

**COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
April 14, 2008  
7:00 P.M.**

**MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING**

**PRESENT:**           **COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS  
COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER, JR.  
COUNCIL MEMBER PETER L. CLOUGH  
MAYOR GRAHAM**

**ABSENT:**           **COUNCILMEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH**

**ALSO PRESENT:**   **CITY MANAGER MARY M. CORRIVEAU**

**Library Fines**

Mayor Graham suggested that the library should look into publishing the names of the people who owe fines as a reminder to them that they have a commitment to the library.

**Building Security**

Mayor Graham stated that he would like to see security in the building for the Monday night meetings. He asked the City Manager to formulate a plan for security.

**Presentations:**

**Destination Marketing**

Gary DeYoung, Executive Director Thousand Island International Tourism Council, addressed the chair concerning destination marketing. He reviewed the 2008 City of Watertown Buy-ins for Destination Marketing Proposal.

Council Member Butler asked if the website [www.visitwatertown.com](http://www.visitwatertown.com) was linked to the City's website.

Council Member Clough asked if there is a sidebar on the City's website to reach that site as well.

Both will be checked into.

Council Member Burns asked about the distribution of the Journey magazine.

Mr. DeYoung explained that it is distributed mainly along the trail in such places as restaurants and visitors' centers.

Discussion was held relative to the new photographs that would be taken for the guides.

Council Member Clough suggested that photos be held off on until the work was done in Public Square.

Mrs. Corriveau commented that there are other places in Watertown that could be photographed as well.

Mr. DeYoung explained that they plan on taking photos of the library, zoo, white water and the Olmsted architecture in Thompson Park.

Mrs. Corriveau also advised that the Historical Society has approached the City about doing outdoor historical events which could also be photographed.

Council Member Burns suggested the July 4<sup>th</sup> Yellow Ribbon event in Thompson Park.

Mr. DeYoung explained that it would be no problem to hold off on the downtown photos until the project is completed and he will be working closely with City staff.

Mrs. Corriveau commented that in the past we have been looking for people who will travel here from Rochester and Buffalo. However, this year we will be looking toward Fort Drum visitors and people near Syracuse due to the high price of gas.

Mayor Graham asked about Canadian shoppers and if research has been done concerning them.

Mr. DeYoung responded that tourism bureaus have lobbied for better research data in that area.

### **School Resource Officer**

Chief Goss reviewed the report outlining the arrest numbers, case numbers and blotter log reports involving the work done by SRO Detective John Montrois. He explained that the program has been well received by faculty and students.

Mayor Graham asked if there was a similar program at IHC.

Chief Goss explained they were not interested in participating.

Council Member Clough commented on the DARE Program and how it has received mixed reviews.

Chief Goss said that on the national level that is true. However, locally it has been received very well. However, it has to be reinforced on a daily basis. He stated he would like to see a SRO placed in the school for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades. He explained that Detective Montrois has also been at Case, even though his main priority is at the high school. He has also been to Sherman and

Knickerbocker on an as need basis. Chief Goss explained that Officer Jason Badalato does the Dare Program, which is a 12 week program and also investigates juvenile crime.

Council Member Clough asked about statistics for the DARE program.

Chief Goss remarked that while he doesn't have statistics for the program, the teachers speak very highly of it.

Peter Monaco, School Board President, addressed the chair stating that the board and the administration is very pleased that the City was willing to partner with them for the SRO. He said that it creates a presence in the building and the school board is very supportive of the program.

Council Member Clough asked about the possibility of hiring retired police officers.

Chief Goss and Mrs. Corriveau explained that this would affect their retirement and the fact is that the person needs to have police powers which would be as a result of being sponsored by a police agency. They would not have police powers if contracted through the school. The person would be more like a security guard.

Council Member Butler commented that while retired officers wouldn't have the police powers, they could do education for younger students.

Chief Goss explained that we need to have a full fledge officer as students know the difference between a police officer and a security officer.

Council Member Burns asked why Detective Montrois was selected for the position.

Chief Goss explained that Detective Montrois had been the Juvenile Aid Officer for 14 years. He went through the interview process and was the school district's choice.

Mr. Steven Todd, Assistant Principal, addressed the chair commending Detective Montrois for all he has accomplished this year. He stated that it all comes down to relationships. The students and faculty trust him.

Detective Montrois addressed the chair expressing his desire to continue as SRO, even though he is eligible for retirement. He outlined ideas for training that have been done and are being considered in the future. He stated that he hopes to implement more training in an effort to create a safer campus.

Mr. Monaco explained that the school district has put funds in their budget to cover a second SRO and urged Council to consider the request.

Mayor Graham thanked everyone for attending and also commented that he would like the school board to see what could be done to allow the children at Creek Wood Development to attend the Watertown schools, instead of having to be bused to schools outside of the City.

Mr. Monaco explained that they would like to be able to accommodate them. However, the law won't let them at the present time.

### **Bulk Item Curbside Collection Program**

Mrs. Corriveau explained that this report was given to Council at the beginning of March. At that time, it was suggested that Council look at it during a work session after the budget had been presented.

Council Member Clough referred to the fee structure and the use of stickers.

Mr. Hayes explained that they were trying to address a way to have the trash picked up and pay for its disposal.

Mayor Graham commented that he thinks this should be done by private enterprise. He stated that the fees should have some linkage to reality. He also suggested that if the City did it, there should be a method in place to enter the data and transfer back to City Hall for billing.

Mr. Hayes remarked that there is no standard across the country for municipal waste collectors. However, the sticker system is not unique. He explained that data and billing make things complicated. There is no paperwork involved in using stickers.

Council Member Clough remarked that before the drop offs were implemented, there was lots of trash on the side of the streets. This system would address the issue that Council Butler had concerns with. This would allow people who were not able to bring their items to the drop off, to be able to have them picked up.

Mr. Hayes remarked that the critical thing about the stickers being used is that we are not charging for the collection. The annual operating cost would be over \$100,000 added to the budget.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that the fees will only take care of the additional tipping fees and not the costs incurred for personnel or equipment.

Council Member Burns asked if this would be on a schedule.

Mr. Hayes explained that we don't know what the demand would be yet. He stated that it wouldn't be cost effective to use college students and a truck.

Council Member Butler responded that since we don't know what the demand would be, it certainly would be a place to start.

Council Member Clough agreed.

Council concurred that this be run as a pilot program from July and 1/2 of August.

**Animal Charities of Northern New York – Funding Request**

Paula Bender and Cindy Helmer addressed the chair concerning the need for funding for a spay and neutering program for stray and homeless cat population in our communities.

**111 Phelps Street**

Chrissy Perez, Phelps Street, addressed the chair concerning the conditions of the property at 111 Phelps Street. She showed photos to Council showing the trash and debris on the property. She explained that it is overrun with cats and rats. Mrs. Perez explained that she had contacted Codes and nothing has been done since it was condemned on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Graham stated that this would be looked into.

**Budget Session**

Council scheduled a budget session of Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> following the volunteer recognition reception. Council asked that Mr. Mills, Chief Goss and Chief Gaumont be in attendance at the budget session.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER CLOUGH TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

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

Council moved into Executive Session at 8:56 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:07 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR MEETING WAS DULY ADJOURNED AT 9:07 P.M. BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.**

*Donna M. Dutton*  
City Clerk