

**ALL COMMON COUNCIL ACTIONS TAKEN AT THIS MEETING TO
APPROVE EXPENDITURES AND CONTRACTS OR TO ACCEPT BIDS AND
OTHER PROPOSALS REQUIRING THE EXPENDITURE OF CITY FUNDS
ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Donna King at dking@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rilling asked for a Moment of Silence in memory of Laura Epstein who founded the Norwalk Senior Center and advocated for seniors in the community.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. King called the Roll. The following Common Council members were present:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett Mr. Manny Langella Ms. Barbara Smyth	Ms. Dominique Johnson Mr. Nicholas Sacchinelli
District A:	Mr. David Heuvelman	Mr. Kadeem Roberts
District B:	Ms. Darlene Young	
District C:	Mr. John Kydes	Mr. George Theodoridis
District D:	Mr. George Tsiranides	Mr. Tom Keegan
District E:	Mr. Thomas Livingston	Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were fourteen (14) Common Council members present. A Quorum was present.

Also present were Mayor Harry Rilling, City Clerk, Donna King and Corporation Counsel, Mario Coppola.

Ms. King read the notice.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: July 14, 2020

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 2 – remove the extra comma

Page 13 – replace to with it

Page 14 – replace the with that

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**

**** MOTON PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. King read a letter submitted by Diane Lauricella asking the members of the Common Council to table the agreement with Field Turf USA until a neutral qualified health professional is hired.

August 11, 2020
Common Council
Via Teleconference
Page 2

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS RESIGNATIONS:

Joshua M. Goldstein, Zoning Commission, Alternate, District B

Mayor Rilling announced the resignation of Joshua M. Goldstein. He thanked Mr. Sumpter for his excellent service on the Zoning Commission and noted he had termed out. Mr. Goldstein will be moving into his position.

APPOINTMENTS:

**** MS. JOHNSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT**

Joshua M. Goldstein, Zoning Commission, Regular, District B

Ms. Johnson and Mr. Langella spoke in support of the appointment.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN**

REAPPOINTMENTS:

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REAPPOINTMENT**

Mr. Livingston spoke in support of the reappointment.

Galen Wells, Zoning Commission, Regular, District E

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN**

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rilling reported that COVID 19 cases and deaths have been drastically reduced in Norwalk, but there is still work to be done. He thanked the citizens and business owners for their efforts to accomplish this. He encouraged them to continue what they are doing. He said there are challenges with opening the schools and the City.

August 11, 2020
Common Council
Via Teleconference
Page 3

Mayor Rilling recognized and thanked the Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks Department, Police Department and Fire Department for working hard to clean up the city after Storm Isaias. He said he was very critical of the response from Eversource.

Mayor Rilling announced a new Connectivity Initiative that will close the digital divide for school-aged children in Norwalk. He explained that the Norwalk Public Schools is being offered a grant from the Ritter Foundation and the Heidenreich Foundation. He said 7-8% of students in Norwalk do not have internet connection. This initiative will provide the students with internet access and there will be five Navigators who will work with the families to help them understand the internet. In addition, the Navigators will help identify other services they may need.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Council President Barbara Smyth read the following statement from the Common Council:

THE CITY OF NORWALK FULLY SUPPORTS OUR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

IN THE SPIRIT OF PUBLIC ACT 19-111, ENACTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2019, THE CITY PROACTIVELY COMPENSATED OFFICER ROSELLE FULLY AFTER HE WAS WOUNDED ON-DUTY DURING TRAINING AT THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT'S FIRING RANGE ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2017.

THE MEMBERS OF THE NORWALK COMMON COUNCIL HAVE REVIEWED THE INFORMATION OFFICER ROSELLE HAS PROVIDED AND THE REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE CITY TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REGARDING OFFICER ROSELLE'S ELIGIBILITY FOR THE ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION CONTEMPLATED UNDER PUBLIC ACT 19-111.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY PROCEDURE, OFFICER ROSELLE HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THAT REPORT AND THE ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS. A REVIEW OF THE REPORT ESTABLISHES THAT THE SETTLEMENT OF OFFICER ROSELLE'S WORKER'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY INCLUDED A VERY SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY, AND THAT THE DOCUMENTS OFFICER ROSELLE SIGNED IN THAT SETTLEMENT ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE SETTLEMENT MONEY INCLUDED ALL FUTURE WAGES, AND ALL CLAIMS FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION. OFFICER ROSELLE ALSO AGREED

THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY FROM THE CITY UNDER ANY OTHER LAW OR REGULATION, OR IN ANY OTHER FORUM.

THE PUBLIC ACT UNDER WHICH OFFICER ROSELLE MAKES THIS CLAIM ALLOWS THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY (THE COMMON COUNCIL) TO CONSIDER MAKING UP THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER'S BASE SALARY AND THE COMBINATION OF THE PENSION PAYMENTS AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION PAYMENTS.

THE FACTS OF OFFICER ROSELLE'S CASE ESTABLISH THAT THE CITY HAS ALREADY PAID TO HIM IN THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT AND PENSION ENTITLEMENT MORE MONEY THAN THE ADJUSTMENT CONTEMPLATED UNDER THIS ACT. IN ADDITION, OFFICER ROSELLE'S INJURY PREDATES PUBLIC ACT 19-111.

OFFICER ROSELLE IS THEREFORE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FROM THE CITY.

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT**

**** MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN) AND ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. KYDES)**

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS:

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO DENY THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION**

1. VOTE ON APPLICATION OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICER PHILLIP ROSELLE REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION UNDER PUBLIC ACT 19-111.

**** MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN) AND ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. KYDES)**

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

**** MR. BURNETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:**

VI.A.1, VI.A.2, VII.B.1, VII.D.1a, VII.D.1b, VII.D.2a, VII.D.2b, VII.D.3a, VII.D.3b, VII.F.1

VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A. CORPORATION COUNSEL

1. AUTHORIZATION FOR DISCUSSION: SETTLEMENT: LUTHER ATKINSON V. CITY OF NORWALK, ET AL EXECUTIVE SESSION

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED SETTLEMENT WITH THE CC RIVINGTON DEFENDANT IN LITIGATION TITLED, CITY OF NORWALK AND CITY OF NORWALK REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY VS. ILSR OWNERS, LLC AND WALL ST OPPORTUNITY FUND, LLC, DOCKET NO. FST-CVLS-6038249-S, WHICH IS CURRENTLY PENDING IN THE STAMFORD-NORWALK JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT STAMFORD. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

B. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF THE FOLLOWING LAND FROM NORWALK LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC TO THE CITY OF NORWALK AT NO COST SUBJECT TO A RELEASE OF MORTGAGE(S) ENCUMBERING SAID LAND: A. CERTAIN PIECE OR PARCEL IS IDENTIFIED AS “CONVEYANCE AREA A” HAVING AN AREA OF 1,263±S.F. AS SHOWN ON MAP ENTITLED “RIGHT OF WAY SURVEY CITY OF NORWALK MAP SHOWING LAND ACQUIRED FROM NORWALK LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC BY THE CITY OF NORWALK” DATED NOVEMBER 2019 PREPARED BY LANGAN CT, INC; B. SAID PIECE OR PARCEL OF PROPERTY IS IDENTIFIED AS “CONVEYANCE AREA B” HAVING AN AREA OF 237±S.F. AS SHOWN ON MAP ENTITLED “RIGHT OF WAY SURVEY CITY OF NORWALK MAP SHOWING LAND ACQUIRED FROM NORWALK LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC BY THE CITY OF NORWALK” DATED NOVEMBER 2019 PREPARED BY LANGAN CT, INC.

D. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1A. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE PURCHASE ORDER(S) TO SCHOOLWIDE, INC. FOR ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS ENGLISH AND SPANISH LITERACY MATERIALS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$277,549.15 (SHIPPING COSTS HAVE BEEN WAIVED) ACCT. #09215010 5777 C0609

1B. AUTHORIZE A CONTINGENCY ALLOWANCE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,000 IN THE EVENT OF ORDER ADJUSTMENTS.

2A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH AM ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC. FOR THE SILVERMINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AIR CONDITIONING AND ELECTRICAL UPGRADES PROJECT FOR A TOTAL NOT EXCEED \$345,000. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCT. #09205010 5777 C0652.

2B. AUTHORIZE THE NPS FACILITIES DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON THIS CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL OF \$34,500. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN ACCT. #09205010 5777 C0652.

3A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH PREMIER BUILDING ASSOCIATES, LLC FOR THE BEN FRANKLIN CENTER ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PHASE 2) FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$249,000.00. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ACCOUNT #0920/21 7100 5777 C0295

3B. AUTHORIZE THE OFFICE OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON THE CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$24,900.00.

F. HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS REGARDING THEIR DISASTER SERVICES PROGRAMS IN NORWALK AND THE FACILITY USE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE SHELTER OPERATIONS AT BRIEN MCMAHON HS AND NORWALK HS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY AT NO COST.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN)**

VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

A. RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FIELD TURF USA, INC. (SOLE SOURCE) FOR THE SYNTHETIC TURF SURFACE AT WEST ROCKS SCHOOL PROPOSED SOCCER FIELD COMPLEX FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$443,088.00. ACCOUNT #'S 09206030-5777-C0631, 09216030-5777-C0631.

1B. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS TO EXECUTE CHANGE ORDER ON CONTRACT WITH FIELD TURF USA, INC. (SOLE SOURCE) FOR THE SYNTHETIC TURF SURFACE AT WEST ROCKS SCHOOL PROPOSED SOCCER FIELD COMPLEX FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$44,308.00. ACCOUNT #'S 09206030-5777-C0631, 09216030-5777-C0631.

Ms. Young explained that these items were approved at the July meeting of the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs Committee; however, these items were inadvertently moved off the July Common Council agenda.

Mr. Nick Roberts was present to answer any questions. Ms. Johnson asked him if he heard anything further from the Health Department regarding the materials. Mr. Roberts explained that he did not get the results of the EPA study, but will follow up with the Health Department.

Ms. Young said that she and Mr. Roberts have had conversations and tried to be mindful of peoples' concern. Mr. Roberts explained that this is a different product than what is already on the fields. It reduces the temperature by 40 degrees; this is not the regular crumb rubber.

Mr. Heuvelman asked what percentage of crumb rubber escapes the plastic cover. Mr. Roberts said he did not know the percentage, but noted they do regular maintenance. The useful life of this field is 10 years. The cost of a grass field includes annual maintenance and there are less hours of use with a grass field. He said they can play on a turf field in the rain, but can't play on a grass field. Mr. Kydes noted his daughter played on a turf field in the pouring rain and did not see a problem with drainage.

Ms. Shanahan said she was not sure the studies supported that turf fields were safer. Mr. Roberts said he relies on reports from the State Health Department and there is nothing

that would preclude them from using this product. He added that this material will extend the hours of play and they can play all year round with more usage.

**** MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON) AND ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MS. SHANAHAN)**

C. COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE RITTER FOUNDATION AND PER AND ASTRID HEIDENREICH FAMILY FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000 EACH FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2021.

1B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE CONNECTIVITY INITIATIVE FAMILY NAVIGATOR PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2021.

Ms. Smyth expressed her thanks to the Dalio Foundation, the Ritter Foundation and the Heidenreich Foundation. She said that as a teacher, she saw a lot of students who suffered educationally because of internet difficulties. She said she fully supports this.

Mr. Lamont Daniels explained that the Family Navigator will partner with Norwalk Public Schools to act as a professional mentor. They will be able to help students and their families be successful. The Family Navigators will be trained using a wrap-around mode.

Mr. Daniels said they will be working with the Norwalk Public Schools to identify families. This grant is for a period of one year and there is an evaluation component of this grant. The Family Navigators are not clinical people. They are partnering with a service who will train the Family Navigators.

Mr. Livingston asked about the hard ware component. Mr. Daniels explained that the connectivity portion is through the school system.

Mayor Rilling expressed his thanks to the Dalio Foundation, Altice and Optimum.

August 11, 2020

Common Council

Via Teleconference

Page 9

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. KEEGAN; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN)**

E. ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

1. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS/AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 36 OF THE CITY CODE:

CHAPTER 36: ENTERPRISE ZONES

- **SECTION § 36-1 APPLICABILITY**
- **SECTION § 36-2 BENEFITS; ELIGIBILITY**
- **SECTION § 36-3 REPORTS**
- **SECTION § 36-4 SUNSET PROVISION**
- **SECTION § 36-5 WHEN EFFECTIVE**
- **THE ACCOMPANYING ENTERPRISE ZONE MAP**

Ms. Shanahan explained the item and said they are looking to expand the Enterprise Zone.

Ms. Sabrina Church gave a presentation and presented a map of all the eligible census tracts. She said that development in the current Enterprise Zone saw 10 major developments; however, not all took advantage of the Enterprise Zone. She explained the property taxes generated by the various Enterprise Zone properties and said the City gets a lot more tax dollars. She added that the Enterprise Zone is making things better.

Ms. Church described the Sunset Clause. The next step is to move this to the State.

Ms. Young said they have to be mindful of how they are expanding in the City. She said they are talking about growth and improvements, but that is a form of gentrification.

Attorney Brian Candela reviewed a map and said it will be available at the Department of Economic and Community Development. He noted that most of the sections in chapter 36 were changed to mirror the State Statute.

Mr. Kydes said he learned a lot from the South Norwalk Enterprise Zone. He noted that a lot of these developments would not have moved forward without the Enterprise Zone initiative. He said he hopes this will spark activity in the Wall Street area.

Ms. Smyth said they need incentives to establish quality development. She noted that gentrification is going on and they need to be sensitive to that. She said they need to take care of the citizens and continue to provide affordable housing.

Mr. Heuvelman said that Enterprise Zones are instruments that can be used for growth, but noted they need to be aware of gentrification where people are being pushed out. Mayor Rilling said he was very confident in the Zoning Commission and the Common Council and that will be one of the things, first and foremost when they vote on items such as these.

Mayor Rilling said the Enterprise Zone does not add one penny of tax to the Norwalk taxpayer. It is an incentive and the developer will be paying a larger percentage of taxes than the current property owner.

**** MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (MR. BURNETT; MS. JOHNSON; MR. LANGELLA; MR. SACCHINELLI; MS. SMYTH; MR. HEUVELMAN; MR. ROBERTS; MS. YOUNG; MR. KYDES; MR. THEODORIDIS; MR. TSIRANIDES; MR. LIVINGSTON; MS. SHANAHAN) AND ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. KEEGAN)**

VIII. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

IX. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

X. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION TO ENACT LEGISLATION PROHIBITING SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET STORES

**** MR. KYDES MOVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

WHEREAS STATE AND FEDERAL INSPECTION REPORTS DOCUMENT THAT CERTAIN PET STORES HAVE OBTAINED PUPPIES FROM COMMERCIAL BREEDERS WITH DEFICIENT ANIMAL WELFARE RECORDS, AND

WHEREAS THE DOCUMENTED ABUSES ENDEMIC TO COMMERCIAL BREEDER INCLUDE OVER-BREEDING; INBREEDING; MINIMAL VETERINARY CARE; LACK OF ADEQUATE FOOD, WATER AND SHELTER, LACK OF SOCIALIZATION, EXERCISE AND ENRICHMENT; AND LACK OF SANITATION; AND

WHEREAS IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE RESIDENTS OF NORWALK TO ENSURE THAT DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS ARE RAISED IN SAFE, HUMANE CONDITIONS, AND KEPT IN SAFE, HUMANE CONDITIONS, AND

WHEREAS AS A RESULT OF IMPROPER COMMERCIAL BREEDING, PET STORE PUPPIES HAVE A HIGHER RISK OF BEING SICK AND HAVING BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

WHEREAS SOME PET STORES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO MISLEAD CONSUMERS AS TO THE ORIGIN OF THE PUPPIES AND KITTENS IN SUCH STORES AND MAKE FALSE HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR GUARANTEES THEREBY CAUSING CONSUMERS TO INCUR HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN VETERINARY BILLS WHILE SUFFERING THE HEARTBREAK OF HAVING THEIR NEWLY ACQUIRED PET SUFFER, AND IN SOME CASES DIE, AND

WHEREAS ACCORDING TO THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PET STORE PUPPIES POSE A HEALTH RISK TO CONSUMERS AS OVER ONE HUNDRED AMERICANS, INCLUDING AT LEAST TWO CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS, HAVE CONTRACTED AN ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANT CAMPYLOBACTER INFECTION FROM CONTACT WITH PET STORE PUPPIES; AND

WHEREAS THERE ARE DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS BEING HELD AT THE NORWALK ANIMAL SHELTER THAT ARE IN NEED OF GOOD HOMES; AND

WHEREAS PROHIBITING PET STORES FROM SELLING DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IS LIKELY TO DECREASE THE DEMAND OF PUPPIES AND KITTENS BRED IN PUPPY AND KITTEN MILLS AND DECREASE THE BURDEN THAT SUCH PUPPIES AND KITTENS THAT END UP IN ANIMAL SHELTERS PLACE ON LOCAL AGENCIES AND TAXPAYERS.

THE NORWALK COMMON COUNCIL RESOLVES AND STRONGLY URGES THAT OUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES BY THIS

RESOLUTION ENACT LEGISLATION THAT PROHIBITS THE SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN PET STORES OR A CLARIFYING PROVISION STATING THAT MUNICIPALITIES HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REGULATE PET STORES IN A MANNER THAT IS MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN STATE LAW.

Mr. Kydes said he hoped to have unanimous support from this Common Council to help protect pets. Ms. Shanahan said the puppy and cat mills are horrendous.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. HEUVELMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned by voice vote at 9:11 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Donna King, City Clerk