Mayor Rilling explained there was a public information session last year that was quite informative and encouraged Mr. Stewart to hold one again this year. He also suggested doing a press release notifying people when the session will take place.

Mayor Rilling encouraged the State Legislators to work in initiatives so they do not have to rely on property tax.

Mayor Rilling thanked the Ordinance Committee and the Common Council and Mr. Stewart. He said this is the fifth year in a row they have been able to provide property tax relief.

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY **

** MS. MELENDEZ MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM: **

4. APPROVE PROPOSED NEW ORDINANCE: PROHIBITING NATURAL GAS WASTE AND OIL WASTE FROM NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF NORWALK.

Ms. Melendez explained that when this item was first discussed, so many residents came out to express their feelings about this issue. If this Ordinance is passed, it will be one more big city in the State to do so.

** MS. MELENDEZ MOVED TO AMEND SECTION C1 TO REMOVE “PUBLIC” **

Mr. Yerinides said that passing this ban is a monumental step. He said he was inspired by the number of people engaged by this. This is a ban that closes more loopholes and ensures the safety of our residents.

Mr. Corsello said, regrettably, he has concerns. He said he does not want fracking waste anywhere, but he is not in favor of having laws the City can’t enforce. This is not for municipalities to enforce. He said what is being said is that the City is against fracking and that can be done through a resolution.

Ms. Bowman said she was going to abstain from this vote. She said this is an important issue and the Ordinance can’t be enforced.

Mr. Livingston noted that Section B provides specific language for City contractors and stops fracking waste from being used.

Mr. Simms said he was also going to abstain since the law can’t be enforced, it is almost like pushing the can down the road. As Mr. Corsello said, this is a State issue.

Mr. Sacchinelli said the Ordinance needs to be in place before they can determine how it can be enforced.
Mr. Yerinides said the Health Department is willing to help where they can to enforce the Ordinance. He said it is important that Norwalk be a leader, especially in environmental issues and not leave it to the State to fight this battle.

Ms. Bowman said no one owns the enforcement of this Ordinance. She asked who was going to enforce this.

Mr. Corsello said that while the Health Department is in favor of this ban, they can’t issue citations. He reiterated his concern that this is a law that can’t be enforced.

** THE AMENDMENT PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. CORSELLO) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MS. BOWMAN AND MR. SIMMS) **

** MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. CORSELLO) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MS. BOWMAN AND MR. SIMMS) **

D. LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM: **


Mr. Livingston explained that this agreement provides certain easements in exchange for funding for functional replacement of the IMAX Theatre and other items. He said that he was told that this is the only time that a functional replacement provision has been used. Mr. Livingston commented all for negotiating a great deal.

Ms. Bowman asked if someone from The Maritime Aquarium wished to talk.

Mr. Michael Widland, Chairman of the Board said they are very much in favor of this. He noted it represents three years of work with the City and will help ensure the revitalization of South Norwalk.

Mr. Kydes praised the attorneys and Dr. Davis and said it is a very good deal for the City.

Mr. Corsello said this is a unique circumstance and the only time the State has agreed to these provisions.

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Ms. Bowman said that she and Mr. Simms, as representatives in South Norwalk would like to see The Maritime Aquarium succeed through this process.

Mayor Rilling said this is bitter sweet because Dr. Davis is leaving for Atlanta. He did a remarkable job in elevating The Maritime Aquarium to a level only imagined. He said it has been challenging, but they were able to protect The Maritime Aquarium and the City’s interest.

Mayor Rilling wished Dr. Davis Godspeed.

Mr. Livingston said he wanted to commend the leadership at The Maritime Aquarium for their ban of plastics.

Mr. Simms said Dr. Davis has been instrumental in moving The Maritime Aquarium forward and as a member of the Maritime Aquarium Authority he is extremely proud of his leadership.

Dr. Davis was given a standing ovation.

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMON COUNCIL

There were none this evening.

IX. MOTIONS POSTPONED TO A SPECIFIC DATE

There were none this evening.

X. SUSPENSION OF RULES

There were none this evening.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

ATTEST: _________________________________

Donna King, City Clerk