resident parking and right now there is none, and they were not thought about at all when the apartment building were installed. Mayor Rilling said that he will look at the area and speak with Assistant Chief King.

5. NORWALK- WEED STREET, WEST NORWALK AREA

Mr. Yeosock said that New Canaan had installed some traffic restrictions that are affecting the area. Mayor Rilling said that he had attended a neighborhood meeting at Fox Run School and the President of the West Norwalk Association had attended and it was recommended that anyone who had any thoughts or ideas on how to make things better they would be filtered through him and he would and he would reach out to the Police Department. Deputy Chief Zecca said that initially some enforcement was done in the area but that she will follow up with Lieutenant Blake and report back to the Traffic Authority.

ADJOURNMENT

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd