

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
March 9, 2015  
7:00 p.m.**

**Mayor Jeffrey E. Graham Presiding**

**Present:** Council Member Roxanne M. Burns  
Council Member Joseph M. Butler, Jr.  
Council Member Stephen A. Jennings  
Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso  
Mayor Graham

**Also Present:** Sharon Addison, City Manager

**City staff present:** Erin Gardner, Police Chief Donoghue, Mike Lumbis, Jim Mills, Deputy Fire Chief Randall, Justin Wood, Ken Mix

**DISCUSSION**

**Discussion of State Comptroller Audit of Police Department - Chief Charles P. Donoghue**

Mayor Graham introduced Chief Donoghue and asked if he had any opening remarks.

Chief Donoghue explained that the October 2013 examiner's report from the NYS Comptroller's Office was a result of a four week audit conducted at the Watertown Police Department's Property and Evidence Office. He further explained that on July 28, 2014, he received an email from the NYS Comptroller's Office regarding the audit and at the time, he was unaware of this audit. He said he consulted with the Evidence Officers and they informed him that an audit had in fact occurred in the fall of 2013. The Evidence Officers explained the results were processed in December 2013. Chief Donoghue noted he called the NYS Comptroller's Office and made an appointment for August 5, 2014 to discuss the results. On July 31, 2014, he received an email with an attachment that included a draft of the audit. He further explained that on August 5, 2014, there was an audit discussion in which he attended along with Captain LaBarge, one of the Evidence Custodians and two examiners from NYS. It was stated that the purpose of the audit was to assist municipalities in managing their property evidence rooms. He pointed out that NYS said the audit was not of an adversarial nature.

Chief Donoghue told Council the results showed some problems and gave examples of 37 items that were unaccounted for and 18 items that were not properly documented but were later found in other locations. He also gave examples of items that should have had dispositions noted on PCRs (Property Custody Reports) but did not; they included two firearms that were not found in the exact location they were assigned in the vault although they were in the firearms vault. Money evidence was found in the wrong location in the money vault. Four vehicles and dozens of other items were located in places other than the specific locations stated on their respective PCRs. He pointed out the audit also found ten firearms which did not have serial numbers listed on the PCRs although they were visible on the weapons. He stated that there were other items that were described inadequately on the PCRs which is an example of the officers not being detailed enough. He added that he has put out reminders and emails to make sure that documentation is done properly. He addressed Council and stated that they are probably wondering how this happened and stressed that one of the main reasons for these types of

errors is overcrowding of the evidence vault. He pointed out that the overcrowding is due to a couple issues, one of which is that evidence has to be kept for a certain amount of time depending on the type of case. The Police Department has to wait until all appeals have been exhausted which causes delays in getting rid of evidence. He also noted that there is a lot of work coming in for the two Evidence Custodians so they cannot keep up with it. He voiced his concern that when the State comes in and does an audit they occupy the Evidence Officers for a month; it takes away from the day-to-day operations. The Evidence Officers have to go to crime scenes and testify in court and transport evidence. These things all take up time for the Evidence Officers and so things like purging evidence get put to the side. Chief Donoghue also informed Council that another issue is relying on handwritten evidence with no computer back up. Documents can easily get misplaced or misfiled and he hopes this will be eliminated with the new computerized system. Hectic activity at a crime scene is another issue, he said, but he knows that is not an excuse. He pointed out that it is very easy to make errors in fast paced situations.

The Audit recommendations include updating property room procedures annually, reviewing and updating the drug and firearm destruction policy and destroying nuisance firearms at least once a year. He pointed out that they just destroyed approximately 350 nuisance firearms and his Department continues to improve inventory tracking and the disposal process by clearly documenting property movement. Chief Donoghue said, from this point, he has instructed the Investigations Division and Evidence Technicians to locate the 37 undocumented items. He also spoke with the District Attorney's office and improved the system between the two offices to more quickly identify items that are able to be purged. He added that they were able to track the Ford Explorer and Dodge Durango, which were both from closed cases from 2006, and they were transferred to the District Attorney's office. The vehicles were seized from Drug Task Force cases. Evidence Officers were able to locate another 25 items either by finding the actual item or locating the documentation showing the destruction of the items. Chief Donoghue stated that on September 9, 2014, he sent a response letter to the NYS Comptroller's Office. The letter updated the information regarding the status of the missing items and the progress his Department is making towards the recommendations of the draft report. He told Council that on September 18, 2014, a confirmation letter was received stating the State had received the letter. On December 5, 2014, an examiner returned to the Police Department to verify the located evidence items and the destruction documentation. On February 17, 2015, the global report was released. He said it should also be noted that since the report was published, Evidence Officers have located five more items that had been missing. He summarized that the Police Department is in the process of reviewing the rules and regulations to comply with the NYS Comptroller's recommendation and that the Police Department has received the computer and scanner for the evidence vault. After the academy recruits have completed their field training in June, he will temporarily move an additional officer to the Property Evidence Office to assist in purging items from closed cases. A full inventory of the entire Evidence Vault will be conducted in late June.

Mayor Graham asked Chief Donoghue about the 700 missing pills.

Chief Donoghue explained that the NYS Comptroller's office was well aware that there was documentation that proved the pills were destroyed a few days after the August 5th interview.

Council Member Macaluso stated that she understands human error but questioned whether an officer does an inventory check every three months.

Chief Donoghue said there is a CID lieutenant that does, however, the problem is that you can do spot checks but it can be hit or miss. He explained that every quarter they select ten random items and those are checked to verify all documentation is correct.

Council Member Macaluso asked if someone from Chief Donoghue's office goes with this person to do the quarterly audit.

Chief Donoghue stressed that there is someone else at all times because no one can go in the Evidence Vault without one of the two Evidence Officers. He highlighted that he cannot even go in the vault himself because he does not have access to the vault, only the two Evidence Officers have access.

Council Member Burns reiterated what Council Member Macaluso said and that she understands human error can happen. She noted that she has received comments from people asking about the lost items. She said she was most concerned about any drugs or cash that were seized. She asked Chief Donoghue what happens when there is a raid and seizure of drugs and whether documentation done. She also asked if there is any procedure at a later date to compare what was seized with what the dealer might be charged with.

Chief Donoghue stressed that there is and that the Defense Attorney would definitely be on top of it. He noted the drugs are actually sent to a lab to be weighed.

Mayor Graham asked Chief Donoghue if he feels there is adequate space for storing evidence.

Chief Donoghue replied that at the moment the answer is no. The Police Department could always use more room and there are some items they will never be able to get rid of, for example homicide evidence. He added that they have been in the building for over twenty years and things build up. He hopes that with the computerization it will reduce the errors.

Council Member Burns asked Chief Donoghue if it is difficult for him when it is his people that are assigned to the task force but the oversight is through the District Attorney's office.

Chief Donoghue said he thinks the system works quite well and noted his Department is in charge of keeping the evidence for the task force. He explained that evidence cannot go back and forth between two or three different agencies. He added that the District Attorney's office likes the system so they have entrusted them to secure evidence related to drug task force cases.

Council Member Burns responded that was a good answer and thanked Chief Donoghue. She also highlighted how pleased she was with the speedy recovery of the man who robbed Watertown Savings Bank last week and that it gives her a great sense of security.

Chief Donoghue told Council that the Police Department is doing small spot checks and reminded Council that he will be starting the full inventory in June, which will take a couple months to complete. He pointed out that he does not foresee or expect these types of errors to happen in the future and that most of the undocumented items were from years ago and from closed cases. He stressed that there are no bags of drugs missing.

Council Member Butler asked Chief Donoghue if audits will be done randomly.

Chief Donoghue said it does not matter if they are done randomly because there are thousands of items in the vault and a custodian cannot prepare for a spot check.

Council Member Butler commented that it was unfortunate that these flaws were revealed but noted that it will make the department better moving forward. He asked if a corrective action plan has been written.

Chief Donoghue said he was glad Councilman Butler brought that up and that essentially the response letter he sent will end up taking care of most of it. He informed Council that with their permission he will draft a final report for Council's approval and that it will be very similar to the one that he has already sent to NYS. He stated that he will be updating it to show the changes that have happened.

Council Member Butler clarified if it was the response that Chief Donoghue wrote September 5, 2014.

Chief Donoghue replied that it was.

Mayor Graham mentioned that even though this report can cast a shadow of doubt over the Police Department he understands that any kind of audit can always reveal something. He pointed out that this needs to be cleaned up and send a positive message to the public.

Council Member Butler stated to Chief Donoghue that he is confident he will do a good job in instituting this new policy and he questioned how Chief Donoghue will ensure this new policy will be carried out. He asked if there is something in writing and if there will be a continuing education for future hires.

Chief Donoghue replied there is a long term plan and he is currently working on a new PCR form which will make sure items are more thoroughly described.

Mayor Graham complimented Chief Donoghue on the quick response to last week's bank robbery and Sunday night's fire/homicide.

Chief Donoghue thanked Mayor Graham and confirmed that it has been a busy week. He added there was also a Meth Lab and a domestic case on Saturday night in addition to the two other cases already mentioned.

**2015 Community Development Block Grant - Kenneth A. Mix, Planning and Community Development Coordinator**

Ken Mix started the discussion regarding the City's 2015 CDBG allocation and stated that if they are to stay on schedule, the City needs to have the annual plan put together by April 1, 2015, in order to start the 30 day public comment period. He noted there will be a public hearing scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2015.

Mr. Mix explained that he wanted to check with Council to make sure things are still moving in the right direction. He introduced a brief summary starting with a typical year's housing rehabilitation of \$400,000, infrastructure of \$330,000 and planning and administration of \$54,662.00. He pointed out that last year, Council directed staff to look for areas where there are gaps in the sidewalk system. He reminded Council that Gaffney Drive, Huntington Street and Black River Parkway were large areas that

could be eligible. The 2014 grant is being amended to fund the sidewalk on Gaffney Drive and the Huntington Street sidewalk could be built with this year's grant. Staff is also looking at extending sidewalks and storm drainage improvements on North Michigan Avenue. He asked Council for clarification on how far they would like staff to look for additional sidewalk work and also if Council would like them to look for smaller areas using North Michigan Avenue and Waterworks Park as examples. He pointed out there is a sidewalk gap at the spot where the Habitat For Humanity house was constructed and also the DANC Infill Houses on the opposite side are without sidewalks. He would like clarification if Council wants staff go through the various residential streets and find where the gaps are. He stressed that when there is sidewalk with missing sections then it is a non-functioning sidewalk system and pointed out that no one is going to use it because you cannot go anywhere with it. He said there is an indication that people want to use this area without sidewalks because there is a worn path. He stressed that these are things that need to be confirmed with Council tonight in order to move ahead.

Council Member Burns stated that it makes perfect sense.

Council Member Jennings, Council Member Butler and Mayor Graham agreed.

Council Member Macaluso asked about the North Michigan Avenue infrastructure and if Mr. Mix is proposing putting sidewalks there.

Mr. Mix said it was part of the plan but he needs to discuss it further with the Engineering Department. He noted there is not enough money to do the complete construction that is anticipated because the North Michigan Avenue and Bronson Street project is about \$1.5 million. There is a need for storm drainage but this cannot be done without moving the water lines. It is a complicated project and in some areas, utility poles will be in the way. In addition, some residents built their front yards without sidewalks on them.

Council Member Butler asked about the houses that do not have a sewer connection.

Mr. Mix answered that if they can show they are lower to moderate income, they can be eligible for funding to get the sewer connection.

Council Member Butler asked about the lack of sidewalks on Coffeen Street near Jefferson Community College.

Mr. Mix said the area is not a high residential area and has more businesses, so he does not expect it to be a possibility for funding.

Council Member Butler pointed out there are Jefferson Community College students and apartment buildings on both sides.

Mr. Mix summarized and told Council if they have any other ideas to contact him.

#### **Dog Park – Cost Estimates - Michael A. Lumbis, Planner**

Mike Lumbis started the Dog Park presentation with a slideshow and advised Council that over the past couple months, staff has been refining the design and getting quotes for materials and supplies in order to revise the cost estimates. Using the slideshow, he showed park related improvements as well as dog

park related improvements. The park related improvements include improving the stone trails with pavement and moving a trail back to make the area bigger and dog-friendlier. He told Council that in addition to the riverfront trail portion, they are proposing a connection from the trail to Factory Street and the surrounding neighborhood, which will make for easier access. Dog park improvements include fencing, dog play equipment, trash containers, water fountains and benches. He suggested an expansion of the parking lot and pointed out that right now there are two handicap parking spaces that are paved. He proposed a seven space expansion. He pointed out that currently, there is a stone dust trail which erodes during heavy rain; he suggested more permanent asphalt would be more appropriate. He said the trail improvements estimate is roughly \$16,000 and the parking lot estimate is roughly \$7,200.00.

Mr. Lumbis talked about the fencing and showed a slide of a 6-foot black vinyl chain link fence which would circle the large dog area and an ornamental fence for the small dog park. He highlighted that by using the nicer fences, it would be more approachable to dog owners. The estimated cost for the fencing from Alpine Fence which includes labor and materials is just over \$28,000. He indicated there is a desire to provide water on the site and showed a picture of a combination pet/people drinking fountain. The cost to run a water line from the existing main line is \$7,100.00, which does not include the fountain. Adding benches, trash cans and a pet station would be \$8,300.00. He also showed pictures of the dog equipment and suggested five for the large dog side and three for the small dog side. The total estimate for materials including the fencing is \$80,000.

Mayor Graham thanked Mr. Lumbis and Mr. Mix for working on the project and asked about ways to save money. He wondered if it is possible to fabricate things ourselves, for example using things the City might have in inventory. He pointed out that if the \$80,000 can be raised by fundraising, the project would be more doable.

Council Member Jennings thanked Mr. Lumbis for all his hard work on the project.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Monument Update**

Mayor Graham informed Council that Mike Plummer and the organizers for the 10th Mountain Division Monument updated him and apologized for not involving Council when the artist was in town. He informed Council that Ken Mix and Mike Lumbis have been working with the group to keep the focus consistent with Thompson Park. He stated the group plans to brief Council a little later in the spring as soon as they have a more refined proposal together.

### **Knickerbocker Drive**

Mayor Graham commented that he and some others had the pleasure of going to Knickerbocker School for the forum that was organized by Council Member Jennings. He pointed out that he found it very helpful after listening to what the neighbors, parents and administrators had to say. He said he proposed some reasonable solutions including putting in curbing which the neighbors liked. He also suggested banning parking on the North side of the school and having an area for loading and unloading. He noted that he is well aware that you cannot please everyone but feels these are good suggestions. He stressed that passing the ordinance to change the street direction will not solve the problem.

Council Member Jennings thanked everyone who came to the forum and for the suggestions. He stated he plans to continue to work on this and that he and City Manager Sharon Addison plan on meeting with the School Board's Transportation Committee. He also noted he is still communicating with the Knickerbocker Principal and Superintendent Terry Fralick about the issue.

Council Member Burns thanked Council Member Jennings for holding the forum and everyone involved agreed it was very beneficial. She commented that they walked away with additional information and pointed out that she does not think making the street one way will solve the problem. There needs to be a combination of several smaller solutions.

**Council took a five minute recess.**

**Watertown Municipal Arena - Erin E. Gardner, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, James E. Mills, City Comptroller and Justin L. Wood, City Engineer**

Mayor Graham asked Erin Gardner, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation if there was a presentation.

Ms. Gardner explained they did not have a presentation but put together a list of answers to the questions Council had for them. She reminded Council that she had given them a list of proposed details and different ideas to generate more revenue as well as a list of more events that could come to the arena. She said she would be happy to answer any questions Council has.

Ms. Gardner told Council that an increase in fees is a must. She explained that while doing her investigation of arenas in the surrounding areas, she discovered the City charges far less than any nearby arenas. The average fee is \$100.00 to \$150.00 and the City charges \$70.00. Another example given was the bulk rate fees that the hockey and figure skating groups pay. She recommended that the City needs to start charging what the average is in the area in order to survive. She pointed out that the City has not raised prices since she has worked here and she does not know when the last time the City made a fee increase. She stressed that every year there are increases in what the City has to pay for materials and salaries so it ends up costing the City more and more each year to run the arena.

Mayor Graham voiced his concern that maybe more of a sales pitch should take place to try to transform the arena into a more usable facility which could generate more money and justify the costs. He agreed that the rates need to be increased.

Council Member Butler stated he has talked to Ms. Gardner quite a bit on the fee increase topic. He then referred to the spreadsheet and discussed the different rate increases. He discussed the increase in fees for the hockey teams and public skating, noting it is significant. He pointed out that the Rock-N-Skate increase would produce four times more revenue and asked Ms. Gardner if it would be from the fee increase or more ice time.

Ms. Gardner confirmed that it would be from an increase of fees. She noted that other arenas charge \$10.00 to \$12.00 an hour and the City is charging \$2.00 an hour. She stressed that for so many years the City has charged just the bare minimum and it is obvious the City is not even coming close to meeting what the cost is to run these programs. She noted that she is not suggesting a big jump in fees from this year to next year but recommended an increase from year to year.

Council Member Butler agreed and referred to the spreadsheet and summarized the different fee increases.

Ms. Gardner explained that while conducting her research of other arenas, she found many of them are using an a la carte service. She added that this makes things more equal for all the groups using the

arena because they will pay the same price to use it. She explained that if a group wants a stage built, then there would be a cost for that or if they want chairs to be put out, there is a fee for that. She pointed out that as things stand now the City never charged an extra fee for these accommodations and she feels the City should definitely be charging a fee for these services. She reminded Council that City staff spends hours putting a stage together and it can take a whole day to put together a stage for a DPAO concert. She reiterated that these types of things should be charged separately from the arena fee.

Mayor Graham commented that if you have a better facility then you have something to sell. He pointed out that generally most of the events are commercial events. He added that if the City is going to spend \$10 million on the arena, then the organizations using it are going to have to pay the fees.

Mayor Graham addressed Council about the misconception of the liability over alcohol being served. He stated there is no reason why alcohol cannot be served. If there is a responsible vendor then there will be no liability issue. He stressed that he is convinced that the arena is capable of better things and he supports Ms. Gardner. He said Council needs to do a better job articulating what direction the arena is going in. He commented there has to be a willingness to stand up and say the arena has value, and if the City provides the users with a more valuable facility, then they will benefit from it as well.

Council Member Butler asked Ms. Gardner about alcohol being served in other arenas and if they profit from it.

Ms. Gardner replied that she spoke with the City of Syracuse and they do profit from alcohol.

Council Member Burns stated that in regards to the alcohol liability issue, she has been told that no one wants that liability. She expressed concern that one way or the other the City has the liability if someone chooses to go down that road. She highlighted that in the past, she has not been confident that the City is exonerating themselves from any liability because events are run by volunteers and though that is a nice thing, they are just volunteers. She pointed out that if the concession was to be run by the City or sold or leased to a licensed vendor that deals with the ATF and familiar with the requirements of an alcohol license, they will take it more seriously because it will be their name associated with the alcohol license. She commented that in her opinion, the City would have less chance of a liability using a licensed vendor than using volunteers with no experience. She summarized that the public is just looking at the cost of the arena and not the benefits that will come with it. She stressed that the taxpayers deserve a premier facility and one that they will be proud of which will attract people to the area.

Council Member Macaluso suggested that concessions be looked at another night and stay on topic. She expressed concern that the City will receive negative feedback from the community over the fee increases, and also stated that she believes that re-bidding the project and saving the City a couple million dollars is worth it.

Council Member Burns mentioned that many people have come forward to her and said it is time to move ahead with the project. She pointed out that people have said shame on the City for not maintaining the arena over the years. She expressed concern that the building is forty two years old and has been neglected, and a band aid approach will not work. She stressed she is concerned that if we keep phasing out upgrades for further years, there will always be something else that needs repairs, and the longer we wait, the more expensive it will be. She noted if the City keeps putting this off then years

from now it will be the same debate. She reminded Council that as a whole body, they made a commitment to do this project and in her opinion, Council needs to move forward and find away to make it work. She is not willing to agree on making changes because it will ultimately cost more money. She stressed that she supports the project as is and will not support any modifications.

Council Member Jennings agreed with Council Member Burns and said that we need a modern facility. He commented that he does not want to go back to the drawing board and wants to move ahead. He pointed out that Council has already spent a lot of time cutting up the plan to get where it is now.

Justin Wood, City Engineer, stated that he agrees with forging forward and that right now there is a bid on the table for \$9.1 million. He suggested the City either award the bid as is, or reject all bids and move forward with a smaller improvement project. He expressed concern that at this point there is not a clear consensus as to how the project can be approved. He stressed that until there is some direction, there is nothing more that can be done with the project.

Jim Mills, City Comptroller, advised Council that he supplied them with a 2016 thru 2020 financial horizon so Council can make an informed decision as best they can for the project. He summarized about where he and his staff are in regards to a five year draft plan. He explained the status of the capital reserve fund and the long term plan for finances for things such as snow plows and dump trucks. He also addressed sales tax generation and hotel bed tax generation. He explained that for the City to receive \$1,000 in sales tax revenue, it would equate to \$111,000 in taxable County sales.

Mayor Graham pointed out that it is not the City's job as a municipal government to increase restaurant and store sales.

Mr. Mills pointed out that historically there has been talk about using the bed tax money for the arena debt. He summarized that he realizes there are a lot of numbers in his charts and that he is willing to discuss them at any time with Council. He added that he was asked what the balance of the Empire Zone is and after summarizing, did a quick revenue forecast and the remaining balance is approximately \$231,434.000

Mayor Graham remarked to Ms. Gardner that it is clear that nothing is likely to start in April or May. He questioned if the City should open up those two months to vendors.

Ms. Gardner noted there has been a request for June as well. She believes that people do not think the project is going through so they want to get their names in to use the arena.

Mr. Wood clarified that the project is one week behind schedule. If things were approved next week, the project would be 2 weeks behind.

Mayor Graham questioned if it is 45 days before the bids expire.

Mr. Mills confirmed that the 45<sup>th</sup> day would be April 6.

Mr. Wood added that if bids are rejected, it will take some time to develop new plans.

Council Member Butler mentioned that he has heard from people on both sides. Some support it but several suggest scaling it back because \$10 million is too much. They indicated that they know the arena needs a facelift but to stick to the things that are most needed. He informed Council that if they go back and read the notes from January and February of last year, he noted he advocated heavily for having an alternate bid on the second floor and it was not supported. He clarified that at that time he said if it came in high it would not have his support. He reiterated that it did come in high and he is sick over the fact they spent so much money with Stantec to design something that the City cannot afford. He does not want to abandon the project but was hoping for a compromise. He questioned if there are any possibilities of finding lower rates elsewhere.

Mr. Mills stated that he does not believe there is and he checked with DANC and they do not have any programs that will fit the arena project.

Council Member Butler brought up the topic of naming rights.

Ms. Gardner replied that she spoke with the purchasing manager and it is something that would have to be bid out. She pointed out that it would include the community and local businesses. She thinks it would be a success.

Council Member Burns remarked that other arenas have naming rights and noted that she does not know what kind of revenue would be generated from it but believes there would be an interest from the community. She pointed out that she suggested this idea 16 years ago but never had the support. She questioned what would be wrong with having a Pepsi or FX Caprara Arena.

Council Member Butler asked about the structural request options to scale back and reconfigure.

Mr. Wood stated that the numbers are not straightforward; however, he would say that the rear addition is probably going to cost approximately \$750,000 to \$1 million for both floors. The front addition is in the area of \$2.5 million to \$3 million. He pointed out that if the second floor is eliminated the estimate would be closer to \$1 million or more. He summarized that there are many factors that come into play with the new estimates.

Council Member Burns pointed out that it will cost more money to change the footprint of the arena and though the City might save some money in that respect, the City will be putting more money into the front end which the taxpayers will never see a benefit out of.

Council Member Butler noted again if Council was to look back on previous notes, he asked these same questions that are being asked now. He said there was quite a difference between what he was told before and what Stantec is communicating now. He also mentioned the elevator glass and why it is so expensive, and questioned what other items could possibly be less expensive.

Mr. Wood summarized there is a base line and the items still have to meet standards.

Council Member Butler commented that it is the most expensive glass you can buy and questioned why there is not an option to buy something else.

Mr. Wood said that may be the case and there may be other opportunities to look at some savings with materials.

Council Member Butler asked how many other items could be in the bid that the City does not know about that could be lower. He asked how many additional seats the arena will be getting on the second floor.

Mr. Wood said the seat count is not increasing tremendously.

Council Member Macaluso indicated she thought it was 150 more seats.

Council Member Butler confirmed that he was reading the notes from Stantec and he asked them how many additional seats there would be and they said 1500. He questioned if it is 150 or 1,500.

Ms. Gardner said it depends if you are talking about a summer or winter event.

Council Member Butler said he was talking about a maximum event where compared to now, how many more seats will there be.

Mr. Wood noted that there will not be a big increase for a winter event but that the maximum capacity in the facility will go up.

Mayor Graham wants to clarify before the next Council meeting what happens if the bids expire. He wants to make sure all the resolutions are available for next week's agenda.

Council Member Butler stated that he and Council Member Macaluso want a compromise and that Mayor Graham, Council Member Jennings and Council Member Burns want to move forward.

Mayor Graham responded that he sided with Council Member Jennings and Council Member Burns and summarized what negotiating can be done.

Council Member Butler reiterated that coming into this meeting, he was hoping for a compromise and to rebid without the addition or second floor as quickly as possible.

Council Member Macaluso commented that the back addition is needed but not the second floor. She pointed out that a new Zamboni is needed because the current one is emptied by using hot water which costs the City money. She confirmed that she would like to see the roof get done and then concentrate on the locker rooms and the bathrooms

Mr. Mills told Council that in regards to the Factory Street project, Nancy Catalina, from the Department of Transportation (DOT), informed him that the DOT anticipates receiving approximately \$2.6 million more towards the project from FWHA than was originally expected.

Work session ended at 9:15 p.m.

*Margaret M Puccia*  
Deputy City Clerk