

COMMON COUNCIL

Work Session

September 10, 2002

Mayor Marylou Stewart presided at a work session of the Common Council held at 7 PM on September 10, 2002, at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Marylou Stewart
Ald. Gary Clark
Ald. Patrick McNeil
Ald. Robert Rabinowitz
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
Police Chief Joseph Angelino
DPW Supt. Carl Ivarson
EMO A. Jones
Deputy Clerk Donna Russell

Absent:

Ald. Jeffrey Thornton

New Business

RESOLUTION # 69 - 2002. AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR ESDC GRANT AWARD

Ald. Rabinowitz introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich submitted an application for grant funding through the New York State Urban Development Corporation d/b/a Empire State Development Corporation's (ESDC) Community Enhancement Facilities Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, notification has been received from the ESDC that the City of Norwich has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000; and

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

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to sign an agreement with the Empire State Development Corporation, to accept a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000, through the Community Enhancement Facilities Assistance Program and to act in all respects relative to carrying out its provisions.

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

-- Prior to the vote, Ald. McNeil stated that as this was a work session meeting, the public should have an opportunity to comment before action is taken on the item.

Open Forum

Canasawacta Creek Spillway -- Michael Lajeunesse, 22 Plymouth Street, addressed the Council relative to removing the spillway on Canasawacta Creek. He estimates that such action would raise the elevation approximately three feet and may take him out of the flood zone. Mr. Lajeunesse explained that he is required to have flood insurance at a cost of \$125 per \$10,000 of his mortgaged loan. EMO Jones said since there has been very little building development in the City since the map was last revised in 1985, it is unlikely that there would be any changes. DPW Supt. Ivarson noted that a permit would need to be obtained from the Army Corps of Engineers and the DEC. Discussion ensued. The matter was referred for further study.

Development of Agenda for September 17, 2002

- 1) Call To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Invocation
- 4) Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of August 20, 2002 and the work session of August 13, 2002
- 5) Open Forum
- 6) Bids
 - ♦ 2002 Vibratory Roller, referred to Public Works Committee
 - ♦ WWTP Sludge Drying Beds
- 7) Correspondence
 - ♦ Notification from Norwich Elks Lodge of intent to renew liquor license at 14 East Main Street, Norwich
 - ♦ Request to hold Norwich Pumpkin Festival on October 25 & 26, 2002 and to designate as special event
- 8) Department, Board and Commission Reports
 - ♦ Fire Department/Codes monthly report for July and August, 2002
 - ♦ Historian monthly report for August, 2002
 - ♦ Public Works/Water System monthly report for July and August, 2002

- ♦ Records Management monthly report for August, 2002
- ♦ Youth Bureau monthly report for August, 2002
- ♦ Civil Service Commission minutes of July 31, 2002
- ♦ Electrical Board minutes of August, 2002
- ♦ Parks Commission minutes of August 12, 2002
- ♦ Plumbing Board minutes of August, 2002
- ♦ Water Commission minutes of August 28, 2002
- 9) Ward and Committee Reports
 - ♦ Finance Committee meeting of September 4, 2002
 - ♦ Public Works Committee special meeting of August 13 and regular meeting of August 27, 2002
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business
 - Halloween -- Mayoral to designate Trick or Treat date and time

Award of Bids

- ♦ Natural Gas for 2003
- ♦ Filter Media

Motions

- ♦ To Authorize Mayor to Sign an Agreement for Comprehensive Hardware/Software Systems Assessment

Resolutions

- ♦ Res - Authorizing Submission of State Archives grant applications
- ♦ Res - Appointment of DPW Personnel
- ♦ Res - Auth Economic Development Loan

- 13) Payment of Bills
- 14) Adjournment

Parliamentary Inquiry -- Ald. Biviano requested a parliamentary inquiry relative to the action taken at the August 20 Common Council meeting on a resolution that had been removed from the agenda at the previous work session. He said that without placing the item back on the agenda, it was introduced during the New Business portion of the meeting and voted on. Ald. Biviano stated that the action was improper as there wasn't a motion to reconsider the resolution and recommended it be placed back on the agenda for another vote. Mayor Stewart reiterated that the City Attorney was consulted and determined that the action taken was permissible. Ald. McNeil said that it was his understanding the matter was referred back to the Personnel Committee. Discussion ensued regarding changes in the job description and civil service regulations. Ald. McNeil stated with regard to the resolution, that it was improperly introduced and he was withdrawing his vote. Mayor Stewart said no further action was required and the resolution stands as adopted on August 20, 2002.

Committee Reports

- Finance Committee -- Ald. Clark reported the Finance Committee reviewed 2003 budgets and discussed the water project, records management grants, streetscape issues, EMO and Youth Bureau Director salaries, natural gas and filter media bids, emergency management office consolidation and the firehouse building project.
- Personnel Committee -- HR Director reported the Personnel Committee discussed EMO and Youth Bureau Director salaries as well as made recommendations relative to positions in the Public Works Department.
- Public Safety Committee -- Ald. Jeffer reported the Public Safety Committee discussed holding a second citizens police academy, impound policy and noise ordinance.
- Public Works Committee -- Ald. Biviano reported the Public Works Committee discussed the water project, 2003 budget and the Ontario Hose Building. He indicated that the members of the Ontario Hose Company have been invited to attend the next Pubic Works Committee meeting.

Adjournment – Ald. Biviano moved to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Seconded by Ald. Jeffer and duly adopted, ayes all.