

***CITY OF NORWALK HEALTH, WELFARE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE***

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HEALTH, WELFARE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
APRIL 24, 2008**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Geake, Chairman; Richard McQuaid; Steve Serasis; Laurel Lindstrom.

STAFF: Tim Callahan, Health Department Director; Chief Harry Rilling & Frank Favano, Police Department; Chief Dennis McCarthy & Michelle DeLuca, Fire Department; Linda Wilock, Youth Services.

OTHERS: Diane Lauricella; Mary Geake; Susie Davis.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MARCH 27, 2008

Mr. McQuaid said that Mr. Kydes cannot make a motion or vote via a conference call; he must be at the meeting. The Chairman said that he contacted the Freedom of Information Commission and was told that it is allowed.

\*\* MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS DISTRIBUTED.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susie Davis said she lives close to where the old Norwalk Barrel Company was located. This Committee should be aware that they are concerned about their safety because barrels were buried there. They want to make sure nothing leaches out. There will be a Public Information meeting with the DEP.

The Chairman said that Platt Street would be discussed under "Other Business".

Ms. Lauricella, representing the League of Women Voters, said that the DEP told them that they have received their petition. They want to work with them to set up a public information session. They would then see if a public hearing takes place. Ms. Lauricella extended her wishes that they work with the Common Council to find a good date and work with the Health Department and other associated departments so that a good date is

chosen. They can ask questions of any other site in the city. GHB has listed 223 brownfield sites. She is on the City's Brownfield Task Force. She disagrees that there is not enough calling to have expert sites. Her letter dated March 27th lists many of the issues and she distributed copies of that letter. She suggested that there be a more rigorous and pro-active approach. This is a serious issue. She is pleased that this Committee has shown interest. There is a need to work with the Mayor's Office, department heads and the Health Department to make sure that this does not fall between the cracks.

Ms. Lauricella said she would like to work with Mr. Callahan, who has tried to meet with the Mayor to obtain funding for an expert. This city should know whether the site owner's consultant is doing a good job. She disagreed with Corporation Counsel Maslan that this Health Department has no authority to take any action. She urged that more interest be shown in this site. There was little interest in the tank farm issue.

Ms. Lauricella distributed copies of the Charter section that says that the Health Department shall investigate complaints about nuisances and the health and welfare of the City. The State public health law gives great power but there has to be political will. This rises to that level. This City should have a qualified consultant. She said she can be called upon at any time. Corporation Counsel Maslan said he can only discuss if the City has authority if asked by this committee, a Council member or a department head.

Ms. Lauricella implored this Committee to move quicker.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES (CONT'D)

JUNE 28, 2007

\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.

\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH 1 VOTE IN FAVOR (MR. MCQUAID) AND 3 ABSTENTIONS.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### BRIEFING ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NORWALK FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ms. DeLuca said in March, they held a program with non-profits and will do a similar program on May 21st for daycares and nursery schools. Before one of the Common Council meetings, they would like to hold a get-together to discuss how they will handle disasters.

The Chairman asked how evacuations would be handled. Chief Rilling said that the Governor has not yet come up with a solution. Chief McCarthy said there are very few incidents that would require a complete city evacuation. They do have a plan for evacuation.

## PA CONSULTANT

Chief McCarthy said they have budgeted \$150,000 over two years to replace the station alerting system in all six of their buildings. Given technology changes on the horizon, it was recommended that they hire a consultant to design the system to anticipate technology changes. The cost will be \$18,000 and will be covered under the original appropriation.

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH INTERTECH ASSOCIATES, INC., FREEHOLD, N.J. TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$18,000.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### CRIME SCENE VAN UPDATE

Chief Rilling said this is a special tactical vehicle. It is a sole source request because this laboratory is the only one that can design it. The money comes from asset forfeiture.

**\*\* MR. SERASIS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT, GERALD FOLEY, TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE ORDER TO UPGRADE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL SERVICE SURVEILLANCE VEN. REFURBISHING WILL BE PERFORMED BY SIRCHIE FINGER PRINT LABORATORIES, THE ORIGINAL OUTFITTER, AS A SOLE SOURCE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,960. ACCOUNT NUMBER 0300002661.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## YOUTH SERVICES

### YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU GRANT

Ms. Wilock said they have had this grant for 30 years.

**\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNDER THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2008-2010 AND TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT A YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU GRANT PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT

Ms. Wilock said this will be the second year of this grant. They are entitled to \$7,550. It is used to partially support the juvenile review board.

**\*\* MR. SERASIS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD. A MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNDER THE YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2008-2010 AND TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT A YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.**

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

## URBAN YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT

Ms. Wilock said they are eligible for a second year of funding. This is implemented primarily by the Norwalk Housing Authority at its learning centers.

**\*\* MR. SERASIS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT UNDER THE URBAN YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2008-2009 AND TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AN URBAN YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO SUCH GRANT FUNDING.**

Mr. Serasis said that Curtis Law is doing a wonderful job working with Ms. Wilock. The learning centers are a positive thing for children. It is much needed and provides initiatives that they children wouldn't normally have.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman said that the energy-saving light bulbs are tremendously toxic. They have to have a policy for disposing of them. Mr. Callahan said this would come under recycling; he will look into it.

**PLATT STREET:** Ms. Lauricella said she wants to have a date that is good for the Common Council. She can work with Mr. Callahan to arrange this. It has to happen in one or two months. Various dates were discussed. May 28th may be a possibility; June 30th is possible for a back-up date.

Ms. Lauricella asked whether the City has authority to review this and have an expert review it. The City has done this before. This body would need to direct Corporation Counsel. The Chairman said he will see if Corporation Counsel Maslan will come to the May meeting to discuss this. Ms. Lindstrom said they would want a sense of the cost. Ms. Lauricella said review would cost \$5,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Foley has a list of qualified companies.

Ms. Davis said she thought that Ms. Lauricella was doing a great job.

Mr. McQuaid said they are having a problem with the corner of Woodward and Meadow Street in terms of drug dealing. He was hoping that the woman who spoke at the Council meeting would come to the meeting tonight to discuss it further, but she did not.

\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO ADJOURN.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco  
Telesco Secretarial Services

