

COMMON COUNCIL

October 27, 1992

Mayor Chomyszak presided at a regular meeting of the Common Council held at 7 pm on October 27, 1992, at the Higley Building.

Present:

Mayor Marjorie Chomyszak
Ald. George Carnrike
Ald. Patrick McNeil (7:15pm)
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Stephen Tooker
Ald. David Symonds
Ald. Charles Angelino

Also:

Clerk Jody Zakrevsky
Chamberlain Harold Hutton
Engineer James Suozzo
Highway Supt. Joseph Loscavio
Asst. Fire Chief T. Christophersen
Asst. Fire Chief James Wallen
Police Chief Richard Whiting
Historian Patricia Scott

Ald. Carnrike moved to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of October 13, 1992 and the special meeting of September 30, 1992. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

OPEN FORUM:

No one wished to be heard.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk Zakrevsky reported the following correspondence was received:

- Letter of resignation from David DeBruine from the Parks Commission.
- Request from the Merchants Association for free parking downtown from November 1, 1992 through January 1, 1993.
- Request from the Norwich Merchants Association to hold the annual Santa Claus Parade on Friday, November 27, 1992 at 10 am.
- Mayoral proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Week, the week of October 25, 1992.

-- Ald. Angelino moved to accept Mr. DeBruine's resignation, approve free downtown parking from November 1, 1992 to January 1, 1993 and the Santa Claus parade on November 27, 1992 under the direction of the Police Chief, and receive and file the mayoral proclamation. Seconded by Ald. Symonds and duly adopted, ayes all.

Prior to the vote, Ald. Angelino requested a letter be sent to Mr. DeBruine noting appreciation for his efforts with the Parks Commission.

Mayor Chomyszak introduced Phyllis Dean of Crime Victims' Program. Ms. Dean indicated that as of January 1, a safe dwelling was opened and there are now 8 homes to service victims. She noted that to date 450 beds and 652 meals have been provided to victims. Ms. Dean stated that domestic violence is a problem in Chenango County. She noted that of the 230 victims serviced last year in Chenango County, 86 were from the City of Norwich.

DEPARTMENT, BOARDS AND COMMISSION REPORTS:

- Ald. Angelino moved to receive and file the following reports:
 - Water Board minutes of September 28, 1992
 - Planning Commission minutes of September 3 and 21, 1992
 - Traffic Commission minutes of October 14, 1992

-- Water/Waste Water Board 1993 Budget

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

WARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-- Ald. Carnrike reported from Ward One that he has been approached by residents inquiring how to form an adult basketball league. Ald. Angelino suggested he contact the Youth Bureau Director.

Ald. Carnrike also reported that there is still a skunk issue. Ald. McNeil noted that the Public Safety Committee addressed the issue at a meeting last evening and has referred the matter to the Finance Committee for recommendation.

-- Ald. McNeil reported from Ward Two that he was served a petition from residents of the Pleasant Street/Red Mill Hill Bridge area requesting the bridge be closed year round. He stated that accompanying the petition is a traffic study that was conducted in the area. Ald. McNeil requested the matter be referred to the Chenango County Transportation Committee for recommendation.

-- Ald. Rabinowitz reported from Ward Three that he received a copy of the same petition. He said when he looked at the bridge he observed several vehicles including a pickup truck and a hay truck which may have violated the three ton weight limit of the bridge.

Ald. Rabinowitz, noting that many trees have not yet dropped their leaves, asked how long the leaf pickup will continue. Highway Supt. Loscavio said it will continue until all the leaves come down off the trees. He noted that to date the Highway Department has spent three days picking up leaves.

-- Ald. Tooker reported from Ward Four that the complaint from the resident regarding frequent visits by the Assessor was handled promptly and to the satisfaction of the resident.

Ald. Tooker also reported the complaint regarding a family of raccoons living in an abandoned vehicle on Adams Street is being addressed.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Ald. Angelino stated that several vacancies exist due to the resignation of Alderman Titus. He reported that a republican caucus was held prior to the Council meeting.

-- Ald. Angelino nominated Ald. McNeil to the position of Acting Mayor for the remainder of the term expiring December 31, 1992. Seconded by Ald. Symonds and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Mayor Chomyszak appointed Ald. McNeil as Chairman of the Personnel Committee and Ald. Symonds as Chairman of the Public Safety Committee for the remainder of the terms expiring December 31, 1992.

NEW BUSINESS:

-- Ald. Angelino moved the re-appointment of Harry Gibson to the Assessment Board of Review, a five year term expiring September 30, 1997. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Ald. McNeil moved to accept the appointments of Jeffrey Steward, 36 Maydole Street, to the Maydole Hose Company and Daryl Prindle, 48 Division Street, to the Alert Hose Company of the Norwich Fire Department. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

Prior to the vote, Mayor Chomyszak stated the Public Safety Committee and the Fire Department have recommended the appointments. She noted that Mr. Steward was previously a member until he moved out of the area and that Mr. Prindle has completed the first responder course.

RESOLUTION #124 - 1992. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR PLANNING DEPARTMENT TRAVEL

Ald. Symonds introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover the cost of travel expenses for the Planning Department; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1992 General Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1410.4030	Clerk - Travel & Conferences	\$ 200.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A8020.4030	Planning - Travel & Conferences	\$ 200.00

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

RESOLUTION #125 - 1992. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR BLACKTOP GRINDING ON ROSS AVENUE

Ald. Angelino introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover the cost of blacktop grinding on Ross Avenue; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers in the 1992 General Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1440.1010	Engineer - Personal Services	\$ 1,200.00
A3620.1010	Codes Enforcement - Personal Services	1,150.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A5110.4020	Street Maintenance Contracted Services	\$ 2,350.00

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

RESOLUTION #126 - 1992. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR SURVEY OF TRAIN RIGHT-OF-WAY

Ald. Symonds introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover the cost of a survey of the train right-of-way from East Main Street to Borden Avenue; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1992 General Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1990	Contingency	\$ 2,000.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1440.4020	Engineer - Contracted Services	\$ 2,000.00

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

-- Prior to the vote, Mayor Chomyszak explained, referring to the old railroad right-of-way from East Main Street to the Victory Markets property on Borden Avenue, that a survey is needed to determine the exact boundaries before proceeding to clean up the area.

Historian Patricia Scott noted the original blueprints of the area are in her office.

RESOLUTION #127 - 1992. AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR WASTE WATER WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Ald. Rabinowitz introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, no specific budget line item was provided for workers' compensation costs due to a lack of any historic background; and

WHEREAS, funds are required to cover the estimated cost of workers' compensation for 1992; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chamberlain be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer in the 1992 Waste Water Fund Budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
G1990.4	Special Items - Contingency	\$ 13,000.00

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
G9040.8	Employee Benefits Workers' Compensation	\$ 13,000.00

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

-- Prior to the vote, Chamberlain Hutton explained that the funds previously came from the General Fund until it was recognized that it should come from the Waste Water Fund. He noted it will be budgeted next year in the Waste Water Fund.

-- Ald. Angelino requested the Clerk read a letter received from the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the sign ordinance. The Clerk read the letter from Robert Edmunds, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals requesting the Council amend the Sign Ordinance.

-- Ald. Angelino moved to receive the letter as correspondence and refer the matter to the Planning Commission and Codes Enforcement Office for recommendation. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- There was discussion regarding a 1993 revaluation and the impact a revaluation would have on taxpayers due to the current economic conditions. Ald. Rabinowitz indicated the Finance Committee recommendation is to delay any action on a revaluation until next year. Ald. McNeil asked if anyone had obtained information regarding houses that sold in 1991 and 1992 and

what the percentage of increases are from the current assessments compared to the selling prices. He suggested the information may be helpful in making a future determination.

-- Ald. Rabinowitz moved to recommend to the Assessor that the revaluation be postponed for one year due to the unsure economic climate. Seconded by Ald. Symonds and duly adopted, ayes all.

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

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>10/27/92</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	230,907.57	120,077.47	350,985.04
Trust Fund	87,927.33	0.00	87,927.33
B.I.D.	22.00	0.00	22.00
Unemployment Insurance	836.00	0.00	836.00
Community Development	0.00	24.00	24.00
Urban Renewal	0.00	277.93	277.93
Downtown Revitalization	0.00	1,689.11	1,689.11
Capital - Park	0.00	23.99	23.99
TOTALS	319,692.90	122,092.50	441,785.40

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

-- Ald. Angelino moved to go into executive session at 7:51 pm to discuss possible litigation regarding labor negotiations. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

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

-- Ald. McNeil moved to adjourn at 9:06 pm. Seconded by Ald. Angelino and duly adopted, ayes all.