

**CITY OF NORWALK
HEALTH, WELFARE, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
July 25, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Nick Sacchinelli, Chairman; Chris Yerinides; George Tsiranides;
Colin Hosten

STAFF: Deanna D'Amore, Director of Health; Deputy Chief Zecca, Norwalk
Police Dept; David Walenczyk, Youth Services Director

I. WELCOME - ROLL CALL

Mr. Sacchinelli began the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and stated that three members were in attendance. The meeting would officially be called to order once the fourth member arrived.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Action Items:

Youth Services

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO SIGN FOR, AND ACCEPT, THE YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU (YSB) GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF) FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2020-2021. THE ALLOCATED AMOUNT FOR THE 2020 YEAR IS \$54,847.

Mr. Walenczyk said this is a non-competitive grant and he has submitted the application to the state and the amount they will be receiving is the same as they had gotten last year, and the funds are used to subsidize the salaries of the employees that are working in the Youth Services department. He said they also receive an enhancement grant but he does not yet know the exact amount that will be but last

year they had received approximately \$7,000. He said those funds will be used for programs and they have used the funds in the past for the peer connection program and if they receive extra funding which they are anticipating they will be bringing back the art program which is an anger management program for teens. Mr. Sacchinelli said he will forward the action item to the full Council.

Mr. Hosten joined the meeting at 7:17 PM. The meeting was officially called to order by Mr. Sacchinelli as a quorum was present. He went back to approval of minutes because there was a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 27, 2018

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2019 AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH UNNANIMOUSLY.**

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Police Department

2. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE ORDER, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO MHQ, INC. UNDER CT CONTRACT #12PSX0194, FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWELVE (12) 2020 FORD UTILITY INCERCEPTORS AWD FOR THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$407,000.00. ACCOUNT 01353-5731

Deputy Chief Zecca said they are looking to purchase 12 SUV's and that 10 of them will be used for front line vehicles and two will be used for the canine officers.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE ORDER ON BEHALF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LOW BIDDER, FLEET AUTO SUPPLY, LLC FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF (12) FORD UTILITY INTERCEPTORS UNDER PROJECT #3768, NOT TO EXCEED \$168,000. ACCOUNT 01353-5731.

Deputy Chief Zecca said that the amount will need to be amended to \$183,000 because she did not have the final quote when she had written the authorization. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if they are moving to all the SUV's. Deputy Chief Zecca said "yes" and that all of the front line vehicles are SUV's. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if they have the same life span. Deputy Chief Zecca said "yes" and the officers seem to prefer the SUV and for font line patrol cars and there is no longer a good option and they are much safer. Mr. Yerinides asked if they will be all black. Deputy Chief Zecca said "yes" with gold writing

and it is less expensive to do all one color. Mr. Yerinides asked if there are any vehicles that are easy to identify. Deputy Chief Zecca most of the vehicles have light bars so they are very identifiable as police vehicles. Mr. Yerinides asked if the old cars will be auctioned. Deputy Chief Zecca said they will be passed down to other divisions.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO AMEND THE ITEM TO CHANGE THE NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT FROM \$168,000 TO \$183,000**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. TSIRANISIES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION FOR THE SHARED USE OF THE CONNECTICUT LAND MOBILE RADIO NETWORK (CLMRN).

Deputy Chief Zecca said the infrastructure is outdated and they have been patching it together for years and they want to overhaul the entire radio system and have determined that going on the State's system would be the best option, and they are currently in discussions with them and Motorola to begin moving the planning of that forward. Mr. Yerinides asked if there will be information that will need to be shared with the State. Deputy Chief Zecca said that they will be using their infrastructure and there may be a need for additional equipment to increase the coverage in Norwalk. Mr. Yerinides asked if the State will be getting anything that they currently don't have in the City of Norwalk. Deputy Chief Zecca said anyone who is sharing on the system would share in the increased coverage. Mr. Yerinides asked if more or fewer people will be able to know what is happening in Norwalk. Deputy Chief Zecca said it will be beneficial to be able to be in contact with other Police Departments. Mr. Hosten said that the City of Norwalk currently does not share information with Federal authorities regarding immigration status and asked if this will have any impact on that policy. Deputy Chief Zecca said she doesn't see how it would.

**** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF THOMAS KULHAWIK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RELATED TO THE CONNECTICUT LAND MOBILE RADIO NETWORK.

**** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion Items:

1. Measles

Ms. D'Amore presented and said when measles presents itself it comes with a very high fever, and the rash appears three to five days after the symptoms begin. It could be difficult to know if you have measles until after the rash is developed. She said it is a serious disease and is very contagious. She said that it is more contagious than the Ebola virus. This year the measles cases have increased and it is recommend that the first dose of vaccine be given between one and two years old the second between four and six years old. Ms. D'Amore said that Connecticut has an immunization action plan that tracks children up to the age of two to see how up to date they are with vaccine schedule and currently 87% of children up to the age of two are up to date with the recommended schedule in Connecticut, and Norwalk is the highest with 93%. There is a program within the Health Department that covers Norwalk, Wilton, Westport, Weston and New Canaan, and is through the State Health Department and they follow everyone who is in the system to see if they are up to date and staff will contact those who are not and connect them back into vaccine services. Currently every child that is going into school is required to have the measles vaccine, but there are two exceptions to that: a religious exemption and a medical exemption. State legislators have been thinking about the religious exemption and thinking about whether it should or shouldn't be eliminated. The State legislators have asked the State Health Commissioner to give an opinion on it. Mr. Holsten asked if it is tracked on how many people request the exemptions. Ms. D'Amore said "yes" and reviewed the percentages within the schools. She said that the State is seeing an upward trend with incoming kindergarteners that are requesting a religious exemption. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if there has ever been municipal enforcement. Ms. D'Amore said she does not believe they have the authority as a municipality to set laws around vaccination requirements but she could check with the Law Department. She gave an overview of the measles response plan and said that the state and local Health Departments have joint responsibilities to deal with the issues, and the State Health Department takes the lead in confirming cases and notify the Health Departments in their jurisdictions that has either had or been exposed to measles and it their job to do contact tracing. Mr. Sacchinelli asked what the best way to get the message of the importance of vaccinations is to the public. Ms. D'Amore said that she will speak with Ms. Argondezzi, Health Educator, about ways to do more messaging around measles. The committee also agreed to write a resolution to be reviewed at the next meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services