

CITY OF NORWICH
JOINT MEETING of the
PUBLIC SAFETY / PUBLIC WORKS and
FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEES
March 4, 2014

Present:

Ald. Bryan McCracken
Ald. Brian Doliver
Ald. John Deierlein
Ald. Walter Schermerhorn
Ald. Paul Laughlin
Ald. Thomas LoPiccolo

Also:

Director of Finance/City Clerk William Roberts
Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo
Assistant Fire Chief Jan Papelino
DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson
Code Enforcement Officer/Fire Marshall Jason Lawrence
Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer
Police Chief Joseph Angelino
EMO A. Jones
Mayor Joseph Maiurano
Deputy City Clerk Brian Drake
Shawn McGrath, Media Representative

Absent:

None

Ald. Walter Schermerhorn called the joint meeting of the Public Works/Public Safety and Finance/Personnel Committees to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Council Chambers.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Laughlin **moved** to approve the minutes of the Joint Committee meeting of February 4, 2014. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

Department Head Reports

Fire Department

Ambulances Fire Chief Tracy Chawgo reported that two of the Department's three ambulances have mechanical problems. One has a "blown engine." Cost to repair would be approximately \$13,000. They have looked at several options and determined repairs would not work; over the last two years they have spent approximately \$18,000 in maintenance on that vehicle. Firefighters have looked at two used ambulances. Both are 2003 vehicles, one in Eaton, NY, has under 40,000 miles, one on Long Island has 50,000 miles. Both are in good shape. Cost for both will be \$60,500. They are being replaced because those departments have money to purchase new vehicles. Ald. Schermerhorn noted these are older than the current ambulances. Ald. Laughlin asked about the condition of the third ambulance. Assistant Fire Chief Jan Papelino claimed the Department has already lost \$8,000 - \$10,000 in potential revenue because of the ambulance being out of service. Ald. Schermerhorn asked if the engine could be replaced. Assistant Chief Papelino said this would cost \$35,000 - \$40,000 to repair. Police Chief Joseph Angelino remarked how many miles the ambulances are driven every year and thought the Department should have four ambulances instead of three, to keep the mileage down. Ald. Laughlin asked about the discrepancy in price between the two similar used ambulances. Assistant Chief Papelino thought the Long Island vehicle was in better shape than the one in Eaton. Mayor Maiurano said he would call Ford about the bad engines in the ambulances. It was suggested that a portion of revenues from ambulance services should be set aside as reserves for future equipment requirements. Director of Finance William Roberts presented a draft resolution for the Council to consider approving the purchase of the used ambulances. Ald. McCracken asked how long it would take to build up the reserves, so that when these used ambulances fail there will be money to purchase new ones. Ald. Laughlin **moved** to recommend the Council approve purchase of two used ambulances and accompanying transfer of funds. Seconded by Ald. Deierlein, approved ayes all.

Pumper Truck Assistant Chief Papelino stated Engine No. 2 was in bad shape, with peeling paint, a leak from the steering box, and trouble with the repaired body. When this engine fails there will be only two engines left, which is insufficient to cover the City. They have located a 1995 E-One pumper truck for sale from the Huntington, NJ, Fire Department, with 18,000 miles. It will be available in August and requires a \$5,000 deposit in the next day to hold it. Selling the old engines should bring in some funds to offset the cost of \$48,500. Pat Ford, Volunteer President of the Ontario Hose Company, stated it's in better shape than the aerial ladder truck purchased in July 2013 for \$110,000. Ald. Deierlein asked what revenues the mutual aid contracts bring the City. W. Roberts said \$725,000 in 2014. Ald. Deierlein said this was a large revenue stream to put at risk by not having enough equipment. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to

recommend Council approve the purchase of a 1995 E-One pumper truck. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

Police Department Chief Angelino reported that U.S. Marshall Funds are available to cover the types of operating equipment that in recent years have been moved out of the Police Department Budget and he will need Council approval to use them to purchase a vehicle from Sherburne fitted for a night K9 unit. The vehicle will cost \$1,500, painting will cost \$1,200, and other departmental equipment will cost \$2,200, for a total of \$4,900. The Marshall funds currently total \$10,400, from approximately \$30,000 brought from a drug raid in 2009. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to recommend transfer of U.S. Marshall funds for the purchase and equipping of a police K9 vehicle and other equipment. Seconded by Ald. McCracken, approved ayes all. Chief Angelino also reported the 2013 Police Department Annual Report will be prepared by the March Council meeting.

DPW

Pickup Truck Bid DPW Superintendent Carl Ivarson reported that the lowest bidder for a one-ton pickup truck should be declared ineligible because he did not clearly state a delivery date for the pickup truck, and that the bid should be awarded to the next lowest bidder, Chenango Sales of Greene, NY, with delivery in 10 weeks. Ald. Laughlin **moved** to recommend Council award the bid for a one-ton pickup truck to Chenango Sales of Greene, NY. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

Sharon Drive Water Main Replacement Bid C. Ivarson reported that six bids were received for the Sharon Drive Water Main Replacement Project. The lowest bidder of \$140,000 seemed to have some discrepancies in their bid, and when contacted asked to retract the bid because of an error in calculation. Delaware Engineering recommend the bid be awarded to Burrell's Excavating of Norwich, NY, in the total amount of \$157,895. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to recommend Council award the bid for the Sharon Drive Water Main Replacement Project to Burrell's Engineering of Norwich, NY. Seconded by Ald. Doliver, approved ayes all.

Elm Street Reconstruction Bid C. Ivarson reported that four bids were received for the Elm Street Reconstruction Project. The lowest bidder was Burrell's Excavating, in the amount of \$83,874. This project will be paid for from Storm Sewers and CHIPS funds. Ald. Laughlin **moved** to recommend Council award the bid for the Elm Street Reconstruction Project to Burrell's Excavating of Norwich, NY. Seconded by Ald. Deierlein, approved ayes all.

Storage Tank Replacement C. Ivarson reported that the problem encountered with placement of the new storage tank, involving an endangered species, has been resolved and the project will move forward.

New and Old Digesters C. Ivarson reported that the old digester has never worked properly because of the mixing system. The digester will be taken down when the weather improves and the mixing system may be changed. An agreement is being considered with a local manufacturer to receive their waste, which would mean additional revenue. A new system for the new digester will be investigated to increase methane to provide power generation for the plant. This may be eligible for grant funding from NYSEDA under their green initiative. This would cost approximately \$1.2 million.

One-Ton Dump Truck C. Ivarson stated that he will need to purchase a one-ton dump truck. He noted that the State contract price for a pickup truck was \$35,000, whereas local bidders came in at lower price in the neighborhood of \$31,000. He asked permission to go to bid for a one-ton dump truck, anticipating that local sources might be lower than an estimated State bid price of over \$55,000.

IDA Contract W. Roberts reported that the IDA has asked the City to provide water-testing services for the airport and the contract has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. They will pay \$2,500 a year for such services; any additional materials and testing will be an additional charge. He will present a resolution for the Council authorizing the Mayor to sign such contract. Ald. McCracken asked that the resolution be passed immediately. Ald. Deierlein **moved** to recommend the Council authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with IDA to provide water-testing services. Seconded by Ald. LoPiccolo, approved ayes all.

Community Development Community Development Specialist Todd Dreyer reported that a draft of the revised Comprehensive Plan will be presented to the Council at its next meeting for review and to set a public hearing for April. Minor changes have been made to the Plan.

Other Items W. Roberts reported that, as with the Rules of Procedure, the City's Procurement Policy should be reviewed and adopted by the Council annually. That will be presented at the next meeting. Ald. Deierlein stated that the City's investment policy should also be reviewed annually.

Adjournment

Ald. Deierlein **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Seconded by Ald. McCracken, approved ayes all.