

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich was held January 3, 2017 at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Hinchey, Aldermen Nystrom, Philbrick, Braddock, Gould, Martin and Nash. City Manager Salomone and Corporation Counsel Michael Driscoll were also in attendance. Mayor Hinchey presided.

Ald. Martin read the opening prayer and Ald. Braddock led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon motion of Ald. Braddock, seconded by Ald. Gould, it was unanimously voted to adopt the minutes of December 5 and 19, 2016.

State of the City Address: Mayor Deberey A. Hinchey:

Good evening,

Tonight I present a summary of the year 2016 in the City of Norwich. This State of the City address is an update from the departments in the City signifying a strong team that has accomplished much. No one department works alone and I am pleased that the Norwich team stands together.

I begin by thanking the many people employed in the City. You have brought your many talents and energies to City departments, schools, public utilities, fire and safety. I want to thank the many volunteers on our Boards and Commissions; you give of your time and make such a difference. I would also like to thank our Volunteer Fire Companies.

Thank you to the City Council members. You have worked hard on critical issues such as the budget and quality of life projects. We have a terrific combination of seasoned council members and newly first time elected members. You have offered creative solutions to many problems that occur in an urban area and I have witnessed your research and the diligence that led to your decisions.

It has not been a year without controversy. The majority of the City Council, accepting the assessment of building professionals and engineers passed a resolution to demolish a most cherished building, the Reid and Hughes building, in order to provide for public safety. This resolution has been challenged and the City is awaiting a ruling from the Attorney General's Office that will either stop its demolition or allow us to proceed with the demolition. This is a sensitive issue, there are many fond memories of this once wonderful building, it is in the middle of downtown Norwich and historic groups are concerned about the loss of a historically significant structure.

Two ethics complaints were filed regarding my participation in a trip to the Kentucky Derby. The Ethics Commission will be taking this matter up at a meeting to be scheduled.

Two businesses in Greeneville have or will be closing, namely, Atlantic Packaging and Savage Hardware. These two businesses have been fixtures in Greeneville and we share with Greeneville and the owners of these businesses their sorrow over these losses.

An early morning fire on Saturday destroyed a business complex on West Main Street. At 3:30 am; multiple fire companies were on the scene fighting this extensive fire, including Alderwoman Gould who is a member of the East Great Plain Fire Company. Alderwoman Gould and I toured the site at about 8:30 am and witnessed firsthand the devastation for so many businesses. Sunday morning, John Salomone, Bob Mills, Deanna Rhodes and I called or left messages for each of the businesses. We connected with most. We also met them at the site and offered the City's assistance for their rebuilding.

On Friday before this report, we were notified of the take back of Municipal Aide by the State. This cut to already designated funds is difficult but as we all know, the financial difficulties of our State impacts our revenues. I continue to advocate through my appointment to the Executive Committee of CCM and now as the Vice-Chairwoman of Southeastern Council of Governments for equitable financial support

from Hartford. These two important entities work in a non-partisan coalition to bring a voice from the municipalities to Hartford.

On February 1, 2016 we appointed John L. Salomone as our City Manager. He brought with him over 40 years of municipal governmental experience. Upon arrival he concentrated on the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget. This budget was funded approximately 1% less than the previous year's budget and included an increase to the education budget of approximately 2%. It was important during this budget year to slow the growth of expenditures as state aid was either reduced or in some cases eliminated.

The City has negotiated with four of its unions. Contract settlements with the Fire Department addressed growth in the City's pension contribution. This contract recognizes the fiscal realities in which the City is presently in.

The Intermodal transportation Center became vacant when the regional bus system SEAT reduced staffing and eliminated a position which was housed in the ITC for ticket sales. Recognizing that an empty ITC was not desirable, the City moved quickly to relocate the Norwich Parking Commission from the Buckingham House to the ITC and continued offering bus tickets for sale in the building.

The City bonded outstanding projects this year and our bond rating remained a strong double A rating from Moody's investment service. This is important because it keeps the City's interest rates lower and shows confidence in the City's ability to issue debt and the general financial health of the City.

Treasurer Michael Gualtieri led the request for proposals process for banking services. The City received many fine proposals from local, regional, and national institutions. The proposal selected was from Peoples United which will translate into at least \$75,000 annually in increased interest income, reduced fees, and additional value-added services. This transition is nearing completion due to the hard work of many of the people in the Treasurer, Finance, Public Schools and Public Utilities departments.

The Finance Department worked with the City's bond counsel and financial advisor to re-fund a portion of a 2009 bond issue which resulted in net savings of \$165,000. Purchasing Agent Bill Hathaway worked with the City's insurance broker to obtain competitive quotes for the FY 2017 insurance premiums. Between the City and Norwich Public Schools, we saved approximately \$400,000 by moving our coverage to CIRMA. Karlene Deal started as the new Collector of Taxes & Revenues in March 2016. She has been using her knowledge and experience to make improvements in the collections process. The City of Norwich will be implementing a lock box system for mail payments in 2017 to increase processing and deposit of payments.

Donna Ralston, the Norwich Assessor, reports that the October 1, 2015 Grand List indicates that the overall NET taxable Grand List, including personal property, real estate and motor vehicles was filed at \$1,816,284,482. This represents an overall increase of \$14,759,342 over last year's Grand List or an increase of .819%. Real Estate had a healthy increase of \$6,321,500. Her office was aggressive in finding new construction and had several new commercial facilities completed. Personal property experienced a significant increase of \$6,807,852 and the motor vehicle portion of the Grand List had an increase over last year of \$1,628,990.

In 2016 the Norwich Fire Department instituted a new data management platform software improving its record keeping data management. There have been 6 new leaders promoted to the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain and Battalion Chief. The Department has secured \$170,000 in grant funding for building improvements. They now have a training plan in place to meet and exceed all OSHA and ISO requirements. The department has been successful in petitioning the ISO for a revaluation. They continue to assist the Greeneville neighborhood association in improving the neighborhood.

Chief Louis Fusaro retired in July after 48 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the City. Patrick Daley was named Chief and has continued Chief Fusaro's goals to reduce crime and the utilization of the dedicated community police officers. Community Police Officer Christopher Chastang was recognized by the US Attorney for Connecticut for his outstanding activities that foster community

policing and problem solving in Norwich. Chief Daley attended a White House briefing on 21st Century Policing Initiative. The Department trained several officers in a De-escalation program that will teach new and innovative ways to reduce use of force incidents. The trained officers will train the entire Department in 2017. Three Hispanic officers, two of which are female were hired, continuing the Department's diversification goals. In-car computers for police cruisers are in the final stages of installation. The male and female locker rooms at the station have been renovated; this is a huge boost to morale. The preliminary statistics for crime in 2016 indicates an 8% decrease from the record lows set in 2015.

In addition to all that the City Clerk's office accomplishes during the year, they worked with the Connecticut Humane Society, Human Services, the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen and Animal Control and held several one stop Pet Wellness Clinics and licensed 90 dogs with various donations.

Abby Dolliver reports that this past year has been a year of moving forward for the Norwich Public Schools by re-evaluating processes for greater efficiency and academic success. They have opened the PowerSchool's Parent Portal to allow families greater access to student records. In combination with City officials there is long term planning of school facilities to provide a cohesive strategy for the future. Several of our students placed at the 2016 Science Invention Convention. Teachers Memorial transitioned to a sixth-grade only school and Moriarty School was recognized as a National Magnet School of Excellence. Grants and state funds allowed NPS to continue the State Alliance work, install a processing kitchen for students to receive farm-to-table produce, update outdated technology, improve school security and provide dinners to disadvantaged students.

The Department of Human Services has provided a safety net and attention to fostering independence for our citizens. They received a four year (\$138,000) Partnership for Success Grant to address underage alcohol and substance abuse among 12 to 25 year olds. For the first time ever, a survey of our youth revealed that prescription drugs are used/abused more frequently than alcohol or marijuana. Prescription drugs are a leading cause of opioid addiction which can contribute to the epidemic of overdose. The Department increased in the Norwich Works program a part time to full time case worker in order to assist more residents in obtaining better employment and in training the workforce for well-paying jobs and career ladders. They had a 96% completion rate for this valuable program.

Our Norwich Seniors were provided over 11,300 transports and over 270 outreach visits, assisting seniors to stay in their own homes. Rose City Senior Center attendance is at an average of 169 daily, utilizing over 42,000 programs and services.

The Recreation Department developed a Social Program for developmentally disabled residents; they provided activities ranging from dances, to baking. Furthermore, the Recreational Department provided over 2,100 youth registrations to various programs and activities.

Adult and Family Services garnered over \$200,000 in grants and assisted in recouping another \$500,000 for residents for basic needs assistance; as 47% of our residents had trouble meeting the threshold to afford to live in the community.

As stated before, two contracts settled, Fire and City Hall Supervisors unions negotiated significant savings for the City. Human Resources worked diligently with the unions to negotiate fair contracts for our valuable employees. The Department worked hand in hand with a consulting company to perform a dependent eligibility audit that resulted in significant savings to the City. This year, an automated job application process was implemented. Furthermore, the personnel requisition process which includes automated federal reporting utilizing existing technology was refined. Norwich's summer diversity internship program has been expanded and the Affordable Care Act compliance reporting has been completed.

The Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security trained 273 municipal and volunteer department personnel in various disciplines of Emergency Management. Mandatory updates of the Federal Hazard Mitigation Plan and the City Emergency Operations Plan were completed.

For many years, Peter Davis was the City Planner. He retired and will be missed. We have a new City Planner, Deanna Rhodes, who brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to this most important position. A number of exciting projects are in progress at the Community Development Office. A \$270,000 DECD Historical Brownfield Grant for the Uncas Leap site is a project in progress. Thanks to the efforts of State Representative Emmett Riley, an additional \$500,000 from the State will be devoted to implement a Master Plan for this historic and significant area.

We also were awarded an EPA Area Wide Brownfield Grant of \$384,000 to assess Brownfield properties throughout the community. These funds will work to identify environmental barriers preventing commercial parcels from being productive, tax generating properties. We are also using a Shipping Street Brownfield Grant of \$200,000 to assess the 40 acres associated with multiple parcels in this area. The City has limited acreage for development of commercial properties or for open recreation space – all drivers for the local economy.

The City of Norwich was one of two municipalities in the State and one of five in all of New England to receive funding to address lead based paint hazards within the community. The \$2.4 million will address health, code and safety issues in approximately 100 units of housing over the next three years.

The City of Norwich invested heavily in infrastructure using CDBG funds. The first phase of improving Taftville Park began in 2016. Members of the neighborhood helped design what will exist in the space. The buildings have been cleared and a new walking path as well as a parking lot has been created. Phase II is funded in this round of CDBG, it will include the installation of a pavilion and a playground. Furthermore, in Taftville, the City has begun Phase I of a sidewalk installation, tying new housing developments along Route 97 to places like the Wequonnoc School and the Taftville Park.

Norwich Public Utilities contributed \$8.3 million dollars to the City's General Fund, up 11%. NPU continues its long-standing partnership with TVCCA to help customers that are having difficulties in paying their utility bills. They fund a full time TVCCA representative that is based in the Customer Service Center between the months of September and May. This representative is available to answer questions and provide information on programs and services that are available in the region for those in need. During the 2015-2016 heating season, more than 1,361 NPU customers received financial assistance through this partnership, totaling more than \$1.18 million.

In August, the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative and NPU in partnership with SolarCity and Brightfields Development, formally opened the largest solar and energy storage system in Connecticut. The system is expected to produce enough solar energy over the next two decades to power more than 8,400 homes. When added to NPU's existing hydropower capabilities, the NPU energy portfolio is now nearly 20% renewable.

In May, NPU opened its new \$1.8 million compressed natural gas vehicle fueling station, a project funded in large part through a grant from the Federal Highway Administration. In 2016, NPU successfully completed a comprehensive water testing program that confirms that its water quality is well within the federal and state standards for both copper and lead.

The Public Works Department paved, sealed or otherwise improved 13 miles of roadway representing 8% of the total City roadway network. Additionally, 1600 linear feet or nearly one third of a mile of sidewalk was constructed. In the past year, over 200 faded, damaged or obscured street and traffic signs were replaced as part of a targeted roadway safety improvement program. The Department responded to 17 different winter storm events without the need to close City offices and without running out of salt.

The Fleet Maintenance Division performed over 1,500 services/repairs this year, impounded approximately 20 vehicles in coordination with the Police Department, assembled and commissioned

four police cruisers, one large dump truck, customized the new mason trailer, and received 9 new vehicles including a new sweeper. The Department demolished two unsafe foundations; the dog pound and the old concession building at Mohegan Park. They installed new lockers at the Police Station. Additionally, the Director implemented the “Run With Public Works” outreach program dedicating himself to run all 162 miles of City owned roadway in an effort to see first-hand and at ground level the maintenance requirements of the City’s roadway network. To date, he has run approximately 65 miles of roadways.

My office and NCDC work closely throughout the year. It is a partnership that strives to work toward business retention, expansion, attraction, development and start-up. Here are a few of the wins for Norwich. Charles River Laboratories located their CT office in the Norwich Business Park, Uncle D’s Blazing BBQ established a bricks and mortar location in Norwichtown, NCDC created the region’s first co-work space, Foundry66, Hampton Inn will open in May of 2017, Moe’s Southwest Grill will open in the Spring of 2017, and Dollar General and Family Dollar stores will open in Greenville. Two downtown restaurants have opened, Yole Caribbean Taste and Namoo Korean Eatery. Mindscape Industries has moved into a building on West Thames Street that had been vacant for many years. Northeast Towing is expanding their structure and business. Comfort Suites has reopened with a beautiful remake. These are just a few of the positive business improvements that have occurred this past year. Ponemah Mills continues to progress and we are currently working on the Phase II funding that will expand this magnificent building rebirth. The ST. Patrick’s Day parade brought about 6,000 people to downtown Norwich and for 17 weeks we had a Downtown Norwich Farmers Market, with about 200 people attending weekly. Rock the Docks fills Howard Brown Park on Wednesday evenings in the summer, with music and people, enjoying our beautiful harbor.

Our “Team” has visited over 100 businesses in Norwich these last three years. Bob Mills, Fawn Walker, Sergeant John Perry, Ryan Thompson and I have learned a great deal about the many businesses that call Norwich home.

As an example of the cooperative work that is typical in Norwich I will highlight one of the many businesses that expanded this past year. United Community and Family Services increased their staff from 366 in January 2016 to 390 as of November 2016. UCFS serves 18,208 unique clients, adding 904 more unique individuals in the last year. 17.3% of all Norwich residents and more than half of low income residents living in Norwich receive care at UCFS. When Child and Family Agency was forced by state budget cuts to close three School-based Health Centers in Norwich, UCFS stepped in, without benefit of any additional funding, to reopen those School-based Health Centers. Effective January 3, UCFS now operates in Stanton Elementary, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy at Teachers and Kelly Middle School.

I use UCFS as an example; I could have named and highlighted other entities such as Otis Library, Backus Hospital, American Ambulance, TVCCA and Reliance Health to speak to the incredible businesses that we have here in Norwich. These many businesses provide examples of what is done every day to provide quality of life and service to Norwich residents. There are many businesses providing terrific jobs. We have a thriving arts and culture community. Funding is always a factor but these businesses find a way, they make us the City we are. I am proud to be Mayor of this wonderful place. I accept her beauty and some of the not so beautiful aspects but my hope for her continues.

Thank you,

Mayor Deberey Hinchey

Ald. Gould read the following proclamation:



City Of Norwich

Mayor's Office

Deberey Hinchey, Mayor

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, documents connect Norwich, CT and the manufacture of cocoa in small amounts beginning in 1766 to larger amounts and the opening of a chocolate mill in 1770 owned and operated by Christopher Leffingwell and his brother Elisha; and

**WHEREAS**, chocolate nuts were off-loaded, roasted, shelled and ground into chocolate when the ships reached North American eastern ports; the resulting chocolate was irregular in appearance and slightly gritty in texture but when mixed with hints of cinnamon, vanilla and nutmeg, milk, sugar and water it was ready to be drank as a staple with any meal, as a military ration or used as a medicine; by 1773 colonial demand for chocolate exceeded 320 tons annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the 35 survivors of the attack on Fort Griswold were brought warm chocolate, wine, and other refreshments by Miss Fanny Ledyard while Dr. Downer of Preston was dressing their wounds; and

**NOW THEREFORE, MAYOR DEBEREY HINCHEY AND NORWICH CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM, PETER ALBERT NYSTROM, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH**, do hereby recognize and declare **Hot Cocoa to be the official hot drink of Norwich, CT.**

**Dated this third Day of January, 2017**

**Deberey Hinchey  
Mayor**

**Stacy Gould  
Alderman**

City Managers Report:



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**To:** Mayor Hinchey and members of the City Council  
**From:** John Salomone, City Manager  
**Subject:** City Manager's Report  
**Date:** January 3, 2017

I hope everyone had a happy holiday. I have been on vacation the past week but have kept in contact with staff.

The Mayor and I met with Chuck Bunnell from the Mohegan Tribe regarding Uncas Leap on December 19th.

I had my monthly meeting with department heads. Patrick McCormick from Uncas Health was invited and will now be attending on a regular basis. Leanne Gomes announced that the Senior Center had received a \$10,000 grant from the Lord Foundation for the "Golden Wishes Program" which provides basic needs such as heating, rent, etc. to low-income senior citizens. Josh Pothier announced that the City's audit has been completed and a presentation by Blum Shapiro PC will be scheduled for the next council meeting.

The Mayor and I attended the holiday breakfast meeting of SECOG and SEAT that was held at Flanders Fish Market on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Sharon Peccini of United Way held a kick-off event in the City Manager's office on December 22<sup>nd</sup> for the upcoming year. My assistant invited all employees to stop by the office for cookies, coffee and cocoa for the holidays.

The City received a request from Todd Levine of SHPO for a meeting to be held on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to request a plan to preserve the Reid & Hughes. The meeting is in the process of being coordinated through my office.

Mayor Hinchey called for citizen comment on resolutions.

Beryl Fishbone, 19 Bliss Place, felt that resolutions # 2 and 3 were good news because when the property is sold it will go back on the tax rolls. She also gave the City a jar so people could write good deeds on paper placing them in the jar to see how a community can come together and grow.

Rodney Bowie, 62 Roosevelt Ave, spoke against resolution #5 and ordinance #1 he feels that the fees are too expensive for water and sewer now and asked the council to stop spending.

David Crabb, 47 Prospect St, stated he is opposed to resolutions 1-5 and ordinance #1, he felt taxpayers are in trouble if this is an example of the 2017 resolutions. He asked to cut taxes and asked not to keep spending.

Jacob Juncker, 296 Washington St, thanked the Council for their service. He stated that he feels that these resolution will help to make the City great.

Shiela Hayes, 288 Central Ave, asked the Council to vote to reconsider ordinance #1 and asked if NPU could give an explanation on the cost and benefit. She asked the council if the answers are acceptable to support this ordinance.

Mayor Hinchey declared citizen comment on resolutions was closed.

Upon a motion of Ald. Nash, seconded by Ald. Martin, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Department selected the proposal by the certified public accounting firm of Blum Shapiro PC with request for proposals number 12-15 to perform the audits for the fiscal years ending June 30th 2013 through 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut General Statutes §§7-391 through 397 require each municipality to file financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and audited by an independent public accountant in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by December 31<sup>st</sup>; unless an extension is granted by the Connecticut Office of Policy & Management; and

**WHEREAS**, the independent auditor must be appointed by the “appointing authority” on or before May 31<sup>st</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich is the appointing authority for the City of Norwich.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH**, that the accounting firm of Blum Shapiro PC be and hereby is, appointed to perform the regular general audit for the City of Norwich for fiscal year 2016-2017.

Upon a motion of Ald. Braddock, seconded by Ald. Gould, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Ald. Braddock and Gould.

**WHEREAS**, by resolution adopted September 6, 2016, the Council of the City of Norwich directed the disposition of certain properties by negotiated sale using the services of Allyn and Associates Realtors; and

**WHEREAS**, the property at 165 Prospect Street, which the city had acquired by a tax foreclosure, was included on the list; and

**WHEREAS**, Allyn and Associates Realtors has presented a Purchase and Sales Agreement to sell the property at 165 Prospect Street to Doris Groner Hamill and Conrad Hamill for a price of \$25,021;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that, City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to execute a Purchase and Sales Agreement satisfactory to him pertaining to the property at 165 Prospect Street agreeing on behalf of the City of Norwich to sell the property to Doris Groner Hamill and Conrad Hamill at a price of \$25,021 subject to customary adjustments.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed, upon Doris Groner Hamill and Conrad Hamill timely tender of the purchase price of \$25,021 as increased or decreased by appropriate adjustments, to execute a deed satisfactory to him and such other documents as are necessary to complete the transaction conveying said property to Doris Groner Hamill and Conrad Hamill and to receive and deliver all documents necessary for the completion of this transaction.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Ald. Braddock and Gould.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Norwich acquired the property located at 181 Hamilton Avenue by a tax collector's deed recorded on June 6, 2016 at volume 2964, page 36 of the Norwich Land Records; and

**WHEREAS**, said property at 181 Hamilton Avenue was listed on a resolution presented to the Council of the City of Norwich on September 6, 2016 to authorize City Manager John Salomone to enter into a Listing Agreement with Allyn and Associates Realtors for this property and certain other properties; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the adoption of this resolution on September 6, 2016 the property at 181 Hamilton Avenue was improvidently removed from the list; and

**WHEREAS**, Allyn and Associates Realtors has received an offer on behalf of the City of Norwich to purchase said property from Jeffrey R. Venturini at a price of \$31,000 as a cash sale without mortgage contingencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council finds that selling said property at a price of \$31,000 would be in the best interest of the City of Norwich;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that, City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed on behalf of the City of Norwich to enter into a Real Estate Listing Agreement satisfactory to him with Allyn and Associates Realtors offering to the sell the property at 181 Hamilton Avenue at a price of \$31,000;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that, upon receipt of a Purchase and Sales Agreement listing a purchase price of \$31,000 and containing such terms and conditions as are satisfactory to him, City Manager John Salomone, he be and hereby is authorized and directed to enter into said Purchase and Sales Agreement between the buyer Jeffrey R. Venturini and the City of Norwich and upon timely tender of such sum subject to adjustments to the City of Norwich to execute, and deliver a deed of conveyance for the property known as 181 Hamilton Avenue, Norwich and to execute, receive and deliver such other documents as are necessary to complete the transfer of title in keeping with the terms of the Purchase and Sales Agreement.

**Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Ald. Martin.**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich, by resolution presented December 1, 2015 adopted the Rules of Procedure for the council for the term of the council from 2015-2017; and

**WHEREAS**, said Rules of Procedure provide at Rule XXIV that the council may amend any of the Rules of Procedure by a majority vote of four votes of the council; and

**WHEREAS**, Rule XIX provides that the rules contained in Roberts Rules of Orders, as amended, shall govern the council in all cases to which they are applicable; and

**WHEREAS**, Roberts Rules of Order permits reconsideration of action taken on a motion or question when raised by a motion made on the same day or in certain circumstances, particularly involving legislative bodies, on the next day within the session at which business is conducted; and

**WHEREAS**, the sponsor of this resolution proposes to file a resolution to permit the Council to take up a motion to reconsider the action taken on an ordinance entitled:

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

at the council meeting on December 19, 2016, and proposes by this resolution to eliminate any ambiguity as to his doing so, by amending the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Norwich to add Section XXV whereby a motion or resolution to reconsider prior action taken by the council,

including votes on all motions, resolutions or ordinances, may be acted upon if such reconsideration is sought at the same meeting on which the prior action was taken or before the adjournment of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich, said amendment to have prospective and retroactive effect as to the time when reconsideration may be sought but not to otherwise affect the Rules of Procedure with respect to a motion for reconsideration.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that, the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Norwich adopted December 1, 2015 be amended to include a Section XXV as set out herein:

**XXV**

A motion or resolution to reconsider prior action taken by the council, including votes on all motions, resolutions, and ordinances may be made on the same day on which the action is taken or at and before the adjournment of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich. This section shall have prospective and retroactive effect as to the time in which a motion or resolution for reconsideration may be made but shall otherwise not amend the Rules of Procedure with respect to a motion or resolution for reconsideration.

**Pursuant to Section XI and Section XXV of the Rules of Procedure, upon a motion by Ald. Martin, to Reconsider the vote at the Council meeting on December 19, 2016 relating to the Ordinance entitled:**

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

Mayor Hinchey stated the motion to Reconsider can be made only by a member who originally voted on the prevailing side. That original motion failed. Therefore, you needed to have voted against the motion. Is that how you voted?

Ald. Martin responded affirmative.

Is there a second to the motion to reconsider?

Motion was seconded by Ald. Philbrick.

Mayor Hinchey stated that it is moved and seconded to Reconsider the vote at the Council meeting on December 19, 2016 relating to the Ordinance entitled:

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

**The question is: shall the vote at the Council meeting on December 19, 2016 relating to the Ordinance entitled:**

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

**Be Reconsidered?**

**Is there any discussion?**

**Discussion followed.**

**Mayor Hinchey asked if the Council was ready for the question.**

**Mayor Hinchey stated we will now go to the vote. To prevail, the motion to Reconsider requires a majority vote. The question is: shall the vote at the Council meeting on December 19, 2016 relating to the Ordinance entitled:**

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

**Be Reconsidered? (the resolution to reconsider (resolution #5) of this meeting see below)  
Passed unanimously.**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich, by resolution presented December 1, 2015 adopted the Rules of Procedure for the council for the term of the council from 2015-2017; and

**WHEREAS**, said Rules of Procedure provide at Rule XXIV that the council may amend any of the Rules of Procedure by a majority vote of four votes of the council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich has amended its Rules of Procedure by adding Section XXV to permit reconsideration of a prior action upon motion made at the meeting at which the action was taken or before the adjournment of the next regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich has received additional information regarding the ordinance entitled:

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

which was voted upon but not adopted by the council at its meeting of December 19, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, this is the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich following this vote and the council finds it to be in the best interest of the City of Norwich to reconsider said ordinance.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH**, that having amended its Rules of Procedure for purposes of clarification, it will accept a motion to reconsider such ordinance if made by a member of the Council of the City of Norwich who voted on the prevailing side being one of the three members of the Council of the City of Norwich who voted against adoption of the ordinance on December 19, 2016 and to take up the ordinance by way of reconsideration.

Those in favor- 7  
 Those opposed- 0  
 Passed unanimously

**The affirmative has it, the motion to Reconsider is adopted, and the motion to adopt the following Ordinance:**

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES’ WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO”

**Is reconsidered. Because this Ordinance authorizes the issuance of bonds, it must receive the affirmative vote of at least two thirds of all the members of the Council in order to be adopted. The motion is on the floor and open for discussion.**

Discussion followed.

Those in favor- 7

Those opposed- 0

Passed unanimously to adopt the following ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO.

#### Council Ordinance

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 FOR UPGRADES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' WATER METERING SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,900,000 REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY SECURED SOLELY BY WATER REVENUE TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH:

**Section 1.** The sum of \$2,900,000 is appropriated for the planning, upgrade and installation of the Norwich Department of Public Utilities' (the "Department") water metering services to an integrated meter reading and recording system known as Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), including, but not limited to, materials, installation and deployment costs, and such additional improvements as may be accomplished within said appropriation provided herein, and including administration, advertising, printing, legal, and financing costs (hereafter the "Project") as shall be determined by the Department. Said appropriation shall be inclusive of state and federal grants in aid thereof. The Department is authorized to enter into contracts, expend the appropriation and implement the Project herein authorized.

**Section 2.** The estimated useful life of the Project is twenty years. The total estimated cost of the Project is \$2,900,000. \$2,900,000 of the total Project cost is estimated to be financed by or through the State of Connecticut pursuant to its Clean Water Fund Program (as hereinafter defined), through a subsidized interest loan. The Project is a general benefit to the City of Norwich and its general governmental purposes.

**Section 3.** To meet said appropriation:

(i) bonds of the City or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the twentieth year after their date (or such longer term as may

be authorized). Said bonds may be issued in one or more series as determined by the City Manager, the Comptroller - acting on behalf of the City herein - and General Manager City of Norwich Department of Public Utilities - acting on behalf of the Department and the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners (hereafter the "Board") herein - (the "Issuer Officials") and the amount of bonds of each series to be issued shall be fixed by the Issuer Officials in the amount necessary to meet the Issuer's share of the cost of the Project determined after considering the estimated amount of the State and Federal grants-in-aid of the Project, or the actual amount thereof if this be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof, provided that the total amount of bonds to be issued shall not be less than an amount which will provide funds sufficient with other funds available for such purpose to pay the principal of and the interest on all temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds outstanding at the time of the issuance thereof, and to pay for the administrative, printing and legal costs of issuing the bonds. The bonds shall be in the denomination of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, or, be combined with other bonds of the Issuer and such combined issue shall be in the denomination per aggregate maturity of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, be issued in bearer form or in fully registered form, be executed in the name and on behalf of the City by the facsimile or manual signatures of the Issuer Officials bear the City seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by a bank or trust company designated by the Issuer Officials, which bank or trust company may be designated the registrar and transfer agent, be payable at a bank or trust company designated by the Issuer Officials and be approved as to their legality by Bond Counsel. They shall bear such rate or rates of interest as shall be determined by the Issuer Officials. The issuance of such bonds in one or more series, the aggregate principal amount of bonds to be issued, the annual installments of principal, redemption provisions, if any, the date, time of issue and sale and other terms, details and particulars of such bonds shall be determined by the Issuer Officials, in accordance with the Joint Resolution. In the case of Parity Indebtedness as defined in the Joint Resolution between the City of Norwich and the Board (as hereinafter defined as the "Joint Resolution"), the Issuer Officials, shall also determine the revenues and property to be pledged for payment of such Parity Indebtedness; or

(ii) temporary notes of the City may be issued in one or more series pursuant to Section 7-244a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended. The amount of such notes to be issued, if any, shall be determined by the Issuer Officials, and they are hereby authorized to determine the date, maturity, interest rate, form and other details and particulars of such notes, and to sell, execute and deliver the same; or

(iii) interim funding obligations and project loan obligations or any other obligations of the City (hereinafter "Clean Water Fund Obligations") evidencing an obligation to repay any portion of the costs of the Project determined by the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Public Health or other department as applicable to be eligible for funding under Section 22a-475 et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time (the "Clean Water Fund Program"). The General Manager City of Norwich Department of Public Utilities is authorized in the name and on behalf of the City and the Board to apply for and accept any and all Federal and State loans and/or grants-in-aid of the Project and is further authorized to expend said funds in accordance with the terms hereof and in connection therewith to contract in the name of the Department with engineers, contractors and others. The City may issue Clean Water Fund Obligations in one or more series

and in such denominations as the Issuer Officials shall determine, provided that the total of all such Clean Water Fund Obligations, bonds and notes issued and appropriation expended pursuant to this ordinance shall not exceed \$2,900,000. The Issuer Officials are hereby authorized to determine the amount, date, maturity, interest rate, form and other details and particulars of such interim funding obligations and project loan obligations, subject to the provisions of the Clean Water Fund Program, and to execute and deliver the same. Clean Water Fund Obligations shall be secured solely from a pledge of water system revenues; or

(iv) promissory notes, bonds or other obligations made payable to the United States of America to meet any portion of the costs of the Project determined by the federal government, including acting through the Rural Utility Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) or other federal program or agency, to be eligible for loan and/or grant monies; or

(v) any combination of bonds, temporary notes, notes, or obligations as set forth in the preceding subsections may be issued, provided that the total, aggregate principal amount thereof outstanding, and including the amount of grant funding obtained pursuant to a Project Grant and Project Loan Agreement, at any time shall not exceed \$2,900,000.

#### **Section 4.**

(i) Bonds, temporary notes, or water assessment notes, Clean Water Fund Obligations and federal obligations all as set forth in section 3 are hereafter referred to as “Bonds.” The Bonds shall be water revenue bonds of the City, the payment of principal and interest on which shall be secured solely by revenues derived from the operation of the water system, including use charges, connection charges, benefit assessments or any combination thereof, investment income derived there from, or other property of the water system or revenue derived from the operation of the water system in accordance with the Joint Resolution. Each of the Bonds shall recite to the effect that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such Bond is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, that such Bond does not constitute a general obligation of the City for which its full faith and credit is pledged, and that such Bond is payable solely from revenues, assessments, charges or property of the water system specifically pledged therefore.

(ii) The bonds authorized to be issued by section 3 shall be, issued and secured pursuant to the Joint Resolution approved by the City Council on August 7, 2000, and the Board on July 17, 2000, as amended, and as supplemented by various supplemental Resolutions adopted pursuant to the Joint Resolution, and which is hereby ratified, confirmed and approved in its entirety, including without limitation, the rate and revenue covenants therein. The Board irrevocably agrees to comply with the provisions of the Joint Resolution, including Supplemental Resolutions, including but not limited to: to set, establish and collect and maintain rates and revenue as necessary to continually comply with the terms, conditions and covenants of the General Resolution. The City irrevocably agrees to comply with the provisions of the General Resolution. In order to implement the provisions of the Joint Resolution the City and the Board may enter into an indenture of trust with a bank and trust company which indenture may contain provisions customarily included in revenue bond financings, including provisions of a similar nature to those in the Joint Resolution and which are necessary, convenient or advisable in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and their marketability.

The Issuer Officials are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City and the Board an indenture in such final form and containing such terms and conditions as they shall approve, and their signatures on any such indenture shall be conclusive evidence of their approval as authorized hereby.

(iii) The Issuer Officials on behalf of the City and the Board are authorized to agree to additional terms and to delete or change existing terms and otherwise amend the form of Joint Resolution in order to obtain State or federal funding, provide better security for the bonds, correct any matter, cure any ambiguity or defect or otherwise benefit the Issuer in their judgment. Such additional or different terms may include restrictions on the use of water funds or fund balance or water operations, coverage ratios, additional or changed reserve requirements, identification and pledge of revenues securing the Bonds, providing for the form of the Bonds, conditions precedent to the issuance of Bonds and additional Bonds, the establishment and maintenance of funds and the use and disposition there from, including but not limited to accounts for the payment of debt service, the payment of operating expenses, debt service reserve and other reserve accounts, providing for the issuance of subordinated indebtedness, defining an event of default and providing for the allocation of revenues in such event, credit enhancement, providing for a pledge and allocation of water revenues to pay for obligations issued by third parties, and provisions of a similar and different nature to those in the Joint Resolution and which are necessary, convenient or advisable in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and their marketability, and to obtain the benefits of any state or federal grant or low interest loan program, including but not limited to the Clean Water Fund and Federal Department of Agriculture Programs. The Issuer Officials are hereby authorized, in addition to the General Resolution, to execute and deliver on behalf of the Issuer and the Board an indenture of trust in such final form and containing such terms and conditions as they shall approve, and their signatures on any such indenture shall be conclusive evidence of their approval as authorized hereby.

**Section 5.** The issue of the Bonds aforesaid and of all other bonds or notes of the City heretofore authorized but not yet issued, as of the effective date of this Ordinance, would not cause the indebtedness of the City to exceed any debt limit calculated in accordance with law.

**Section 6.** Said Bonds shall be sold by the Issuer Officials in a competitive offering or by negotiation, in their discretion. If sold in a competitive offering, the Bonds shall be sold upon sealed proposals at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest not or true interest cost to the City. A notice of sale or a summary thereof describing the bonds and setting forth the terms and conditions of the sale shall be published at least five days in advance of the sale in a recognized publication carrying municipal bond notices and devoted primarily to financial news and the subject of state and municipal bonds. If the Bonds are sold by negotiation, the Issuer Officials, are authorized to execute a purchase agreement on behalf of the City and Board containing such terms and conditions as they deem appropriate and not inconsistent with this Ordinance.

**Section 7.** Resolution of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures with Borrowings. The City of Norwich (the "Issuer") hereby expresses its official intent pursuant to section 1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations, Title 26 (the "Regulations"), to reimburse expenditures paid sixty days prior to and after the date of passage of this Resolution in the maximum amount and for the capital project defined in Section 1 with the proceeds of bonds,

notes, or other obligations (“Bonds”) authorized to be issued by the Issuer. The Bonds shall be issued to reimburse such expenditures not later than 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the substantial completion of the project, or such later date the Regulations may authorize. The Issuer hereby certifies that the intention to reimburse as expressed herein is based upon its reasonable expectations as of this date. The Comptroller, and General Manager City of Norwich Department of Public Utilities or their designee is authorized to pay project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of reimbursement bonds, and to amend this declaration.

**Section 8.** It is hereby found and determined that it is in the public interest to issue all, or a portion of, the Bonds, Notes or other obligations of the City authorized to be issued herein as qualified private activity bonds, or with interest that is includable in gross income of the holders thereof for purposes of federal income taxation. The Issuer Officials are hereby authorized to issue and utilize without further approval any financing alternative currently or hereafter available to municipal government pursuant to law, including but not limited to any “tax credit bond,” or “Build America Bonds” including Direct Payment and Tax Credit Versions.

**Section 9.** This Ordinance shall be effective upon adoption by the City Council and its approval by the Board.

On a roll call vote of 7-0 the above ordinance passes unanimously.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Martin, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:55 pm.



CITY CLERK