

COMMON COUNCIL

May 22, 1990

Mayor Chomyszak presided at a regular meeting of the Common Council held at 7 p.m. on May 22, 1990, at the Higley Building.

Present:

Mayor Marjorie Chomyszak
Ald. Hartley Ackley
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Herbert Horovitz
Ald. Kenneth Titus
Ald. Roland Guinn
Ald. Charles Angelino

Also:

Clerk/CD Director Jody Zakrevsky
Chamberlain Harold Hutton
Attorney James Cushman
DPW Director Neil Beebe
Police Chief Gary Follett
Asst. Police Chief Richard Whiting
Highway Supt. Joseph Loscavio
Codes Enforcement Officer Gary Lackos
Fire Chief Mark Rice
Asst. Fire Chief Timothy Ashcraft
Planning Comm. Chairman Jean Intres
Supervisor John Dolan

Ald. Horovitz moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of May 7, 1990. Seconded by Ald. Guinn and duly adopted, ayes all.

OPEN FORUM:

-- Stan Prusik, 30 Eric Street, expressed his feeling that when people speak out at public meetings they are ridiculed and the focus is turned from the topic to the speaker.

-- Mr. Prusik stated, regarding skateboards, he feels they are safer than bicycles. He expressed concern that the new sidewalks downtown will become a bikeway for kids.

-- Mr. Prusik reported several local businesses are leaving the City due to the increased sales tax.

-- Mr. Prusik asked the status of records retention in the City. Clerk Zakrevsky said the records retention schedule has been adopted and will be in place in the fall.

-- Mr. Prusik said the auditors indicated that the City's books are improved from last year.

-- Robert Rabinowitz asked why the contractors on Broad Street aren't cutting sidewalk wet rather than dry. He said they are throwing up dust and he feels it is a hazard.

CD Director Zakrevsky said the contract was for dry cutting and to cut wet would require a change order. He said he met with the contractor regarding the matter and they agreed not to cut during the lunch hour. He said a water supply would be needed for the contractor to hook hoses up to. The possibility of using the City's water truck was discussed. Council referred the matter to DPW.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Chomyszak opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m. regarding amending the 1987 Community Development Small Cities Application.

Community Development Director Zakrevsky said he is requesting approval to send an application to HUD to amend the 1987 Small Cities grant application to go to the Shop Vac Company.

Mr. Zakrevsky presented a background of the grant. He stated a grant of \$397,000 was awarded to the City in October of 1987 for Contour Packaging, a plastics manufacturer, to move its operation to the Industrial Park in the City. Mr. Zakrevsky explained that due to several circumstances, Contour decided not to relocate to Norwich, and since that time, several possible projects have been discussed with HUD. He said since Shop Vac came to the City in 1989 he has had several discussions with the company regarding expansion. Mr. Zakrevsky gave a brief background of the Company and their proposed plans for expansion. He indicated that if Shop Vac was not able to expand its operation in Norwich, it would close the plant here and expand its plant in Canton, PA.

Planning Commission Chairman Intres asked how the 7% interest rate was determined since the original loan was at 6%. Mr. Zakrevsky said the interest rate was agreed upon by the Company and noted HUD must also approve it.

Thomas Knapp, 14 Locust Street, said it would seem beneficial for the City to have this company located here and questioned what Shop Vac's benefit would be. Mr. Zakrevsky said the Company prefers a smaller urban environment and Norwich is more centrally located than Canton. He also noted the plant in Norwich is newer and substantial renovations have already been completed.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Chomyszak closed the hearing at 7:40 p.m.

BIDS:

Clerk Zakrevsky reported bids were received for the following:

- Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite
- Portland Cement Concrete
- Dump Truck Rental
- Demolition of Car Dealership
- Paver Rental

CORRESPONDENCE:

-- Mayor Chomyszak presented a proclamation to the Council - National Public Works Week, May 20 through 26, 1990.

Ald. McNeil moved to receive and file the following correspondence:

- Letter from Andrew Liddle regarding an Air Show to be held at the airport on June 3. Mayor Chomyszak noted the Air Show is open to the public free of charge.
- Memo from the Parking Committee requesting permission to continue.
- Memo from Gary Lackos with proposed changes to the Sign Ordinance.

Seconded by Ald. Horovitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

DEPARTMENT, BOARDS AND COMMISSION REPORTS:

Ald. Guinn moved to receive and file the following reports:

- Police Department monthly report for April, 1990
- Parks Commission minutes of May 14, 1990
- Civil Service Commission minutes of May 10, 1990
- Public Safety Committee meeting of May 15, 1990

Seconded by Ald. Horovitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

WARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Ald. Angelino urged Council to study the recommendations regarding the Sign Ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 5

OF 1990

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND A CITY ORDINANCE
RELATIVE TO SKATEBOARDING

BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Norwich, New York, as follows:

Section 1. Section 23-3 of the Ordinances of the City of Norwich, Coasting and Ball Playing, which regulates the operation of skateboards, is amended as follows:

23-2 Operating Skateboards (5/11/65)

No person shall use, operate or ride within the limits of any public street in the city or upon any sidewalk on either side of Broad Street, between Mitchell and Cortland Streets and Front and Hayes Streets, or either side of Main Street between Maple Street and Hubbard Avenue, a skateboard or any other device rolling on wheels which cannot be guided or steered and stopped by the operator by means of a suitable steering and braking controls.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

New material is underlined; {bracketed} material is deleted.

-- Ald. McNeil moved to receive proposed Ordinance No. 5 of 1990 and set a public hearing for June 12, 1990. Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

RESOLUTION #40 - 1990. AMENDING 1987 SMALL CITIES GRANT APPLICATION

Ald. Guinn introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich received federal funds for a single purpose economic development project under the Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program; and

WHEREAS, due to economic and market conditions beyond the control of Contour Packaging of Philadelphia, the company will not be building a new plant in Norwich, New York; and

WHEREAS, Norwich Manufacturing, a subsidiary of Shop Vac Corporation, has indicated a desire to expand its operations in Norwich and employ 40 new individuals; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Job Development Authority has approved a loan of \$578,936 to Norwich Manufacturing to assist in its expansion; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the Common Council relative to amending its 1987 Small Cities Grant Program; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the Community Development Director be and hereby are authorized to submit an amendment to the 1987 Small Cities Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and further be it

RESOLVED, that said application will authorize a loan in the amount of \$340,000 to Norwich Manufacturing, a subsidiary of Shop Vac Corporation for the purchase of various equipment and the creation of an additional 40 new positions within the City of Norwich.

Seconded by Ald. Angelino and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #41 - 1990. APPOINTING JAMES WALLEN AS RELIEF FIRE FIGHTER

Ald. Guinn introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, one vacancy exists in the ranks of full-time relief fire fighter in the Norwich Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chiefs have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that James Wallen, 132 Plymouth Street, be and hereby is appointed as full-time relief fire fighter in the Norwich Fire Department effective May 27, 1990.

Seconded by Ald. Angelino and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote.

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. Horovitz asked if Mr. Wallen has had training. Fire Chief Rice said Mr. Wallen would attend fire fighter training school in July. Chief Rice noted Mr. Wallen joined the Fire Department as a volunteer in 1982.

RESOLUTION #42 - 1990. CREATING PERMANENT RELIEF FIRE ASSISTANT POSITION AND APPOINTING TIMOTHY L. ASHCRAFT THERETO

Ald. Guinn introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Fire Chief has made certain recommendations relative to the creation of a permanent relief fire assistant position in the Norwich Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee and the Public Safety Committee have made certain recommendations relative to said position; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended appointment of Timothy L. Ashcraft of 47 West Main Street, Norwich, to the position; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, 1. that a permanent relief fire assistant position in the Norwich Fire Department be and hereby is created; and

2. that Timothy L. Ashcraft be and hereby is appointed as permanent relief fire assistant in the Norwich Fire Department effective May 27, 1990.

Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote.

-- Ald. Angelino moved to award the following bids to the lowest qualified bidders meeting specifications as follows:

-- Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite to Monarch Chemical of Utica, NY for \$.69 per gallon.

-- Portland Cement Concrete to B&B Builders Supply of Greene, NY for \$54.75/C.Y. for 4,000 p.s.i., \$52.25/C.Y. for 3,000 p.s.i., and \$7.50/C.Y. Surcharge for Heated, Winterized, and \$30 surcharge for Smaller than 3 yards.

-- Dump Truck Rental to Lynk Construction of Norwich, NY for \$25/hr for 6 c.y., \$35/hr for 10 and 12 c.y.

-- Paver Rental to Ronald Coleman of Oxford, NY for \$62 per hour.

-- Demolition of Car Dealership to Bianchi-Trison Corp. of Syracuse, NY for \$33,333.33.

Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Guinn moved to request the Parking Committee to continue to explore the possibility of forming a Parking Authority or Commission. Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote.

Prior to the vote, Robert Rabinowitz, a member of the Committee, said the Committee is looking at the City's future needs and possible alternatives.

Planning Commission Chairman Intres stated the parking problems in the City are not temporary and an Authority or Commission may be needed to address issues that arise. He indicated that several people at Norwich-Eaton are interested in serving on the Committee.

Maggie MacRae, Parking Committee member, explained the Committee is asking for authorization to continue studying the situation.

Police Chief Follett said he would like to have a member of his department on the Parking Committee.

Ald. Ackley stated he did not approve of the guidelines outlined by the Committee for a Parking Authority. Ald. Horovitz concurred.

-- Ald. Guinn moved to approve the following appointments to the Emergency Squad of the Fire Department:

Mark R. Davis, RD #3, Norwich
Steven R. Walker, 6 Howard Street
Diane L. Law, 104 Mitchell Street

Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Horovitz moved to receive the recommendations of the Codes Enforcement Officer to amend the Sign Ordinance to include portable signs for five-day periods with a fee, and to also include a 60 day waiver on permanent signs for changing lettering. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Horovitz reported he read in the Binghamton Press that the City of Norwich is going to provide a \$250,000 endowment fund for the Day Care Center. He said this was not true and asked where the information came from. James Wright of the Binghamton Press said he was not aware of the article.

-- Ald. Horovitz moved to pay the following bills after proper audit and certification:

	<u>May-Prepaid</u>	<u>5/22/90</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	274,931.29	56,229.30	331,160.59
Trust Fund	83,537.52	0.00	83,537.52
Highway Reserve	0.00	11,788.00	11,788.00
W.W.T.P.	168.99	0.00	168.99
Business Improvement District	90,000.00	0.00	90,000.00
Special Grants	0.00	43,796.50	43,796.50
Small Cities	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
RESTORE	0.00	1,330.71	1,330.71
TOTALS	\$453,637.80	\$113,144.51	\$566,782.31

Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Guinn moved to go into executive session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss the financial history of a particular corporation and the personnel history of a particular individual. Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Ackley moved to go out of executive session. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. Horovitz moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ald. Angelino and duly adopted, ayes all.