

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich was held June 20, 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.

Ald. Gould read the opening prayer and Ald. Neuendorf 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”.

Mayor Nystrom called for citizen comment.

Sandra Carpenter, regarding her fathers house at 295 Boswell Ave, she spoke about his house being damaged by a drunk driver and that several other accidents have happened on this road. She made several suggestions and asked the Council to work on a solution.

Patricia Mioduszewski, 284 Boswell Ave, asked the Council to help slow down the traffic on Boswell Ave to reduce the accidents and speeding.

David Rutherford, 4 Elm Ave, stated Elm Ave is a very dangerous Historic Road with cars going too fast. He asked that something be done about this.

Joanne Philbrick, 10 Elm Ave, recognized Tony Madeira for his help and service, as well as the City Clerk’s office, Bonnie the Executive Secretary to the Mayor and Kathy in Maintenance. She talked about the City needing to represent the people of, The City, and asked the Council to engage, be honest and respond to them.

Mayor Nystrom declared citizen comment closed.

Mayor Nystrom called for the following public hearing on 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.

Speaking in favor:

Joanne Philbrick, 10 Elm Ave, stated this is an important Commission and a disability is not always visible. She asked the Council to support this Ordinance.

Speaking in opposition:

Corrine Ornstein, Smith Ave, asked for more representation of people with disabilities on this Commission.

There being no further speakers Mayor Nystrom declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Nystrom called for the following public hearing on AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 16-4 OF THE NORWICH CODE OF ORDINANCES

Speaking in favor:

Joanne Philbrick, 10 Elm Ave, asked about how the pay works between the City and the State. She asked not to take away pay from our servicemen.

Robert Bell, 120 Broadway, stated that not paying our military would be a travesty and asked the Council not to take away their pay.

Shiela Hayes, 382 Laurel Hill Ave, asked why after 20 years we are repealing this Ordinance and asked for an explanation.

Speaking in opposition:

There were no speakers.

There being no further speakers Mayor Nystrom declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Nystrom called for the following public hearing on Relative to a Resolution regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act recommendations.

Speaking in favor:

Shiela Hayes, 382 Laurel Hill Ave, stated this is an awesome program which helps improve buildings and properties.

Speaking in opposition:

There were no speakers.

There being no further speakers Mayor Nystrom declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Nystrom called for the following public hearing on Relative to a Resolution regarding the Community Development Block Grant allocation recommendations.

Speaking in favor:

Speaking in favor:

There were no speakers.

Speaking in opposition:

There were no speakers.

There being no further speakers Mayor Nystrom declared the public hearing closed.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Burto, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to waive the reading of the full text and incorporate it into the minutes this ordinance being given its second reading.

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

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.

Motion passes on a roll call vote of 7-0.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to waive the reading of the full text and incorporate it into the minutes this ordinance being given its second reading.

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

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.

On a roll call vote of 7-0 motion passes.

Upon a motion of Ald. Burto, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to accept the following report regarding the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

CITY OF NORWICH Boards, Commissions, Committees and Authorities
Appointment & Re-Appointment Committee

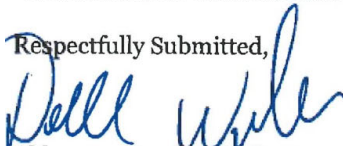


DATE: June 8, 2022
SUBJECT: Memo To City Council

The Appointment & Re-appointment Sub-Committee held a meeting scheduled **Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 6:15 PM in-person and via Turbobridge.**

During the meeting Discussion was had and a unanimous favorable recommendation to the City Council was affirmed for the below Ordinance:

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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alderman Derell Q. Wilson

Chair, Appoint/Re-appointment Committee

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

To: Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager’s Report
Date: June 20, 2022

Meetings attended were Southeastern Council of Governments (SECCOG), Southeastern Area Transit (SEAT), Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), NPU-City Coordination Meeting, and NCDC Board of Directors meeting. I had the pleasure of speaking at the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Panel discussion - *ARPA Best Practices for Municipal and Philanthropic Leaders* that was held in New Haven for approximately 70 participants. The Legislative Committee Covid meetings will be held as needed unless there is an uptick in the virus.

I also met with City staff regarding the Community Investment Fund 2030. The Department of Economic Development has a five year program designed to support historically disadvantaged communities. CIF provides funding for a variety of capital improvement and small business support with minimum grants in the amount of \$250,000. Staff and I discussed potential projects to prioritize and submit an application prior to the July 25th deadline.

Norwich Public Works has advised that construction has begun on the Sherman Street Bridges. The bridges will be closed to all traffic beginning June 27th and the construction is expected to last two construction seasons. Dunham Street reconstruction work is progressing steadily and should be substantially completed by late July. The Park crew has been working diligently on weeding, edging, mulching, and preparing the Rose Garden for the many visitors for the peak of the season. The new exercise stations at Mohegan Park which were funded by the American Rescue Plan have received many positive comments from the public.

Norwich Youth and Family Services case worker, Kate Milde provided social emotional programming to 696 Norwich students. These programs helped students learn skills related to identification of feelings, coping strategies, tools to help with successful transition to middle school as well as training on suicide prevention.

The Peace Run made a stop at David Ruggles Courtyard on Thursday, June 16th. Since 1987, the Peace Run has covered 370,000 miles on all 7 continents with 25,000 schools participating. Thank you to local realtor, Bill Champagne for organizing a stop in Norwich for this grass roots effort to create a more harmonious world.

An Informational Meeting/Workshop will be held at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, June 22, at the Rose City Senior Center for the American Rescue Plan remaining proposed projects and a Public Information Meeting by the State DOT for Safety Improvements on Route 82 will be held at Kelly Magnet Middle School on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Congratulations to Tony Madeira, Deputy Comptroller on this recent retirement. Tony has been in the Finance Department since November 2005 spending countless hours on City budgets. We wish him well.

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 on resolutions.

Joanne Philbrick, 10 Elm Ave, states she has participated in Resolution #4 and it is a great program.

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 Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia and Ald. Gould.

WHEREAS, the R.E. Van Norstrand Neighborhood Assistance Act, Chapter 228a of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S. 12-630aa-12-638) offers certain benefits to municipalities desiring to obtain the same and is administered by the State Department of Revenue Services (Commission of Revenue Services); and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Assistance Act provides a tax credit for business firms which sponsor local programs; and

WHEREAS, such programs must be proposed and conducted by private non-profit agencies or municipalities and be approved by the local legislative body;

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been duly noticed and held on applications submitted to the City Manager’s office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that it approves the following program proposals under the Neighborhood Assistance Act:

1. United Community & Family Services – Governor Samuel Huntington Mansion Window Replacement Project
2. Eastern Connecticut Housing Opportunities, Inc. – Heating System Energy Conservation Program -130 Washington St. & South 2nd Ave.
3. CT Radio Information System RIS-Audio Accessibility for People who are Blind or Print Challenged
4. United War Veterans Grand Army of the Republic Buckingham Memorial Association- Window Replacements at William Buckingham’s home
5. Norwich Historical Society, Inc. – Energy related upgrades to the c. 1772 Joseph Carpenter Silversmith Shop
6. Norwich Historical Society – Energy related upgrades to the circa 1789 East District School House
7. Norwich Historical Society, Inc. -Energy related upgrades for the c. 1750 Diah Manning House
8. Montessori Discovery School, Inc. – Campus-wide Energy Upgrades
9. St. Vincent de Paul Place Norwich, Inc. – Energy Upgrade-HVAC basement
10. Norwich Arts Center – Roof Replacement+
11. St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church – Energy Efficient Dishwasher system with kitchen redesign as needed and appliance replacement

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

Upon a motion of Ald. Wilson seconded by President Pro Tem DeLucia, it was unanimously voted to amend the following resolution to reduce “NHS - Rapid Rehousing Shelter Diversion from “\$15,000 to 0” and increase “NHS - Norwich Works from “\$45, 000 to \$60,000”.

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich is an entitlement community receiving U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars of \$844,233; \$15,000 anticipated return of loan (administration) for program year (PY) 2022; and Recapture Funds PY18 NCDC Signage \$30,000, Sidewalks \$39,528.53, PY 47 CDBG-CV Small Business Assistance \$169,091.55 total recaptured (\$274,452.08); and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) has held public meetings and voted on their recommendations for CDBG allocations in the month of May; and

WHEREAS, the allocation process is subject to a 30-day comment period prior to being placed into effect and the Council of the City of Norwich must hold a public hearing regarding the recommendations prior to the final vote on the allocation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that the Council shall hold a meeting on the subject of Community Development Block Grant allocation recommendations for PY 2022.

CDBG Requests - PY48 (2022-2023)		REVISED FUNDING		REVISED FUNDING	
Anticipated PY 2022 Allocation	\$ 876,317.00	\$ 844,233.00	\$ 844,233.00	\$ 844,233.00	\$ 844,233.00
Anticipated 2022 Recapture	\$ 274,452.08	\$ 274,452.08	\$ 274,452.08	\$ 274,452.08	\$ 274,452.08
Total Anticipated Funding for PY48 program year	\$ 1,150,769.08	\$ 1,118,685.08	\$ 1,118,685.08	\$ 1,118,685.08	\$ 1,118,685.08
	PY48 Request	CDAC Recommendation		Council Recommendation	
CD Office - Administration (20% of Grant Funds)	\$ 168,840.00	\$ 168,840.00		\$ 168,840.00	
Anticipated Return of Loan Admin	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
Total Projected Admin Expenditures	\$ 183,840.00	\$ 183,840.00		\$ 183,840.00	
Public Services					
Children in Placement - GAL	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	
Safe Futures - VALE	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
Thames River Family Program	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	
Madonna Place	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
IASC	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00		\$ 7,000.00	
TVCCA Home Again	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	
OIC of NL County	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
NRTP Vocational Training INELIGIBLE	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
NHS - Rapid Rehousing Shelter Diversion	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ -	
NHS - Norwich Works	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 45,000.00		\$ 60,000.00	
Total Public Services	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 172,000.00		\$ 172,000.00	
Non-Public Services					
Prospect St - DPW	\$ 358,634.00	\$ 182,843.08		\$ 182,843.08	
Rosewood Manor Roof Gutters Phase II - NHA	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00		\$ 150,000.00	
Property Rehabilitation Code Correction	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00		\$ 225,000.00	
Columbus Park Fence Replacement - DPW	\$ 84,700.00	\$ 84,700.00		\$84,700 *Includes \$33,795.55 CV-Recapture	
HVAC - Futures, Inc	\$ 26,654.40	\$ -		\$ -	
Norwich Rec - Taftville Park Walking Track	\$ 37,974.00	\$ 37,974.00		\$37,974 *Includes \$37,974 CV-Recapture	
Norwich Rec - Lake Street Court & Parking	\$ 219,932.00	\$ 97,322.00		\$97,322 *Includes \$97,322 CV-Recapture	
Total Non-Public Services	\$ 1,102,894.40	\$ 777,839.08		\$ 777,839.08	
TOTALS					
Public Service	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 172,000.00		\$ 172,000.00	
Non-Public Service	\$ 1,102,894.40	\$ 777,839.08		\$ 777,839.08	
CD Administration	\$ 168,840.00	\$ 168,840.00		\$ 168,840.00	
Total All Requests	\$ 1,473,734.40	\$ 1,118,679.08		\$ 1,118,679.08	
Total Funding	\$ 1,150,769.08	\$ 1,118,685.08		\$ 1,118,685.08	

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

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

Upon a motion by President Pro Tem DeLucia, seconded by Ald. Singh, to ask for no more than a 15 minute recess. We were in recess from 8:55 pm to 9:05 pm.

Upon a motion of President Pro Tem DeLucia seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to postpone the following until July 18, 2022, at 7:30 pm to facilitate an interview of this person.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following be **reappointed** as a **regular member** to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to expire on June 1, 2024 or until a successor is appointed;

Democles Angelopoulos (D)

Upon a motion of Ald. Burto, seconded by Ald. Gould, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to set a public hearing for July 5, 2022 at 7:30 pm on the following resolution introduced by Mayor Nystrom, President Pro Tem DeLucia, and Ald. Gould.

WHEREAS, the property owners listed below want to participate in a cost sharing program with the City of Norwich to construct concrete sidewalks along their property; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich wants to improve sidewalks throughout the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that: granite curbing and concrete sidewalks will be constructed at the following locations where the property owners will pay for an assessment for the cost of the sidewalks and the City of Norwich will pay for the cost of the curbing and miscellaneous items.

Name	Address	Estimate
Dallas Miller	61 Williams Street	\$6,702.84
George and Colleen Hardison	308 Boswell Avenue	\$4,525.00
Heather and Paul McKinney	21 Oak Street	\$3,704.40
Regan Miner	2 Town Street	\$14,534.42

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the cost of this project be funded from the existing capital budget line item for sidewalks, Capital Improvement Fund #3602 and the Sidewalk Fund, #2858, and that a public hearing be set at the second meeting of the City Council in June 2022.

The estimated city’s cost for curbing and miscellaneous construction items is \$ 16,218.00

Upon motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Singh, on a roll call vote it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:25 pm.



City Clerk