

COMMON COUNCIL

March 11, 1997

Mayor Joseph L. Biviano presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7PM on March 11, 1997, at the Higley Building.

Present:

Mayor Joseph L. Biviano
Ald. George Carnrike
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Barbara Schermerhorn
Ald. Mat Thall
Ald. Charles Angelino

Also:

Director of Finance Brian Haak
Director of H.R. Deborah DeForest
Police Chief Joseph Angelino
Asst. Engineer Asa Allison
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
Director of C.D. David Wagoner
Jean Hayes, B.I.D. Administrator
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

Mayor Biviano stated that the following resolution required action by the Common Council this evening.

RESOLUTION #26 - 1997.

DESIGNATING THE COMMON COUNCIL AS 'LEAD AGENCY' FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS RELATIVE TO AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY BIRDSALL STREET PROPERTIES FROM R-3 TO B-1.

Ald. McNeil introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich is amending its Zoning Ordinance Map to reclassify the properties fronting on Birdsall Street on the west side from 111 feet south of East Main Street to 330 feet north on Front Street from R-3 to B-1, as follows: Tax Map Nos. 136.57-1-15, 136.57-1-16, 136.57-1-17, 136.57-1-22, 136.57-1-18, 136.57-1-19, 136.57-1-28, 136.57-1-29, 136.57-1-31 and 136.57-1-32, as described in a Short Environmental Assessment Form dated February 27, 1997, and

WHEREAS, said amendment is subject to an environmental review as outlined in 6 NYCRR Part 617, the Administrative Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (hereinafter "the Rules"), prepared and adopted pursuant to Section 8-0113 of the Environmental Conservation Law and regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State (SEQR), and

WHEREAS, part 617.3 of the Rules require the designation of a "Lead Agency" for each project and Part 617.6 of the Rules govern the determination of lead agency status, and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich, in a letter dated February 27, 1997, advised other interested parties of its intentions to be lead agency pursuant to the Rules, and

WHEREAS, no challenge to the City of Norwich was made or received by any qualified agency within the comment period; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby designates itself "Lead Agency" for the environmental review of the Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance Map of the City of Norwich to reclassify Birdsall Street properties from R-3 to B-1, as set forth in the City's letter of intent to interested parties on February 27, 1997.

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

Agenda for March 18, 1997 -- The following agenda was developed for the March 18, 1997 Common Council meeting.

- 1) Call To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 1997 and the work session of March 11, 1997
- 5) Public Hearing
 - ◆ Proposed Local Law to Establish a Sewer Use Law
 - ◆ Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Sewer Use Ordinance
- 6) Open Forum
- 7) Bids
 - ◆ Water Main Materials
 - ◆ Liquid Chlorine and Sodium Hypochlorite

- ◆ Water System Improvement Contract 2
- ◆ 1997 ¾ Ton Pickup with Plow
- ◆ 1997 One Ton Pickup with Plow
- ◆ 1997 Surplus Equipment
- ◆ 1997 or 1996 New Leftover Police Vehicle

8) Correspondence

9) Department, Board and Commission Reports

- ◆ Electrical Board minutes of February 20, 1997
- ◆ Police Department monthly report for January and February, 1997

10) Ward and Committee Reports

- ◆ Finance Committee meeting of February 5 and March 5, 1997
- ◆ Public Safety Committee meeting of February 24, 1997

11) Old Business

12) New Business

Appointments

Approval of Bids

- ◆ Jamba Farm Lease
- ◆ Water Main Materials
- ◆ Liquid Chlorine and Sodium Hypochlorite
- ◆ Water System Improvements

Resolutions

- ◆ Res - Determination of Negative Declaration for the Birdsall Street Zoning Change
- ◆ Res - Approve Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance Map
- ◆ Res - Adopt Local Law Establishing Sewer Use Law
- ◆ Res - Approve Ordinance Amending Sewer Use Ordinance
- ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Advertising
- ◆ Res - Auth Transfer for Dog Control

13) Payment of Bills

14) Adjournment

Ward Reports

- ◆ Ald. Carnrike asked if the amount of dues paid to NYCOM make it worthwhile. Mayor Biviano said it is a very worthwhile service and noted that he uses it continually. The department heads concurred.
- ◆ Ald. McNeil reported for Ward Two a complaint of three unlicensed vehicles on a lot on Cortland Street. The matter was referred to the Codes Enforcement Officer.
- ◆ Ald. Rabinowitz reported for Ward Three a complaint about street conditions near Gibson School. There was discussion relative to the streets in that area and the need for replacement rather than resurfacing for many of them.
- ◆ Mayor Biviano reported a resident of Ward Five requesting to have his address renumbered. The Council concurred that it is not in the City's jurisdiction to number houses.
- ◆ Ald. Angelino asked if the proper permits are being obtained for street openings and noted permit should state that the street must be filled in curb to curb.

Proposed TOPS Project -- Mayor Biviano stated with regard to the proposed TOPS project, that many plants and shrubs are included in the landscaping. He said the screening wall runs parallel to the sidewalk from 19 to 21 feet. He noted the proposed ordinance would bring the area back to its original B-1 designation.

Pushcart Project -- B.I.D. Administrator Jean Hayes presented an overview of a project that will boost the area economy. The project involves developing pushcart vendors and would include a tourist information cart. She stated the B.I.D. would like to start with seven carts. Mrs. Hayes the intent of the project is to expand the downtown market concept, stop traffic traveling on Route 12 thereby expanding the number of potential customers, create opportunities for new entrepreneurs to begin business with a limited investment and add sales tax revenue to the City treasury. She noted the current vendor ordinance may need some revision to accommodate the project. The Council referred the matter to the Police Chief and City Attorney. David Kleinstuber explained the structure of the carts and provided the Council with

information relative the cost of purchasing or building the carts. He noted it may be possible to purchase used carts.

Executive Session -- Ald. McNeil moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Seconded by Ald. Carnrike and duly adopted, ayes all.

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

Adjournment -- Ald. Schermerhorn moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ald. Thall and duly adopted, ayes all.