

CITY OF NORWICH
PUBLIC SAFETY / PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

March 25, 2010

Present:

Ald. Carey

Also:

City Clerk/Director of Finance William Roberts

DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson

Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo

Police Chief Joseph Angelino

EMO A. Jones

Code Enforcement Officer/Fire Marshal Jason Lawrence

Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer

Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake

Mayor Joseph Maiurano

Absent:

Ald. Bresina, Chairman

Ald. Deierlein

In the absence of a quorum, the March meeting of the Public Works/Public Safety Committee was held for informational purposes only at 7:04 a.m. on March 25, 2010, at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Correspondence

Requests from the American Legion to hold its annual Memorial Day Parade, from Valley Heights Christian Academy to hold its annual Walk-A-Thon, and from the Norwich-Oxford Little League to hold their annual parade, were reviewed.

Department Head Reports

Fire Department

Hurst Tools Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo reported that the Department received the new Hurst tools and wishes to have the old tools declared surplus so they may be sold.

Interior Firefighter Bale-Out Rope Systems Chief Chawgo reported that a new unfunded mandate requires all interior firefighters to be fitted with and trained in the use of rope bail-out systems. The cost for 30 such systems will be approximately \$5,000. Chief Chawgo indicated that adequate funds are included in the 2010 Budget line. Training can be handled in-house on the department's simulator.

Engine 232 Chief Chawgo presented two quotes received for the renovation of Engine 232. Director of Finance William Roberts said he will determine whether this work must be bid out, due to the amounts quoted. Ald. Carey asked if the work could be spread out over two years. DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson said that would probably increase the cost of the work.

Police Department

LiveScan Update Police Chief Joseph Angelino reported that the LiveScan and CardScan fingerprinting equipment was delivered and installed and will be tested for connectivity today. The equipment is very high quality. Ald. Carey asked about the service contract. Chief Angelino stated that he believed the service contract is for seven years, but will check. The State owns the CardScan unit for the first two years; this unit will be used by other municipalities that do not have LiveScan capabilities.

TIPS Line Chief Angelino noted that the TIPS hotline has been activated. Notices have been placed in the newspaper and bumper stickers are available. Many calls have already been received.

Promotion of Police Officer Chief Angelino has received notification that Sgt. Meade will be activated following military training and is expected to serve until April of 2011. He will request the Council approve a promotion of Officer Berry to the position of Sergeant to replace Sgt. Meade for that time period, after which Officer Berry plans on retiring.

Codes

Lead Certification Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence reported that new Federal EPA strictures will require any repair or renovation work on any property built prior to 1978 from which revenue is generated to be done by a lead-certified person. New York State has announced, as a home-rule state, that enforcement of this regulation will be the responsibility of the EPA for the present. The City hosted a lead-certification class in 2009 and is planning to organize another such class. C. Ivarson commented that these new requirements may significantly impact any building renovation work the City may do in future.

ARRA Grants J. Lawrence announced that he and Amy Donnison prepared grant applications for funds from ARRA to cover renovations to improve energy consumption in City buildings in order to meet future NYSEDA requirements. The first grant, for \$31,320, with the City providing matching funds of approximately \$3,400, will provide for replacement of fixtures, resulting in a projected energy savings of approximately \$8,500 per year. The second grant of approximately \$15,000 will provide for the hiring of a consulting firm that will assist the City and City residents in finding energy savings opportunities. Energy audits of all buildings were performed. Local contractors will be used where possible. Mayor Maiurano commented that this will help the City with future funding.

24 E. Main J. Lawrence reported that the property has been gutted and asbestos removal has begun. Questions regarding SHPO requirements were raised. The Fire Department has used the property for ladder training.

EMO

Weather/Emergency Information Online EMO A. Jones reported that stream and river gauge information is now available online. Flood stages for the river have been established, and flood stages for the stream are being determined. Further research will be done by the USGA to provide forecasts of flooding. EMO also has a Facebook page, which has been quite successful.

Red Cross Memorandum of Agreement Renewal A. Jones stated that the memorandum of agreement with the Red Cross is due for renewal. This is the same agreement as provided in prior years. It has no financial ramifications to the City.

DPW

Sidewalk Program

Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer stated that two not-for-profit organizations have requested inclusion in the City's sidewalk replacement program. This program has been made available to residential properties in the past, but not to non-residential or business properties. C. Ivarson asked that the rules be reviewed and clarified, and asserted that the price of the program does not cover all costs. Ald Carey suggested that not-for-profit organizations not be included in the program.

RBCs Project

C. Ivarson reported that requirements on the project for minority-owned/woman-owned business participation must be handled by the contractor.

Screw Pump Replacement

C. Ivarson reviewed the history of the project. One screw pump must be replaced entirely, at a cost of \$252,700. The other two must have new upper bearings, lower bearings, and rings. The total amount of the project will be approximately \$686,000. The contingency fund holds approximately \$900,000. These repairs and replacements will be handled as a change order on the RBCs project and will be included under the 0% financing provided by the State.

Greenway Conservancy Shed

C. Ivarson reported that the Greenway Conservancy has requested permission to place a storage shed for equipment on City property. He recommended a site at the community garden, as other sites near the WWTP may not be as secure. T. Dreyer stated that the Conservancy could place the shed in April if approved. The participants expressed their approval.

Sunset Drive Repaving

C. Ivarson stated that Sunset Drive has no base or binder and when the street was milled five years ago, 2-1/2" of top were put down. He will need to either micropave or use a slurry, which will increase paving costs by approximately \$18,000. W. Roberts said the City does not have money to cover that increase; funds in the infrastructure reserve will be needed for the Hayes Street parking lot repaving project. Ald. Carey asked if part of Sunset could be paved this year, and the remainder in 2011. C. Ivarson said he would study that suggestion.

NYSEG Gas Line Work

C. Ivarson reported that NYSEG must replace lines and services on Northrup, Morse, Chenango, and Coombs Streets. They will be responsible for repaving street cuts and replacing sidewalks. Ald. Carey noted that sidewalks have not been replaced properly by NYSEG in the past. C. Ivarson said the affected property owners should have contacted NYSEG to have those problems rectified, as the City does itself. He will inform NYSEG that the sidewalks will be checked.

Other Items

C. Ivarson reported that Federal funding applications are being submitted to NYS DOT and will cover major work on Rexford, Pleasant, and Plymouth Streets, including replacement of certain storm drains, sewer, and sidewalks.

C. Ivarson stated that the new phone system has been installed and he will request the Council to declare the old, inoperative system surplus so that it may be disposed of.

DEC/Chesapeake Bay Authority requirements are being made more strict. C. Ivarson will attend a webinar regarding new requirements.

Other Items

City Hall Repairs

Ald. Carey asked for information on the Advisory Committee's work on the disposition of City offices.

Gas Drilling

Ald. Carey stated his belief that the City must be proactive in attracting businesses ancillary to the coming gas-drilling industry. T. Dreyer stated that Commerce Chenango is taking a lead on this and has hired a point-person in this regard. Mayor Maiurano said that he and T. Dreyer have met with business and property owners regarding potential incoming businesses that will need space. Ald. Carey made suggestions regarding soliciting businesses ancillary to the gas-drilling industry.

The meeting ended at 8:30 a.m.