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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 Maritza Alvarado at malvarado@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

**CITY OF NORWALK
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE
JUNE 2, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: John Kydes, Chair; David Heuvelman; Thomas Keegan;
Thomas Livingston; Lisa Shanahan; Barbara Smyth;
Darlene Young

STAFF: Sabrina Church, Director Business Development and Tourism;
Stephen Kleppin, Director of Planning and Zoning; Jessica
Vonashek, Chief of Economic and Community Development

OTHERS: Nora Niedzielski Eichner, Common Council member; Brian
Bidoli, Executive Director and Katie O'Leary, Norwalk
Redevelopment Agency; Tod Kallenbach, DKA

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kydes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Kydes called the Roll as indicated above.

Mr. Bidoli gave an overview of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. He added that the second public hearing is for the CDBG where they outline all of the spending. The good news is that they were able to accommodate everyone's top choice, but there was a 22% reduction.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT PROGRAM

<https://www.norwalkct.org/1709/Neighborhood-Assistance-Act-Tax-Credit-P>

Mr. Kydes opened the public hearing. There were no members of the public who wished to speak and he closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022-2023 CDBG ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

<https://www.norwalkct.org/1412/Community-Development-Block-Grant>

Mr. Kydes opened the public hearing. There were no members of the public who wished to speak and he closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to comment this evening.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the Minutes of May 5, 2022 Meeting.

The following correction was made to the minutes.

Add Mr. Livingston's name as an attendee.

Economic and Community Development Committee
Regular Meeting
Via Teleconference
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**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED
** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. HEUVELMAN)**

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. PLANNING AND ZONING

1. Review of the Industrial Zone Study.

Mr. Kleppin gave a PowerPoint presentation. He said they went through the concerns, based on conversations and made changes that reflected the comments and concerns. He recommended changing the zoning on the new South Norwalk school site and the parcel below to D-Residence.

Mr. Kleppin presented the neighborhood business uses for as of right uses and special permit uses.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said that she and others have concerns about the South Norwalk school site. Mr. Kleppin said there has been a lot of discussion and said he is very respectful of the District B representatives and holds them in high regard. Ms. Young thanked Ms. Niedzielski Eichner for voicing her concerns. She said they have been talking about this and everyone knows her and Ms. Revolus' position on this. She said they need to have a conversation with the consultants about the issue. Mr. Kydes said that will take place next week. Ms. Young encourage all members of the Common Council to hear what the consultants have to say.

Ms. Smyth said that she understands how complicated this is, but with the announcement of the school, a lot of them are committed to making this a good community minded school. She asked for a second look to be sensitive to the concerns. Ms. Young said they need to find a solution. It needs to be intentional and ensures all of the children have a safe route to school. Mr. Kydes said he hopes they find a way through this.

B. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

**** MR. KEEGAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS TO RENEW THE CONTRACT FOR MARKETING SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND DORENBURG KALLENBACH ADVERTISING, LLC FOR ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000).
ACCT: 01-37-80 5258**

Mr. Kallenbach gave a presentation of the marketing campaign and their social and digital strategies. Mr. Heuvelman asked if they get feedback about where people go and if they get feedback from the business owners. Mr. Kallenbach said they can pinpoint specific attractions and he and the staff work with the businesses.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

C. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND METICULOUS LANDSCAPING NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$180,000) EVERY YEAR FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS.**

ACCT: 0923-3720-5777-C0806

ACCT: 0922-3710-5777-C0703

ACCT: 01-37-20-5258

Ms. Vonashek reviewed the request and said that the current contract with Meticulous Landscaping expires at the end of the month. An RFP was posted for a new contract and they received one response and that was from Meticulous. She reviewed the details of the contract. Mr. Kydes commented that having only one respondent is a concern.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO AMEND THE CONTRACT TO ONE (1) YEAR INSTEAD OF THREE (3) YEARS**

Ms. Vonashek said the scope of work has increased and the cost increase is justified. She added that they have done a very good job.

Mr. Livingston said this is a contractor who has done a good job and is asking for a three-year contract. He said he will not support the amendment.

Ms. Young said the lack of response might stem from prior experience with the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency. She said that minority business owners had negative experiences with them and that may be why there were no other responses. There had been negative responses between the local business owners and the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency.

Ms. Vonashek said the RFP went out in early May and was up for three weeks. Mr. Heuvelman noted that this is late in the season for a landscaper.

**** THE AMENDMENT FAILED**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. KYDES)**

D. REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

**** MR. HEUVELMAN MOVED TO ADVANCE THE SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR THEIR APPROVAL AT THE JUNE 14, 2022 COMMON COUNCIL MEETING FOR THEIR INCLUSION IN THE 2022 CONNECTICUT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT PROGRAM.**

Ms. O’Leary described the tax credit program and said they received 20 applications this year.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ADVANCE THE FINAL CDBG PY48 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (AAP) TO THE COMMON COUNCIL FOR ITS APPROVAL AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE PY48 AAP TO HUD AND ALL DOCUMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE APPROVED PY48 AAP.**

It was noted that this was a little delayed due to HUD not releasing the fund allocation. Any public comment will be presented at the June 28th meeting of the Common Council.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

III. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Vonashek said that as part of the MLK Corridor project, cameras were installed to monitor areas of high dumping.

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO A POLE AGREEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS WITH EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Vonashek said there are a lot of cameras already installed on SNEW poles, but they will work with Eversource to get the cameras up quickly.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services