

COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING

September 28, 2006

Mayor Maiurano, presided at the special meeting of the Common Council held at 5:55 PM on September 28, 2006, at the Department of Public Works Highway Garage Conference Room on Hale Street.

Present:

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

Also:

Director of Finance William Roberts
Police/Fire Chief Joseph Angelino
Code Enforcement Officer Jason Lawrence
EMO A. Jones
Media Representative Jessica Lewis
Deputy Clerk Darlene Colaso

Call to Order: The meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Maiurano at 5:55 PM.

Resolution

RESOLUTION # 70-2006 – APPROVING PURCHASE OF FIRE TANKER TRUCK ON EMERGENCY BASIS FROM PIERCE MANUFACTURING, INC., AND AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS FROM CAPITAL RESERVES

Ald. Abraham introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2006, following recommendations of the Public Safety/ Public Works and Finance/Personnel committees, the Common Council adopted a motion authorizing the Police/Fire Chief to pursue the purchase of a replacement fire tanker truck on an emergency basis, as provided under Sections 2.c) and 8.b. of the City Procurement Policy and 103-4 of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Police/Fire Chief and the Norwich Fire Department Truck committee researched several options and alternate proposals for such replacement and made a corresponding recommendation for the purchase of a tanker truck from Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. at a quoted price of \$169,306.00; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Finance/City Clerk reviewed the documented procedures that were followed and confirmed that they were in compliance with emergency basis procurement requirements; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Director of Finance/City Clerk, a purchase contract was signed by the Mayor and delivered by the Police/Fire Chief to Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. for the procurement of such equipment; and

WHEREAS, corresponding funds are required to be transferred from capital reserves for such purchase; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby ratifies and approves the execution of a purchase contract with Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. for the purchase of a Fire Tanker Truck in the amount of \$169,306.00; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following 2006 Budget and funding transfers from the Capital Reserves Fund:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HR32-898	Capital Reserves – Fire Equipment	\$169,306.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A3410.2100	Fire Department – Equipment	\$169,306.00

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

Prior to the vote, Chief Joe Angelino introduced the gentlemen who head up firefighter operations and their social calendar: Elected Fire Chief Jan Papelino and Elected President Jim Foulston. Angelino reported that since August, when he came on board as interim Fire Chief he was told by these gentlemen, and other firefighters, that the tanker needed to be replaced. After inspecting the 33-year old vehicle, he concurred that it needed to be replaced. His primary concern is the safety of the vehicle, as it can barely carry its own weight and has difficulty stopping.

Angelino brought the issue before the Finance/Personnel Committee and asked that the purchase of a new tanker truck be deemed an emergency purchase under NYS law, because they took a first line fire vehicle out of service. The Finance/Personnel Committee agreed with this and passed it on. Angelino immediately began researching several manufacturers, of which a list was distributed, and he determined that the best value would be the second to lowest bid (as the lowest bid did not have a service facility nearby), as this was the lowest bid with a servicing facility nearby. It is an 1800 gallon tank, and the specs are included with the distributed handout. Chief Jan Papelino stated that the truck should last at least 20 years-plus.

A brief discussion ensued as to the distinction between a tanker and a pumper-tanker and Angelino pointed out that the vehicle the city would be purchasing is a tanker with a pump on it (versus an actual “pumper-tanker”).

Chief Angelino also noted that the gentlemen present and the designated Truck Committee were in concurrence with the decision to purchase the tanker truck presented this evening. Ald. Abraham inquired as to the details of how the tanker truck operates. Chief Angelino replied that the truck will be housed at the Fire Department, full of water, and will be used primarily for rural fires where there are no hydrants or water sources readily available and a brief discussion ensued regarding how the water is utilized. Ald. Bresina inquired as to whether or not the single rear axel would be a potential problem and Chief Angelino stated that the original tanker held 2500 gallons of water on a single-axel and that this should not be an issue with an 1800 gallon tank. Chief Angelino stated that this tanker truck is on a commercial chassis and is an International Harvester truck with a 330-hp engine.

A brief discussion ensued as to the current and future price of trucks and the ensuing emissions requirement changes. Ald. Williams expressed concern over driving the 1800-gallon tanker truck up a steep hill, such as Tanner Hill. Chief Angelino explained that this would not be an issue and Jan Papelino detailed the required parameters they outlined for the manufacturer, noting that the new tanker should be able to do 30-mph up a steep hill (versus the 8-mph the old tanker could handle).

Ald. Abraham asked when the truck would be available. Chief Angelino responded that the truck has already been built, but that the manufacturer is adding some last minute items (free of charge) such as hard suction, piping, brackets, etc. The vehicle will depart Florida for New York on October 5th. Once it arrives in Elmira, our radios will be installed. Ald. Williams asked if the decision to make the purchase of this particular vehicle was unanimous and Chief Angelino stated that it was a unanimous decision. Mayor Maiurano commented that everyone was involved in the purchase of this vehicle and he was impressed to see so many people involved.

Someone attending the meeting asked how this went to an emergency purchase, rather than being budgeted. Mayor Maiurano commented that a replacement plan was currently being implemented and Director of Finance/City Clerk William Roberts explained the reasoning and process behind an emergency procurement. He clarified that the city does, in fact, anticipate these types of expenditures

and that the funds are budgeted in the Capital Reserve. He added that the emergency terminology was not relevant to budgeting, but applied to the urgency for procurement versus a prolonged bidding procedure. Ald. Jeffrey commented that he was very glad that they took action on this. He added that replacement was long overdue, due to the safety issues associated with this old tanker truck. Ald. Schermerhorn concurred with Ald. Jeffrey and added that he feels it's necessary to examine the current equipment and formulate a replacement plan.

Adjournment

Ald. Abraham **moved** to adjourn the Council meeting at 6:18 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly adopted ayes all.