

**CITY OF NORWALK
HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
February 27, 2020**

ATTENDANCE: Nick Sacchinelli, Chairman; Dominique Johnson; Thomas Keegan;
Lisa Shanahan; George Tsiranides

STAFF: Deanna D'Amore, Director of Health; Lamond Daniels, Chief of
Community Services; Deputy Chief Zecca, Norwalk Police
Department

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 JANUARY 23, 2020 MINUTES

On page 2, add "Ms. Shanahan moved to approve"

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO APROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Action Items:

Police Department

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,669.92

Deputy Chief Zecca said the item is for an annual distracted driving grant and the grant does not have a match.

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF THOMAS KULHAWIK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ALL PROGRAMS THROUGH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGH VISIBILITY DISTRACTED DRIVING GRANT, PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT, SHARON CONNERS, TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE ORDER ON BEHALF OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO CI TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF IAPRO SOFTWARE AS PER SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT REQUEST, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12,200.00.
ACCOUNT# 013049-5234**

Deputy Chief Zecca said the item is for tracking software and the current program is antiquated and is no longer supported and not fully functional. She said everything will go into on database so that they can see if there are any issues. Ms. Johnson asked if it is for internal affairs only or for the whole community. Deputy Chief Zecca said it is specific to the department. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if the software has been reviewed. Deputy Chief Zecca said “yes” it has.

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

4. AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF THOMAS KULHAWIK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT IAPRO ON A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT BASIS.

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

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EXECUTE A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH LEXISNEXIS COPLOGIC SOLUTIONS, INC.

Deputy Chief Zecca said the item is for the accident report online portal and that they have been using it since 2008, and there is no cost to the city and is a convenience to the community. She said the company has been bought out so they have updated their service contract. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if it gets fed into a third party beyond the purchasing software. Deputy Chief Zecca said “no” not that she is aware of. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if the reports are in real time. Deputy Chief Zecca said “no” the reports are approved in house first before they get uploaded into the system. Ms. Johnson asked if Lexus Nexus can sell peoples data on their accidents. Deputy Chief Zecca said the information is public record and if there is a report that has information that is not subject to FOI they would not be uploaded in the system.

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, UPON RECOMMENDATION AND REVIEW BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL AND/OR ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERMITTING OTHER AGENCIES TO USE AND ACCESS THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT FIRING RANGE FOR TRAINING PURPOSES.

Deputy Chief Zecca said other agencies have been using the firing range for years and this is to execute agreements to better protect the city. Mr. Sacchinelli asked who else uses the range. Deputy Chief Zecca said other police departments for training for their officers. Mr. Tsiranides asked if they are required to have their own liability insurance. Deputy Chief Zecca said the Law Department is drafting the agreement but she does not yet have the agreement. Mr. Sacchinelli asked when she expects to have the agreement executed by the Law Department, and if she expects it to be completed by the next Common Council meeting. Deputy Chief Zecca said she is hoping within the next couple of weeks but she will contact them to see if she can have the agreement.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOULSLY.**

Discussion Items:

1. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Ms. D'Amore said the virus is something that they are closely monitoring and have been for months. It began at the end of December and it has now spread to the United States but currently the risk in our area is very low. There have been no cases in Connecticut but the CDC has advised us to prepare for it possibly spreading to our community so in case that it does happen we are able to respond. They have been on weekly conference calls with the CDC as well as the State Health Department, and local health departments are tasked with monitoring travels from the mainland in China and if we think that someone has been exposed to the disease health departments are asked to follow up and be sure they are keeping track of their symptoms, and those that have come from China have been asked to self-isolate under public health supervision. The health departments are still tasked with supervision and are also looking into the possibility of a spread in the community and be prepared for that so we go back to the preparedness that we are already doing. The National Institutes of Health stated not to expect a vaccination for a least another year so community mitigation measures are in place and will be reminding people of respiratory etiquette and encourage to people to wash their hands and stay home when sick. The goal of mitigation is to slow the progression of the disease and keep the health care system functioning and diminish the number of cases and the health impact. Mr. Daniels said that they have also updated the website with the information. Ms. D'Amore said the Health Department has information on the website and Mr. Daniels has been working with them to be sure it is very visible, and Mayor Rilling released a statement earlier today encouraging people to go to the website for up to date information. Mr. Daniels said they will also be engaging the hospital, schools etc. on preparedness. Mr. Keegan asked if the schools are getting this information out to the parents. Ms. D'Amore said she along with the Mayor's office have been in contact with them. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if there is a better way to communicate this to the schools. Mr. Daniels said they are meeting with the schools this week and our message is to be clear on what the communication will look like through the health department, and Ms. D'Amore's office is in contact with the CDC and are committed to keeping the website current, and will be meeting with the Superintendent's office to support them and will be a resource to them through the Health Department.

Mr. Sacchinelli asked if there are recommendations for people who want to take preparatory measures. Ms. D'Amore said they are working on a two week grocery list that will be posted to the website. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if there are recommendations for

travel. Ms. D'Amore recommended going to the CDC's website for travel recommendations and that they change frequently. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if masks should be distributed. Ms. D'Amore said the priority for the mask should be clinicians. Mr. Sacchinelli asked what stages would we be looking at if extreme measures were needed to be taken and if there is a state/federal intervention before municipal intervention. Ms. D'Amore said if there is an issue in a state and they felt that wanted to declare a public health emergency the state would have a big role, but in terms of emergencies in general a lot of its starts local and work with regional partners and a request would be made to the state for resources and if they are not able to fulfil them a request can be made to the federal level. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if there are any assets that are lacking for a city of this size. Ms. D'Amore said not at this point. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if the hospital has ever approached us for overflow. Ms. D'Amore said "no" and usually the hospitals work with each other to support each other but of course the Emergency Management team and the Health Department would be involved in supporting that. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if at any point additional staff would be needed to handle this. Ms. D'Amore said they added a part-time position in the budget request for additional nursing due to all of the public health issues that are emerging and they do have the Emergency Response Team who is a great resource and asset.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Bullying

Mr. Daniels there is a partnership in the city coordinated by Positive Directions. He said the meetings are held at City Hall every fourth Tuesday at 6:00PM and the partnership is made up of a coalition of providers and local groups and they also have resources. There was also a survey done and one of the things that was most significant was that many adolescents in middle school have explored suicide. The group said that they would like to partner with this committee to combat the issue of bullying and they would be open to having bullying as one of their priorities. He asked the committee if they are interested in working with the group and that they are willing to take requests from the committee on how to frame the discussions. Mr. Sacchinelli said he is excited about taking this path because the committee would like this treated with as much urgency as possible, and may be able to take some action on someone who is doing this on a daily basis and will provide the information. He said the committee has been collecting information and suggested they do a presentation to the committee so there is an understating to what they have been working towards. Ms. Johnson asked if the board of education would also be sending a representative. Mr. Daniels said he will inquire. Mr. Keegan also recommending guidance from the States Attorney's office as far as establishing fines and or action that should be taking. The committee all agreed it is important work with the group and would like to partner with them on the issue of bullying.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services