COMMON COUNCIL
Work Session
January 14, 2003

Mayor Marylou Stewart presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7 PM on January 14, 2003, at One Court Plaza.

Present:
Mayor Marylou Stewart
Ald. Gary Clark
Ald. James Cushman
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Jeffrey Thornton
Ald. Sharon Jeffer
Ald. Joseph Biviano

Also:
Clerk / Director of Finance William Roberts
Fire Chief John Tighe
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
EMO A. Jones
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

Open Forum

Edward Morano, 21 Miller Street, reiterated comments he made last year relative to the Common Council and noted that he is encouraged by an improved attitude and respect for the taxpayers. He said that although there has been some headway made, further cost saving measures are still needed. Mr. Morano suggested the Council focus on consolidation, combining committees, staff reduction, developing a vision and setting goals with regard to lowering taxes. Mayor Stewart stated that the City is currently working on a comprehensive plan which included a series of public input meetings. She said another public meeting will be held in the near future. Ald. Biviano indicated that there is an Intermunicipal Committee in place that is working toward reducing duplication of services.

Patrick McNeil, Norwich, referring to an item in the newspaper regarding the vacant firefighter position in which Ald. Thornton voted against filling until other alternatives were looked at, asked if Ald. Thornton had specific alternatives in mind. Ald. Thornton indicated no, that he believes there should be a system in place for analyzing a position when it becomes vacant.

RESOLUTION # 1 - 2003. AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATIVE TO FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT

Ald. Jeffer introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2000, the Common Council authorized the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Delaware Engineering for professional services relative to the preparation of plans and specifications for the Fire Department Building Renovation Project at a cost not to exceed $150,000; and

WHEREAS, continued changes to the original scope of the project to reflect a smaller building footprint have resulted in the revision of approximately 40 drawings at an additional cost of approximately $60,000; and

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

RESOLVED, that the agreement with Delaware Engineering for professional services relative to the preparation of plans and specifications for the Fire Department Building Renovation Project be and hereby is amended to a total revised cost not to exceed $210,000.

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

Development of Agenda -- The following agenda has been developed for the January 21, 2003 Common Council meeting.

1) Call To Order
2) Pledge of Allegiance
3) Invocation
4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of December 17, 2002, the work sessions of December 10, 2002 and January 14, 2003 and the organizational meeting of January 6, 2003
5) Presentation - Citizens Police Academy
6) Public Hearing
    - Proposed Local Law relative to Alternates on ZBA and Planning Commission
7) Open Forum
8) Bids
    - Liquid Chlorine/Sodium Hypochlorite
9) Correspondence
    -
10) Department, Board and Commission Reports
    - Historian monthly report for December 2002 and the annual report for 2002

- Police Department monthly report for December, 2002
- Public Works/Water System monthly report for December, 2002
- Records Management monthly report for December 2002 and the annual report for 2002
- Youth Bureau monthly report for December, 2002
- Civil Service Commission minutes of November 21, 2002
- Parks Commission minutes of December 9, 2002
- Planning Commission minutes of December 13, 2002
- Traffic Commission minutes of December 18, 2002 and January 8, 2003

11) Ward and Committee Reports
- Public Safety Committee meeting of November 26, 2002
- Public Works Committee meeting of December 16, 2002

12) Old Business
13) New Business

<u>Resolutions</u>

- Res - Auth 2002 Transfer for Health Insurance
- Res - Auth 2002 Transfer for Records Management Contracted Services
- Res - Auth Agreement for Professional Services Relative to the Pool Project
- Res - Auth Agreement with Advantage Energy for Electric Supply

13) Payment of Bills
14) Adjournment

<u>Committee Reports</u>

- Finance Committee -- Ald. Clark, Finance Committee Chair, reported the Committee discussed options for Police Patrol Car replacement, the rewording of the DOT contract resolution for Streetscape, policy for allocation of Dasher Board advertising, budget transfers, amendment to contract with Delaware Engineering for Firehouse Project, electricity supply, proposal from Delaware Engineering relative to Pool Repair project, employee use of City vehicles.
- Personnel Committee -- Ald. Thornton, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported that the Committee did not meet in January and would meet in February on the designated meeting date of the first Monday of the month at 6:30.
- Public Safety Committee -- Ald. Jeffer, Public Safety Committee Chair, reported that the Committee did not meet in December and would meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. She noted that the second Citizens Police Academy would be presented certificates at the Council meeting next Tuesday.
- Public Works Committee -- Ald. Biviano, Chair of Public Works Committee, reported the Committee reviewed the electricity proposal from Advantage Energy, storm water runoff and the Streetscape project.

<u>Executive Session</u> -- Ald. Jeffer moved to go into executive session at 7:20 PM to discuss pending litigation. Seconded by Ald. Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Jeffer moved to go out of executive session at 7:40 PM. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Jeffer moved to authorize the Mayor, under the direction of the City Attorney, to enter into an agreement with Hancock & Estabrook for professional legal services relative to pending litigation at a cost not to exceed $5,000. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

<u>Adjournment</u> – Ald. Jeffer moved to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all.