

**CITY OF NORWALK
PLANNING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Rev. Phyllis Bolden, Chair; Amanda Brown; Douglas Hempstead;
Kelly Straniti

STAFF: Tim Sheehan, Executive Director; Tom Hamilton, Finance
Director

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Bolden called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rev. Bolden asked three times if there were any members of the public who wished to speak. Hearing none, she closed the public participation portion of the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF 2009-2010 NORWALK CAPITAL BUDGET

Mr. Hamilton explained that this was the final phase of the adoption of the capital budget, before being moved to the full Common Council for approval by April 15th. Mr. Hamilton explained the changes that were made to the budget.

Mr. Hempstead asked about the stimulus funds being used for road paving. Mr. Hamilton explained that the stimulus funds would supplement the capital budget. He said that the capital budget is separate and apart from that funding. Mr. Hempstead asked if there are any other stimulus funds that are associated with other capital projects. Mr. Hamilton said that they are going to receive funding for energy related projects, such as alternative energy projects. He said that he believes the Mayor is interested in using the funds for energy conservation in City buildings.

Mr. Hempstead said that he would like to see funding to ensure that all park and school playgrounds are as up to date as possible. Mr. Hempstead asked Mr. Hamilton if he could provide an analysis of where the stimulus money will go. Mr. Hempstead said that he would also like to see funding added to purchase open space.

Ms. Straniti asked Mr. Hamilton is there is room to add more funding for sidewalks. Mr. Hamilton said that they could agree to spend more money, but the question is what should be reduced or eliminated to fund the sidewalks; the final decision rests with the Common Council.

Rev. Bolden noted that the sidewalks in Norwalk are in poor shape and are worth attention.

Ms. Straniti asked about the \$50,000 in the Planning and Zoning budget. Mr. Hamilton explained that the intent of the request would be to study areas that are missing sidewalks or have inadequate sidewalks.

Ms. Brown said that she was concerned about the inability to build a new firehouse. Ms. Straniti suggested taking \$50,000 from the bikeway planning and re-allocate that to the sidewalk study. She noted that it would come from the same department. Mr. Sheehan explained that the bikeway has been a long-term project and this is a new piece of the bikeway.

**** MS. STRANITI MOVED THE 2009-2010 CAPITAL BUDGET TO THE
FULL COMMON COUNCIL
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services