

COMMON COUNCIL

Work Session
August 12, 2003

Mayor Marylou Stewart presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7 PM on August 12, 2003, at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Marylou Stewart
Ald. Gary Clark
Ald. James Cushman
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Sharon Jeffer
Ald. Joseph Biviano

Absent

Ald. Jeffrey Thornton

Also:

Clerk / Director of Finance Brian Molinaro
Fire Chief John Tighe
Human Resources Director Deborah DeForest
Asst. Police Chief Murray Roach
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
EMO A. Jones
B.I.D. Administrator Pegi LoPresti
B.I.D. Board President Thomas Sutton
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

COMMENTS REGARDING CABLE TV SERVICE / OPEN FORUM

-- **Mary Coe**, 5A Waite Street, stated that certain channels were off the air over the weekend with no explanation given. She indicated that she would like to see a more random lineup with customers having the option of choosing their channels. Ald. Biviano noted that since the current agreement was for a term of 50 years, the cable company has had the advantage. He questioned if the City could issue several cable TV franchises at the same time rather than just one. The matter was referred to the City Attorney.

RESOLUTION # 50 - 2003 -- Ald. Biviano moved to remove Resolution No. 50 of 2003, Authorizing Award Of Electrical Contract Relative To The Norwich BID Streetscape Project, from the table. Seconded by Ald. Cushman and duly adopted on a roll call vote, 5-0.

Ald. Biviano indicated that he had requested the B.I.D. to provide the Council with a position paper including a complete financial plan and what has been presented tonight did not include that information. The related motion from the August 6 meeting was read and discussion ensued. Ald. Biviano stated that the project was poorly planned and poorly executed.

B.I.D. Board President Thomas Sutton disagreed with Ald. Biviano's statements and noted that the financial data was provided to the Council at the August 6 meeting. He said the letter submitted to the Council stated that the B.I.D. desires to move forward with the electrical portion and re-bid the general construction portion in December for implementation in the spring of 2004. Mr. Sutton further stated the B.I.D. would seek additional funding for the project and if unsuccessful, the non-essential components would be eliminated in order to complete construction within budget. He reassured Council members that the B.I.D. would not compromise the actual completion of the project due to a funding shortfall.

Ald. Jeffer stated she wanted to be sure that the project would be completed.

-- Ald. Jeffer moved to approve Resolution No. 50 of 2003, Authorizing Award Of Electrical Contract Relative To The Norwich BID Streetscape Project. Seconded by Ald. Biviano and duly adopted on a roll call vote, 5-0.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGENDA FOR AUGUST 19, 2003

- 1) Call To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2003, the work sessions of July 8 and August 12, 2003 and the special meeting of August 6, 2003.
- 5) Open Forum
- 6) Bids
- 7) Correspondence
 - ◆ Notification of Intent to Renew Liquor License - Ronald C Siok/Lt. Warren E. Eaton American Legion
 - ◆ Notification of Intent to Renew Liquor License - Cynthia Thompson/Ontario Hotel, 28 Griffin St
 - ◆ Notification of Intent to Renew Liquor License - Gregory Grosvenor/Music Shop Pub, 26 S Broad St
 - ◆ Notification of Intent to Renew Liquor License - Donald Bosman/Studebakers, 75 N Broad St
 - ◆ Request to hold annual Hayes Street Block Party on September 1, 2003 from 12 PM to 8 PM
 - ◆ Request from Paul Russo to install a curb cut at 7 Northrup Ave
- 8) Department, Board and Commission Reports
 - ◆ Fire Department/Codes monthly report for July, 2003
 - ◆ Historian monthly report for July, 2003
 - ◆ Police Department monthly report for July, 2003
 - ◆ Public Works/Water System monthly report for July, 2003
 - ◆ Records Management monthly report for July, 2003
 - ◆ Youth Bureau monthly report for July, 2003

- ◆ Parks Commission minutes of July 14, 2003
- ◆ Planning Commission minutes of July 11, 2003
- ◆ Water Commission minutes of July 16, 2003
- 9) Ward and Committee Reports
 - ◆ Finance Committee meeting of July 2, 2003
 - ◆ Personnel Committee meeting of June 30, 2003
 - ◆ Public Safety Committee meeting - no July meeting
 - ◆ Public Works Committee meetings of July 15 and 24, 2003
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business
 - Resolutions
 - ◆ Res - Auth Sale of Tax Auction Property
 - ◆ Res - Auth Bio-terrorism Grant for EMO
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Human Resources Advertising
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Unemployment Insurance
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Fire Department Vehicle Maintenance
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Change Order-Baldwin and Westcott Sanitary Sewer Replacement
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Planning Contracted Services for Grant Writing
 - ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Attorney Contracted Services
 - ◆ Res - Amend Resolution Relative to Museum District Engineering Services
- 13) Payment of Bills
- 14) Adjournment

COMMITTEE / WARD REPORTS

- Finance Committee -- Ald. Clark reported that the Finance Committee reviewed many of the items listed on the agenda and also received the proposed Water and Wastewater Fund Budgets.
- Personnel Committee -- HR Director DeForest reported the Personnel Committee reviewed advertising for the position of Water System Operator and went into executive session to discuss labor contract negotiations.
- Public Safety Committee -- Ald. Jeffer reported there was no Public Safety Committee meeting in July.
- Public Works Committee -- Ald. Biviano reported the Public Works Committee were updated on the pool repairs and discussed the purchase of a map machine.
- Ward One -- Ald. Clark reported street parties have begun in his ward.
- Ward Two -- Ald. Cushman reported receiving skunk complaints. Ald. Biviano suggested looking at the City of Cortland's nuisance wildlife program.

ADJOURNMENT – Ald. Biviano moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.