

**CITY OF NORWALK
HEALTH, WELFARE AND
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
JULY 23, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Geake, Chairman; Laurel Lindstrom; Richard McQuaid;
Steven Serasis (7:33 p.m.)

STAFF: Tim Callahan; Darlene Young; Sgt. Susan Holland; Edgar Hendrickson

OTHERS:

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Geake called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present at this time.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A. CT Local Pass-Through Grant Application

Mr. Serasis joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Sgt. Holland explained that the Police Department is looking to spend the \$75,000 grant primarily on outfitting Officers with tasers. Under the grant, approximately \$17,000 will be used to train the Officers in the use of the tasers. In addition funds will be used to purchase tools that can be used to pry open doors in emergency situations, heavy duty vests and scuba gear for new Officers assigned to the scuba team.

Ms. Lindstrom asked if all of the equipment is eligible under the grant. Sgt. Holland said that she did not believe there would be any difficulty in being approved for these items. She said that the taser training will be done in house by in house certified instructors. The City's guidelines will be followed in the procurement of the equipment. Sgt. Holland explained that there is a State contract for the purchase of tasers; there are not a lot of options for tasers.

Mr. McQuaid asked how many tasers the department has not. Sgt. Holland said that she was not sure, but noted that a good portion of Officers carry tasers while on patrol. This will now allow all of the Officers to carry tasers as standard equipment.

Mr. Geake told Sgt. Holland that he loved the cover letter and said that it answered all of the questions.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

PUBLIC COMMENT – CONTINUED

Mr. Edgar Hendrickson, a resident of South Norwalk that he has had a problem with 149 South Main Street, which is in back of his property. He said that he has been having a problem with the Health Department for the last five years. He talked to the Inspector who told him that she would get back to him in two weeks, but he did not hear from her, and he called her back.

Mr. Hendrickson said that he has the same problem every year; it is like a jungle to the back of him. He said that the Health Department should have power to pay someone to clean it up and then put the expense of doing that back on the property owner Mr. Hendrickson said that there is also a problem on Chestnut Street. The City of Norwalk, through the Zoning Department gave permission for a garbage dump to be placed near a school and housing project. He asked if they knew the area when they approved the permit. He said that it is a hazard to the people of Chestnut Street.

Mr. Hendrickson said that he called Hartford and they referred him back to Norwalk. He said that he also tried to contact the Federal government because of the hazard. He said that the garbage dump is not supposed to be located in a residential area. He said that the Health Department has to do more to stop these from coming to South Norwalk.

Mr. Hendrickson said that people do not want to come to South Norwalk. He said that there is no public safety on Chestnut Street. He said that he had hoped when the Police Station moved here, that they would be delivered from all of this. He said that drug dealers and smokers gather on the street near his home, despite the private property signs and being asked to leave. He said that the Police do nothing until they are called. Mr. Hendrickson said that he stopped calling the Police because the drug dealers targeted him and broke windows in his home.

Mr. Hendrickson said that his family stays inside and do not go outside. The Police have done nothing to help him and his family. His taxes have doubled and he said that he lives in the worst area in town. Since he has lived there, two homeless shelters have come into the area. He asked who would want to live there. He said that he and his family have suffered and he wishes it were not so. He said that the people living in the shelter come from all over the place.

Mr. Hendrickson said that he should not have to pay taxes because of the condition of the community. He said that he is trying to raise money to get a lawyer to help him appeal his taxes. He said that he is suffering and his investments (homes) are losing value. He said that he can't find a buyer.

Mr. Callahan asked Mr. Hendrickson for his telephone number and said that he will call him. He said that he is very familiar with 149 South Main Street. He added that there is a lot on Chestnut Street where dumpsters were being stored, but they were cleaned out. Mr. Hendrickson said that he heard a noise up the hill and it was from a dump company out of New Canaan. He said that should not be allowed in a residential area. People want peace and safety; it is not fair. The conditions are terrible. Mr. Callahan promised Mr. Hendrickson that he would call him tomorrow.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

a. Sexually Transmitted Disease Program

Mr. Callahan explained that this is a three-year program for \$13,731 per year. The funds will be used to offset the Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic.

This is a State mandated function. The Clinic charges \$10.00, but does not pursue payment if a client is unable to pay. The Nurses work on the Clinic on Physician's orders.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE FOLLOWING:**

1A. 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 FOR THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2009 TO JUNE 30, 2012

1B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS AS AMY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2009 TO JUNE 30, 2010

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

b. Clinical Software Upgrade

Mr. Callahan explained that the Health Department uses custom designed software provided by the State Health Department. This grant would enable them to buy new software in order to become for efficient. There have been six responses to the RFP. He added that the IT Committee needs to approve this. Mr. Geake requested that the account number and bid amounts be included in the Common Council packet.

Ms. Lindstrom asked where Advanced Business Solutions was located. Mr. Callahan said that they are from San Diego.

**** MR. MCQUAID MOVED THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT TO IT APPROVAL**

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR AMENDMENTS NECESSARY TO ENGAGE ADVANCED BUSINESS SOLUTIONS TO SUPPLY AND SUPPORT THE SOFTWARE FOR THE CLINICAL PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT OT EXCEED \$60,800 FOR A TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD EFFECTIVE ON THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENTS

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 25, 2009

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 3: Last paragraph, first sentence should read – Ms. Lindstrom said that the plan...

Page 4: Last paragraph, third sentence should read – Ms. Lauricella said that there are plenty of consulting firms...

Page 5: Last paragraph, third sentence should read – Ms. Lauricella said that the State would love to have...

**** MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services**