

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich was held May 16, 2022 at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, Ald. Neuendorf, Gould, Singh, Burto and Wilson. City Manager Salomone and Corporation Counsel Michael Driscoll were also in attendance. Mayor Nystrom presided.

President Pro Tem DeLucia read the opening prayer and Ald. Singh led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ald. Wilson asked for a moment of Personal Privilege, asking for a moment of silence for the tragedy in New York and that hate will not be tolerated in our City.

Mayor Nystrom called for a moment of silence for Peter Cuprak, a previous State Representative, City Council member, Volunteer Fire Fighter for 49 years and Smoke Jumper among many other things and that he gave much more back to this community.

Please be advised that meetings of the Norwich City Council can be viewed in their entirety on the City of Norwich website “norwichct.org”.

Mayor Nystrom called for citizen comment.

Fred Phelps, 17 Sabrina Ct, asked the Council to fund the restoration of the Armstrong Tennis Courts.

Mary Hinton, Reliance Health, asked that the pride flag be flown at City Hall for the month of June.

Rev. Paul Doyle, Park Congregational Church, supports raising the flag in June.

Linda Pat (?), asked to raise the pride flag.

Marvin Serruto, 100 Starr St, asked that in the budget the revenues be greater than expenditures.

Brian Kobylarz, 16 Hobart Ave, asked for budget workshops.

Beryl Fishbone, 19 Bliss Pl, asked for full funding for the Public Works and the Police Department.

Mayor Nystrom declared citizen comment closed.

Upon a motion of Ald. Singh, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to accept the following Petition and Communication.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/2022

TO: Betsy Barrett – City Clerk
City of Norwich, CT

FROM: Alderwoman Stacy Gould – Chairwoman
Monument Committee

RE: Rose City Senior Center signage

The Monument Sub - Committee of the City Council held a Special Meeting on May 4, 2022 to review the referral from City Council to add Janice Stewart name to sign on the exterior of the Rose City Senior Center. Present were Alderwomen Stacy Gould and Tracey Burto as well as Alderman Swarnjit Singh.

After discussion by the members via teleconference the following motion was made by Alderman Singh and seconded by Alderwoman Burto;

That the Monument Committee forward a favorable recommendation to the City Council allowing the addition of Janice Stewart to the exterior sign at Rose City Senior Center

The vote was called for by the Chair and recorded as 3-0 in the affirmative

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

To: Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager’s Report
Date: May 16, 2022

Meetings attended were with State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments (SECCOG), Southeastern Area Transit (SEAT), Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Legislative Committee and Board of Directors Meeting, the National League of Cities RISC Trustees Conference sponsored by Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA).

Governor Ned Lamont visited the City on April 21st, and met with Mattern Construction Inc. who was approved for a \$2,000,000 CT Communities Challenge Grant for the former YMCA property at 337 to 355 Main Street that was submitted by Norwich Public Works. Mayor Nystrom, Pro-tempore DeLucia and Alderman Singh also attended to welcome this exciting project to the City that will redevelop the prominent gateway. It will be matched approximately dollar-for-dollar by private and other non-state funding.

Public Works Department has removed over 20 hazardous trees with their new bucket truck including a large tree downtown and have cleaned and inspected over 300 catch basins in the last few weeks. Annual road paving has begun in the downtown at Ferry Street, City Landing, and a portion of Franklin Street.

The Community Development Office received 18 Block Grant application requests totaling \$1,480,157.80 for Program Year 48 which runs from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. Anticipated funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development is \$1,150,769.08. The Community Development Advisory Committee met on April 26th to finalize their recommendation for Council approval in June.

Film crews are back in town and Mohegan Park filming a thriller/drama called “How to Live your Best Death”. The movie is independently produced by Synthetic Cinema but targeted to show on the Lifetime Network.

I received two press releases from the U.S. Department of Justice for the Norwich Police Department’s assistance with the FBI’s Safe Streets Task Force for the prosecution and imprisonment of local drug dealers.

Thank you again to David Bishop who refurbished the Welcome/No wake buoy sign in the Norwich Harbor. Mr. Bishop continues to volunteer his painting services to beautify the City.

Congratulations to Ross Blinderman, Nahomi Labajos, Nayelis Martinez, and Rachel McNally, recipients of the 35th Annual Norwich Youth Service Day Awards.

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Mayor Nystrom called for citizen comment on resolutions.

There were no speakers.

Mayor Nystrom declared citizen comment closed.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

RESOLVED, that the budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23, as tentatively adopted on May 2, 2022, be amended by the adjustments as listed herein.

General Fund			Page	2022-23 Tentatively Adopted	2022-23 Revised	Tax Levy Impact
10040000	43500	Revenue Sharing	49	3,564,304	2,745,863	818,441
10040000	41103	Current Motor Vehicle Taxes	49	7,605,088	8,460,458	(855,370)
10420100	58259	Police Regional Animal Control Services	74	124,000	134,000	10,000
		Total Tax Levy Impact				<u>(26,929)</u>
		Change in General Fund Mill Rate				(0.02)

Upon a motion of Ald. Wilson, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia and Ald. Gould.

RESOLVED, that the American Rescue Plan Act allocations tentatively adopted on May 2, 2022 be amended as follows:

Round 2 – Tentatively adopted by City Council on May 2, 2022

Project Description	Change Description	Amount of Change
Norwich Human Services/ Recreation Community Engagement Coordinator and Facility Maintainer	Remove funding for Community Engagement Coordinator	(\$176,000)
Plan of Conservation & Development professional services	Add funding for professional services to assist with 10 year POCD process	50,000
Total Net Change - Round 2		<u>(\$126,000)</u>

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

WHEREAS, the City has an opportunity to purchase roof materials which will be increasing in price in June 2022 and may become harder to obtain; and,

WHEREAS, there are funds available from previously approved capital projects which have been completed at less than their original appropriations or are determined to be less urgent than the projects to which the funds are being reallocated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that \$147,448.37 be and hereby is reallocated from the Capital Improvement Fund projects listed in 1. to the projects listed in 2. below:

1. Projects to reallocate funds from:

Org	Object	Project	Description	Amount
36024151	57340	C2106	P&NS permit software	\$8,820.06
36024197	57330	C2009	Elections fireproof filing cabinets	7,097.60
36024201	57200	C2073	Police renovate supervisors locker room	1,091.94
36024201	57300	C2013	Police less lethal system	3,255.95
36024202	57220	C2113	Norwich Fire Parking lot sealing and repair	554.30
36024202	57300	C2116	Norwich Fire SCBA 30 Min Cylinders	305.25
36024202	57320	C2210	Norwich Fire Fire Marshal vehicle replacement	3,918.25
36024303	57300	C2238	PW Streets zero turn mower	96.00
36024303	57320	C2140	PW Streets plow/chipper truck	3,555.76
36024313	57320	C2253	PW bucket truck	12,834.26
36024417	57320	C2135	Senior Center minibus	5,789.00
36024516	59106	C2057	Dodd Stadium improvements	100,000.00
36024536	59107	C2249	Golf course roof replacement	130.00
Total				\$147,448.37

2. Projects to reallocate funds to:

Org	Object	Project	Description	Amount
36024305	57200	C2241	Roof maintenance	\$147,448.37
Total				\$147,448.37

Upon a motion of Ald. Singh, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, Ald. Gould and Ald. Wilson.

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statute § 8-30j provides that at least once every five years each municipality shall prepare or amend and adopt an affordable housing plan for the municipality which plan shall, among other things, specify how the municipality intends to increase the number of affordable housing developments in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich, through its Departments of Community Development, Planning, Neighborhood Services, and Human Services in collaboration with the Norwich Housing Authority and the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, has prepared a City of Norwich Affordable Housing Plan (Plan) for the council to consider for adoption and on April 8, 2022 caused a copy of the same to be filed with the Office of the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, said Plan after adoption by the Council of the City of Norwich is to be filed with the Commissioner of Housing on or before June 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a municipality may hold a public informational meeting and/or public hearing to inform residents about the process of preparing the Plan provided a public hearing takes place at least 35 days after the filing of the draft copy of the Plan in the Office of the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the second meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich for May 2022 is scheduled to be held May 16, 2022 and the Council finds it would be of assistance to it and to the residents of the City of Norwich to hold a public hearing prior to adoption of the Plan anticipating that the Council will consider and possibly adopt the plan at the May 16, 2022 council meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that a public hearing to consider the proposed Affordable Housing Plan of the City of Norwich, copies of which are available at the Office of the City Clerk, be and hereby is scheduled for 7:30 pm in City Council Chambers on May 16, 2022 at the Council meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that a resolution adopting the Plan and authorizing and directing City Manager John Salomone and/or Director of Planning and Neighborhood Services Deanna Rhodes, to submit the City of Norwich Affordable Housing Plan in an appropriate and timely fashion be presented at the May 16, 2022 meeting.

[Affordable housing plan](#)

Upon a motion of Ald. Burto, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia and Ald. Gould.

WHEREAS, Rosy Walk, LLC has requested permission to hold various events as part of the Rose Arts Festival on Chelsea Parade on Saturday, June 25, 2022, the events on Chelsea Parade to run from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, Rosy Walk, LLC proposes to sell and serve beer and wine on Chelsea Parade during the Rose Arts Festival with this service provided by a vendor holding an off-premises vendor liquor permit.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that Rosy Walk, LLC be and hereby is permitted to use Chelsea Parade to conduct the Rose Arts Festival as described on Saturday, June 25, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that, pursuant to § 13.14.2 of the Norwich Code of Ordinances, City Manager John L. Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to grant the Rosy Walk, LLC permission to sell beer and wine at this event as well as permission to use the premises as described herein, for the sale of beer and wine, permission being subject to satisfactory proof that said sales are conducted by a vendor holding an appropriate liquor license and permit for such sales; that such sales be limited to the hours when such sales are permitted pursuant to the Connecticut General Statute and the applicable regulations of the state liquor commission; that identification will be mandatory from each person purchasing beer and wine at the event; and that insurance satisfactory to the city manager be obtained and maintained by Rosy Walk, LLC and the vendor.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, Ald. Gould and Wilson.

WHEREAS, Janice “Jan” Alberta Stewart dedicated herself to service to her family, her church, many organizations, and to the city and citizens of Norwich; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, she became associated with the Rose City (Norwich) Senior Center, then located in a storefront on Main Street, becoming the Senior Affairs Director in 1977 and holding this position until her retirement in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 1977 Janice Stewart supervised the move of the Senior Center to new quarters in the Buckingham Memorial Building from which location its programs and operations were conducted for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Janice Stewart through her work, reputation, perseverance and ability to persuade greatly assisted in obtaining state funds for a new Senior Center location built on Mahan Drive and opened in 1994, where facility, staff and clientele remained under her direct care until her retirement in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in recognition for her work with the elderly, and her dedication to the clientele of the senior center and seniors generally, Janice Stewart received many recognitions and awards including the Dr. Singer Award from Prevent Blindness Connecticut and the Board of Education and Services for the Blind, the President’s Volunteer Action Award from President Ronald Reagan, the Congressional Record by U. S. Representative Sam Gejdenson and a citation arranged by State Senator James J. Murphy for her involvement with the Senior Citizen Job Bank; and

WHEREAS, after retirement she continued and expanded her commitment to multiple organizations often in leadership positions, including a long association with the Norwich Senior Affairs Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Norwich would like to recognize her efforts on behalf of the city and its citizens particularly those who are or will become senior citizens

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that the skills and efforts of Janice Stewart and her long service to and leadership of the Rose City Senior Center be publicly honored, whereby it recommends that the sign located to the right of the main entrance of to the Senior Center which now reads “Rose City Senior Center”, be expanded to add the name “Janice A. Stewart” and that a plaque or other acknowledgement be located within the Senior Center in a public location acknowledging this resolution and Janice Stewart.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Wilson, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

WHEREAS, the City Manager John L. Salomone has appointed with Councils approval as a **regular member** to the Youth Service Advisory Board for a term to expire on 2/01/23 or until a successor is appointed;

Caralynn Turner (D)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Norwich hereby acknowledges the appointment of the above named to the Youth Service Advisory Board.

Upon a motion of Ald. Wilson, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

WHEREAS, the City Manager John L. Salomone has appointed with Councils approval as a **regular member** to the Harbor Management Commission for a term to expire on 12/5/23 or until a successor is appointed;

David Bishop (U)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Norwich hereby acknowledges the appointment of the above named to the Harbor Management Commission.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, Ald. Gould, Singh and Wilson.

RESOLVED, that the American Rescue Plan Act allocations previously adopted prior to April 4, 2022 be amended as follows:

Round 1 – Adopted prior to April 4, 2022

Project Description	Change Description	Amount of Change
Norwich Human Services/ Recreation Schools as Community Centers	Reduce funding	(\$100,000)
Norwich Human Services/ Recreation 2022 Recreation Summer Camp scholarships	Add funding for scholarships for 2022 Recreation Summer Camp	100,000
Total Net Change - Round 1		<u>\$0</u>

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, it was unanimously voted to waive the full reading of the text and set a public hearing on June 6, 2022 at 7:30 pm for the second reading and action for the following ordinance introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, Ald. Gould.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 9-28 OF THE NORWICH CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING THE ANNUAL FEE TO BE CHARGED FOR EACH TRUCK USED BY COMMERCIAL HAULERS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SOLID WASTE AND ANY OTHER MATERIALS COLLECTED IN NORWICH AND DISPOSED OF AT FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT REGIONAL RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY

WHEREAS the City of Norwich is a party to a Municipal Service Agreement with the the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority (SCRRRA) whereby SCRRRA bills the city a charge to be referred to as a tip fee for materials generated in Norwich and brought to a SCRRRA facility for disposition; and

WHEREAS, the SCRRRA tip fee per ton will increase by \$1.25 effective July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich currently charges commercial haulers \$66 for each ton of solid waste collected in Norwich and delivered to a SCRRRA facility, which rate has been in effect since fiscal year 2010-2011.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that Sec. 9-28 of the Norwich Code of Ordinances be and hereby is amended as follows:

Sec. 9-28. Permit for collection, transportation or disposition of solid waste and other materials.

- a. No person shall collect, transport or dispose of solid waste, garbage, ashes, rubbish or waste material in the city for profit without obtaining a permit therefor issued by the director of public works. The annual fee for such permit shall be ~~\$75.00~~ \$100.00 for the first truck and ~~\$25.00~~ \$100.00 for each additional vehicle. Such permit shall be revocable at the pleasure of the director of public works subject, however, to a right of appeal to the city manager. Each vehicle for which such a permit has been issued shall be covered by public liability insurance in the amount ~~as~~ prescribed by the city.
- b. This ordinance with respect to the increase in the amount of the annual fee for such a permit shall become effective January 1, 2023.
- c. The charge to be imposed on commercial haulers by the city of Norwich for solid waste and other materials collected in Norwich and transported to the Lisbon Incinerator or to any facility operated by the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority shall be \$68.00 per ton.
- d. This charge of \$68.00 per ton shall become effective July 1, 2022.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Wilson, it was unanimously voted to waive the full reading of the text send a referral to the Appointment/Reappoint Committee and set a public hearing on June 20, 2022 at 7:30 pm for the second reading and action for the following ordinance introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, Ald. Gould and Wilson.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-89 OF THE NORWICH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART OF ARTICLE VII. COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, TO REDUCE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE COMMISSION FROM NINE TO SEVEN AND TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS REQUIRED TO BE SELECTED FROM CERTAIN CATEGORIES.

WHEREAS Article VII of Chapter 2 established a commission to advise the mayor and the council of the City of Norwich of the needs of persons with disabilities within the Norwich community with relation to housing, employment, transportation, economics, health, recreation and other relevant matters consistent with powers and duties established and stated in Sections 2-88 and 2-91 of Article VII; and

WHEREAS the commission presently consists of nine members to include four members who are persons with disabilities, two members who are relatives of one or more persons with disabilities or who regularly work with or provide services to one or more persons with disabilities, and three additional members, all of whom must be electors of the City of Norwich and appointed by the council to serve terms of two years, or until their successor shall be duly appointed; and

WHEREAS in its annual report for the year 2021 received and accepted by the council of the City of Norwich at its meeting of February 7, 2021, the commission reported that it was not able to meet in person during 2021 due to the restrictions on gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic and that at the one meeting it attempted to hold during 2021 was unable to transact business due to a lack of a quorum; and

WHEREAS there are currently a number of vacancies on the commission due to resignations, some of which may reflect the difficulty individuals within specified categories have in attending meetings either in person or remotely; and

WHEREAS the council of the City of Norwich wishes to continue the Commission for Persons with Disabilities as an advisory body of the City of Norwich as set forth in Article VII, of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Norwich; and

WHEREAS reducing the number of members of the commission from nine to seven and reconfiguring the membership of the same should assist the commission in conducting meetings and may encourage more individuals to seek appointment to the commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that Section 2-89. Created; members. Chapter 2 of the Norwich Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

1. The Norwich Commission for Persons with Disabilities is hereby created and shall have its principal office in City Hall, Norwich, Connecticut, or such other place as may be designated, and shall consist of ~~nine~~ seven members; to include ~~four~~ one members who ~~are~~ is a persons with disabilities, ~~two~~ one members who ~~are~~ is a relatives of one or more persons with disabilities or who regularly work with or provide services to one or more persons with disabilities; and ~~three~~ four additional members- who are not required to be eligible for appointment as a member of any of the three categories specified herein, but who may be a member of one or more of the specified categories. Members of the commission, who all must be electors of the City of Norwich, shall be appointed by the council, and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors shall be duly appointed. It shall not be a disqualification to the appointment of an individual who could be representative in any of the three specified categories listed herein as one of the four additional members to be appointed by the council and such appointments are to be encouraged.

2. This ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 2022. Members of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities serving as of August 1, 2022 shall serve out their terms of office with the adoption of this amended ordinance notwithstanding, may be reclassified as to membership.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, it was unanimously voted to waive the full reading of the text and set a public hearing on June 20, 2022 at 7:30 pm for the second reading and action for the following ordinance introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia and Ald. Gould.

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 16-4 OF THE NORWICH CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, as a result of terrorist acts occurring on September 11, 2001 the city of Norwich, on April 1, 2002, adopted Ordinance No. 1473 now codified as section 16-4 of the Norwich Code of Ordinances which provides that the city of Norwich will pay the difference between the municipal employee’s salary and that employee’s temporary military pay as well as the employee’s customary benefits for a period of one year in the event an employee is called to active duty; and

WHEREAS, pay and/or benefits associated with the calling up of municipal employees for active duty, active service or training are set forth in state and federal statutes and regulations, and applicable collective bargaining provisions, if any; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that Section 16-4 of the Norwich Code of Ordinances which provides:

The City of Norwich will pay the difference between the salary of a municipal employee and that employee’s temporary pay as well as the employee’s customary benefits for a period of one (1) year in the event the employee is called to active duty. Such expenditures shall be authorized from the corresponding salary account for each employee.

is repealed in its entirety, with the issues of pay and/or benefits associated with active duty, active service and/or training controlled by state and federal statutes and regulations, and applicable collective bargaining provisions, if any.

Upon motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:37 pm.



City Clerk