

**CITY OF NORWALK
FINANCE/CLAIMS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 12, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Greg Burnett, Chair; David Heuvelman, Tom Keegan, John Kydes, Diana Revolus (7:02 p.m)

STAFF: Lisa Biagarelli, Tax Collector; Henry Dachowitz, Finance Director

OTHERS: Michael DePalma, Oak Hill Authority; Albert Bass, Assistant Fire Chief; David Hopp, Director of Technology; Darin Callahan, Corporation Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burnett called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Burnett called the roll. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Burnett said no written correspondence was received and thus there was no public participation.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 8, 2021

**** MR. HEUVELMAN MADE A MOTION TO MOVE THE MINUTES**

Mr. Burnett noted one correction on Page 5, change randomware to “ransomware”

**** MOTION TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REQUEST TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE LEGAL OPINION OF ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL DARIN L. CALLAHAN DATED JUNE

10, 2021 CONCERNING OAK HILLS PARK VENDORS PURSUANT TO CONN GEN. STAT SECTIONS 1-200(6) and 1-10-(B)(10)

**** MS. REVOLUS MADE A MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**** MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Burnett reopened the meeting at 8:01 p.m and noted no action was taken and no votes were taken during Executive Session.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE RECEIVE THE MONTH CLAIMS REPORT DATED AUGUST 12, 2021

Ms. Biagarelli said the report was for informational purposes only and no votes needed to be taken.

NARRATIVE ON TAX COLLETIONS AUGUST 12, 2021

Ms. Biagarelli said there are two spreadsheets because they were operating on two fiscal years. She said they are at 99.09% for the old year and at 43.5% for the current year.

Ms. Biagarelli went on to talk about the tax sale which has been pushed off to the third Monday in October (October 18). She said it is typically 10 to 20 properties on the day of the sale.

Mr. Burnett said he wanted to send a shout out to her and her team due to the 99% collection rate.

She said thank you and explained this is good for all of the taxpayers of Norwalk by keeping taxes down.

RECEIVE OAK HILLS MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR JUNE 2021

Mr. DePalma said June was a great month and rounds continue to go up.

RECEIVE OAK HILLS AUTHORITY FY2022 BUDGET

He said the budget includes a continuous cart path and some bids are in that came in under budget. Mr. DePalma said they are also looking into golf simulators.

ITEM 11 WAS REMOVED

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute any and all agreements and other document necessary to apply for and accept the grant award of \$50,818.18 from the FY 2020 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, funds to be used for physical fitness and equipment to enhance firefighter healthy and safety. City Match Responsibility 10% of Grant Award. Account No. 013120-5269.

MS. REVOLUS MOVED THE ITEM.

Assistant Chief Bass said health and safety is a top priority and is a competitive grant. He said the goal is to replace maintenance equipment that is end the end of its life. Assistant Chief Bass said we did not want to purchase any additional maintenance contracts.

Mr. Heuvelman asked which stations will get the equipment. Assistant Chief Bass said it will go to replace equipment at all five stations.

Mr. Burnett asked if any dollars were set aside for wellness. Assistant Chief Bass said the grant is just for physical fitness equipment. He said there is already a wellness program in place.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AND WILL BE MOVED TO THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 14**

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute a contract amendment between City of Norwalk and Advanced Corporate Network, INC., d/b/a/ Digital Back Office (“ACN”) to authorize the addition of a new location at 1 Park Street, Norwalk, CT. The parties agree to the addition of 1 10 GIGE Managed Optimal Ethernet Services at the following service location circuit 1 1) City Hall, 125 East Avenue 2) 1 Park Street with a monthly recurring fee of \$1,536.00 paid for by the Board of Education from expense account #2ES28400-430-58

MS. REVOLUS MOVED THE ITEM.

Mr. Hopp said the public schools are looking to lease the new Park Street location as a new family center for bringing in new enrollments and family engagements.

Ms. Revolus said this is a program that could have been for the school Briggs. She added she was wondering about the sustainably because this was dropped in the past.

Mr. Hopp said Dr. Estrella is very committed to the project.

Mr. Burnett asked if this is going to happen this coming school year. Mr. Hopp said the plan is moving forward and the goal is to have people in the building at 1 Park Street by the beginning of September.

Mr. Keegan asked if more money will need to be appropriated. Mr. Hopp said he could not answer because he is only working on networking and infrastructure. Mr. Keegan said he is not comfortable voting without knowing more about appropriations.

Mr. Burnett said we are not approving the funding but the actual project.

Mr. Dachowitz said the Board of Education will give the schools money. The schools need the contract amended because this is a new location on the network.

Mr. Heuvelman said he recalled the Briggs renovation request that did not go forward.

Mr. Burnett said he could reach out to the Finance Committee of the Board of Education if they would be open to share the plans for 1 Park Place. He added they might be in the space by then. Mr. Heuvelman said he would welcome that and speaking to Mr. Livingston who chairs the Land Use Committee.

**** MR. KEEGAN MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE ITEM UNTIL THE
SEPTEMBER MEETING
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. REVOLUS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Venuto
Telesco Secretarial Services