COMMON COUNCIL

February 20, 2007

Mayor Joseph Maiurano presided at the regular meeting of the Common Council held at 7:00 PM on February 20, 2007, in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza.

Present:
Mayor Joseph Maiurano
Ald. A. Anthony Abraham
Ald. Terry Bresina
Ald. Suzanne Williams
Ald. Walter Schermerhorn
Ald. Paul Laughlin
Ald. Robert Jeffery

Also:
Clerk/Director of Finance William Roberts
Human Resources Director Deborah DeForest
City Attorney Patrick Flanagan
Police and Fire Chief Joseph Angelino
Assistant Police Chief Dale Smith
DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson
Media Representative Jessica Lewis
Deputy Clerk Colaso

Absent:
Supervisor Jim McNeil
Supervisor Linda Natoli

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Maiurano at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Schermerhorn **moved** to approve the minutes of the work session of January 16, 2007, the regular meeting of January 23, 2007, and the special meeting of February 1, 2007. Seconded by Ald. Williams and duly adopted ayes all.

Public Hearing: Proposed Local Law Providing for the Administration and Enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code

Patrick McNeil, Norwich business owner, expressed concern over the State code and inquired about some issues related to installing new boilers and potential asbestos reports.

Joseph Angelino addressed McNeil's concerns saying that Title 19 Rules & Regulations outlines guidelines of inspections. He said that it is local government who then inserts fees, time requirements, and the like to ensure that everyone is on the same page. The only difference with the Norwich code is in regard to fence permits (i.e. Norwich requires them). Whereas the State document is a bit broad, the city inserts its requirements into that document.

Mayor Maiurano commented that even new construction is outlined under the new code. He used the example of the new Birdsall Street homes and briefly discussed building under the new flood law restraints. Angelino added that any building which houses more than 100 people (i.e. churches, theaters, high schools, et.) must be inspected regularly.

Hearing no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Open Forum

Ed Morano, 21 Miller Street, said the Council has been talking about the same rental registration for a long time. He expressed extreme frustration in working with a group that has been losing focus on the issue, and something needs to be done. Morano referred to the 2003 Comprehensive Plan regarding multi-family housing and the density problems associated with such conversions. During the public Safety/Public Works meeting a Task Force was designated and they have been dealing with the impact of these conversions in relation to the negative impact high-density housing has on code enforcement, fire, and police. Morano said nearly a year has passed, since the moratorium on further conversions was passed and now, this evening, the Council is attempting to re-write Chapter 50. He said this is just going to take more time with more delays. He said that several members agree with the Rental Registration, and asked why they are re-writing Chapter 50, which really addresses minimum standards for housing. He said Council should make a decision. He said if the nominal fees established are an issue, then decide on the fees as a separate issue.

Morano said that goal is not to invade privacy, but to promote health and safety; especially for the police & fire departments. Morano said if the Common Council wants to re-write something, rewrite the Zoning Ordinances and the Charter. Morano said that those who protest the most have the most to hide.

Teddie Arnell, business owner with properties in Norwich (not a Norwich resident) said that she couldn't agree more with fellow residents, that there are problems with Chapter 51. She believes this is a method to have more fees, causing more redundancy. She believes Chapter 50 covers it and suggested amending Chapter 50, as opposed to creating a separate Article.

Patrick McNeil, business owner, property owner in the City of Norwich, believes that Chapter 51 is redundant. He referred to several places in Chapter 50 that he believes correlate to, and cover, Chapter 51. He expressed concern over omitting the tenant accountability section. He spoke for the group present, saying that he believes no one is opposed to the city being able to contact the property's responsible party. He said that the number one objective should be the registration. McNeil conceded that Chapter 51 does tidy up certain enforcement concerns, but he believes Chapter 50 can be amended in a way that tightens-up the enforcement issues, including speeding up the enforcement process. He suggested increasing fines for the violating Landlords; not for those who are complying. He said that the Council needs that registry, but asked why they would reinvent the wheel, when they already have it.

LaVerne Fitch, owns property in the City of Norwich, sat down with the Landlord's group and they are against Chapter 51, believing the city should enforce Chapter 50 of the Code. He wants no fees, but agrees with penalties for landlords who don't comply, saying the penalties should cover the cost of implementing the program. He said it's not fair for the city to penalize the good landlords and that landlords will help the city collect information at no cost to the City.

Hearing no further comments, the Mayor closed the open forum at 7:29 p.m.

Correspondence

Request from Chenango County Council of the Arts for Allegro Run for the Arts on May 5, 2007

Ald. Williams **moved** to receive and file a request from the Chenango County Council for the Arts Allegro Run for the Arts on May 5, 2007. Seconded by Ald. Schermerhorn and duly adopted ayes all.

Letter to First Transit from Joseph Angelino

Ald. Laughlin **moved** to receive and file a letter from Joseph Angelino to First Transit. Seconded by Ald. Bresina and duly adopted ayes all.

Request for Use of City Court Facilities from Chenango County Mock Trial Coordinator Michael Genute

Ald. Abraham **moved** to receive and file a request for use of the City Court facilities for Mock Trial on. Seconded by Ald. Bresina and duly adopted ayes all.

Department, Board and Commission Reports

- Public Works/Water System monthly report for January 2007
- Traffic Commission minutes of January 10, 2007
- Youth Bureau monthly report for January 2007
- Zoning Board of Appeals minutes of January 22, 2007

Ward and Committee Reports

- Finance / Personnel Committee Meeting of February 8, 2007
- Public Safety / Public Works Committee meeting of January 25, 2007

Ald. Williams **moved** to receive and file the department, board, and commission reports. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin and duly adopted ayes all.

Ward 1 Report

Ald. Abraham reported that he put out ~25 sidewalk replacement letters to constituents in his ward and he felt like he was making progress prior to the snowfall. He will check with Planning & Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer regarding the status.

Ward 2 Report

Ald. Bresina reported that sidewalk replacements are the biggest thing in the near future and he is making progress. He has talked to different landlords that this may be an opportunity for them to upgrade their properties in a financially comfortable manner. The other major item for his ward is the status of the Canasawacta Dam, as it is of great concern to a good many people. He said that the dam will be removed, they have the permit to do it, but that they have to wait until the creek is not flowing so rapidly, which will probably be during the summer.

Ward 3 Report

Ald. Williams reported that her constituents with sidewalks sounded interested in the sidewalk programs. She is happy to report that she has not had any plowing complaints.

Ward 4 Report

Ald. Schermerhorn has not received many complaints in his ward and that any he has had have been turned over to the proper department head. He said that as soon as the weather gets a little better, he will be back out encouraging his ward's constituents to take advantage of the sidewalk program.

Ward 5 Report

Ald. Laughlin reported that he has been making progress on the sidewalk program in his ward and that all has been pretty quiet since his last report.

Ward 6 Report

Ald. Jeffrey reported that all matters have been referred to the proper department head. He also said that he believes the sidewalk program is a wonderful benefit and that people really need to take advantage of this, adding that if they do not receive sidewalk program information personally, that they should request it at City Hall.

The Mayor wanted to mention that Senator Libbous was the person who made the $50,000 available to assist residents with sidewalk replacement. He said that while there is another program coming up in 2008, this is a great 50-50 program and he encouraged people to participate.

Old Business

Discussion

Third Floor Firehouse Project

Ald. Abraham began by discussing the funding details regarding the third floor project. He stated that there was correspondence received from Delaware Engineering showing costs in the amount of $420,000, which he believes was $280,000 over the cost previously discussed. Ald. Abraham suggests utilizing the $280,000 available to renovate the depot (existing City Hall building) including the roof, heating system, and door-replacement. He said that the city is not in a position to go into more debt at the expense of the taxpayers. Ald. Schermerhorn said that we need to be fiscally responsible and Ald. Jeffrey agrees. Ald. Williams said she has never seen a project without cost overruns, and she would expect the same on this project. The Mayor said that if City Hall moves into the third floor of the fire station, that it should be phased in over a period of time. He added that we need to figure out how to live in the building we have.

Ald. Abraham stated that the third floor is not produce, and that it won't spoil, adding that there is time to make a fiscally sound decision. The Mayor said he is directing DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson to bring some costs to renovate existing City Hall to the next Public Safety/Public Works Committee. Ivarson said that he would like to see a motion to cancel the continuing third floor engineering contract.

Ald. Abraham **moved** to discontinue the third floor engineering contract. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly adopted ayes all.

Update & Confirmation of Codes Software & Leasing Agreements Execution

Ald. Schermerhorn asked if the hardware has been installed. Director of Human Resources Deborah DeForest indicated that it was installed and that the critical issues to software are being installed. Roberts said that General Code Publishers is ready to go. Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence talked to General Code and said the software comprehensive enough to do exactly what's it's intended to do. Roberts added that this is a tailored software package. Ald. Schermerhorn asked if they would be up in three months time and Roberts said three to six months to finalize the installation with training. He also mentioned he and the Mayor had a conference call with Bruce Cadman of General Code. Ald. Jeffrey stated that while he is for the software, his position is that we do not need to purchase it at this time, until we have the rental registration ordinance in place. Angelino said that even without the rental registry being adopted, the city still has to comply with the newly mandated NYS Uniform Code changes. Ald. Jeffrey asked about the impact associated with putting it off for a couple months and Angelino said that it would result in even more backlog for Code Enforcement, impacting the busiest time of year (spring/summer construction season).

Ald. Bresina said that he has been talking to Code Enforcement Lawrence and he is very concerned that Lawrence will not only get behind, but that he will have to complete forms and reports manually. Ald. Bresina is of the opinion that this should be purchased right away. The Mayor commented that a lot of research goes into every decision the city makes and he believes that this has been well-researched and is ready to be purchased. He stressed that this is not just a single department software program; it impacts the fire department, the police department, and the Public Works Department. The Mayor stated that he had some reservations initially, but that after researching this budgeted line item, he believes the best decision would be to move forward this vital item.

Rental Registration Program

The Mayor said that this is in the re-write stages and that it will be available for the Finance/Personnel Committee meeting on March 6th. He said that there have been various changes to incorporate Chapter 51 into Chapter 50. City Attorney Patrick Flanagan said that he just received the proposed changes today. Ald. Williams said that Chapter 50 has taken on a life of its own and she wonders how this has happened without Council knowing the details. Ald. Jeffrey concurred. Ald. Williams said that he does not believe that this has been reviewed by the Task Force and her recommendation is that the Task Force reviews it and gives its recommendations. Ald. Jeffrey said that it is not the Council's intent to punish landlords, but to promote investment in the city's communities. He said that he's the exception, however he feel strongly that prospective buyers are not going to purchase next to unkempt, code violation-ridden multi-family dwellings, adding that we want people to be a part of a community that really cares.

Charles Cornell, a City of Norwich landlord, tried to gain empathy for the city landlords' position indicating that local judges are not working with landlords when they attempt to evict bad tenants. Several brief discussions ensued as to landlords and tenants rights. Patrick McNeil, City of Norwich business owner stated he doesn't think anyone has an issue with maintaining a clean, respectable property; however he believes Chapter 50 addresses this already. He said the city needs to tighten up sections like §9 (re: garbage containers) and make the fines heavier.

It was mentioned that since Lawrence has been on, a lot of properties have been cleaned up. The Mayor stated that the Rental Registration Program will be put into effect next month. He said he believes that ordinances should be enacted in the best way possible to do the job intended with the least resistance. A brief discussion ensued as to the Board of Appeals, which is non-existent. It was presumed that appeals would be handled through the Council.

New Business

Motions

Motion – Authorization of Additional Funding – Chenango Lake Legal Costs

Ald. Bresina **moved** to authorize additional funding of up to $35,000 for Chenango Lake legal costs. Seconded by Ald. Abraham and duly adopted, 5-1, on a roll call vote (Ald. Williams was the opposing vote).

Prior to the vote, Ald. Jeffrey inquired as to which account the legal costs are coming out of and Ivarson stated that it comes out of the budgeted line item in the Water Fund. Ivarson mentioned that this is in regard to the *Turner v. Caesar* case and that the City has been locked in a legal battle over year round residents.

Motion – Authorizing Renewal Agreement with Computel for Utilities and Related Audits

Ald. Bresina **moved** to authorize a renewal agreement to be signed by the Mayor with Computel Consultants of Earlville, NY, for utilities and related audits. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin and duly adopted, 5-0, on a roll call vote (with Ald. Jeffrey abstaining).

Prior to the vote, Roberts explained that Computel is a consulting firm used to audit our utility bills, in order to determine if the tariff charges were correctly applied. Roberts explained that if they're collecting a refund as a result, as a standard procedure, the city will receive 50% of the recovered amount.

Motion – Authorizing the Department of Public Works to Deem Equipment Surplus & Dispose Of

Ald. Abraham **moved** to authorize the Department of Public Works to deem unsaleable equipment surplus and dispose of accordingly. Seconded by Ald. Bresina and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

Motion – Authorizing Extending Availability of Health Insurance to Non-Unit Part-Time Employees

Ald. Abraham **moved** to authorize extending the availability of health insurance to Non-Unit Part-Time Employees who are regularly scheduled for 14 hours or more per week; employee to pay 100% of the cost. Seconded by Ald. Williams and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.

Prior to the vote, Ald. Williams asked how many employees this would affect and DeForest said it could affect up to a total of four employees.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #11-2007 AUTHORIZING ENGINEERING SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL BUDGET & FUNDS TRANSFERS FOR EATON AVENUE WATER & SEWER CAPITAL PROJECT

Ald. Bresina introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Common Council authorized the establishment of a Capital Project for the reconstruction of infrastructure in the eastern area of Eaton Avenue, as outlined in Resolution Number 31 of 2006; and

WHEREAS, the updated scope of the project extends significantly beyond the capacities of utilizing in-house forces for the reconstruction as originally anticipated; and

WHEREAS, additional funds will therefore be required to supplement those transferred under Resolution 31-2006; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety/Public Works and Finance/Personnel committees have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to sign an agreement with Delaware Engineering for applicable professional services at a cost of $32,500.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following 2007 budget transfer and corresponding transfer of funds in the Capital Reserves, General, and Capital Project funds:

General Fund 2007 Budget Transfer:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A1990.4	Contingency	$ 9,848.00

To:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A9950.1H93	Permanent Streets – Capital Projects	$ 9,848.00

Interfund Transfers of Funds:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
HR31-878	Capital Reserves – Water Mains	$ 85,874.17
HR34-878	Capital Reserves – Sewer Mains	136,668.52
HR34-878	Capital Reserves – Storm Sewers	64,583.05
A9950.1H93	General Fund - Permanent Streets Capital Projects	9,848.00
		$ 296,973.74

To:

Account Number	Eaton Ave Utilities Rehab Capital Project	Amount
H93-01-5140.4020	General Expenses – Engineering	$ 8,125.00
H93-01-5140.4021	General Expenses – Miscellaneous	1,723.00
H93-01-8120.4020	Sewer Main Reconstruction - Engineering	14,280.00
H93-01-8120.4022	Sewer Main Reconstruction - Contracted Svcs.	122,388.52
H93-01-8140.4020	Storm Drain Reconstruction - Engineering	4,062.30
H93-01-8140.4022	Storm Drain Reconstruction - Contracted Svcs.	60,520.75
H93-01-8340.4020	Water Main Reconstruction - Engineering	763.00
H93-01-8340.4022	Water Main Reconstruction - Contracted Svcs.	85,111.17
		$ 296,973.74

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

RESOLUTION #12-2007 PROPOSED LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE NYS UNIFORM FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE

Ald. Williams introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the State of New York has made revisions to Title 19 (NYCRR), Chapter 32 of the Division of Code and Enforcement and Administration, Part 1203 titled the Uniform Code: Minimum Standards for Administration and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, these revisions became effective January 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has mandated municipalities to adopt such revision relative to the administration and enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code; and

WHEREAS, proposed Local Law A of 2007, which provides for amending the City of Norwich Codes, was introduced on January 23, 2007, before the Common Council; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on such local law on February 20, 2007; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Local Law No. 1 of 2007, which provides for amending the City of Norwich Codes relative to the administration and enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code be and hereby is adopted.

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

RESOLUTION #13-2007 AUTHORIZING REPAIRS TO NATURAL GAS ENGINE AND WELL #3 & BUDGET TRANSFERS

Ald. Williams introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, a quote has been received from Kraft Power Corporation of Syracuse, New York for necessary overhaul work on the well water pumping system natural gas engine; and

WHEREAS, a quote also has been received from Moody and Associates, Inc. of Meadville, P.A. for the necessary cleaning and redevelopment of Well number 3; and

WHEREAS, funds are required for the costs of such work; and

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

RESOLVED, that the aforementioned maintenance work be and hereby is authorized for performance by Kraft Power Corporation at a cost not to exceed $10,600, and by Moody and Associates, Inc. at a cost not to exceed $18,500; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer of funds in the 2007 Water Fund Budget:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
HR28-878	Capital Reserves – Water Equipment	$29,100.00

To:

Account Number	Name	Amount
F8320.4040	Source of Supply – Repairs & Maintenance	$29,100.00

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

RESOLUTION #14-2007 AUTHORIZING GENERAL SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN TO NAPA

Ald. Schermerhorn introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the city currently has an active economic development loan with Norwich Automotive Parts and Accessories, Inc., David J. Christen, and Beverly A. Christen (the "NAPA Loan"); and

WHEREAS, the city's NAPA Loan was secured by a Mortgage which is subordinate and second to a first mortgage loan with the National Bank of Delaware, Walton; and

WHEREAS, the NAPA Loan borrowers wish to refinance their first mortgage bank loan with Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company of Buffalo ("M&T"); and

WHEREAS, such refinancing will require that the City agree to continue with a subordinate and second mortgage position relative to the proposed M&T refinancing loan; and

WHEREAS, the Finance/Personnel Committee has 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 general subordination agreement with M&T, providing for the continuation of a subordinate and second mortgage position, relative to the refinancing with M&T by the NAPA Loan borrowers.

Seconded by Ald. Williams, and duly adopted, 6-0, on a roll call vote.
Prior to the vote, Ald. Williams asked for clarification and Roberts explained that this is simply the city consenting and agreeing to continue to be the second mortgage holder.

RESOLUTION #15-2007 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE COUNCIL OF THE ARTS FOR A DECENTRALIZATION GRANT

Ald. Williams introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich desires to sponsor and support artistic ventures for the benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Chenango County Council of the Arts has informed the of City of its eligibility for a Decentralization Grant to fund worthy artistic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich Band has requested $3,000, in addition to $1,500 previously appropriated from City funds, to cover costs associated with conducting summer concerts; and

WHEREAS, Mary Musson, a resident of the city of Norwich, has requested $800 to cover the cost of updating and printing Walking Tour brochures of the city's historic neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the requested activities will not result in any additional expenditure of City funds; and

WHEREAS, the grant application to the Chenango County Council of the Arts for the above-described artistic ventures is classified as a Type 2 action under the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), thereby requiring no determination of significance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the City of Norwich Common Council thereby authorizes the Mayor to apply for a Decentralization Grant through the Chenango County Council of the Arts in the amount of $3,800 to fund the requested artistic projects of the Norwich City Band and Mary Musson.

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

RESOLUTION #16-2007 AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FROM POLICE EQUIPMENT RESERVES

Ald. Laughlin introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required for the replacement purchase of a police department patrol vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the County of Chenango will reimburse a major portion of the cost through the Stop DWI program funds; and

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

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers from the Police Equipment Capital Reserves into the 2007 General Fund Budget up to the amount indicated:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
HR21-878	Police Equipment Capital Reserves	$22,000.00

To:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A3120.2100	Police – Equipment	$22,000.00

and; further be it

RESOLVED, that the associated total Stop DWI funds to be received from Chenango County shall be deposited into the Police Equipment Capital Reserves fund.

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

RESOLUTION #17-2007 AUTHORIZING UPDATE OF COMPENSATION RATES FOR CITY ATTORNEY POSITION (EFF. AS OF 01/01/07)

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the compensation structure for the position of City Attorney is in need of being updated; and

WHEREAS, funds to cover the cost of adjustment have been provided in the 2007 General Fund Budget Contingency line; and

WHEREAS, the Finance/Personnel Committee has made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Annual Base Salary at the 2006 rate be and hereby is established at $30,000; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the additional fee for simple, routine real property transfers be and hereby is established at $325.00 each; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the hourly rate for more extensive technical work and litigative actions be and hereby is established at $110.00; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the foregoing annual base salary, property transfer fee, and hourly rate shall each be effective as of January 1, 2007; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers in the 2007 General Fund Budget:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A1990.4	Contingency	$10,000.00
To:		
Account Number	Name	Amount
A1420.1010	Attorney – Personal Services – Regular	$10,000.00

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

RESOLUTION #18-2007 AUTHORIZING 2006 BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR MAINTENANCE COSTS: AMBULANCE ($3,000) & FIRE DEPARTMENT ($700)

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, budgeted funds are needed and available from other lines and departments to cover the cost of up to $3,700 for fire department maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, the Finance/Personnel Committee has made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers in the 2006 Contingency Budget up to and not exceeding the amounts indicated:

From:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A1990.4	Contingency	$ 3,700.00

To:

Account Number	Name	Amount
A3410.4040	Fire Department – Repairs & Maintenance	$ 700.00
A3625.4040	Emergency Squad – Repairs & Maintenance	3,000.00

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

RESOLUTION #19-2007 AUTHORIZING NEW YORK STATE BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREAS PROGRAM CHANGE TO DESIGNATED AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2006, Resolution 21–2006, New York State Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program, was adopted; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Joseph P. Maiurano, took office on June 15, 2006, replacing former designated authorized representative Robert Raphael; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Honorable Joseph P. Maiurano, Mayor of the City of Norwich, is the representative authorized to act on behalf of the applicant in all matters related to State assistance under §970-r of the General Municipal Law for the Project; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the representative is also authorized to execute the SAC, request SAC reimbursements, redistribute SAC reimbursements as appropriate, submit Project documentation, and otherwise act for all applicants in all matters related to the Project and to State assistance; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Applicant agrees that it will complete the Project and agrees that it will fund its portion of the cost of the Project; and further be it

RESOLVED, that this Authorization take effect immediately upon adoption at a legally convened meeting of the Common Council of the City of Norwich.

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

RESOLUTION #20-2007 REQUIRING ANNUAL TRAINING OF PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZBA MEMBERS

Ald. Schermerhorn introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, recent amendments to General City Law Sections 27 and 81 impose annual training requirements on the members of planning boards and zoning boards of appeal; and

WHEREAS, provisions in the recent amendments to General City Law Sections 27 and 81 allow a city's legislative body to waive or modify board training requirements to best suit the interests of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich finds it desirable for members of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to engage in ongoing training in order to achieve a high level of competence and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich desires to control and oversee the training requirements for members of the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals, as allowed by state law; and

WHEREAS, the action proposed in this resolution is classified as a Type 2 action under provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), making no determination of significance necessary; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Norwich, hereby, requires each member of the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals to undertake at least four hours of relevant training every year of his or her term; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that the training requirement may be satisfied by educational activities substantially devoted to planning, zoning, or other land use issues, such as: 1) attending conferences, seminars, or workshops; 2) participating in online training or tutorials; 3) attending college courses; 4) reading journal articles or books; or 5) any other educational activities considered acceptable by the respective board chair; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that members of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals shall provide a record their training activities to their respective board chairs on an annual basis.

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

RESOLUTION #21-2007 MODIFYING JOB DESCRIPTION AND PAY GRADE – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Public Safety/Public Works and Personnel/Finance Committees have made certain recommendations relative to modifying the job description and changing the pay grade for the Assistant Superintendent of Public Works; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the pay grade for the Assistant Superintendent of Public Works be increased from a Grade 26 to a Grade 28, and shall each be effective as of January 1, 2007.

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

Payment of Bills

Ald. Williams **moved** to pay the bills for February after proper audit and certification as follows:

	Prepaid	02/20/07	Grand Total
General Fund	$143,941.48	$488,093.36	$632,034.84
Sewer Fund	28,259.20	18,323.49	46,582.69
Water Fund	8,653.03	8,817.46	17,470.49
Trust	56,703.60	0.00	56,703.60
B.I.D.	24,492.72	0.00	24,492.72
Debt Service	47,929.26	26,390.40	74,319.66
Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unemployment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Comm Development	27,500.00	0.00	27,500.00
EDZ/LDC	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects	2,405.85	0.00	2,405.85
TOTALS	**339,885.14**	**541,624.71**	**881,509.85**

Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly adopted ayes all.

Executive Session: To Discuss Labor Contract Negotiations

Ald. Schermerhorn **moved** to enter into Executive Session to discuss labor contract negotiations at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Williams and duly adopted ayes all. Ald. Jeffrey excused himself at 8:43 p.m.

Ald. Abraham **moved** to exit Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Laughlin and duly adopted ayes all.

Motion: Final Ratification of January Bill List Approval

Ald. Schermerhorn moved that based on the fact that the detailed January bill list has been satisfactorily audited and verified since last month's regular Council meeting, its prior approval is hereby ratified as follows:

	Prepaid	02/20/07	Grand Total
General Fund	$36,978.27	$81,399.69	$118,377.96
Sewer Fund	18,058.20	4,274.73	22,332.93
Water Fund	25,411.15	12,477.58	37,888.73
Trust	44,179.67	0.00	44,179.67
B.I.D.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt Service	49,731.36	0.00	49,731.36
Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unemployment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Comm Development	0.00	0.00	0.00
EDZ/LDC	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	**174,358.65**	**98,152.00**	**272,510.65**

Seconded by Ald. Laughlin and duly adopted ayes all.

Adjournment

Ald. Abraham **moved** to adjourn the Common Council meeting at 8:57 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Williams and duly adopted ayes all.