

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich was held April 3, 2023 at 7:30 PM in Council Chamber. Present: Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, Ald. Neuendorf, Gould, Singh and Burto. City Manager Salomone and Corporation Counsel Michael Driscoll were also in attendance. Mayor Nystrom presided.

Ald. Burto read the opening prayer and Ald. Singh led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Upon a motion of Ald. Burto, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to accept the following minutes of March 20, 2023.

Upon a motion of Ald. Singh, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to suspend the rules.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to add the following resolution.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, the Council of the City of Norwich authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to accept a two million dollar CT Communities Challenge Grant Program, offered by the State of Connecticut acting by and through its Department of Economic and Community Development, subject to certain terms and conditions including a Pass-Through Agreement by and between the City of Norwich and 337-355 Main Street LLC in connection with the rehabilitation of the former YMCA properties, and authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to execute such agreements, understanding, and documents as may be required in a form satisfactory to him and the Corporation Counsel, together with such other documents, materials, and filings necessary to complete the transaction and to deliver them appropriately; and further authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to convey the former YMCA facility properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC together with properties located on Erin and White Streets and to enter into a lease for 15 parking spaces on property owned by the City of Norwich located to the rear of the YMCA properties; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Council of Governments has recently proposed to make a loan to the City of Norwich from its Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund, said loan to be made at an interest rate of 1.5% and potentially forgivable; and in addition may offer the City a grant of \$200,000 subject to terms and conditions to be determined; and

WHEREAS, the \$325,000 loan from the Capital Region Council of Governments must be secured by a note and mortgage on the former YMCA properties currently owned by the City of Norwich with the funds to be used for the remediation of the same; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich must continue to hold title to the former YMCA properties to be mortgaged without any default to be made thereon or until said loan is forgiven or the obligations of the same may be assigned to the purchaser of the property; and

WHEREAS, said funds are necessary for remediation of the site.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, the resolution described herein adopted March 20, 2022, be amended by adding to it the following provisions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to enter into a Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund Loan Agreement between the Capital Region Council of Governments and the City of Norwich relative to a potentially forgivable loan in the amount of \$325,000 to be used for the remediation of the former YMCA properties on terms and conditions satisfactory to him and to accept, on behalf of the City of Norwich, a grant of \$200,000, if offered by the Capital Region Council of Governments the funds to be used with respect to the remediation of the former YMCA properties with the understanding that the conveyance of the YMCA properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC shall not occur until remediation of the former YMCA properties are completed satisfactorily and the obligations of the loan are forgiven by the Capital Region Council of Governments; or the obligations of the loan and mortgage are transferred to 337-355 Main Street LLC; unless any earlier conveyance is approved by subsequent resolution of this Council.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to incorporate the above described resolution as Resolution #3 on this agenda.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to accept the report from the Health Equity Committee.

*Report of the Health Equity Committee
March 2023*

Committee Members

- City Manager John Salomone or representative
- Patrick McCormack or representative of Uncas Health District
- Police Chief Patrick Daley or representative of the Norwich Police Department
- Ms. Brigid Marks or representative of the Norwich Department of Human Resources
- Director of Human Services, their successor or representative of the Norwich Human Services Department
- Ms. Sheila Hayes, Norwich NAACP
- Ms. Jennifer Granger or representative of United Community & Family Services Healthcare Ms. Erica Brennan or representative of Rose City United
- Mr. Robert Farwell or designee for the Otis Library
- Dr. Mohammed Qureshi, Hartford Healthcare
- Dr. Alexander Mbewe, or representative of Hartford Healthcare
- Mr. Joseph Zuzel, Director of Community Health or representative, Hartford Healthcare (East) Mr. Arvind Shaw, Chief Executive Officer, or designee of Generations
- Sarah Duso, Norwich Public Schools Director of Equity or representative

The Health Equity Committee was able to meet three times this year. One meeting was canceled due to the inability to meet the quorum.

The Health Equity Committee met on the following dates: 11/07/22, 01/09/23, and 03/13/23

The Health Equity Committee met to form their committee, develop agendas, and plan for the work of the committee.

In the upcoming year, the Health Equity Health Committee will clearly define their role as they meet the goals of the resolution.

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Norwich, on July 19, 2021, adopted a resolution recognizing

racism to be a threat to public health and safety in the City of Norwich and called upon the City of Norwich to work in partnership with the Uncas Health District to develop a “Norwich Health Equity” plan and proposed to appoint a Health Equity Committee to include but not be limited to certain officials of the City of Norwich, the Uncas Health District, United Community & Family Services, Rose City United, and Generations; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City Norwich on August 2, 2021 amended that resolution to add Hartford Healthcare, the Norwich NAACP branch and the Otis Library as stakeholders;

WHEREAS, the Council finds it remains in the best interest of the City of Norwich to foster healthcare equities for the City of Norwich and its residents and to reaffirm its declaration of racism as a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, any long-term solution requires that the City of Norwich and its agencies, boards, committees and commissions recognize the impact that racism has and can have on the lives of our neighbors, how it impacts the overall health of the City, and requires a continuing commitment to addressing its impact; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Norwich finds that the formal appointment of a Norwich Health Equity Committee to include representatives of the office of the City Manager, the Norwich Department of Human Services, the Uncas Health District, the Norwich Police Department, the Norwich Human Resources Department, United Community & Family Services, Rose City United, Generations, Hartford Healthcare, the Norwich NAACP branch, and the Otis Library as well as other interested entities, residents, and city office holders will work to address and mitigate the detrimental effects of racism with respect to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Norwich anticipates that the Health Equity Committee will work with Demographics Prospective on the 13 points listed by the Council of the City of Norwich in its resolution of July 19, 2021 to guide their work; to hold regular meetings during which public participation and comment is encouraged, and report regularly to the Council of City of Norwich with respect to their findings and recommendations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that a Health Equity Committee be, and the same hereby is, created to consist of the following persons or representatives of organizations, all to serve for two-year terms ending October 3, 2024 or until successors are appointed or the Committee dissolved;

CITY MANAGER REPORT

[City Managers Proposed 2023-24 Budget Presentation Slides](#)

Mayor Nystrom called for citizen comment on resolutions.

There were no speakers.

Mayor Nystrom closed citizen comment on resolutions.

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

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Norwich adopted ordinance 1835 on December 19,2022 to establish a framework for collecting and appropriating opioid settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ordinance 1835, the city manager shall submit a resolution proposing the use of unexpended and unencumbered opioid settlement funds to be spent in the following fiscal year for the City Council’s consideration at its first meeting in April; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ordinance 1835, any expenditures of opioid settlement funds shall be used exclusively for opioid abatement purposes, including, but not limited to, expanding access to opioid use disorder prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery options; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this resolution, the City has \$141,505.20 of unexpended and unencumbered opioid settlement funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that \$30,000 of opioid settlement funds be and hereby is appropriated as follows for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024:

Org	Obj	Description	Amount	Notes
29024427	53322	Professional Development	\$ 10,000	For three employees to receive Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America training.
29024427	55531	Advertising/ Marketing	\$ 8,000	Media and print campaign with community collaborators, youth, and seniors
29024427	58718	Reliance Health	\$ 10,000	Reimburse the cost of recovery coaches to supplement the How Can We Help grant)
29024427	58730	Assistance Payments	\$ 2,000	Transportation to care and other recovery-related assistance to clients
		Total	\$30,000	

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 City Manager Salomone.

RESOLVED, that the first public hearing on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023, 7:30 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the second public hearing on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 will be held on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:30 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The Assistant City Clerk read the following resolution that was introduced under suspension in its entirety into the record.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, the Council of the City of Norwich authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to accept a two million dollar CT Communities Challenge Grant Program, offered by the State of Connecticut acting by and through its Department of Economic and Community Development, subject to certain terms and conditions including a Pass-Through Agreement by and between the City of Norwich and 337-355 Main Street LLC in connection with the rehabilitation of the former YMCA properties, and authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to execute such agreements, understanding, and documents as may be required in a form satisfactory to him and the Corporation Counsel, together with such other documents, materials, and filings necessary to complete the transaction and to deliver them appropriately; and further authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to convey the former YMCA facility properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC together with properties located on Erin and White Streets and to enter into a lease for 15 parking spaces on property owned by the City of Norwich located to the rear of the YMCA properties; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Council of Governments has recently proposed to make a loan to the City of Norwich from its Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund, said loan to be made at an interest rate of 1.5% and potentially forgivable; and in addition may offer the City a grant of \$200,000 subject to terms and conditions to be determined; and

WHEREAS, the \$325,000 loan from the Capital Region Council of Governments must be secured by a note and mortgage on the former YMCA properties currently owned by the City of Norwich with the funds to be used for the remediation of the same; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich must continue to hold title to the former YMCA properties to be mortgaged without any default to be made thereon or until said loan is forgiven or the obligations of the same may be assigned to the purchaser of the property; and

WHEREAS, said funds are necessary for remediation of the site.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, the resolution described herein adopted March 20, 2022, be amended by adding to it the following provisions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to enter into a Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund Loan Agreement between the Capital Region Council of Governments and the City of Norwich relative to a potentially forgivable loan in the amount of \$325,000 to be used for the remediation of the former YMCA properties on terms and conditions satisfactory to him and to accept, on behalf of the City of Norwich, a grant of \$200,000, if offered by the Capital Region Council of Governments the funds to be used with respect to the remediation of the former YMCA properties with the understanding that the conveyance of the YMCA properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC shall not occur until remediation of the former YMCA properties are completed satisfactorily and the obligations of the loan are forgiven by the Capital Region Council of Governments; or the obligations of the loan and mortgage are transferred to 337-355 Main Street LLC; unless any earlier conveyance is approved by subsequent resolution of this Council.

Upon a motion of Ald. Singh, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to accept the following resolution introduced under suspension on the floor.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, the Council of the City of Norwich authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to accept a two million dollar CT Communities Challenge Grant Program, offered by the State of Connecticut acting by and through its Department of Economic and Community Development, subject to certain terms and conditions including a Pass-Through Agreement by and between the City of Norwich and 337-355 Main Street LLC in connection with the rehabilitation of the former YMCA properties, and authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to execute such agreements, understanding, and documents as may be required in a form satisfactory to him and the Corporation Counsel, together with such other documents, materials, and filings necessary to complete the transaction and to deliver them appropriately; and further authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to convey the former YMCA facility properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC together with properties located on Erin and White Streets and to enter into a lease for 15 parking spaces on property owned by the City of Norwich located to the rear of the YMCA properties; and

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WHEREAS, said funds are necessary for remediation of the site.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, the resolution described herein adopted March 20, 2022, be amended by adding to it the following provisions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to enter into a Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund Loan Agreement between the Capital Region Council of Governments and the City of Norwich relative to a potentially forgivable loan in the amount of \$325,000 to be used for the remediation of the former YMCA properties on terms and conditions satisfactory to him and to accept, on behalf of the City of Norwich, a grant of \$200,000, if offered by the Capital Region Council of Governments the funds to be used with respect to the remediation of the former YMCA properties with the understanding that the conveyance of the YMCA properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC shall not occur until remediation of the former YMCA properties are completed satisfactorily and the obligations of the loan are forgiven by the Capital Region Council of Governments; or the obligations of the loan and mortgage are transferred to 337-355 Main Street LLC; unless any earlier conveyance is approved by subsequent resolution of this Council.

Upon a motion of Ald. Singh, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to amend the following resolution to correct the date in the sixth paragraph second line the from "March 20, 2022" to "March 20, 2023" and second paragraph third line to add the word "annually" after the "1.5%".

Upon a motion by Pres. Pro Tem DeLucia, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to further amend the following resolution in first paragraph seventh line the “understanding” to “understandings” and to clarify the sponsor as “City Manager Salomone”.

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, the Council of the City of Norwich authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to accept a two million dollar CT Communities Challenge Grant Program, offered by the State of Connecticut acting by and through its Department of Economic and Community Development, subject to certain terms and conditions including a Pass-Through Agreement by and between the City of Norwich and 337-355 Main Street LLC in connection with the rehabilitation of the former YMCA properties, and authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to execute such agreements, understandings, and documents as may be required in a form satisfactory to him and the Corporation Counsel, together with such other documents, materials, and filings necessary to complete the transaction and to deliver them appropriately; and further authorized and directed City Manager John Salomone to convey the former YMCA facility properties for \$1 to 337-355 Main Street LLC together with properties located on Erin and White Streets and to enter into a lease for 15 parking spaces on property owned by the City of Norwich located to the rear of the YMCA properties; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Region Council of Governments has recently proposed to make a loan to the City of Norwich from its Brownfields Clean-up Revolving Loan Fund, said loan to be made at an interest rate of 1.5% annually and potentially forgivable; and in addition may offer the City a grant of \$200,000 subject to terms and conditions to be determined; and

WHEREAS, the \$325,000 loan from the Capital Region Council of Governments must be secured by a note and mortgage on the former YMCA properties currently owned by the City of Norwich with the funds to be used for the remediation of the same; and

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obligations of the loan and mortgage are transferred to 337-355 Main Street LLC; unless any earlier conveyance is approved by subsequent resolution of this Council.

Motion passed on a roll call vote of 6-0.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously decided to waive the full reading of the text, and set a public hearing on April 13, 2023 and May 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm for the following ordinance introduced City Manager Salomone.

AN ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF NORWICH AND THE CITY AND TOWN CONSOLIDATION DISTRICTS OF SAID CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, the following appropriations hereby are made to meet the expense of the City of Norwich and the City and Town Consolidation Districts of the City of Norwich for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 to wit:

	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed
City Council	408,622	438,638	480,797
City Manager	424,267	440,278	462,771
Finance	1,804,792	1,932,258	2,021,550
Assessor	479,656	535,397	564,968
City Treasurer	296,705	304,375	372,831
Law	439,000	439,000	439,000
Human Resources	637,636	660,687	736,822
City Clerk	548,235	521,727	554,397
Planning & Neighborhood Services	1,189,146	1,250,590	1,385,664
Election	160,655	169,122	195,229
Police	18,365,141	18,370,424	19,212,749
Fire - Central	2,306,027	2,357,455	2,526,103
Emergency Management	72,840	75,661	76,574
Fire - East Great Plain	154,996	165,433	173,840
Fire - Laurel Hill	83,221	86,732	92,377
Fire - Occum	92,300	100,168	111,538
Fire - Taftville	173,968	176,038	177,780
Fire - Yantic	160,383	171,874	189,873
Public Works	11,155,301	12,150,807	12,670,221
Human Services	2,221,289	1,930,703	1,943,277
Education	86,346,105	86,803,758	88,973,852
Debt Service	3,907,535	3,558,554	4,296,599
Miscellaneous	5,586,522	5,987,051	6,556,863
City Consolidation District	8,231,074	8,117,604	8,482,180
Town Consolidation District	505,129	487,256	527,195
TOTALS			

	145,750,545	147,231,590	153,225,050
General Operations	44,103,547	45,524,131	48,172,689
Debt Service	3,907,535	3,558,554	4,296,599
Capital Improvements	2,657,155	2,740,287	2,772,535
Education	86,346,105	86,803,758	88,973,852
City Consolidation District	8,231,074	8,117,604	8,482,180
Town Consolidation District	505,129	487,256	527,195
TOTALS		147,231,590	
	145,750,545		153,225,050

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Neundorf, on a roll call vote it was unanimously decided to waive the full reading of the text, and set a public hearing on April 13, 2023 and May 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm for the following ordinance introduced City Manager Salomone.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE TAX LEVIES ON THE LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2022

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

Section 1. On the City Assessment list of October 1, 2022 a tax of forty-two and fifty hundredths (42.50) mills on the dollar is hereby established to be levied upon the ratable Real Estate and Personal Property within the City of Norwich of the inhabitants of said City and all others liable to pay taxes therein.

Section 2. On the City Assessment list of October 1, 2022, a tax of thirty-seven hundredths (0.37) mills on the dollar, is hereby established to be levied for fire services upon the ratable Real Estate and Personal Property within the Town Consolidation District of the inhabitants of said District and of all others liable to pay taxes therein.

Section 3. On the City Assessment list of October 1, 2022, a tax of seven and forty-eight hundredths (7.48) mills on the dollar, is hereby established to be levied for fire services upon the ratable Real Estate and Personal Property within the City Consolidation District of the inhabitants of said District and of all others liable to pay taxes therein.

Section 4. On the City Assessment list of October 1, 2022, a tax of thirty-two and forty-six hundredths (32.46) mills on the dollar is hereby established to be levied upon the ratable Motor Vehicles within the City of Norwich of the inhabitants of said City and all others liable to pay taxes therein.

Section 5. Except as provided in Section 6, all taxes on Real Estate and Personal Property listed in Sections 1 through 4 shall become due on July 1, 2023, and payable on said date in whole or in equal installments from that date, namely on July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024, except that any tax of less than one hundred dollars shall be due and payable on July 1, 2023. If the first installment is not paid on or before August 1, 2023 or if the second installment is not paid on or before February 1, 2024, interest will be charged on any such delinquent payment at the rate of one and one-half (1½%) per cent per month from the due date or \$2.00 whichever is greater, as provided for in the general

statutes. Any person may pay the total amount of such tax for which he is liable at the time when the first installment shall be payable.

Section 6. Taxes on Motor Vehicles shall become due and payable in full on July 1, 2023. If the payment is not paid on or before August 1, 2023 interest will be charged on the delinquent payment at the rate of one and one-half (1½%) per cent per month from due date or \$2.00 whichever is greater, as provided for in the general statutes.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Neunedorf, on a roll call vote it was unanimously decided to waive the full reading of the text, and set a public hearing on April 17, 2023, at 7:30 pm for the following ordinance introduced City Manager Salomone.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 9-28 OF THE NORWICH CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING THE FEE TO BE CHARGED TO 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 Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority (SCRRA) whereby SCRRA bills the city a charge to be referred to as a tip fee for materials generated in Norwich and brought to a SCRRA facility for disposition; and

WHEREAS, the SCRRA tip fee per ton will increase by \$2.00 effective July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich currently charges commercial haulers \$68.00 for each ton of solid waste collected in Norwich and delivered to a SCRRA facility.

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

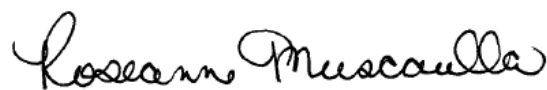
Sec. 9-28. Permit for collection, transportation or disposition of solid waste and other materials.

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~~ \$70.00 per ton.

d. This charge of ~~\$68.00~~ \$70.00 per ton shall become effective July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023.

Purpose: To increase the tip fee per ton charged to commercial haulers.

Upon motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Pres. Pro Tem DeLucia, on a roll call vote of 6-0 it was unanimously voted to adjourn 8:25 PM.



Assistant City Clerk