

CITY OF NORWICH
JOINT MEETING of the
PUBLIC SAFETY / PUBLIC WORKS and
FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEES
May 6, 2014

Present:

Ald. Bryan McCracken
Ald. Brian Doliver
Ald. John Deierlein
Ald. Walter Schermerhorn
Ald. Paul Laughlin
Ald. Thomas LoPiccolo

Also:

Director of Finance/City Clerk William Roberts
Assistant Police Chief Scott Burlison
Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo
Mayor Joseph Maiurano
DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson
Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer
Code Enforcement Officer/Fire Marshall Jason Lawrence
Youth Bureau Director Robert Mason
Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake
Media Representative Shawn Magrath

Absent:

None

Ald. Walter Schermerhorn called the joint meeting of the Public Works/Public Safety and Finance/Personnel Committees to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Laughlin **moved** to approve the minutes of the Joint Committee meeting of April 1, 2014. Seconded by Ald. Deierlein, approved ayes all.

Correspondence

Gus Macker Ald. Deierlein **moved** to recommend the Common Council receive and approve a request from Thomas Revoir for this year's Gus Macker tournament on July 11, 12, and 13, 2014, with special-event designation. Seconded by Ald. McCracken, approved ayes all.

Department Head Reports

Police Department

Acceptance of Donation Assistant Police Chief Scott Burlison informed the Committees that the Police Department has received a \$1,000 donation from the American Legion for the new K-9 unit.

Sergeant Promotions Assistant Chief Burlison stated that anticipated retirements within the Department have begun and three officers will be offered promotion to sergeant. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to recommend the Common Council appoint Officer Roach as sergeant as of May 29, Officer Annesi as sergeant as of May 30, and Officer Maerz as sergeant as of May 31. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

DPW

Riprap - Ransford Creek DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson reported that damage at Ransford Creek Upper Reservoir requires emergency Riprap installation to prevent further deterioration of the banks. The cost will be approximately \$27,000, to be paid for from the Water - Special Projects line item.

CHIPS Funding C. Ivarson reported that the State has provided approximately \$14,000 in additional CHIPS funding, which cannot be used for pothole repairs. This will enable the Department to carry over approximately \$6,000 for next year's paving needs.

Finance Director of Finance William Roberts stated that the City has an opportunity to save approximately \$160,000 on the remainder of bond financing for the 1980s sewer plant project and the renovations of the Fire and Police Departments by refinancing those bond issuances. A portion of the savings will be for the General Fund and the remainder to the Wastewater Fund. Bond counsel has prepared a bond refinancing resolution which will be presented at the May Common Council meeting.

Other Items W. Roberts reported that Chapter 417 of the City Code, regarding the public market, has been rendered obsolete. Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake explained that the original ordinance was adopted in 1933, when the City maintained its own Department of Health and managed the public market. Over the decades those functions have been taken over by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, which regulates farmers' markets, and Chenango County, which manages the Department of Health and which owns East Park, where the market is held. A proposed ordinance will be presented to repeal Chapter 417 of the City Code.

Ald. Schermerhorn raised the issue of reserving areas in East and West Park for private functions. He was directed to give details to the Deputy Clerk, who will investigate.

Assistant Police Chief Burlison reported that the Police and Fire Departments will stage a mock crash for the benefit of high school students on May 12.

Ald. Deierlein asked about the new ambulances purchased by the Fire Department. Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo stated that one is already in service, and the second is having equipment installed. He hopes to have it in service within a week.

Adjournment

Ald. Deierlein **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 p.m. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.