

COMMON COUNCIL

March 26, 1991

Mayor Chomyszak presided at a regular meeting of the Common Council held at 7 p.m. on March 26, 1991, at the Higley Building.

Present:

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

Also:

Clerk Jody Zakrevsky
Chamberlain Harold Hutton
Attorney James Cushman
Fire Chief Mark Rice
Police Chief Richard Whiting
Asst. Police Chief Robert Mason
Highway Supt. Joseph Loscavio
Codes Enforcement Officer Gary Lackos
Assessor Ann Makarewicz

Ald. Titus moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of March 12, 1991 and to correct the minutes of February 26, 1991 to include Codes Enforcement Officer Lackos as also present. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

OPEN FORUM:

-- Casey Jones, 24 East Main Street, said he is concerned by the newspaper reports that indicate the Council is waiting for the State budget to be adopted before taking action. He said there is every indication that the situation will be worse than last year and if the City does not take action, the only option will be to play catch-up. He said the most optimistic outlook is a proposal for a tax increase spending over a four-year period which will still be a significant burden on taxpayers.

-- John Dolan, 104 Pleasant Street, stated he has the same concerns as Mr. Jones regarding State budget cuts.

Mr. Dolan said, as a taxpayer, he is very concerned over the deterioration of City Hall. He said more pride should be taken in the appearance of City Hall. He suggested painting and repairing the windows would greatly improve the appearance of the building. Ald. Angelino said an estimate was obtained last year and to paint the windows would cost approximately \$12,000. He agreed that it is needed but given proposed state budget cuts, this is not the year to do it. Ald. Angelino said plans for a new city hall are still proceeding.

BIDS:

-- Clerk Zakrevsky reported bids were received on March 14 for the rebid of Firefighters Protective Gear.

CORRESPONDENCE:

-- Ald. Angelino moved to approve the following requests under the direction of the Police Chief:

-- Request from Norwich Little League to hold annual parade on May 4 at 9:30 am, parade route to be from the County Office Building parking lot to Veteran's Park.

-- Request from American Legion to hold annual Memorial Day parade on May 27 at 11 am, parade route to be from the VFW on East Main Street to the West Side Park where ceremonies will be held.

-- Request from Binghamton Morris Men to perform in the West Side Park on April 27 at 4:30 pm, group to perform traditional English folk dances for approximately 45 minutes at no charge to the public.

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

DEPARTMENT, BOARDS AND COMMISSION REPORTS:

-- Clerk Zakrevsky reported the following reports were received:

- Fire Department monthly report for November 1990
- Electrical Board minutes of February 21, 1991
- Youth Board minutes of February 27, 1991
- Plumbing Board minutes of February 20, 1991

-- Clerk Zakrevsky reported a curb cut request from Chenango Memorial Hospital. He said that both the Traffic Commission and the Engineering Department have reviewed the request and recommend approval. Mr. Zakrevsky also noted the hospital would provide a rear entrance which would be paved and made accessible as an alternate entrance for emergency vehicles. Ald. Horovitz moved to approve the curb cut request under the supervision of the Engineering department, providing that a paved rear entrance will be made accessible to emergency vehicles. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote.

-- Mayor Chomyszak reported that the Charter Commission is looking at the role of the City Supervisors in local government. The Mayor said the Commission suggested that the Supervisors report to Council on County Board meetings. Supervisor Dolan said he does not feel it is necessary for him to give a report on County Board meetings since there are minutes available of every meeting. Mr. Dolan stated the Charter Commission should find a solution to weave the supervisors into the Council. Mr. Dolan noted that every other supervisor on the County Board is the chief officer of their town or village. He said that he represents the City of Norwich to the County Board but he actually has no decision making authority in the City. Ald. Horovitz said he feels it would be a conflict of interest to have a supervisor serve on the Council.

The Council concurred that having the minutes of the County Board meetings would be sufficient and that oral reports were not necessary.

-- Fire Chief Rice reported that the Fire Department, in conjunction with the Boy Scouts of America, would like to establish a Boy Scout Explorer Post. He said the Fire Department has looked at the program seriously and is in favor of it. He noted the program will be run by the Boy Scouts and there would be no liability on the part of the City for insurance. Chief Rice also noted that only volunteer firemen will be involved in the program. He explained the program would involve fire fighting management and associated activities for boy scouts between the ages of 14 and 18.

Ald. McNeil moved to receive and file the reports. Seconded by Ald. Horovitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

WARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-- Ald. McNeil reported a large pothole on Henry Street, just west of Guernsey Street.

- Personnel Committee meeting of March 5, 1991
- Finance Committee meeting of March 20, 1991

-- Chamberlain Hutton reported, referencing the Finance Committee report of March 20, paragraph three of page two, the Committee would like to forward a recommendation to approve a long-term lease with Fire Protection Services for the fire training facility. Chamberlain Hutton noted the firemen would like to build an addition to allow for more classrooms.

Casey Jones asked if the Planning Commission reviewed the request, noting that with the old waste water treatment plant now vacant, the parcel could be looked at as a whole area. Mayor Chomyszak noted the land was

originally donated to the Fire Department, but had to be put in the city's name for legal purposes. A resolution was requested for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

-- Ald. Angelino moved to award the bid for Cleaning Supplies and Paper Products to Robert Equipment of Elmira, NY for \$1532.21, the low bidder meeting specifications as recommended by the Public Works Committee. Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

NEW BUSINESS:

-- Ald. Titus moved to award the bid for Firefighters Protective Gear to LaFrance Fire Equipment of Elmira, NY, the lowest bidder meeting specifications, as recommended by the Public Safety Committee, as follows:

Nomex Fire Coat 35" Length - \$267.00 ea.
 Nomex Fire Coat 40" Length - \$284.00 ea.
 Nomex Protective Trousers - \$187.00 ea.
 Emergency Medical Services Jacket - \$223.00

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

-- Clerk Zakrevsky reported a local law, which was to be presented that evening, would be held for further review by the city attorney.

-- Clerk Zakrevsky reported a resolution authorizing a youth recreation program contract, which was to be presented that evening, would be held until after the towns involved review the proposed agreement.

RESOLUTION #39 - 1991. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR SPCA CONTRACT

Ald. Titus introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover payments for the first half of SPCA Contract; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1991 General Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1989.402	Contracted Services	\$ 4,250.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A3510.4020	SPCA Contract	\$ 4,250.00

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

RESOLUTION #40 - 1991. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR ATTORNEY FEES

Ald. Horovitz introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover costs of attorney fees associated with re-assessment cases; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1991 General Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1989.402	Contracted Services	\$ 259.80

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1420.4020	Attorney Contracted Services	\$ 259.80

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

RESOLUTION #41 - 1991. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR INSURANCE

Ald. Horovitz introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, additional funds are required to cover the cost of insurance premiums; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1991 Waste Water Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
G1990	Contingency	\$ 4,653.48

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
G1910.4	Special Items - Insurance	\$ 4,653.48

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

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. Horovitz asked if the increase was anticipated. Chamberlain Hutton said it was anticipated, but, as the Waste Water Treatment Plant has not had full coverage until this year, the exact amount was not known.

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

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>3/26/91</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	234,450.33	59,580.25	294,030.58
Trust Fund	85,176.84	0.00	85,176.84
W.W.T.P.	55.57	1,194.29	1,249.86
Reserves	20,725.00	0.00	20,725.00
Community Development	0.00	341.25	341.25
Capital Projects	3,500.00	993.00	4,493.00
TOTALS	\$343,907.74	\$62,108.79	\$406,016.53

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

-- Ald. Horovitz moved to go into executive session at 8:02 pm to discuss possible litigation. Seconded by Ald. Titus and duly adopted, ayes all.

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

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