

***Common Council Actions***

**NOVEMBER 9, 2005**

**NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 8:00PM EST, COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
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.**

Mayor Knopp opened the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL**

The following Councilmember were present:

Kenneth Baker Lee Levey Carvin Hilliard (8:15 p.m.)  
Michael Coffey Fred Bondi  
Jeannette Olmstead-Sawyer Kevin Poruban  
Douglas Sutton Douglas Hempstead  
Peter Wien Phyllis Bolden  
William Krummel Betsy Bain  
Richard McQuaid

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. REGULAR MEETING – October 25, 2005**

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**

The following corrections were made to the minutes.

Page 12: fifth paragraph – last sentence should read: There is a hardship on the property owners and business owners when property is take whether for public use or economic development.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. David Davidson spoke about the contract between the teachers and the Board of Education.

Ms. Karen Doyle Lyons spoke about her husband's termination from the Department of Public Works department.

#### IV. MAYOR

##### A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

There were no resignations or appointments announced this evening.

##### B. MAYORS REMARKS

Mayor Knopp expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the Mayor for the City of Norwalk. Mayor Knopp outlined the improvements made during his administration. He said that this is the first time in a number of years where the City has a divided government, as voted upon by both sides. He said that both parties will need to find common ground.

Mr. Hilliard arrived at 8:15 p.m.

Mayor Knopp thanked all of the Councilmembers for the courtesy they have shown him. As a token of his appreciation he presented gifts (cufflinks and pins) to all of the Councilmembers.

Mayor Knopp received a round of applause and a standing ovation from all of the Councilmembers. Mayor Knopp also acknowledged City Attorney Lou Ciccarello and City Clerk Pam Stark.

#### V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

##### A. CONSENT CALENDAR

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR:

#### VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

2. Authorization to Settle Claim: DSA Services, Inc.

##### B. NORWALK FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

1a. Rescind Common Council action of November 23, 2004, Item VI.A.8. which authorized the following:

“Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue purchase order(s) to Village Office Supply for the purchase of Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) for the

Brien McMahon High School/Center for Global Studies Improvement Project for a total not to exceed \$34,445.75. Acct. #0902/03/04 5010 5777 C0237.”

1b. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue an amendment to the purchase order(s) to School Specialties for the purchase of Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) for the Brien McMahon High School/Center for Global Studies Improvement Project for a total not to exceed \$38,357.27. Acct. # 0902/03/04 5010 5777 C0237

2a. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute a contract with West End Movers for moving services at Brien McMahon High School for a total amount not to exceed \$47,507.00. Acct. # 0902/03/04 5010 5777 C0237

2b. Authorize the NFCC to issue change orders on contract for a total not to exceed \$4,750.00.

## VII. COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEES

### A. PUBIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. Approve the Proposed Fee Change for Residential Batteries.

2. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute an Agreement and any and all documents with the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for State Project No. 102-303, Federal-Aid Project No. BRX-1102 (105), Replacement of Bridge No. 1664 on Route 123, in connection with the Installation of an Emergency Vehicle Pre-Emption System (EVPS) Equipment and a demand payment of a sum not to exceed \$800.00. Acct. # 0900 4120 5777 CO125

### B. PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

1a. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to apply for funds with the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management for Program funding.

1b. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute any and all agreements and instruments necessary to implement Emergency Management Program funding.

2. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute a memorandum of agreement with the local chapter of the American Red Cross for shelter management

## IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

### A. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Tabled at the October 25, 2005 meeting.

1a. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute an Agreement with the Lowest Responsible Bidder, for Project No. TRF 2005-1, Proposed Traffic Signal US Route 7 at Foxboro Drive, for a sum not to exceed \$396,751.65.

1b. Authorize the Director of Public Works to issue orders on Contract to the Lowest Responsible Bidder, for Project No. TRF 2005-1, Proposed Traffic Signal US Route 7 at Foxboro Drive, for a sum not to exceed \$20,000.00. Acct. # 0904 4120 5777 C0284

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **B. OTHER GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO CALL A SPECIAL MEETING TO REVIEW THE TEACHERS CONTRACT**

Mayor Knopp said that under the Treaty, the Mayor calls the special meeting. He added that he assumed that it had to occur by Friday, with 24-hours notice.

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NORWALK COMMON COUNCIL ON THURSDAY AT 9:00 P.M.**

Mr. Hempstead suggested that if they run into notice questions they could suspend the rules to add the item to the agenda.

Mayor Knopp agreed.

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

Mr. Krummel asked if the back up materials would be provided.

Mayor Knopp replied that if the motion was approved, they would have the information.

Mr. Krummel asked if they could require a responsible member of the Board of Education to be present at that meeting. Mayor Knopp said that he would convey that request on behalf of the Common Council.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. BAIN)**

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO ADD THE TEACHERS CONTRACT TO THE AGENDA**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. MCQUAID)**

**\*\* MR. HILLIARD MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM TO THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2005 AT 9:00 P.M.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. MCQUAID)**

\*\* MS. BAIN MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM

3. Authorize the Mayor, Alex A. Knopp, to execute all agreements and instruments necessary to implement the Fairfield County Business Alerting System within the City of Norwalk.

Ms. Bain explained that this was an important step in being better prepared.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

#### VIII. RESOLUTION FROM COMMON COUNCIL

Mr. Bondi said that it was his pleasure to introduce the following initiative with Mr. McQuaid and he urged everyone's support.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT FRED BONDI AND  
MINORITY LEADER RICHARD MCQUAID AT THE REQUEST OF MAYOR ALEX  
KNOPP

Resolution endorsing Norwalk's Participation in Hurricane Katrina "Adopt A City"  
Relief Initiative.

RESOLVED, that the City of Norwalk as part of its effort to help communities devastated by Hurricane Katrina, agrees to participate in the "Adopt A City" initiative sponsored by the United States Conference of Mayors and the National Conference of Black Mayors and looks forward to assisting the municipality of Long Beach, Mississippi, and its residents in their recovery efforts.

Mayor Knopp further explained the initiative and said that the idea of this project is to develop a way to sustain relationships with the City of Long Beach. He added that Long Beach had been adopted by two cities in Florida; however, they were impacted by Hurricane Wilma.

Mr. McQuaid said that he applauded Mayor Knopp for this initiative. Mr. Baker offered support from AmeriCares. Ms. Bolden applauded the initiative and said that she felt that it would raise the sense of civic duties in the hearts and minds of the children in Norwalk.

Mr. Krummel said that this was a good initiative and asked for information about the municipality of Long Beach. Mayor Knopp provided statistic and said because their city hall was flooded during the hurricane, the City Hall staff are working out of the Police Department. Mayor Knopp said that their city website has been down since the hurricane.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The Common Council will recess until 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, at which time they will discuss the teachers' contract. Mayor Knopp said that he would be present during the open meeting, but since his wife is a teacher in the Norwalk school system, he would not participate. Mr. Bondi will run the meeting.

Mr. Hempstead added that his wife is also a teacher in the Norwalk school system and he would not attend. Mr. Hempstead thanked Mayor Knopp for his service to the city and state. He wished him luck and said that he knew that he would not stay idle for more than 24 hours.

Mr. McQuaid said that he would not be present at the meeting because he works for the Board of Education. He extended his best wishes to Mayor Knopp and thanked him for all that he did for the City of Norwalk. Mr. McQuaid expressed gratitude to Mayor Knopp for the hand he extended when his daughter was ill.

Mr. Bondi thanked Mayor Knopp for running the Common Council for the past four years. He said that he did a fantastic job and the City is better for it four years later.

Mr. Bondi thanked Mr. Wien, who would not be returning. He thanked Mr. Poruban, his sidekick. He said that he was sorry to lose him and he would truly be missed. He said that he couldn't ask more from someone.

Mr. Bondi thanked Mr. Baker and wished him luck. He also thanked Mr. Levy, noting that he was on the Council for only a short time and said that he would have done a great job if he had been elected. Mr. Bondi thanked Ms. Bain and said that she did a great job. He said that they sometimes did not agree, but she had the City at heart.

Mr. Bondi thanked Ms. Stark and Attorney Ciccarello and said that they would be truly missed.

## VI. REPORTS: DEPARTMENTS, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS (continued)

### A. CORPORATION COUNSEL EXECUTIVE SESSION

\*\* MR. PORUBAN MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:45 P.M.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Approve the appointment of Saranne P. Murray of Shipman & Goodman, LLP of Hartford as Special Counsel for the purpose of handling the following matters relating to Daniel Lyons re his termination from City employment: Labor Grievance; Commission on Human Rights & Opportunities Complaint, potential State and Federal litigation claims.

The Councilmembers came out of Executive Session at 8:56. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM

\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. HEMPSTEAD)  
AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. MCQUAID)

#### IX. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

There were none.

#### X. RECESS

The meeting was recessed to November 10, 2005.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Pam Stark, City Clerk

