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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 Deanna D'Amore at ddamore@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

**HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
AUGUST 27, 2020 AT 7:00PM.
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Nick Sacchinelli, Chairman; Dominique Johnson; Thomas Keegan; Lisa Shanahan; George Tsiranides; Manny Langella; Greg Burnett

STAFF: Deanna D'Amore, Director of Health; Deputy Chief Zecca, Norwalk Police Department; Lt. Arthur Weisgerber, Norwalk Police Department; Lt. Thomas Roncinske

I. WELCOME - ROLL CALL

Mr. Sacchinelli called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and stated that the above members were in attendance and there was a quorum present.

II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

****MR. TSIRINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE UNDER THE FY 2020 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,741.00

1B. AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF, THOMAS E. KULHAWIK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ALL PROGRAMS THROUGH THE FY 2020 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.

**** MR. TSIRINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1A AND 1B.**

Lieutenant Roncinske said that they are applying for the JAG grant which is used for selective enforcement and for overtime related to violent crimes in city. There have been some issues in the past where the information from ICE was going to be transferred but there is presently an injunction on that type of action, and the law department is currently reviewing that but optimistically speaking they will not have to participate in that particular section of the program to accept the grants but they are waiting for the law departments ruling on that. Mr. Sacchinelli said if they find that ICE information is necessary to complete the grant would they have the ability to withdraw the application. Lieutenant Roncinske said "yes".

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACCEPT AND IMPLEMENTS THE LIVESCAN DEVICE TRANSFER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION AND THE NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT.

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

Deputy Chief Zecca said this is related to their fingerprint system and it has moved to a different vendor and they will be providing them with a new machine. Lieutenant Weisgerber said that the State of Connecticut Commissioner of State Police runs the fingerprint system for all police departments. He said they had a previous vendor for over the past 20 years and the State has ended the contract with them and have contacted with a new company who is used by nine other states as well as the TSA. He said all of the machines are being replaced at no cost to the police departments but there will be minimal costs for the annual maintenance. Mr. Sacchinelli asked if this is the same system that is used for public services. Lieutenant Weisgerber said at this point they are not connected electronically through the state to submit those and that is why they give the fingerprint cards out and they also have a desktop system for the public which will also be replaced at no cost. Mr. Tsirinides asked if there will be any lag time when the system gets replaced. Lieutenant Weisgerber said “no” and the machines will be delivered sometime in September or October and they have already set up the new ports for the IP addresses for the new machines and the printers and will do the testing while using both systems and are hoping to go live on February 1, 2021.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UNDER THE FISCAL YEAR 20/21 DISTRACTED DRIVING HIGH VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$ 50,000.

3A. AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF THOMAS E. KULHAWIK TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT ANY AND ALL PROGRAMS DUE TO FISCAL YEAR 20/21

DISTRACTED DRIVING HIGH VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT GRANT PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 3 AND 3A.**

Lieutenant Roncinske said unfortunately with the pandemic they have put out the grant to be applied for yesterday and is due back by September 8, 2020, so they will be working on it tomorrow to meet that deadline. He said the amount increased approximately by \$4,000 from what they had received last year and funds will be used to do selective enforcement for cell phone usage and distracted driving. Lieutenant Roncinske provided an overview of the program and said that it has been a successful program.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion Item

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. Grant Funding for Enhanced Detection, Response, Surveillance and Prevention of COVID-19.

Ms. D'Amore provided an update and said the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health submitted a funding application to the CDC related to COVID-19 and they have allocated \$20 million dollars of funding for local health departments and districts across the state and there are 65 in total. She said Norwalk's funding application would be \$493,298 to the Norwalk Health Department for their efforts and will be over a 30 month time period. She said a lot of the health departments will be allocating the funding towards getting epidemiologist on staff, but they were fortunate to have the Mayor and city support for a temporary epidemiologist position that is for six months and are hoping to use this funding to extend that. She said that this has demonstrated the importance of having an epidemiologist on staff because it is a critical function of public health so she is excited that they will be receiving this funding and will be putting in their proposal to the State of Connecticut to support that effort as well as contract tracing. Mr. Tsirinides asked if there is a cure for Covid-19 in the near future what would happen to the grant funding. Ms. D'Amore said the stipulations for the grant is that they can carryover between the years so they can adjust as needed. Ms. Johnson asked if the breakdown of the data on the cases of Covid-19 will be part of the scope of work. Ms. D'Amore said "yes" and asked that the committee keep any ideas they have in mind of different analysis that they are interested in seeing and let her know because they will have someone that will be able to do it for them.

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDING FOR THE ENHANCED DETECTION RESPONSE SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19 FUNDING FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Sacchinelli provided an update and said they had a discussion with Chief Kulhawik and Chief Gatto regarding a new cadence that will be starting at the September meeting regarding updates to the committee regarding any type of public safety items that ultimately the committee should be aware of. He said it will be a two way discussion to ultimately be able to pass the information on to their constituents regarding the good work the emergency services departments are doing.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ADJOURN
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd