

COMMON COUNCIL

Work Session
August 8, 2000

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

Present:

Mayor Robert Raphael
Ald. Gary Clark
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Jeffrey Thornton
Ald. Sharon Jeffer
Ald. Joseph Biviano

Also:

Community Development/Clerk Joseph Serbin
Director of Finance William Roberts
Human Resources Director Deborah DeForest
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
Asst. Engineer Asa Allison
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

RESOLUTION # 80 - 2000.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF IN THE
NORWICH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ald. Biviano introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Common Council, on June 20, 2000, reestablished the position of Assistant Police Chief in the Norwich Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee has made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Sgt. Murray Roach of Norwich be and hereby is granted a provisional appointment to the position of Assistant Police Chief in the City of Norwich Police Department at Grade 26, at the "after five year" level of the City's Non-Unit Compensation Schedule; and, further be it

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect on August 13, 2000.

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

Security Lighting – Ald. Biviano moved to approve the installation of security lighting in East and West Side Parks at an annual cost of \$2,654.33, as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote, 6-0.

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. McNeil stated that as they are County owned parks, the County should share in the cost of lighting the parks and noted that all will benefit from the enhanced security.

Bond Counsel – Director of Finance Roberts said the City has used the firm of Willkie Farr and Gallagher as its bond counsel for a number of years with no written contract that he is aware of. The individual that has served as the City's primary attorney from the firm, Thomas Galloway, is relocating to another firm and has requested that the City transfer its files to that firm. Director Roberts noted the new firm, Orrick Herrington and Sutcliffe, LLP, is also based in New York. Ald. McNeil indicated that the City is dealing with a firm, not an individual. Ald. Biviano suggested the Finance Committee review the matter. The members of the Finance Committee agreed to meet at 6:30 PM prior to the Common Council meeting on August 15.

Special Work Session – Ald. McNeil moved to set a date for a Long Range Strategic Planning Session for August 29 at 7 PM. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all. It was noted that department heads would not be asked to attend this meeting, however, they would be asked to be present for the next session which is planned for September 12, 2000, immediately following the work session.

Development of Agenda for August 15, 2000

- 1) Call To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of July 18, 2000 and the work session of August 8, 2000
- 5) Open Forum
- 6) Bids
- 7) Correspondence
 - ◆ Correspondence from John McHale of CWS relative the purchase of City property
 - ◆
- 8) Department, Board and Commission Reports
 - ◆ Community Development/Planning/Clerk monthly report for July, 2000
 - ◆ Fire Department/Codes monthly reports for June and July, 2000
 - ◆ Historian monthly report for July, 2000
 - ◆ Public Works Department/Water System monthly report for June
 - ◆ Records Management monthly report for July, 2000

- ◆ Electrical Board minutes of July 11, 2000
 - ◆ Parks Commission minutes of July 10, 2000
 - ◆ Planning Commission minutes of July 14, 2000
 - ◆ Plumbing Board minutes of July 20, 2000
 - ◆ Water Commission minutes of July 19, 2000
 - ◆ Zoning Board of Appeals minutes of July 24, 2000
- 9) Ward and Committee Reports
- ◆ Public Safety Committee meeting of July 25, 2000
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business

Motions

- ◆ Approve expenditure of \$2,000 from available funds in Capital Projects Account H25-909 for Computer Systems Development.

Resolutions

- ◆ Authorizing Transfer for New Police Officers Equipment
 - ◆ Authorizing Transfer for Cold Water Meters
 - ◆ Authorizing Transfer for Water System Vehicle
 - ◆ Authorizing Real Property Purchases For Fire Department Renovation Project
 - ◆ Authorizing Agreement with Delaware Engineering for Design Engineering and Bid Specs Preparation
 - ◆ Replace Position of MEO I with Mechanic position in the Public Works Department
 - ◆
- 13) Payment of Bills
- 14) Adjournment

Correspondence from CWS – The Council discussed the correspondence from CWS. The Council directed the City Clerk to write a letter to Mr. McHale of CWS stating that the City would like to cooperate and invite him to attend a Council meeting to discuss the matter further.

Committee Reports

- Finance Committee – Ald. Rabinowitz reported the Finance Committee has begun the 2001 budget process.
- Personnel Committee – Ald. McNeil reported that due to the Labor Day Holiday, the Personnel Committee will hold its September meeting on August 28, 2000 at 7 PM. He also reported the Committee discussed deferred compensation and made recommendations relative to replacing an MEO position with that of Mechanic and appointment of Assistant Police Chief.
- Public Safety Committee – Ald. Biviano reported the Public Safety Committee discussed and recommended that security lighting be installed in East and West Parks. The Committee reviewed a request from Colorscape Chenango for designation of its special event area and recommended the matter be added to the August 15 Council agenda.
- Public Works Committee – Ald. Biviano reported the Public Works Committee discussed the street program.

School Renovation Project – Mayor Raphael stated that representatives of Norwich Schools were present to answer questions regarding the school's renovation project. It was noted that the Public Works and Public Safety Committees have reviewed the plans. Mayor Raphael said the project includes a change at Perry Browne School in which the School plans to remove the bleachers located adjacent to Francis Avenue and install a driveway from its parking lot to the end of Francis Avenue. Ald. McNeil raised concern relative to the effect that such an action would have on traffic patterns in the area and suggested that residents be informed of the proposal and given an opportunity to be heard. The Council set a date for September 12, 2000 to receive public input on the proposal and directed the Community Development office to notify the residents in the area.

Executive Session – Ald. McNeil moved to go into executive session at 7:30 PM to discuss the personnel history of particular individuals. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Clark moved to go out of executive session at 7:45 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

LOCAL LAW NO. (3)

OF 2000

A LOCAL LAW TO ADOPT THE 2000 RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM AS AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 86, LAWS OF 2000, FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Norwich, as follows:

Section 1. The City of Norwich hereby elects to provide all its eligible employees with a retirement incentive program authorized by Chapter 86, Laws of 2000.

Section 2. The commencement date of the retirement incentive program shall be December 1, 2000.

Section 3. The open period which eligible employees may retire and receive the additional retirement benefit, shall be 30 days in length.

Section 4. That the employer will fund the Retirement Incentive Program provided by Chapter 86, Laws of 2000, by paying to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System in five annual payments, the amount of which shall be determined by the Retirement System Actuary.

Section 5. This local law shall take effect on August 23, 2000.

Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2000 – Ald. Biviano moved to receive proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2000, relative to adopting the 2000 Retirement Incentive Program as authorized by Chapter 86, Laws of 2000, for eligible employees of the City of Norwich, and set a public hearing for August 22, 2000. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, 5-1 (Ald. Clark) on a roll call vote.

Executive Session – Ald. Rabinowitz moved to go into executive session at 7:47 PM to discuss pending litigation. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Biviano moved to go out of executive session at 7:55 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

Executive Session – Ald. Biviano moved to go into executive session at 7:56 PM to discuss a matter that would imperil the public safety if disclosed. Seconded by Ald. Thornton and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. Rabinowitz moved to go out of executive session at 8:40 PM. Seconded by Ald. Clark and duly adopted, ayes all.

Adjournment – Ald. McNeil moved to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Seconded by Ald. Rabinowitz and duly adopted, ayes all.