

**CITY OF NORWICH
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of November 16, 2005

Present

Ald. James Cushman
Ald. Joseph Maiurano

Also

Acting Police Chief Murray Roach
Fire Chief John Tighe
City Clerk William Roberts

Absent:

Ald. Jeffrey Thornton

Visitors: (none)

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza by the Chairman, Ald. James Cushman. It was noted that the Committee did not need to meet in October. Alderman Maiurano moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of September 21, 2005. Seconded by Ald. Cushman, ayes all.

Correspondence – Chenango County SPCA 2006 Contract:

The Committee reviewed the November 11, 2005 letter from SPCA Executive Director, Carol J. Hedlund, and enclosed proposed contract for the 2006 year. W. Roberts distributed copies of the 2005 contract and copies of the proposed 2006 contract with any changes from last year highlighted in yellow. Ald. Cushman asked if last year's agreement was approved, minus the provision for cats. Roberts said yes it was, and pointed out that the only changes from last year involved the SPCA hours of operation for receiving dogs at the shelter. He said the dollar fees were the same, except for the highlighted addition of a supplemental fee of \$10 per day per dog boarding fee when the holding period exceeds five business days.

The topic of dealing with cats was discussed. Acting Police Chief Roach said that the Dog Control Officer had inquired into the field what was involved for departments that participated in cat control. He learned that up front training costs to qualify for handling of cats was a consideration, in addition to the ongoing operational factors. Additional discussion ensued, relative to opting for the contract without cats for now, as being a separate issue that would not prevent an ongoing exploration into the issue of cats over the next several months or even longer.

Ald. Maiurano moved to recommend the contract without the cats option for forwarding to the Finance/Personnel Committee and on to the Council for approval. Seconded by Ald. Cushman, ayes all.

Updates / Running Agenda:

Police Chief: (no items)

Fire Chief: Chief Tighe did not have anything to report other than the \$182,000 FEMA grant for the new SCBA airpacs was being followed through with, and that the local match of \$9,000 might possibly be met through the liquidation of the old SCBA's.

EMO: (no items)

Traffic Commission: There were no new referrals from the Traffic Commission.

Committee – (no items)

Ordinances –(no items)

Old Business:

(no items)

New Business: Ald. Cushman said that he would like to make a comment for the record, by complimenting new Codes Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence for getting off to such an effective start, “hitting the ground with both feet running”. He noted that he saw six citations that had been issued on Cortland Street alone. Chief Tighe said that he believed that ten had actually been issued in all.

A brief discussion ensued on following up on the tree problem that had been brought up at the November 15th Council meeting. Chief Tighe said J. Lawrence had been in touch with NYCOM, who strongly advised against entering private property. The determination of exactly whose property the trees are is essential and is being pursued.

Adjournment: -- There being no further discussion, Ald. Maiurano moved to adjourn at 6:22 PM. Seconded by Ald. Cushman, ayes all.