

COMMON COUNCIL

June 19, 2018

Mayor Christine Carnrike presided at a meeting of the Common Council held at 6:30 PM on June 19, 2018, in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Christine Carnrike
Ald. Matthew Caldwell
Ald. Brian Doliver (arrive 7:25 p.m.)
Ald. John Deierlein
Ald. Linda Kays-Biviano
Ald. David Zieno
Ald. Robert D. Jeffrey

Also:

Director of Finance/City Clerk Dee DuFour
Youth Bureau Director Robert Mason
Fire Chief Jan Papelino
Police Chief Rodney Marsh
City Attorney Steve Natoli
Deputy City Clerk Agnes Eaton
Derrick Wilcox, Delaware Engineering

Media Representative: Grady Thompson

Supervisor Robert M. Jeffrey
Supervisor James McNeil

Call to Order

The meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Carnrike at 6:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Caldwell **moved** to approve the minutes of the special meeting of May 8 and the regular meeting of May 22, 2018. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly approved ayes all.

Open Forum

Kurt Edwards, 287 Aurora Dr., Norwich, has known George Carnrike over 25 years and stated he has done much for Norwich and the surrounding area. Some of the organizations benefitting from George's generosity of time, energy and material donations include the Norwich YMCA, the Little League, and Norwich football programs including Pop Warner as well as High School. He does this because he loves Norwich and is dedicated to the community. Mr. Edwards believes George to be a good person, an important part of the community and a friend.

Jim McNeil, 12 Eric St., Norwich, reported being disturbed and concerned about actions taken at an emergency meeting concerning a personnel issue regarding the acting DPW Superintendent. This person has stepped up to cover a vacant position coming into a very busy season for the DPW. The action seems hasty and hopes that the "homework" was done and the City is prepared for any actions that may follow. "Some people will step up, work hard and do what needs to be done without any concern for compensation as George [Carnrike] would do. Search your own hearts and minds and question everything that comes in front of you in a personnel issue – whether it's fact or not fact"

Monty Westcott, owner and operator of Westcott Electric, Norwich, said George Carnrike is a dedicated City employee who would work nights, weekends and holidays. He is a leader who ran his own business and knows how to get things done and gives 100%.

Robert M. Jeffrey, 17 York St., Norwich, spoke regarding the Town of Norwich Fire Contract that was broached at the Joint Committee meeting. The Norwich Ambulance and EMS is second to none and covers areas that don't contribute to the City. The 2018 estimated Ambulance recovery is \$700,000 and Fire recovery at \$786,498 and negotiations should have started much sooner and hopefully will start earlier for 2019. Cost overruns were over \$200,000 last year due to overtime. The City taxpayers cannot keep paying for all [who are receiving services].

Chris Sprague, 27 Plymouth St., Norwich is the City Parks Commission Chair and has been a member since 2008 and has worked with George Carnrike over 1 ½ years and has never dealt with anyone from the City that cared more about the City.

No one has made more of an impression on him than George.

Betsy Baio of New Berlin stated that George Carnrike is one of the finest people she knows. She served for two terms on the Chamber of Commerce Board and would always call George because he was always willing to do anything asked of

him. George volunteered more time and hours and went above and beyond. The New Berlin Community has watched George and asked for advice and guidance on matters such as with the Little League field. He has worked with the football program, The Place, the church etc.

Ald. Caldwell asked to speak and Mayor Carnrike asked him to be brief as she also had remarks to make.

Ald. Caldwell began by thanking those who came out to speak on behalf of Mr. Carnrike. The decisions the Council has had to make were not made in haste. "Everything you've told us we know. We've heard it, we've seen it, we've been part of it with you. To be in this position for us, is quite as shocking as it is to you, but there are a lot of things personnel related that we can't discuss as a legislative body. There are rights of employees, the rights of taxpayers, the protection of employees. We're in a really hard spot right now." "In fairness to the employee, in fairness to the taxpayers and stakeholders of this City, we have taken what we believe to be the least harsh action possible to get to the bottom of this as quickly as possible." He went on to say the situation is not good for anyone, but with the information received which has "blown our minds", to do nothing would be "100% irresponsible". He restated that decisions were not made in haste or with thoughtless action.

Mayor Carnrike addressed the room and began "I speak tonight not as a resident or a taxpayer, but as the Mayor, as the head of this body, the Council, and the CEO of the corporation of the City of Norwich. In light of 2018 events affecting all departments, I'd like us to recalibrate in light of our mission, examining policies, processes and be ready to tune or create new ones as needed. There is most definitely room for improvement and change. A better way to provide our oversight, to operate our departments and pass an organizational structure to serve the taxpayers better.

Last Thursday, I was included on an email distributed to members of the Council including the Mayor, the City Attorney, City Supervisors, Department Heads, some City employees and the media at 10:09 a.m. of a special emergency meeting at 6:30. The members of the City Council are certainly in their power to call a meeting, however, as Mayor, I should be informed of any such meeting in advance of the notification to others. It matters not what the reason, topic, issue or party involved. If Council wants to exclude me from the meeting they can request it. I am not obligated to recuse myself from any such meeting by virtue of my name or may title. The point is, no one is served by behind the scenes action that leave out a key member of the City government administration. Following the receipt of the meeting email I notified the Council members and the Deputy City Clerk by email that effective immediately the Mayor will have knowledge of any meetings before meeting notices are distributed. I expect that policy will be adhered to going forward. With any emergency meeting comes speculation. The latest came with an inaccurate newspaper article and unnecessary media attention. The information about whether the Mayor knew of the meeting or when she knew of it was reported in the press in such a manner as to leave questions in the minds of the public and the taxpayers. A member of this Council made a comment to me in passing on Wednesday evening in my office was my first indication that something was up. I reached out to another member of the Council early Thursday morning and was told that two members of the Council planned to meet with me at 5:00 p.m. Was I available? This is the first process in which we must perform and execute better and more consistently."

"Employees of the City of Norwich are hired, employed and do the work necessary for the operation of the City – for our residents, business owners, community organizations and most importantly our taxpayers. What do I expect from our City's employees? Be it a Department Head, Supervisor, Manager, subordinate, I expect 8 hours of work for 8 hours of pay and that is the second point I'd like to highlight this evening. Is every day going to be the same? No, it most certainly is not. Are some times of the year busier than others while other times may be slow? Yes, that is true, too. All this means is that we are employed at the behest of taxpayers and we should be delivering a quality service consistently and efficiently. I expect all to work at the very best of our ability, to be on time, to be ready to contribute and to not abuse the system of government. As a former Federal and County employee myself, I know the reputation government workers have. It is not necessarily without merit. However, I don't paint things with a broad brush, but observations are very telling in the public's eye. Perception can be everything. Taking an hour to do a 15-minute task is unacceptable. I cannot stress enough again, 8 hours of work, 12 hours of work, 24 hours of work for the appropriate pay. That's what must happen day in and day out here in the City of Norwich. It should be what we are doing without exception across every department in this City and the standard on which we rest our budgetary determinations.

Furthermore, the City requires many policies and procedures entirely absent from departmental handbooks. We have been negligent in drafting, implementing and/or enforcing the use of Technology and Social Media Access Policies, Fraternalization/Non-Fraternalization to name just a few. We have a responsibility to train our leaders, something that has not happened for years but is an area we must quickly recalibrate and operate like a 21st Century municipality. I have a couple of proposals I will be offering at the next Joint Committee meeting for consideration and what I expect will be approved is to train our leaders, to train the Mayor, the Council, Department Heads, Supervisors, Managers, Board and Commission Chairpersons and right on down the line. We cannot neglect training any longer as an element in our

strategy to deliver City services or we shouldn't be surprised with leaders generating inconsistent results, far from the mark, demanded by the taxpayers.

I would further state this evening that this Mayor, and I daresay this Council, should not be making any decisions on any action item, personnel or otherwise, from innuendo, incomplete reports, anonymous callers in those lovely on-line submissions to 30 Seconds. There is a world of difference between confidentiality and anonymity. Anonymity has no place here. I have learned that any number of comments in 30 Seconds regarding me and what some anonymous callers say about me and my administration of the City government I've been referred to as the most corrupt Mayor this City has ever seen and then they spew their remarks about nepotism and so many other untruths and purely blatant lies. What I say to you folks – own your comments, sign your name and call me, better yet meet me, but if you'd like to take it down my phone number is 607-316-4703 – my phone is on. I care about serving the City of Norwich to the best of my ability. If I had wanted everything to continue operating at the City as it was prior to January 1, 2016 I wouldn't have entered the race for Mayor. In the past 2 ½ years there have been some changes in the City government. Many of them necessary, some long overdue. Change is not a bad thing. Change can be positive and a necessity to getting things on the right path to progress and efficiency. Furthermore, all City departments need to and must work together for the good of the City. This is not department against department, personality against personality. This is about doing what is demanded of us by virtue of our positions. Let's work together and set personal differences aside. I didn't come to City Hall or to City Council chambers to be your friend. I came here to do a job. Unfortunately, due to past practices, and/or the lack of policies or purely selective enforcement of those policies, I inherited so much more than fiscal shortcomings in January of 2016. But let's cooperate, let's serve the City going forward as we should have been doing all along. As Ald. Caldwell pointed out, personnel matters are confidential for reasons that should be obvious. We need to protect all parties involved, as it should be and as it will continue to be. When matters are able to be discussed based on outcomes, if ever, I would welcome the opportunity to share just a tidbit of what's been uncovered during my short tenure here in the City, and what has happened long ago, creating so many costly challenges for us today. Much of it is truly unbelievable and the fact that it was ever allowed and/or continues to fester today – totally unacceptable and that is just my humble opinion.

Council's action to place the Assistant Superintendent of Public Works on paid administrative leave was a decision I was not part of. I have not been part of the meetings because I share the same last name. I won't be excluded going forward. However, if Council decisions are made that imply a person is guilty until proven innocent we need to rethink what were doing and why we would ever be making such decisions that would leave that perception in the public's eye. When contacted by the local newspaper last Thursday, then again Friday and by a Binghamton news station on Friday I gave what information I could share to the question "Did the decision to place an employee on paid administrative leave have anything to do with a violation ticket issued by the NYS DEC regarding the cleanup of the campsite." My answer – it was not related to the NYS DEC violation. Tonight, I myself have more questions than answers because the cleanup of the campsite, "tent city", was left for several months without action, and following a group effort the day before by County and City personnel of campsite 1, the second site was cleaned up by DPW personnel. If there were questions or concerns about the cleanup they could have been addressed and could have re-cleaned in the same manner as it was less than 10 days ago. When we do nothing for months, then finally clean up the sites, and then we notify NYS DEC of a potential issue? That's where I question the process, the accountability and where I demand action going forward to deter such sites and when they are found we take care of it immediately. It is important to note that the second site was not City property as it was believed to be. It was private property, and it should also be noted that our employee, on his own time, with the property owner, re-cleaned the site. Although a nuisance and totally disgusting these sites are not deemed as a hazard to the public by NYS DEC and that is important to make sure the public knows. Therefore, once again I have no reason to believe this violation was ever part of the decision by this Council for that emergency meeting, because a review of the timeline shows the emergency meeting, although not yet announced, was indeed scheduled prior to my own meeting with NYS DEC Wednesday morning.

Eight weeks ago, Council took action to place another City employee on paid administrative leave pending an investigation. A decision that was not taken lightly, but one that was determined to be necessary after months, if not years, of issue requiring attention. I cannot stress enough, personnel issues are not, nor should they be, taken lightly and they should be done when absolutely necessary. In this latest decision it had more to do with unsigned comments and complaints than anything else. This latest action by Council amidst contract negotiations is not a help, purely a hinderance. What we now have is one of our most dedicated employees, who is a taxpayer, who we are relying on to provide direction for our Public Works Department, it is indicative to me that a decision was made hastily to satisfy someone or something and the impact of such action for our taxpayers would be detrimental if it were not for this employee's commitment to the City of Norwich and his continuing to lead and direct from home, just not in person. Friday's newspaper had a headline, unfortunately the article was disjointed and contained information that implied impropriety regarding the cleanup of campsite "tent city" 1 among other misstatements and what one could determine to be inflammatory and prejudicial information. Freedom of the press allows investigative reporting but there also comes a responsibility for accurate reporting versus the economics of selling papers in a dwindling print market. So, going forward, right now let's hope we'll all do better starting tonight. Let's spend the money necessary to train our personnel,

to put in place and to enforce necessary and required policies and procedures and let's all get back to work for the City of Norwich."

Correspondence

YMCA Gus Macker – Ald. Deierlein **moved** to approve a request from the YMCA for use of services and materials during Gus Macker as has been done at previous tournaments such as use of the Firehouse and their medical assistance, along with Police support, having DPW use the Street Sweeper on affected areas, and the use of bleachers and picnic tables. Seconded by Ald. Caldwell, approved ayes all.

4th of July Event – Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to approve a request from Terry Potter, organizer of the 4th of July events at the fairgrounds, for Police assistance on July 4th from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Park Place Special Liquor Permit – Ald. Caldwell **moved** to receive and approve a request from Park Place Restaurant for a special liquor permit to serve alcohol during the Chenango County Blues Thursday night concert series. As in previous years, sales will be limited to beer and wine in a roped-off area in front of Park Place from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Kays-Biviano, approved ayes all.

Department, Board and Commission Reports

- ◆ Traffic Commission Minutes – May
- ◆ Park Commission Minutes - April
- ◆ Zoning Board of Appeals – May, August, November 2017 and March 2018
- ◆ Police Report - April

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

Ward Reports

Ward 1

Ald. Caldwell reported some communications that have been forwarded to the appropriate department.

Ward 3

Ald. Deierlein reported some communications that have been forwarded to the appropriate department for resolution.

Ward 4

Ald. Kays-Biviano reported receiving a complaint about parking on South Mitchell St. which has been referred to the Traffic Commission.

Ward 5

Ald. Zieno reported one communication that has been resolved and another that is in the process of being resolved.

Ward 6

Ald. Jeffrey reported communications regarding lawns not being mowed which has been forwarded to Code Enforcement and complaints regarding cats. He also fielded questions regarding the plan for the City as it regards to Code Enforcement and the overall Community Planning Division. He took this time to make a statement and began by saying that since he and Ald. Kays-Biviano were sworn-in in January, the Council has spent most of its time dealing with personnel issues and not the growth and economic development of the City. He challenged those to have the same passion, pride and commitment that the residents of the City have. We need create a vision set goals and work toward goals which will take a team effort and collaboration. He referenced an article in Syracuse.com and the Post Standard the report of the 50 communities in Central NY that have lost the greatest population over the past several years which included the Town and Village of Greene, the Town of Norwich and the Town of Earlville and does not want the City of Norwich to appear on this list.

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

Motions

Accepting Resignation of Human Resource Director – Ald. Caldwell **moved** to receive and accept the resignation from City of Norwich Human Resource Director effective June 10, 2018. Seconded by Deierlein, approved ayes all.

McLaughlin's Parking Lot Lease – Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to authorize the Mayor under the direction of the City Attorney, to sign a lease agreement with Scott McLaughlin of McLaughlin's Department Store, for lease of the parking lot for the purpose of providing additional public parking in the downtown area. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Correction of Minutes and Subsequently Resolution of Appointment of Craig Berg – Ald. Caldwell **moved** with Ald. Jeffrey Seconding to open for discussion the correcting of an error in the minutes of May 21, 2013 in Resolution #27-2013 to reflect the effective starting date as June 24, 2013 and not June 30, 2013 as was reported.

D. DuFour reported that she confirmed through time sheet records that the employee started on the June 24th and this should be corrected now rather than wait. The employee did not work on June 30th at all. Motion was approved, ayes all.

RESOLUTION #27-2013

APPOINTMENT OF FIREFIGHTER IN THE NORWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of firefighter in the Norwich Fire Department, and;

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended the appointment of Craig Berg of Norwich, NY, to such position; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Craig Berg, of Norwich, NY, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as firefighter in the Norwich Fire Department, effective *June 24, 2013, contingent upon successfully passing the required medical and psychological examinations.

Seconded by Ald. Laughlin and duly adopted, 5-0, on a roll call vote.

*Corrected 6/19/18 CC

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #38 – 2018

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH THE Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Administrative Support Unit #6404-01 of Chenango County Local 809

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

WHEREAS, The Common Council has created the position of Code Enforcement Officer, and;

WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Officer job title is not represented by any labor unions in the City of Norwich, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Administrative Support Unit #6404-01 of Chenango County Local 809 has requested representation of aforementioned job title, and;

WHEREAS, the Common Council recognizes the duties of said position are sufficiently similar in nature to other job titles currently represented by CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Administrative Support Unit #6404-01 of Chenango County Local 809, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Common Council authorizes the Mayor to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Administrative Support Unit #6404-01 of Chenango County Local 809 to recognize and represent the title of Code Enforcement Officer, and further be it

RESOLVED, that the title of Code Enforcement Officer be assigned to the same pay grade as Deputy City Chamberlain and Secretary II.

Seconded by Ald. Zieno and duly approved, 5 - 0, on a roll-call vote.

RESOLUTION #39 - 2018

APPOINTING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of Code Enforcement Officer in the Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Committee has made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Amy J. Donnison of Sherburne, NY be and hereby shall receive a provisional appointment to the full-time position of Code Enforcement Officer at the five-year hourly rate of \$24.85, and further be it

RESOLVED, that the effective date of the provisional appointment shall be June 20, 2018, and, further be it

RESOLVED, that said appointment is contingent upon the satisfactory completion of the required Civil Service exam and any action that may be necessary by the Norwich Civil Service Commission.

Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey. Ald. Caldwell **moved** to amend the resolution by removing “this position is to be added to the union contract between the CSEA-Administrative Support Unit and the City of Norwich”. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly adopted, 5 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #40 -2018

AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR DUNNE DRIVE PUMPS

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

WHEREAS, two of the pumps at the Dunne Drive tank are over 25 years old; and

WHEREAS, the two pumps need replacing at a cost not to exceed \$13,000; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer of funds:

<u>From:</u>		
<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
F8310.1010	Personal Services	\$ 13,000.00
<u>To:</u>		
<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
F8340.4040	Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 13,000.00

Seconded by Ald. Kays-Biviano. Mayor Carnrike suggested that funds from the Personal Services line be used instead of Reserves. Ald. Caldwell moved to amend the resolution for funds to be transferred from the Personal Services line instead of Reserves. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, and duly adopted, 5 – 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #41 -2018

SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION OF THE NORWICH BIDMA FOR MAIN STREET GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE NYS HOMES AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL

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

WHEREAS, the Norwich Business Improvement District Management Association, Inc. ("Norwich BIDMA") has previously received New York Main Street grant funding, which has been used to make significant improvements to numerous downtown properties; and

WHEREAS, an opportunity exists for the Norwich BIDMA to apply for the current round of Main Street grant funding to support the rehabilitation of additional commercial and mixed-use properties located within the BID target area; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to the ongoing efforts of the Norwich BIDMA to revitalize and improve the downtown; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Norwich hereby provides its support for the Norwich BIDMA's application for grant funding through the NYS Main Street grant program.

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

Discussion: There are no specific properties as the property owners must apply for the grant and the City is supporting the B.I.D. applying for the grant and there is no cost to the City.

RESOLUTION #42 - 2018 **AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR 2018 FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES WITH THE TOWN OF NORWICH**

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

WHEREAS, the most recent contract with the Norwich Rural Fire Protection District for fire protection services expired on December 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, said contract provides that the City of Norwich furnish fire protection services to the duly established fire protection district known as the Norwich Rural Fire Protection District, said district embracing territory within the Towns of Norwich, North Norwich; and

WHEREAS, a proposed new contract has been drafted with the same terms and conditions as 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Finance Committees have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to sign a new Fire Protection Services Agreement for 2018 with the Town of Norwich.

Seconded by Ald. Doliver and duly adopted, 5 - 1, on a roll call vote with Ald. Jeffrey voting nay.

Discussion: Before the vote Ald. Caldwell agreed with Supervisor Jeffrey's earlier statement that negotiations should begin earlier. When the year is half over there is not much that can be done. Attempts were made in January, but due to circumstances a contract was not completed. No payments have been received from the Town to date, but once this contract is passed and goes to the Town Board and approved a check will be cut so that the amount due will be current. Ald. Jeffrey asked if the City has been answering calls even without a contract. Mayor Carnrike responded yes and we will not deny the Town taxpayers the service as they are the ones who pay for the service.

RESOLUTION #43 - 2018

AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDERS TO THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

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

WHEREAS, it has been determined that additional work is needed at the Water Treatment Plant Project; and

WHEREAS, General Construction Contract Change Order No. 8 includes installation of (2) continuous chlorine analyzers at a cost of \$10,068.25; and

WHEREAS, Electrical Construction Contract Change Order No. 2 includes new electrical service to the chemical house at the reservoir at a cost not to exceed \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, Delaware Engineering has reviewed the General Construction Change Order requests submitted by Eastman Associates and the Electrical Construction Contract Change Order from A. Treffeissen & Son and has recommended their approval; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to execute the change orders for the Water Treatment Plant Project in the General Construction Contract in the amount of \$10,068.25 and the Electrical Construction Contract in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

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

Discussion: Before the vote there was discussion regarding the contingency. Ald. Zieno stated that usually these projects have the majority of change orders at the beginning of a project. Mayor Carnrike had concerns regarding the ability of the new Filter Plant "to run as it is deemed to" and stated we should be careful going forward with any further change orders.

RESOLUTION #44 - 2018

**DESIGNATING "PREFERRED PURCHASER" OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY
AT 50 PLEASANT STREET**

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

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich acquired the real property at 50 Pleasant Street through property tax foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is considered by the Common Council to be surplus and its continued ownership by the City unnecessary to a useful public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City publicly advertised the property for sale in the *Evening Sun* newspaper on January 25 and February 5, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has reviewed proposals for the purchase of the property, and considers the proposal from Storm Hammond to be an acceptable offer based on the purchase amount offered, the significant investments to be made in the property's rehabilitation, and the proposed use of the property; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby designates Storm Hammond of South Plymouth, NY as the "preferred purchaser" of the City-owned property at 50 Pleasant Street; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to negotiate and enter into a contract for the sale of the City-owned property at 50 Pleasant Street to Storm Hammond for the aforesaid purpose.

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

RESOLUTION #45 - 2018

**DESIGNATING "PREFERRED PURCHASER" OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY
AT 125-127 EAST MAIN STREET**

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

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich acquired the real property at 125-127 East Main Street through property tax foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is considered by the Common Council to be surplus and its continued ownership by the City unnecessary to a useful public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has reviewed proposals for the purchase of the property, and considers the proposal from partners Michael O'Reilly, Daniel O'Reilly and George Liasko to be an acceptable offer based on the purchase amount offered, the significant investments to be made in the property's rehabilitation, and the proposed use of the property; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby designates Michael O'Reilly, Daniel O'Reilly and George Liasko of Norwich, NY as the "preferred purchaser" of the City-owned property at 125-127 East Main Street; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to negotiate and enter into a contract for the sale of the City-owned property at 125-127 East Main Street to Michael O'Reilly, Daniel O'Reilly and George Liasko for the aforesaid purpose.

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

Other

Commerce Chenango Membership Discussion – Ald. Caldwell stated he was confused as to whether the City was previously a member, what type of membership is available, and what value for the City could be attained by membership. D. DuFour reported that the City does pay a membership fee each year but has not received one for this year. It was unclear what the value to the City is for that membership. Mayor Carnrike reiterated Supervisor Jeffrey's statement that another type of membership exists that could assist with Grant opportunities and connections. Supervisor Jeffrey stated that with very competitive Grants such as the DRI Grant, Commerce Chenango has those details and knows the "ins and outs". He suggested that Steve Craig of Commerce Chenango address the Council to see where they could be of assistance as well as the new Director of Planning at the County Shane Butler would be a valuable resource. Ald. Caldwell **moved** to issue formal invitations to Steve Craig and Shane Butler to come and speak at the next Joint Committee meeting. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Payment of June 2018 Bills

Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to pay the June 2018 bills after proper audit and certification.

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>6/19/2018</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	\$961,884.95	\$55,979.26	\$1,017,864.21
Sewer Fund	46,895.34	16,615.02	63,510.36
Water Fund	36,068.65	4,455.48	40,524.13
Trust	31,998.63	-	31,998.63
Debt Service	-	-	-
Comm. Dev. - Special Grants	8,557.08	87.97	8,645.05
Capital Projects	1,052,679.11	-	1,052,679.11
TOTALS	\$2,138,083.76	\$77,137.73	\$2,215,221.49

Seconded by Ald. Doliver and duly adopted, ayes all.

Executive Session

Ald. Caldwell **moved** to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual at 7:44 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Doliver, approved ayes all.

Executive Session entered at 8:07 p.m. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to exit executive session at 9:24 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Kays-Biviano, approved ayes all.

Adjournment

Ald. Deierlein **moved** to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Doliver, approved ayes all.