

COMMON COUNCIL

Work Session

July 10, 2001

Mayor Robert Raphael presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7 PM on July 10, 2000, at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Robert Raphael
Ald. Gary Clark
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
Ald. Jeffrey Thornton (7:03 PM)
Ald. Sharon Jeffer
Ald. Joseph Biviano

Also:

Community Development/Clerk Joseph Serbin
Director of Finance William Roberts
Human Resources Director Deborah DeForest
Fire Chief John Tighe
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
Asst. Engineer Asa Allison
EMO A. Jones
Supervisor James McNeil
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

RESOLUTION No. # 58 - 2001. SETTING PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE IF CERTAIN
REAL PROPERTY IS REQUIRED FOR USE BY THE CITY

Ald. McNeil introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City owns a certain parcel of real property located at 15-19 Ross Avenue in the City of Norwich, tax map number 136.57-3-18, which property may be required for use by the City; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council wishes to determine if a portion of said property is required for use by the City; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that

1. a public hearing shall be held on the 17th day of July, 2001 at the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza at 7 PM to determine if such property is required for use by the City, and
2. the City Clerk publish such notice of hearing as required by law.

Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all on a roll call vote, 5-0.

RESOLUTION # 59 - 2001. APPOINTMENT OF CAPTAINS IN THE NORWICH FIRE
DEPARTMENT

Ald. McNeil introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2000, the Common Council by Resolution No. 65 of 2000 created three positions of Civil Service Captain in the Norwich Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, having passed the Civil Service examination for such position, the candidates have been certified as eligible for permanent appointments to such position; and

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

RESOLVED, that

1. Timothy Christophersen, Norwich, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as Captain in the Norwich Fire Department, effective July 11, 2001; and
2. Craig Roberts, Norwich, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as Captain in the Norwich Fire Department, effective July 12, 2001; and
3. Greg Franklin, Norwich, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as Captain in the Norwich Fire Department, effective July 13, 2001.

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

-- In a ceremonious manner, Fire Chief John Tighe presented each captain with a certificate followed by the presentation of badges. Captains' Christophersen, Roberts and Franklin received their badges and were officially pinned.

Development of Agenda for July 17, 2001

- 1) Call To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of June 19, 2001 and the work session of July 10, 2001
- 5) Public Hearings
 - ♦ To Determine if City owned Property at 15-19 Ross Avenue is required for use by City
- 6) Open Forum
- 7) Bids

- ◆ Sale of Surplus Property on Gold Street
- 8) Correspondence
 - ◆ Notification from City Club Restaurant and Sports Bar Corp. of application for liquor license at 75 North Broad Street.
 - ◆ Notification from Gregory Reining Grosvenor: DBA Music Shop Pub of application for liquor license at 26 South Broad Street.
- 9) Department, Board and Commission Reports
 - ◆ Community Development/Planning/Clerk monthly report for May and June, 2001
 - ◆ Historian monthly report for June, 2001
 - ◆ Public Works/Water System monthly report for June, 2001
 - ◆ Records Management monthly report for June, 2001
 - ◆ Youth Bureau monthly report for June, 2001
 - ◆ Civil Service Commission minutes of May 31, 2001
 - ◆ Parks Commission Tour of June 11, 2001
 - ◆ Planning Commission minutes of June 8, 2001
- 10) Ward and Committee Reports
 - ◆ Finance Committee meeting of June 5 and July 3, 2001
 - ◆ Personnel Committee meetings of June 4 and 19, 2001
 - ◆ Public Safety Committee meetings of June 26 and July 5, 2001
 - ◆ Public Works Committee meeting of June 28, 2001
- 11) Old Business
 - ◆ Res - Auth Renewal of NYSEG Electric Franchise Agreement
 - ◆ Res - Auth Renewal of NYSEG Gas Franchise Agreement
- 12) New Business
 - Award of Bids
 - ◆ 2001 Surplus Equipment
 - ◆ Sale of Surplus Property on Gold Street
 - Resolutions
 - ◆ Res - Amend V&T Ordinance Relative to Parking Meters and Timed Parking
 - ◆ Res - Dispose of Property Not Required for Use by City
- 13) Payment of Bills
- 14) Adjournment

Work Session Meetings -- The Council discussed allowing residents to speak at work session meetings. The aldermen expressed different opinions on the subject and after some debate it was determined that a resolution be prepared for the next meeting to include an open forum at work sessions.

Tax Auction Property -- Ald. Biviano noted that as no bids were received for the only property to be auctioned for nonpayment of taxes, the owner was sent a letter by the Codes Enforcement to make certain repairs. As the property owner has not complied, he said the building should be torn down. Ald. Biviano requested the City Attorney and Code Enforcement Officer look into what steps are needed to resolve the issue.

Committee Reports

- Finance Committee -- Ald. Rabinowitz reported the Finance Committee discussed B.I.D. developments, recommended approval of an elevator maintenance contract, reviewed surplus equipment bids, CHIPS funding and the status of the water project.
- Personnel Committee -- Ald. McNeil reported the Personnel Committee discussed and made recommendations regarding the appointments of Fire Captains.
- Public Safety Committee -- Ald. Jeffer reported the Public Safety Committee is looking at several ordinances relative to grass and snow. The Public Safety Committee also held a special meeting on July 5 to review the Public Safety budgets.
- Public Works Committee -- Ald. Clark reported the Public Works Committee reviewed the surplus equipment bids, the street paving project, the Town of Norwich billings, the water project and upcoming bids. Ald. Biviano reported the Housing Authority will begin taking down the building on Brown Avenue.
- Internal Analysis - Ald. McNeil reported the Internal Analysis Committee met with a representative from BOCES and there are approximately 20 services that they could provide the City. Also, BOCES can sometimes buy certain items lower than the State Contract price. A tentative meeting has been scheduled for August 21 at BOCES to review the services.
- Revenue Recovery - Ald. Thornton reported the Revenue Recovery Committee met with the Youth Bureau Director regarding revenue enhancements which include increasing the dasher board advertising. Businesses will be solicited to advertise on the dasher boards and Mr. Mason suggested that discounts be given for the less desirable spots. Regarding increasing the number of vending machines, the Youth Bureau Director has already utilized all possible areas. Ald. Thornton noted the vendor spot at the pool is vacant. Ald. Jeffer said The Place is looking into possibly filling that spot.

Ward Two Concern -- Ald. McNeil referred a matter concerning the corner of Canasawacta and Pleasant Streets to the Traffic Commission.

Executive Session -- Ald. McNeil moved to go into executive session at 7:40 PM to discuss the personal history of a particular individual and possible litigation. Seconded by Ald. Clark and duly adopted, ayes all.

Ald. McNeil moved to go out of executive session at 8:10 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.

Adjournment – Ald. McNeil moved to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Seconded by Ald. Clark and duly adopted, ayes all.