

COMMON COUNCIL
Work Session
February 8, 2000

Mayor Robert Raphael presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7 PM on February 8, 2000, at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Robert Raphael
Ald. Thomas Anderson
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Jeffrey Thornton
Ald. Sharon Jeffer
Ald. Joseph Biviano

Also:

Director of Finance/City Clerk William Roberts
Human Resources Dir. Deborah DeForest
Police Chief Joseph Angelino
Fire Chief John Tighe
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

Business Improvement District Plan – Mayor Raphael reported that BID representatives were present to answer any questions relative to the Business Improvement District Plan. No questions were raised.

Parks Commission Appointment – Ald. Biviano moved to approve the mayoral appointment of Stewart Chase, 24 Summit Street, to the Parks Commission for the remainder of a three year term expiring 12/31/2000. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

NYSEG Easement – Ald. Biviano moved to authorize an easement with NYSEG for the New Police Station. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, 4-3 (Ayes – Ald. Anderson, Rabinowitz and Biviano; Nays - Ald. McNeil, Thornton and Jeffer) with the Mayor voting aye.

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. McNeil noted that the Finance Committee discussed putting the wires underground and felt that it would be too costly. He said that the costs should be investigated before determining that it is too expensive. Asa Allison explained that it would require tearing up a city parking lot as well as the adjoining property owner's lot. He indicated that the wiring from the pole to the building would be underground.

RESOLUTION # 14 - 2000. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY WORKING FOREMAN

Ald. Rabinowitz introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the need has arisen for a Temporary Working Foreman in the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel and Public Works Committee have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Robert Franklin, currently holding the position of Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) I be and hereby is temporarily promoted to Temporary Working Foreman for such time as required.

Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote, 6-0.

Development of Agenda for February 15, 2000

Call To Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2000, special meeting of January 26, 2000 and work session of February 8, 2000

Public Hearing

Proposed Ordinance Amending the Sign Ordinance Relative to Changeable Copy Signs

Open Forum

Bids

Correspondence

Notification from Adelphia Cable Company of a \$.26 increase in basic service rate, effective May 1, 2000.
Request from Norwich Little League to hold annual opening day parade on April 29, 2000 beginning at 8:30 AM

Department, Board and Commission Reports

Fire Department/Codes monthly report for January, 2000

Historian monthly report for January, 2000

Police Department annual report for 1999 and monthly report for

Public Works Department/Water System monthly report for January, 2000

Records Management monthly report for January, 2000

Electrical Board minutes of January 11, 2000

Planning Commission minutes of January 14, 2000

Plumbing Board minutes of January 20, 2000

Water Commission minutes of January 19, 2000

- ◆ Youth Board minutes of January 11, 2000
- 0) Ward and Committee Reports
 - ◆ Finance Committee meeting of January 11, 2000
 - ◆ Public Safety Committee meetings of December 28, 1999 and February 1, 2000
 - ◆ Public Works Committee meeting of January 27, 2000
- 0) Old Business
- 0) New Business

Award of Bids

- ◆ Liquid Chlorine / Sodium Hypochlorite

Resolutions

- ◆ Res = Approve Ordinance To Amend the Sign Ordinance Relative to Changeable Copy Signs
 - ◆ Res = Award Criminal Justice Department Police Grant
 - ◆ Res = Auth Agreement with the Place Relative to HUD grant
 - ◆ Res = Auth the Purchase of a Fire Fighting Vehicle and Issuance of Serial Bonds
 - ◆ Res = Adopt Business Improvement District Plan and Set Public Hearing for Comments
- 0) Payment of Bills
 - 0) Adjournment

Additions to the Agenda

- ◆ Resolution = Appointment of Police Officer
- ◆ Public Hearing = Ald. Anderson moved to set a public hearing for February 15, 2000 to receive comments relative to the closing of Turner Street in conjunction with the YMCA expansion project. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. Biviano stated that before the Council takes any action relative to the YMCA project, the Planning Commission should review the matter. CD Assistant Katy Schwan said that in order to review the matter, the Planning Commission would need to see the final plans. Ald. Anderson noted the YMCA has the understanding that they would be presenting their final plans to the Common Council after meeting with the Traffic Commission.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Ald. Rabinowitz reported that the Finance Committee meeting held on February 7, 2000 had an extensive agenda with many housekeeping items. The Finance Committee reviewed public works items including: chlorine bids, the list of equipment purchases, NYSEG easement, future parking lot on Front Street, water billing correction for Perry Browne School, citywide computer maintenance services, billing services for Town of Norwich water districts #2 and #3, city owned properties, USDA contract for Riparian Buffer at WWTP and reassignment of duties in DPW. Public safety issues reviewed by Finance included: property acquisition for the firehouse project, traffic study funding and RFP responses, bonding resolution for fire apparatus, Emergency Management Office equipment needs, administration relative to parking fines and police grant award. Discussion also occurred relative to: possible surplus city property, the community contribution program, the BID Assessment renewal, a taxpayer inquiry on pre-paying property taxes, State Aid Revenue Sharing formula, the Business Process Analysis, voice mail utilization in the city offices and Historian and Records Management departments salary levels.

Personnel Committee – Ald. McNeil reported the Personnel Committee discussed at its meeting on February 1 the goals and objectives for the new Fire Chief, a permanent appointment of a water system operator, appointment of temporary working foreman in DPW, the vacant position of Secretary II and the restructuring of the CD office, the Historian/Records department and a court security officer vacancy.

Public Safety Committee – Ald. Biviano reported the Public Safety Committee established its goals and objectives for the year at its meeting on February 1, 2000 that include: Fire Department - Mutual Aid Plan, Ambulance and Fire Services Contracts, Firefighters Union Contract, Policy and Procedure Review, Revenue Recovery, Building Project, Volunteer / Paid Firefighter Relations; Police Department - 12 Hour Shift, Building Project, Revenue Recovery; Ordinances - Cellular Antenna Towers.

Public Works Committee – Ald. Anderson reported the Public Works Committee discussed the YMCA project at its January 27 meeting. He explained the issues that need to be resolved are snow removal on Turner Street and sewer lines, water lines and storm drainage. The Public Works Committee also discussed leasing wetlands at the WWTP and the fire house plans.

Trains, Planes and Automobiles – Dick Ellinwood of the Auto Museum presented plans to combine three annual events into one and requested the City's support. He stated that the "Air Show", "Cruise In" and "O&W Railroad Days" would be held June 9 through June 11 with the finale being on June 12 with "The Great Race" stopping in Norwich for their afternoon pit stop. Mr. Ellinwood explained that "The Great Race" is sponsored by The History Channel and would consist of approximately 100 vintage cars travelling from Boston, MA to Sacramento, CA. He noted that the cars would arrive in Norwich at one-minute

intervals and stay for about 30 minutes. Mayor Raphael noted that Police Chief has reviewed the plans. Tammy Carnrike of the Chamber of Commerce stated that the Chamber is working with the sponsoring organizations to coordinate the event.

-- Ald. Biviano moved to approve the "Trains, Planes and Automobiles" event from June 9 through June 12, 2000 under the direction of the Police Chief. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.

Executive Session – Ald. McNeil moved to go into executive session at 7:40 PM to discuss the sale of property where the price may be affected to the personal history of a particular individual. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Thornton moved to go out of executive session at 9:25 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

Area Corp Appointment – Ald. Rabinowitz moved to appointment Ald. Anderson or his designee as the City representative to the Chenango County Area Corporation Board. Seconded by Ald. McNeil and duly adopted, ayes all.

Adjournment – Ald. Jeffer moved to adjourn at 9:25 PM. Seconded by Ald. Biviano and duly adopted, ayes all.