

CITY OF NORWICH
PUBLIC SAFETY / PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
November 20, 2007

Present:

Ald. Bresina, Chairman
Ald. Suzanne Williams

Absent:

Ald. Abraham

Also:

DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
City Clerk/Director of Finance William Roberts
Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake
Police Chief Joseph Angelino
Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence
EMO A Jones
Mayor Joseph Maiurano

Committee Chairman Ald. Bresina called the November meeting of the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order at 6:03 PM on November 20, 2007, at the City Chambers.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Williams **moved** to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2007 Committee meeting. Seconded by Ald. Bresina, duly approved ayes all. Ald. Bresina noted that, as the meeting of October 25, 2007 was informational only, due to the absence of a quorum, the notes of the meeting did not require Committee approval.

Visitors

None.

Correspondence

None.

Department Head Reports

Fire Department

None.

Police Department

None.

DPW Superintendent

Manpower – Department of Public Works Superintendent Carl Ivarson emphasized that he will not hire any applicant whom he considers unqualified for the relevant position.

Dump Body Bid – C. Ivarson reported one bid had been received to replace a dump body on a DPW truck, from Chenango Truck for \$10,950. He noted that the truck body will likely need some modifications to receive the dump body, and those costs, at \$60/hour for labor, will probably not exceed \$1,200. Ald. Williams **moved** to recommend acceptance of the bid to the Finance/Personnel Committee. Seconded by Ald. Bresina, duly approved ayes all.

2008 Sidewalk Program – C. Ivarson then presented to the Committee plans for the 2008 Sidewalk Program, and requested permission to forward the plans to the Finance/Personnel Committee. Ald. Williams asked if funds for the plan would be available. C. Ivarson responded affirmatively. Ald. Williams also asked if appropriate payments from the 2007 program had been received. C. Ivarson responded that they had. Ald. Williams **moved** to recommend Finance/Personnel

Committee approval of the plan for the 2008 Sidewalk Program. Seconded by Ald. Bresina, duly approved ayes all.

Discussion:

Ald. Williams asked for clarification of the bid for a new or demo street sweeper. C. Ivarson explained that the bid was structured for three possible payment options: a straight purchase; a lease; and a lease/purchase program (which Finance Director William Roberts explained was essentially a loan, resulting in the City's owning the street sweeper at the conclusion of the lease). He also noted that he had stipulated an extended warranty for the air portion of the sweeper. He noted that if a demo model were available, the savings to the City would be approximately \$40,000.

EMO

Hazard Mitigation Plan - EMO A. Jones presented to the Committee the City's annex to the County's draft Hazard Mitigation Plan. He pointed out mitigation goals based on the rankings of various risks. Ald. Bresina noted that the top risk was a 500-year flood, and asked if that were likely to recur. A. Jones explained that this risk was for flooding in general, with the 500-year flood used as a "worst-case" scenario. Ald. Williams asked whether the City had any ordinances or laws in effect regarding building in a flood plain. A. Jones explained that new codes going into effect on January 1, 2008, address that very issue, requiring that houses in a flood area be built with their first floors two feet above ground level. He noted that the introductory section of the plan, a description of the City with demographics and other statistical information, had been compiled from various sources. He noted that the plan will then likely be presented to the Common Council in January, 2008, for adoption, and that a plan in place was necessary to be eligible for certain mitigation funds.

EOC Software – A. Jones then informed the Committee that EMO was working on a program with the County to test new EOC software, and that the County was covering the bulk of the costs of the testing.

Discussion

Police Chief Angelino announced that a recent death in the community had led the Police Department to discover a cache of poisons and other illicit materials, perhaps used in drug manufacture, at 34 Cortland Street and that the matter, which may constitute an environmental hazard, was being investigated by the DEC.

Code Enforcement

None.

Committee Concerns

Ald. Bresina noted that during the B.I.D. meeting mention had been made that a passage under the Morrisville building was unlit. He asked if an ordinance were needed to address such problems, and mentioned that Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence had said such matters could be resolved by being made part of the building permit process. Mayor Joseph Maiurano noted that the lights in that passage had been turned on, and C. Ivarson noted that the passage was private property.

Ald. Bresina then noted that there would be no Public Safety/Public Works meeting held in December, and the next regularly scheduled meeting would be held in January, 2008.

Adjournment

Ald. Williams **moved** to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Bresina, duly approved ayes all.