

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
July 5, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Barbara Smyth, Chairwoman; Tom Livingston; Darlene Young, Dominique Johnson; Nore Niedzielski-Eichner

STAFF: Anthony Carr, Chief of Operations and Public Works; Vanessa Valadares, Principal Engineer; Chris Torre, Superintendent of Operations; Michael Yeosock, Principal Engineer; Paul Sotnik, Senior Civil Engineer; Drew Berndlmaier, Senior Civil Engineer; Fred Eshraghi, Traffic Analyst

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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 Monique Cipriano at to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

Chairwoman Smyth called the meeting to order at 7:17p.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Smyth called the Roll: Tom Livingston Darlene Young Dominique Johnson
Nora Niedzielski-Eichner Barbara Smyth

At Roll Call there were five (5) Committee members present. Lisa Shanahan was not present. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC INPUT

PUBLIC INPUT (GUESTS AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS MAY SPEAK TO ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA. COMMENTS SHALL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN THREE (3) MINUTES PER SPEAKER.)

There was no public input.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022.**

There was no report on this item.

****MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE ITEM
**MS. JOHNSON AND MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER ABSTAINED
**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TWO
ABSTENSTIONS**

Items 2 and 3 were read together by Chairwoman Smyth.

- 2. ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST FOR THE HONORARY NAMING OF TRINITY PLACE TO BISHOP JOSEPH D. CLEMMONS, SR. DRIVE.**
- 3. SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE HONORARY NAMING OF TRINITY PLACE TO BISHOP JOSEPH D. CLEMMONS, SR. DRIVE. THE PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ORDER TO HEAR ALL PARTIES INTERESTED IN COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSED HONORARY STREET NAMING AND TO TAKE SUCH ACTION ON SAID NAMING THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY DEEM ADVISABLE. THE PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M. BY WAY OF VIDEOCONFERENCE/TELECONFERENCE.**

Chairwoman Smyth gave a brief overview of the request.

Mr. Carr added that Bishop Joseph D. Clemmons, Sr. is still alive. He stated if a person is still living and the Common Council determines the person deserves the honor, there must be a two-thirds-majority plus one (11 votes) of the Common Council for approval.

Mr. Livingston asked if they are just putting up an honorary plaque under the street sign. He stated that the individual seems really impressive and noted that they normally don't do that for living individuals.

Mr. Carr answered yes it would be the blue and white plaque like they have done elsewhere. He said the Committee would acknowledge receipt of the application and schedule a public hearing. They would also ask for the individual to speak or someone on their behalf to speak at the public hearing.

Ms. Young commented that she is really glad that they are moving forward with this and thanks whomever brought this forward. She had the pleasure of meeting Reverend Clemmons and his wife before he became Bishop. She feels it is a well-deserved acknowledgment.

****MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH M&J ENGINEERING P.C., TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND INSPECTION SERVICE FOR TMP, PHASE 4 TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE & DMS INSTALLATION, PROJECT NUMBER #102-360, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$246,650.00.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 22 4120 5777 C0232

Mr. Yeosock reported on this. He gave the Committee a snapshot of what they were doing. A discussion ensued about the upgrade and a question was asked about cameras. There are cameras and it will continue to have them.

Ms. Young asked if there will be cameras at other high traffic locations.

Mr. Yeosock stated that they do have cameras, but they are not recording because the State does not allow them.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner asked about the bids and the lack of information they received. She wanted to know if that is sufficient information to make a decision with the backup that was provided.

Ms. Valadares replied that this was an RFP, request for proposal instead of a bid. Once they receive the blessing from the Purchasing Agent, they will then go before the Committee for approval.

Mr. Livingston added that this is not uncommon.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner said that it seems a little short of information for them to be able to pass along with such a large amount of money when often they receive much more information for way less money.

Mr. Yeosock explained to the Committee that they advertised a price and used a point system developed by the Purchasing Department along with an interview. He said in addition to being the lowest bidding firm they were also they highest scoring firm. He offered to provide that information to the Committee.

Ms. Valadares stated that the grading points are never shared, and she has a concern about that. She said that it is unfair to the other companies. She explained the grading process to the Committee.

Mr. Carr agreed with Ms. Valadares and stated that they will provide more information in the future.

****MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES FOR STATE PROJECT 102-350 NORWALK RIVER VALLEY TRAIL PHASE 2 FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,500.00.**

ACCOUNT NO. 09 22 3750 5777 C0777

Mr. Yeosock reported on this. He said there has been some delays in this project because they found underground utilities that weren't mapped very well and so they had to make adjustments.

****MS. JOHNSON MOVED THE ITEM**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Item 6 was amended from the original agenda, and Chairwoman Smyth read the following Item as amended.

6. **AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE AN ON-CALL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND ALMSTEAD TREE & SHRUB CARE COMPANY LLC AND MINUTEMEN LAND SERVICES, LLC FOR THE SUPPLY AND PLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS. TASK ORDERS NOT TO EXCEED \$700,000.00 IN THE AGGREGATE BETWEEN THE TWO (2) COMPANIES.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 13 4010 5796 APW08
13 3710 5796 AEC18**

Mr. Carr reported on this. He explained what the ARPA accounts are and the reason for the two (2) companies.

Mr. Livingston asked exactly what is being approved.

Ms. Valadares answered since they have ARPA funds, they have not requested any capital funds to cover this project. The two (2) ARPA accounts are for Public Works and Economic Development which they combined. They have until June 2024 to spend all the funds. She informed them that they used the same RFP that was used for Almstead's original contract. Due to the value of the original contract, they could not amend that contract because of the value which was the reason for the RFP. She explained the process to the Committee.

Mr. Livingston asked a question about watering not being done enough.

Ms. Valadares responded that some of the trees were planted on private property that was for a beautification project has an agreement with the property owner that accepted the tree to be planted, would water those trees and that is the problem they have been having. If the tree is in the ROW, they would water it.

Mr. Livingston said he would like to see the RFP before he approves anything. He doesn't feel he has any information on this. He is really concerned about the water.

Mr. Sotnik stated that watering is in the RFP. He explained how the watering works in the RFP.

Mr. Livingston said he would advance it to Council, but he wants to see the RFP before he votes on it.

Ms. Valadares said all RFP's is on the website for all to see.

Ms. Young said perhaps if they were given a summary of the specifics of what they are voting on instead of the RFP should suffice.

Ms. Niedzielski-Eichner asked if they could include the link so they can review it.

Ms. Valadares said they will try to put the link on the memo for the Committee. She said there are different committees that review the budget internally prior to it being approved so there is the oversight. She explained the budgeting process for capital budget funding.

****MS. NIEDZIELSKI-EICHNER MOVED ITEM AS AMENDED
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- 7. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE APRIL 13, 2021 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND THE GRASSO COMPANIES, LLC. FOR PROJECT PM2021-1 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$3,400,000.00.**

**ACCOUNT NO. 09 23 4021 5777 C0318
 09 23 4021 5777 C0302
 09 23 4021 5777 C0021
 09 23 4120 5777 C0649
 03 00 00 2602**

Mr. Carr reported on this. He said it is a contractual change based on the scope of work which is the dollar value. Not to be confused with a contract extension. He explained the process and gave an update of the progress made thus far.

****CHAIRWOMAN SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairwoman Smyth announced that the Honorary Street Naming for Chief Sanford Anderson will be this Friday at 1:00pm at the corner of Raymond and Water Street.

Information / Discussion

- A. Discussion**
1. Project Status

- Rowayton Avenue Bridge Replacement
Mr. Carr reported that the bridge is now open for vehicular two-way traffic. The project is not complete as of yet. There are punch list items left to resolve.
- Paving, Curbs & Sidewalks Project
Mr. Carr reported on this. He updated the Committee on the schedule for paving, curbs and sidewalks.

A discussion ensued about street sweeping and garbage pickup in South Norwalk. The streets are swept in the SoNo Business District every Monday morning between April 1st through November 30th. Mr. Carr shared his screen depicting the street sweeping map for the City of Norwalk. He discussed other areas that are swept along with the dates and timeframe. There was a concern about getting the cars off the street without towing so they can street sweep. The Committee began to discuss possible alternatives to towing and utilizing communication factors in its place. A discussion of City-wide garbage collection in the Fourth District began.

B. Tree Operations and Programming

Mr. Carr went over the report with the Committee. There were three (3) new trees planted since last month.

C. Monthly Solid Waste Report – May 2022

Mr. Carr went over the report with the Committee. More educational outreach was discussed to inform the residents on what is recyclable.

D. Food Scrap Drop-Off Report – May 2022

Mr. Carr went over the report with the Committee.

Chairwoman Smyth made an announcement to anyone watching regarding public input. She said if anyone wanted to join public participation and were not able to, she asked that they send an email to her and the entire Committee with any comments and they will be placed into the record.

Adjournment: Ms. Johnson motioned to adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 9:07p.m.

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, August 2, 2022**
Public Works Committee
7:00 P.M. Location TBD