



CITY OF NORWICH
CONNECTICUT

AGENDA – MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH
November 16, 2020
7:30 PM

The meeting of the Council will seek to comply with the directives of Executive Order 7B-1 issued by Governor Ned Lamont on March 14, 2020, together with any Executive Orders subsequently issued which pertain to such meetings.

The Mayor, members of the City Council, the City Manager, City Clerk, Comptroller and Corporation Counsel shall be present in person but separated by appropriate social distancing at Council chambers or participate remotely by conference call, video conference or other technology.

The meeting shall be televised on the Public Access Channel and posted on the city website, www.norwichct.org, in real time consistent with Executive Order 7B-1 and the usual practices of the City of Norwich. All remarks or comments made by the Mayor, the members of the Norwich City Council, city officials, and by the public during Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) and the Citizen Comment on resolutions portion of the meeting, shall be included.

The citizen comment general (30 minutes) and comments of citizen on resolutions may be made telephonically pursuant to the following instructions:

Call phone number first dial 860-215-8140 and then when prompted, enter the conference ID# 4038191 followed by the pound (#) key.

This number will be available only during the citizen comment general (30 minutes) and public comment period listed on the agenda as Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) on non-agenda items and Citizen Comment on resolutions. Its use commences when Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) on non-agenda items and Citizen Comment on resolutions is reached and opened by the Mayor. Any calls must be made prior to the Mayor's announcement that the Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) on non-agenda items and Citizen Comment on resolutions period has ended.

Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) on non-agenda items and Citizen Comments on resolutions limited to the resolutions on the agenda may also be sent by email or means of other written communication stating the name, address and title if applicable, of the sender. Emails should be sent to the office of the Mayor at mayoroffice@cityofnorwich.org and other written communication sent or delivered to the office of the Mayor, 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360. Emails must be received by 7:00 p.m., the above mentioned date, and other written communications received by 4:30 p.m., the above mentioned date, to be made available to the City Council for this meeting.

Citizen Comment General (30 minutes) on non-agenda items and Citizen Comments will be limited to the resolutions on the agenda only. All speakers taking part in the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting shall clearly state their name, address and title, if applicable, before speaking and will be limited to three minutes.

PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROCLAMATION: Small Business Saturday

CITIZEN COMMENT GENERAL (30 Minutes) call phone number first dial 860-215-8140 and then when prompted, enter the conference ID# 4038191 followed by the pound (#) key

PUBLIC HEARING

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 8-74, 8-75 AND 8-77 OF ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF FUND PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

SECOND READING AND ACTION ON THE ABOVE ORDINANCE PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

PETITION AND COMMUNICATION

1. Report from the Public Safety Committee.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITIZENS COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS (only on the agenda items) call phone number first dial 860-215-8140 and then when prompted, enter the conference ID# 4038191 followed by the pound (#) key

NEW RESOLUTIONS:

1. Relative to the City Manager applying for a Connecticut State Historic Preservation Grant.
2. Relative to the City Manager to enter into, execute and deliver a consent agreement for 25 Broadway and surrounding properties.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 1. Claims and litigation
2. Property Acquisition



City Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING #1

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 8-74, 8-75 AND 8-77 OF ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF FUND PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

WHEREAS, plan changes have been proposed to the City of Norwich Volunteer Firefighters Pension Plan; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 5, 2020 the City of Norwich Finance Department received an analysis of the financial impact of the proposed changes prepared by the actuarial firm overseeing the pension fund; and

WHEREAS, the Volunteer Firefighter Relief Fund Committee at a special meeting held October 13, 2020 reviewed this financial analysis and voted to recommend the proposed plan changes to the Council of the City of Norwich

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Norwich, that the following amendments to Sections 8-74, 8-75, and 8-77 of Article IV of Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances listed as follows:

Section 8-74(a)(v)(6);

Section 8-74(a)(v)(7,) (to be added);

Section 8-75(a) (i) and (ii), (subpart (ii) deleted in full);

Section 8-75(c)(vi), (amending 8-75(c)(vi) by deleting (i) and (2) and restating (vi));

Section 8-75(c)(vii), (to be added);

Section 8-77(d)(i)(1)(a) and (b);

Section 8-77(d)(i)(l)(c), (to be added).

BE AND HEREBY ARE ADOPTED.

Sec. 8-74. – Service

(v) Contribution rate. A plan member shall contribute the following amounts for purchase of credited service during the following periods:

(1) \$60.00 for plan years prior to January 1, 1995.

(2) \$84.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 1995 but prior to January 1, 2000.

(3) \$120.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 2000 but prior to January 1, 2006.

(4) \$180.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 2006 but prior to January 1, 2011.

(5) \$216.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 2011 but prior to January 1, 2014.

(6) \$264.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 2014 but prior to January 1, 2021.

(7) \$288.00 for plan years on or after January 1, 2021.

Sec. 8-75. - Retirement benefits.

(a) Normal retirement.

~~(i) For members joining the plan prior to January 1, 2015, the~~ A plan member's normal retirement date shall be the first day of the month in which such member has attained age 55 and has completed at least 20 years of credited service.

~~(ii) For members joining the plan on or after January 1, 2015, the plan member's normal retirement date shall be the first day of the month in which such member has attained age 55 and has completed at least 25 years of credited service.~~

(b) Deferred retirement. A plan member who is satisfactorily able to perform fire duties may remain an active member and continue to earn credited service beyond his/her normal retirement date while he/she continues to collect benefits. The first day of the calendar month following such deferred retirement shall be known as his/her deferred retirement date.

(c) Calculation of retirement benefits. The monthly amount of retirement benefits payable to a plan member shall be calculated as follows:

(i) For retired members with a break in service prior to January 1, 1995, \$7.00 times 20 years of service, for a maximum of \$140.00.

(ii) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 1995 but prior to January 1, 2000, \$8.00 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of 30 years, or \$240.00.

iii) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 2000 but prior to January 1, 2006, \$10.00 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of 30 years, or \$300.00.

(iv) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 2006 but prior to January 1, 2011, \$15.00 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of 35 years, or \$525.00.

(v) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 2011 but prior to January 1, 2015, \$18.00 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of 40 years, or \$720.00.

(vi) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 2015 but prior to January 1, 2021, \$22.00 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of forty years, or \$880.00;

~~(1) Forty years, or \$880.00, for members who joined the plan prior to January 1, 2015~~

~~(2) Thirty years, or \$660.00, for members who joined the plan on or after January 1, 2015~~

(vii) For retired members with a break in service on or after January 1, 2021, \$24 times number of years of credited service, with a maximum of 40 years, or \$960.00

Sec. 8-77. - Death benefits.

(d) Death after retirement.

(i) Qualified spousal and child benefits. A plan member who is under the age of 65 as of January 8, 2001 and is an active member is entitled to have benefits pass onto his/her qualified spouse and child(ren), subject to the restrictions and calculations described herein.

(1) Qualified spouse is entitled to death benefits until death or remarriage, calculated as follows:

a. Plan member who died between January 8, 2001 and July 16, 2006. Fifty percent of the deceased plan member's retirement benefit;

b. Plan member who died ~~after~~ between July 16, 2006 and January 1, 2021. Ninety percent of the deceased plan member's retirement benefit.

c. Plan member who die after January 1, 2021. One hundred percent of the deceased plan member's retirement benefit.

Mayor Peter Albert Nystrom
President Pro Tem Mark M. Bettencourt
Alderman Stacy Gould

RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich established a city Historic District Commission on October 2, 1967; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the ordinance establishing a city Historic District Commission, the City of Norwich established a Norwichtown Historic District on August 30, 1967 and the Little Plain Historic District on June 24, 1969; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich, is a Certified Local Government as defined by the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office; and

WHEREAS, the Norwich Historic District Commission is completing or has completed a grant application to be submitted to the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office to be used in updating Design Guidelines for Historic Districts in the City of Norwich; and

WHEREAS, the Norwich Historic District Commission is of the opinion that updated Design Guidelines will assist Norwich property owners seeking to make exterior alterations to their properties within one of the historic districts, recognizing the range of architectural styles existing in the two local historic districts in 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, execute, and deliver a grant application, in a form satisfactory to him, to the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the funds to be used for the purpose of assisting the Norwich Historic District Commission in updating its Design Guidelines.

Mayor Peter Albert Nystrom
President Pro Tem Mark M. Bettencourt
Alderwoman Stacy Gould

RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich has been notified of an impending transfer of interests in the Wauregan Hotel located at 25 Broadway, Norwich, Connecticut and Surrounding Properties; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich has received drafts of the proposed:

1. Assignment and Assumption of the Development Agreement for the Wauregan Hotel and Surrounding Properties by and among Becker and Becker Associates, Inc. and Wauregan Owner, LLC of Norwich, Connecticut; and
2. Assignment and Assumption of Ground Lease, Environmental Liability and Tax Abatement Agreement, Open-End Mortgage and Open-End Leasehold Mortgage, to be entered into by and among Becker and Becker Associates, Inc. and Wauregan Owner, LLC of Norwalk, Connecticut and by and among Wauregan Development LLC and Wauregan Owner LLC respectively; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich has also received a proposed Consent to the Assignment and Assumption to run from the City of Norwich to Wauregan Development, LLC, Becker and Becker Associates, Inc., and Wauregan Owner, LLC in connection with this transaction.

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, execute, and deliver the Consent to Assignment and Assumption described herein if satisfactory to him and the Corporation Counsel, and to cause the same to be delivered to the firm of Carmody, Torrance, Sandak and Hennessey, LLP to the attention of Attorney Gregg T. Burton or as otherwise requested.

Alderwoman Stacy Gould