

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
February 7, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING

PRESENT: **COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR.
COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO
COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH
MAYOR GRAHAM**

ALSO PRESENT: **MARY M. CORRIVEAU, CITY MANAGER
ROBERT J. SLYE, CITY ATTORNEY**

City staff present: Brian Phelps, Gary Pilon, Kurt Hauk, Elliot Nelson, Shawn McWayne, Ken Mix, Michael Lumbis

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- 1 - Approving Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Watertown and the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Services
- 2 - Authorizing an Application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Funding Through the 2007-2008 Urban and Community Forestry Program
- 3 - Approving Agreement Between the City of Watertown and State of New York, Unified Court System
- 4 - Finding That Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 234-238 High Street, Parcel No. 6-07-218, From Light Industrial District to Residence C District Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment
- 5 - Local Law No. 1 - Amending City Code of the City Of Watertown, §205, Noise
- 6 - 7:30 p.m. Ordinance Approving the Zone Change Request Submitted by Stacey Mack to Change the Approved Zoning Classification of 234-238 High Street, Parcel No. 6-07-218 From Light Industrial District to Residence C District
- 7- 7:30 p.m. Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Funding Application
- 8 - J. B. Wise Access Road alternatives.
- 9 - R. P. Flower Memorial Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2011
- 10- Installation and Maintenance of Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms/Detectors
NYCOM 2007 Water and Sewer Rate Report
- 11 - To discuss the employment history of a particular individual.

COMPLETE REPORTS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2011 was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Burns, seconded by Council Member Smith and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were received.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

James Jarosz, resident of the Town of Watertown, addressed the chair in support of the local law concerning noise. Reading from a prepared statement, Mr. Jarosz advised Council that he had moved to Sunset Ridge because of the noise in the city. He commented that the noise is in violation of both state and federal laws which need to be enforced.

PUBLIC HEARING

AT 7:30 P.M. MAYOR GRAHAM ASKED THE CITY CLERK TO READ THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE ZONE CHANGE REQUEST TO CHANGE THE APPROVED ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF 234-238 HIGH STREET, PARCEL NO. 6-07-218 FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO RESIDENCE C DISTRICT

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE HEARING OPEN.

No one spoke.

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE HEARING CLOSED.

AT 7:30 P.M. MAYOR GRAHAM ASKED THE CITY CLERK TO READ THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE APPLICATION FOR SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR THE 2011 COMPETITION THROUGH THE NYS OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL.

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE HEARING OPEN.

Mr. Mix reviewed the information that had been included in the Council packets and handed out to those present at the meeting. He advised that this grant has to benefit low and moderate income individuals.

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE HEARING CLOSED AT 7:33 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

WHEREAS the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Services is responsible for calculating equalization rates and residential assessment ratios, and

WHEREAS these calculations are applied by, and among, local governments throughout New York State for, among other things, the apportionment of municipal and school taxes, the allocation of State Aid, the establishment of constitutional tax and debt limits and for the administrative and judicial review of assessments, and

WHEREAS reports on real property sales by local governments are the mechanism whereby significant market data are incorporated into the rate calculation process, and

WHEREAS the rates and ratios calculated by the State are key to the orderly administration of local government public school finance, and

WHEREAS the State has a vital interest in establishing timely rates and ratios based on this sales data, and

WHEREAS the State and the City agree that a partnership in the collection and electronic transmission of sales data between the City and the State serves the purposes of fostering improved real property tax administration, and

WHEREAS Section 574 of the Real Property Tax Law provides that on or before the fifteenth day of each month, County recording officers shall furnish to the Office of Real Property Services, among others, a report showing all the transfers of real property during the preceding month, and

WHEREAS many counties, owing to the current paper intensive and manual system of records transmission, have had difficulty complying with this requirement, and

WHEREAS the State of New York wishes to assist the City in complying through electronic filing of this information,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Services, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Smith remarked that it sounds like the city is providing reports to the state.

Council Member Burns explained that the county does provide these reports from the 22 towns to the state. However, there is a separate assessment department in the city and therefore, the city needs to provide the information to the state. She advised that the sales are recorded in the County Clerk's Office and the County's Real Property Tax Office is the department that supplies the data to the state.

Council Member Smith asked if the state exempts the county from providing the information for the city.

Council Member Burns responded that some counties are exactly like ours, while in other counties, they do provide the data on behalf of the cities.

Council Member Smith remarked that it seems like it is one more layer of government providing reports that the county already has.

Mr. Phelps, City Assessor, addressed the chair explaining that under this system, the city puts in the data and is paid for doing so by the state. He advised that the city has a separate data base and that most of the towns rely on the county's data base. He also explained that the same Memorandum of Understanding has been in place since 2007. The reason a new MOU has to be voted on is because the state agency that was in charge of the program, no longer exists and the sub-agency that does, can't issue the city a check based on the previous MOU. Mr. Phelps explained that data can now be entered faster and more efficiently in the new system.

Council Member Burns commented that if this was not approved, the city would not receive the per parcel aid from the state. Even though small, it is a revenue source. She remarked that Council Member Smith's questions lend themselves to a bigger question involving why the county provides the service for 22 towns, but not for the city.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has announced that funding is available through the Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program for tree planting projects, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has made tree planting and the care and management of the City's urban forest a priority in the wake of several devastating storms in the 1990's, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to apply to the NYSDEC's Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program to fund a City wide tree planting project, and

WHEREAS Tree Watertown, the City's Street Tree Advisory Board, recommends that the City Council apply for funding to continue the City's reforestation efforts, and

WHEREAS this program requires an approval and endorsement of the application from the City Council of the City of Watertown,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York that it hereby approves and endorses the City's application to the NYSDEC for grant funding under the Urban and Community Forestry Program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for 50% matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, and upon approval of said request, to enter into and execute a Project Agreement with the NYSDEC for such financial assistance to the City of Watertown for the 2012 Tree Planting Project.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR. AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City of Watertown, New York is responsible for providing and maintaining space for the operation of City Court, and

WHEREAS reimbursement for such services is available to the City from the Unified Court System of the State of New York,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Court Cleaning and Minor Repair Program Agreement between the City of Watertown and the State of New York Unified Court System for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR. AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Graham asked about an update on the sally port.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that she hoped to have an update for Council at the next work session.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has before it an Ordinance for changing the zoning classification of 234-238 High Street, Parcel No. 6-07-218, from Light Industrial District to Residence C District, and

WHEREAS the City Council must evaluate all proposed actions submitted for its consideration in light of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and

WHEREAS the adoption of the proposed Ordinance would constitute such an “Action,” and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the proposed Ordinance is an “Unlisted Action” as that term is defined by 6NYCRR Section 617.2(ak), and

WHEREAS there are no other involved agencies for SEQRA review as that term is defined in 6NYCRR Section 617.2(s), and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the proposed Zone Change will have a significant effect on the environment, Part I of a Short Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared by the applicant, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that:

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and comparison of the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact is known and the adoption of the zone change will not have a significant impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute Part III of the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.
- 4.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

ORDINANCES

THE ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ZONE CHANGE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY STACEY MARK TO CHANGE THE APPROVED ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF 234-238 HIGH STREET, PARCEL NO. 6-08-218 FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO RESIDENCE C DISTRICT WAS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL (Introduced to Council on January 18, 2011; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety on page 14 of the 2011 Minutes Book).

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

Prior to the vote on the foregoing ordinance, Mayor Graham remarked that this neighborhood was ventured into before and zoning was changed. The present zoning is inconsistent with the current use. He asked if this was a hodge podge approach.

Mr. Mix explained that this property was converted to a 3-family dwelling at some point and therefore was illegal for the zone it was in. The owner of the property asked for this zone change and the parcel is located next to one which is already zoned Residence C. Mr. Mix commented that we are looking at the area, in the long range, due to the fact that there are a lot of residential parcels located in the industrial district and they shouldn't be.

LOCAL LAW

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR.

BE IT ENACTED that § 205, Noise of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to add the following:

§205-8 Emergency Warning Devices

No person shall operate or cause to be operated any emergency warning device, except:

- (a) To give notice as a warning of any emergency;
- (b) On an authorized emergency vehicle when such vehicle is engaged in emergency operations provided that such device is not operated to create unnecessary noise or for a period of time longer than is necessary to respond to such emergency;
- (c) When such device is under test.

§205-9 Exhausts

Except as otherwise provided in this ordinance, no person shall cause or permit the discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any device, including but not limited to any steam engine, diesel engine, internal combustion engine or turbine engine, so as to create unnecessary noise.

§205-10. Sound Reproduction

No person shall operate, play or permit the operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, drum, musical instrument, sound amplifier or similar device which produces, reproduces or amplifies sound.

- (a) In such a manner as to create unnecessary noise across a real property boundary, except for activities open to the public and for which a permit has been issued by the Chief of Police or his designee pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated, or by license issued by the City Manager.
- (b) In such a manner as to create unnecessary noise at fifty (50) feet from such device, when operated in or on a motor vehicle on a public highway.
- (c) In such a manner as to create unnecessary noise to any person other than the operator of the device, when operated by any passenger on a common carrier.
- (d) In such a manner as to create unnecessary noise that enters an apartment or dwelling unit that is separate and distinct from the apartment or dwelling unit from which the unnecessary noise originated.

§205-11. Squealing Tires

No person shall operate a motor vehicle in such a manner as to cause unnecessary noise by spinning or squealing the tires of such motor vehicle.

and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that § 205-6 is amended to read as follows:

§ 205-6 Penalties for Offenses

Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than fifty (\$50) dollars nor more than two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars. Each day of continued violation is a separate and distinct offense.

and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that §205-1 is amended as follows:

§205-1 General Prohibition and Definitions

A. General Prohibition - The creation of any unreasonably loud, disturbing noise in the city is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity or duration as to endanger public comfort,

peace or repose or to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual is declared to be a nuisance and is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity or duration is hereby declared to be a nuisance within the meaning of this section, but such designation shall not be deemed to be exclusive.

B. Definitions

Authorized Emergency Vehicle means every ambulance, police vehicle, fire vehicle and civil defense vehicle when on emergency calls.

Device means any mechanism which is intended to or which actually produces sound when operated or handled.

Emergency means a public calamity or an exposure of any person or property to imminent danger.

Emergency warning device means any sound signal device that is designed to be used and is actually used to warn of an emergency.

Person means any individual, partnership, company, corporation, association, firm, organization, government agency, administration or department, or any other group of individuals, or any person or employee thereof.

Real property boundary means an imaginary line exterior to any structure, along the ground surface, which separates the real property owned by one person from that owned by another person, and the vertical extension of such line Sound reproduction device means a device intended primarily for the production or reproduction of sound including, but not limited to any musical instrument, radio receiver, tape recorder, cd player, phonograph or sound amplification system.

Sound source site means any land under the ownership or control of a person in or upon which one or more sound sources are located. The sound source site includes all individual sound sources that are located on such site, whether stationary, movable or mobile.

Unnecessary noise means any excessive or unusually loud sound or any sound which either annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of a reasonable person of normal sensibilities, or which causes injury to animal life or damage to property or business. Standards to be considered in determining whether unnecessary noise exists in a given situation include but are not limited to the following:

1. The intensity of the noise.
2. Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual.

3. Whether the origin of the noise is natural or unnatural.
4. The intensity of the background noise.
5. The proximity of the noise to sleeping facilities.
6. The nature and the zoning district of the area within which the noise emanates.
7. The time of day or night the noise occurs.
8. The duration of the noise.
9. Whether the sound source is temporary.
10. Whether the noise is continuous or intermittent.
11. Whether alternative methods are available to achieve the objectives of the sound producing activity.

and

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this amendment shall take effect as soon as it is published once in the official newspaper of the City of Watertown, or printed as the City Manager directs.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2011 AT 7:30 P.M ON THE FOREGOING LOCAL LAW.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Mr. McWayne, Code Enforcement Supervisor, addressed the chair answering questions posed by Council concerning the requirements for the placement of these detectors in existing buildings as well as new construction. He explained that there are 5 sets of Code Books for New York State and they all require that these detectors be in new and existing structures as long as there is a source for carbon monoxide, such as an attached garage. New construction requires that the detectors need to be interconnected.

Council Member Smith commented that if this has already been a requirement there should be none to put in.

Mr. McWayne remarked that he didn't disagree with Council Member Smith. However, Code personnel don't get into every house and the fact is that every house doesn't have a detector.

Mrs. Corriveau commented that the reason for the grant was to assist people who can't afford them.

Council Member Smith responded that if they can't afford them, then they are probably renters and the landlords are responsible for putting the detectors in.

Council Member Macaluso commented that these people are not always renters. Some are homeowners with mortgages and having a hard time making ends meet. She remarked that we should give them any help we can to keep them safe.

Council Member Smith responded that when the government spends money, it causes taxes to go up and that is why people can't afford them.

Mayor Graham asked how an individual would even know that these were required.

Mr. McWayne explained that the state, as well as the local fire departments, has put out lots of information on it in 2009. The law became effective in February 2010 and was put in the state code book in December 2010.

Mayor Graham responded that he wasn't aware of it and one shouldn't have to be on Council to know about it.

Mrs. Corriveau commented that the utility bills had contained stuffers on the detectors.

Council Member Butler asked about the detectors in new construction.

Mr. McWayne reiterated his comments that the detectors in new construction need to be interconnected.

Mayor Graham asked what the consequent would be of not putting these in a structure.

Mr. McWayne advised that usually Codes will get complaints about not having the detectors in the rental units.

Inmate Transports

Mayor Graham commented that the county is now providing the transports.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that she had spoken with Sheriff Burns last week on the matter and he indicated that he would take over the transporting of the inmates that have already been arraigned and who have been remanded to the county. She outlined the steps that had been taken since 2006, when Capt. Reff had a conversation with the sheriff in regards to transporting the post-arraigned prisoners. At that time, Sheriff Burns put the city on notice that he didn't have the manpower to do the transports. The figures were finally gathered for the costs that have been

associated with the city providing these transports since 2006. However, at the Mayor's request, the invoice was not sent.

Mayor Graham commented that the issue is if we want to bill retroactively, as there was no contractual obligation four years ago as well as the issue of the political implications.

Mrs. Corriveau remarked that she didn't believe any contractual obligation was necessary. The city has tracked the costs and will continue to do so. In 2006, the county was put on notice that the city was going to bill them. She referred to her notes on a meeting that she had with Mr. Hagemann and the fact that it was the 4th item on the list for discussion. She stated that Mr. Hagemann advised her to bill the Sheriff's Department. She also advised that the opportunity to meet was provided as she reached out to the county in 2007. The sheriff's department had new hires at that time and she asked if they might be available to do the transports. The county was also advised that if they didn't provide the service, the city had the right to bill for charges. She also asked if the costs could be charged against the \$500,000 debt. At that time, Mr. Hagemann said to bill the Sheriff's department.

Council Member Smith remarked that it seems illogical to him that a car would be used for a pre-arraignment individual and a separate one would be used for a post-arraignment individual when both are being brought to court at the same time. He also questioned what prompted this to be an issue now.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that she had been asking for a bill which she just received.

Council Member Smith commented that this just stirs up a hornet's nest.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that she received a call from Chief Goss saying that Sheriff Burns had contacted him before she even had a bill.

Mayor Graham commented that he was the one who told the sheriff about the bill. He stated that if it is a function of the county, they should do it. However, we should not go back for all those years.

Council Member Smith remarked that a period of 4 years seems like a lot of work for one bill. He still questioned the 2 cars being used for transport.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that this was the sheriff's decision. She also advised that the city spent 190 hours annually transporting prisoners for the county. She also commented that the county does the transports for towns and villages.

Council Member Smith asked for the numbers of pre and post arraigned transports. He also asked why the city hadn't sat down with the sheriff and the bill.

In response to the pre and post transports, Mr. Mills indicated that if the transport was one car for pre and post individuals, the city didn't bill the county. He also advised that all city transports are notated separately on the printout.

Mrs. Corriveau responded that she had spoken with the county administrator and that it had been an ongoing request to get the bill done. This had been on the priority list, but not at the top.

Council Member Macaluso commented that if the city is providing the service, she agrees that the city should be paid.

Council Member Smith commented that he has a problem with a discussion five years ago and one four years ago and no one sitting down with the sheriff and then suddenly a bill is generated. He stated this should have happened in 2007.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that she had offered to meet with the sheriff. However, he didn't want to meet with her because the bill was already generated.

Council Member Butler remarked that it is bad policy and the outreach failed. He questioned why we can't sit together with the county legislature, Mr. Hagemann and Sheriff Burns to have a round table discussion on how to solve this. He also commented that the Police Chief could have asked his officers about the number of transports that they did in a day or a week in an effort to get the numbers.

Mayor Graham remarked that it is the county's responsibility to provide post-arraignment inmates transport to the unified court system. He suggested that a meeting of the appropriate parties be held.

In response to comments about how the inmates are called to come back up to court, Attorney Slye explained that Judge Harberson doesn't call them per se. Those appointments are already pre-scheduled.

Council Member Burns remarked that she would have preferred to have this billed sooner to the county. She agreed with the recommendations from city staff and didn't know why we weren't able to generate a bill sooner. She remarked that her concern is just the relationship between the city and the county. She would like to see Mrs. Corriveau and Mr. Hagemann meet or the 4 city legislators meet with Council. She remarked that she would like to make it clear that things fell apart on both sides.

Council Member Smith commented that he thinks the parties should sit down and discuss the issue and while the city should bill, it should not be retroactive.

Mrs. Corriveau asked Council if we should look at putting the cost against the \$500,000 debt, which is now around \$44,000.

Mayor Graham commented that we could say we don't have the \$44,000 obligation.

Mrs. Corriveau responded that there was a deal and the city has been living up to that deal. She also commented that Mr. Mills has this down to a science now and bills can be issued on a monthly basis.

Council Member Macaluso remarked that she would like to know the conversation between the sheriff and Mr. Hagemann.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that she could extend an invitation to Sheriff Burns and Chief Goss to discuss the level of service. She commented that this is what her plans had been.

Council Member Butler remarked that the county legislators are looking for opportunities to work with us. He remarked that we need to get questions answered, move forward and get beyond this.

NYCOM 2007 Water and Sewer Rate Report

Council Member Burns commented on the report remarking that she probably wouldn't be reading it since it was from 2007.

Sherman Street School

Council Member Burns remarked that she has had calls concerning people driving fast through the area where children are picked up and dropped off at Sherman School. She asked that Chief Goss ramp up patrols in that area. She also commented that there is no signage in the block before the school to signify a school crossing ahead.

Council Member Butler commented that he hopes we are enforcing the no stopping at Sherman. He suggested that the City Manager phone the principal and ask that a letter be sent out to parents concerning this.

Tickets for JCHS Exhibit

Council Member Burns advised that she had tickets for the "Save our Presidents" Reception to be held at the historical society on Friday, Feb. 11th. The display will include original signed documents and artifacts from 14 presidents.

Crows

Council Member Butler remarked that he had seen at least 3000 crows in the trees tonight before coming to the meeting.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that USDA is coming back as they were not happy with the results from the first time.

Council Member Burns commented that the condition of the front entrance to the historical society was deplorable on Saturday as a result of the crows.

Mayor Graham asked about the use of recurring technology available such as bird cannons.

Council Member Smith commented that he bought an ultrasonic/light device for his property and within an hour the crows were gone.

Stone/S. Meadow Intersection

Council Member Macaluso commented that she had several people speak to her about this intersection and the fact that people going straight on Stone Street or turning left from Stone onto S. Meadow go really fast. She suggested a “Stop, except right turns” sign be placed at that intersection. She stated that she has seen a sign like this in Pennsylvania.

City Plows

Council Member Smith asked that the speed of the plows be checked especially on Academy Street. He also commented that on Saturday night at 10 pm. no plows had been on Washington Street and it had been snowing for 4 hours.

Mrs. Corriveau responded that the night crews were out.

Fire Hydrants

Council Member Smith commented that the fire hydrants are pretty much all buried. He asked if the City has a formalized policy for cleaning these out.

Mr. Pilon advised that the Water Department has 4 crews out during the week cleaning the hydrants out. He also commented that many of local homeowners do keep the hydrants clear in front of their homes.

Council Member Smith asked if the Fire Department helps at all as it would just seem logical that during the day they could do so.

Fire in the Town of Pamela

Council Member Smith asked about the City Fire Department sending 4 vehicles to this fire a couple of weeks ago. He commented that in addition to the city’s 4 vehicles, other departments that responded to the doublewide trailer fire were Pamela, North Pole, Evans Mills, LaFargeville and the Ft. Drum ladder truck. He questioned if this was proper utilization of city resources and questioned the cost and the risk.

Governor’s Budget

Mayor Graham commented on the recent budget announcement and the fact that the most cuts seem to be in school districts and state agencies.

Kingston Amalgamation

Mayor Graham referred to the map he had given to Council Members showing the expansion of the Kingston, Ontario city boundaries due to the amalgamation which occurred 12 years ago. He commented that it seems to have worked very well and suggested that we should keep in mind that sensible changes can occur.

Presentation on J.B. Wise Access Road Alternatives

Mr. Hauk showed Council two alternatives to the original plans for this access road. He explained the costs did not include the purchase of any land for the two alternatives.

Council Member Butler asked which option Mr. Hauk would recommend.

Mr. Hauk remarked that the original plan is what he would recommend as it separates the functions and keeps it simple.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that a meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow afternoon with the doctors. At that time, they will see the layouts. She advised that staff doesn't know how they would feel about a property swap.

Conservancy and Aviary

Mrs. Corriveau advised that she had met the conservancy candidates. She also commented that she had spoken with Doreen Garrett and was informed that the conservancy should have something to share with the City in the next couple of weeks regarding the conservancy.

Margin Parking

Mrs. Corriveau advised that the police are now issuing tickets for this. Previously, they issued 35 warnings- city wide.

Budget Submission

Mrs. Corriveau reminded Council that these were due today.

LWRP Zoning Review Meeting

This meeting will be held at 7p.m. on Thursday, February 10th.

Drum Country Business

This will be held at JCC from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on Friday, March 4th.

Local Government Conference

This conference will be held at JCC on Thursday, March 31st.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY WHEREBY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COULD AFFECT THE VALUE THEREOF AND THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS.

MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Council moved into Executive Session at 8:58 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR MEETING WAS DULY ADJOURNED AT 9:30 P.M. BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Donna M. Dutton
City Clerk