

COMMON COUNCIL

May 19, 2015

Mayor Joseph Maiurano presided at a meeting of the Common Council held at 7:00 PM on May 19, 2015, in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza.

Present:

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

Absent:

Supervisor Robert Jeffrey
Supervisor James McNeil

Also:

Police Chief Rodney Marsh
Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo
Youth Bureau Director Robert Mason
Code Enforcement Officer/Fire Marshall Jason Lawrence
City Attorney Patrick Flanagan
Finance Administrative Office Manager Dee DuFour
Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake

Call to Order

The meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Maiurano at 7:04 p.m.

Approval of minutes

Ald. Laughlin **moved** to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 21, 2015. Seconded by Ald. Deierlein and duly approved ayes all.

Open Forum Logan Adsit, 83 Plymouth Street, stated she had attended a Planning Commission meeting regarding the keeping of chickens in Norwich and asked the Common Council to direct the Commission to address the request. Ms. Adsit gave the Council some information on backyard chickens, stating they were educational for children, do not carry diseases, eat insect pests, and are not noisy. She reviewed common objections to the keeping of chickens in urban areas, which can be addressed by requiring a permit, and listed cities throughout the state and country that allow chickens.

Melissa Farrow, 6 Beech Street, stated she would also like to keep chickens. She stated Binghamton does not require permits and has had only one complaint in three years. Oneonta recently allowed chickens and has issued five permits. Cornell Cooperative Extension will offer space for education on the keeping of chickens. She said she keeps a vegetable garden and a neighborhood cat digs up the vegetables.

CORRESPONDENCE

Newton Avenue Picnic Ald. Deierlein **moved** to receive and approve a request from Thomas Holmes to hold a neighborhood picnic on Newton Avenue on Sunday, May 31, 2015, from 4 – 9 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Schermerhorn, approved ayes all.

Classic Car Museum – Street Closing Ald. Laughlin **moved** to receive and approve a request from Robert Jeffrey of the Classic Car Museum for a partial street closing on State Street, with police presence, for an event to be held Sunday, July 19, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Schermerhorn, approved ayes all.

Liquor License Application – D’Abbraccio’s, LLC Ald. Laughlin **moved** to receive and file a new liquor license application from John D’Abbraccio of D’Abbraccio’s, LLC. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

Park Place Restaurant – Ratification of Request to Sell Liquor Outdoors Ald. Schermerhorn **moved** to ratify the approval of the Joint Committees of a request from Louise Cirello of Park Place Restaurant to sell alcohol outdoors during a Commerce Chenango event on May 27, 2015. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin, approved ayes all.

Department, Board and Commission Reports

- ☐ Civil Service Commission Minutes of April 30, 2015
- ☐ Code Enforcement Office Annual Report for 2014
- ☐ Parks Commission Minutes of May 5, 2015
- ☐ Planning Commission Minutes of March 16 and April 20, 2015
- ☐ Police Department Monthly Report for April 2015
- ☐ Water Commission Minutes of April 22, 2015

- ☐ Youth Board Minutes of May 6, 2015
- ☐ Youth Bureau Monthly Report for April 2015

Ald. Doliver **moved** to receive and file the department, board, and commission reports. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin, approved ayes all.

Ward Reports

Ward 1

Ald. McCracken reported that he received no communications from constituents during the last month.

Ward 2

Ald. Doliver reported that he received two complaints which have been forwarded to the Code Enforcement Office for resolution.

Ward 3

Ald. Deierlein reported that all complaints have been forwarded to the appropriate Department Heads for resolution.

Ward 4

Ald. Schermerhorn reported a problem with shrubs near the vacant Rite-Aid store that have overgrown the sidewalk. Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence replied that the property owners have been contacted.

Ward 5

Ald. Laughlin reported that he received no communications from constituents during the last month. Mayor Maiurano stated a streetlight on Sheldon Street is out.

Ward 6

Ald. LoPiccolo reported that all complaints have been forwarded to the appropriate Department Heads and are in the process of being resolved.

Ald. LoPiccolo **moved** to receive and file the ward reports. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin, approved ayes all.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #34-2015

AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS – FIREHOUSE THIRD FLOOR

Ald. Schermerhorn introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, a bid has been awarded to Richard W. Wakeman for modifications to the third floor of the Firehouse, and the award has been amended to include the bid alternate for installation of LED lighting; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with previously authorized engineering services by Delaware Engineering, the combined engineering and construction work amount to a total project cost of \$146,400; and

WHEREAS, the City has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$100,000 through Senator Libous' office under the State and Municipalities Capital Program; and

WHEREAS, the existing cash balance in the municipal buildings capital project account will require additional funds to supplement the grant by a total amount of \$38,000; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Committees have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following supplemental appropriation and transfer of funds in the 2015 General Fund Budget be and hereby is authorized:

Supplemental Appropriation & Transfer General Fund:___

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A910	General Fund – Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 35,000.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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A9950.1H36 Interfund Transfer – Municipal Buildings Project \$ 35,000.00

Transfer From Capital Reserves: _____

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HR33-878	Capital Reserves – Municipal Buildings	\$ 3,000.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
H36-02-1620.4020D	Municipal Buildings Capital Project	\$ 3,000.00

Seconded by Ald. Deierlein, and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #35-2015 **AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS – TAX SOFTWARE & COMPUTER WIRING COSTS**

Ald. Laughlin introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2015, the Common Council adopted Resolution #08-2015 authorizing the acquisition of tax accounting software from Allen Tunnell Corp.; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the ongoing project for the installation of new financial accounting software, computer server, and a systems network upgrade, corresponding funding is required; and

WHEREAS, the current renewal premiums for property and liability insurance are significantly lower than originally budgeted, and cost estimates for other line items are also less; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following transfer of funds in the 2015 General Fund Budget be and hereby is authorized:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1910.4	Insurance	\$ 26,200.00
A1325.4020	Finance – Contracted Services	\$ 1,800.00
A1420.4020	Attorney – Contracted Services	\$ 1,000.00
A9050.8	Employee Benefits – Unemployment Insurance	\$ 2,000.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1680.2100	Management Information Systems – Equipment Software	\$ 22,000.00
A1680.4020	Management Information Systems - Contracted Services	\$ 9,000.00

Seconded by Ald. Schermerhorn, and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

Discussion: Ald. Deierlein asked which portion of the transferred funds is for Allen Tunnell Corp. Finance Administrative Office Manager Dee DuFour replied that \$22,000 is for the software.

RESOLUTION #36-2015 **AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH THE CHAZEN COMPANIES, INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES PERTAINING TO GIGP HERITAGE BLOCK PARKING AREA DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

Ald. LoPiccolo introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich is engaged in the redevelopment of a parking area between Mechanic Street and Lackawanna Avenue, which is commonly known as the Heritage Block parking area; and

WHEREAS, the City believes it is in the public interest to redevelop the parking area, thereby improving public access and implementing environmentally sound drainage enhancements; and

WHEREAS, the City has received grant support through the Green Innovation Grant Program of the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation to conduct the project; and

WHEREAS, a contract proposal for engineering services, dated February 23, 2015, has been received from The Chazen Companies, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Norwich hereby finds the proposal to be reasonable and in the best interest of the City to advance the redevelopment project; and

WHEREAS, the procurement policies of the City of Norwich and the applicable laws of the State of New York allow the City to enter into a professional services contact on this matter; and

WHEREAS, this action involving the redevelopment of the Heritage Block parking area is subject to the applicable provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), was previously classified as a Type 1 action, and a Determination of Non-Significance (a negative declaration) was issued on August 8, 2013; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to negotiate and enter into a contract with The Chazen Companies, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$57,100, for the purpose of retaining engineering services pertaining to the design and construction of the Heritage Block parking area.

Seconded by Ald. Doliver and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

Discussion: Ald. Schermerhorn asked if the engineering costs are covered by the grant. Mayor Maiurano stated they are. Ald. McCracken asked if any of the cost would be paid back to the City for its own administrative work. Mayor Maiurano clarified that this is for engineering services, not for administering the grant, which is done by Shelter Planning, but he believes Shelter Planning will share some of the administrative cost with the City.

Payment of May 2015 Bills Ald. Schermerhorn **moved** to pay the May 2015 bills after proper audit and certification. Seconded by Ald. McCracken and duly adopted ayes all.

May Bills

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>5/19/15</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	\$ 160,932.96	\$ 659,111.40	\$ 820,044.36
Sewer Fund	75,794.80	38,907.25	114,702.05
Water Fund	21,402.70	28,619.26	50,021.96
Trust Fund	26,977.24	-	26,977.24
Debt Service	2,500.00	-	2,500.00
Comm. Dev. – Small Cities	413.19	-	413.19
Capital Projects	31,347.17	-	31,347.17
TOTALS	\$ 319,368.06	\$ 726,637.91	\$ 1,046,005.97

Adjournment

Ald. Schermerhorn **moved** to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Deierlein, approved ayes all.