

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
July 6, 2010
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
ATTORNEY ROBERT J. SLYE**

City Manager Corriveau presented the following reports to Council:

- 1- Authorizing a Grant Application to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Restoration Project
- 2 - Adopting Amendments to the Guidelines and Administrative Procedures for the Rental Rehabilitation Program
- 3 - Accepting Bid for Reconstruction of Riggs Avenue, A.J. Montclair, Inc.
- 4 - Approving Contract for Workers' Compensation and Claims Administration Services, General Municipal Law 207-a and 207-c, POMCO Group
- 5- A Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$390,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Costs of the Reconstruction of Riggs Avenue, Including Street, Sidewalks, Storm Sewer, Water Main and Sanitary Sewers, in and for Said City
- 6 - City Manager's Update – July 2010
- 7 - Request to Purchase Property Adjacent to Stewart's at 229 North Massey Street
- 8 - Offer to Purchase a Portion of Edmund Street
- 9 - Property Donation to the City – VL Mill Street, Parcel No. 3-11-138.002
- 10 - Request for In-Kind Assistance, 122 Ten Eyck Street
- 11 - Sewall's Island Redevelopment
- 12 - J.B. Wise Parking Lot, Former Manufactured Gas Plant Update
- 13 - Lachenauer Plaza Fountain
- 14 - National Grid – Utility Tax – Gross Receipts, Update

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 June 21, 2010 was dispensed with and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Burns, seconded by Council Member Smith and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Mrs. Corriveau on behalf of the City of Watertown to Council Member Butler thanking him for his \$220.00 contribution towards the restoration of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Public Square

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

PRIVELEGE OF THE FLOOR

Wayne Zimmer, Katherine Street, addressed the chair regarding his concerns for pedestrians crossing public square. He said he feels that cars often do not slow down or stop when they see pedestrians about to cross the street, but rather drive quite fast.

Bob Peterson, of BOB Rafting, addressed the chair voicing his concerns about selling a portion of Edmund Street. He noted that he has tried to purchase and lease that area in the past but was told by the City he could not do either and that he feels it is unfair to put it up for sale to someone else.

RESOLUTIONS

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown desires to complete the restoration of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument located in Public Square, and

WHEREAS the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Restoration Project is the final component needed to complete the restoration and rehabilitation of the Public Square streetscape area, and

WHEREAS the State of New York has announced that grant funds are available through the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 for historic preservation projects under the Historic Property, Preservation and Planning Program, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to make an application for funding, and as part of the application, the Council must consider the potential environmental impacts according to the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council has review the criteria set forth in Section 617.5 (c) (1) of SEQR and has determined that the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Restoration Project is maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes to the

existing structure and therefore considers the project a Type II Action under SEQR which requires no further environmental review, and

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

Council Member Butler stated he supports this effort and he feels the primary purpose of this is to repair the foundation of the monument. The secondary purpose is for cleaning, he said, and noted that this project costs a tremendous amount of money.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR, VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has received Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) to support rehabilitation of existing substandard apartments through the City and to create new apartments on the upper floors of commercial buildings in the downtown area, and

WHEREAS the operation of the Rental Rehabilitation Program is governed by guidelines and administrative procedures that were adopted by the City Council on January 20, 2009, and revised on December 21, 2009, and

WHEREAS the program administrator has requested changes to those guidelines to offer more attractive financing and allow flexibility in negotiating the terms of each project, and

WHEREAS those changes have been reviewed with the Planning and Community Development Coordinator who recommends their approval,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 5.2.a of the guidelines is hereby amended to allow CDBG loans to be made with an interest rate of 0% APR and repayment terms of up to 10 years with the understanding that all program requirements, including sale and rent restrictions, will be met for the full term of each loan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 5.3.a of the guidelines is hereby amended to allow CDBG loans to be made with interest at 0% APR and repayment terms of up to 20 years. The regulatory period specified in Paragraph (c) of Section 5.3 will not be extended beyond 10 years, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 6.3 of the guidelines is hereby amended to make the regulatory period equal to the length of the CDBG loan (not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years) and require repayment of a portion of the CDBG financing of the properties is sold during the regulatory period, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 6.4 of the guidelines is hereby amended to require repayment of a portion of the CDBG financing if any apartment or work was completed under the program is not rented to a qualified lower income tenant with rent is considered affordable during the applicable regulatory period.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH M. BUTLER JR.

Council Member Butler inquired about the costs incurred by the changes to the program.

Mr. Mix replied that there are none.

Council Member Butler referred to page 17 of the packet and asked if the loan term matches the regulatory period.

Mr. Mix said that the City-wide rehabilitations match the loan term and there is always a 10-year maximum on the regulatory period.

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

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the reconstruction of Riggs Avenue, per our specifications, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to six (6) prospective bidders with two (2) bids being received, and

WHEREAS on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, at 11:00 a.m., the bids received were publicly opened and read in the City Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Agent Robert J. Cleaver reviewed the bids received with City Engineer Kurt Hauk and they are recommending that the City Council accept the bid submitted by A.J. Montclair, Inc. of Canastota, New York, in the amount of \$385,696.50, the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the reconstruction of Riggs Avenue,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council accepts the bid submitted by A.J. Montclair, Inc. of Canastota, New York, in the amount of \$385,696.50, the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the reconstruction of Riggs Avenue.

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

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City of Watertown is a municipal government which operates facilities in and around said City, and

WHEREAS City employees, Police and Fire personnel work in these facilities in and around the City, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown requires claims administration services for the City's Workers' Compensation claims arising at our facilities, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown also requires claims administration services for the City's General Municipal Law 207-a and 207-c claims arising at our facilities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown approves the contract for Workers' Compensation and General Municipal Law Section 207-a and 207-c Claims Administration Services with POMCO Group, 2425 James Street, Syracuse, New York, for Fiscal Years 2010-2013, in the amount of \$24,500 annually, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

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

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO

Council Member Butler asked why POMCO was selected.

Attorney Slye replied that POMCO has eight or nine PPOs and has the best price on medical services.

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

ORDINANCES

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital purposes hereinafter described, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act to the extent required, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital project; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. For paying the costs of the reconstruction of Riggs Avenue, including street, sidewalks, storm sewer, water main and sanitary sewer, in and for the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, a class of objects or purposes, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$390,000 bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is \$390,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$390,000 bonds of said City authorized to be issued pursuant to this bond ordinance.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is fifteen years, pursuant to subdivision ninety-two of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, as said class shall consist of items having periods of probable usefulness of at least fifteen years under one or more of subdivision one, three, four and twenty of said paragraph a.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. The faith and credit of said City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year.

Section 6. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Comptroller and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Clerk.

Section 7. The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as he shall deem best for the interests of the City; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, he

shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of municipal bonds. The receipt of the City Comptroller shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the City by the facsimile signature of the City Comptroller, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the City), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the City Comptroller. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the City not to impose and collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine.

Section 9. This ordinance shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this ordinance, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 10. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- (1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
- (2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this ordinance are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
- (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 11. This ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary in the Watertown Daily Times the official newspaper, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER TERESA R. MACALUSO

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT MOVED BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH,
SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL
VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.**

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

COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Request to Purchase Property Adjacent to Stewart's at 229 North Massey Street

Mayor Graham noted that this area was originally acquired as a right of way for the Court Street Bridge.

Council Member Smith said that line of sight could be an issue if parking is allowed at that corner.

Mr. Mix reviewed the aerial map with Council and commented that as a part of the right of way, there is no value assigned to the property and that it would have to be surveyed.

Mayor Graham asked if there was a suggestion for the price.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that this is just to see if Council is interested in selling the property.

Offer to Purchase a Portion of Edmund Street

Mayor Graham noted this has been an ongoing struggle.

Mr. Mix said he recalls this dispute and that he was contacted by Ms. Desrosier regarding parking and had sent a letter to Council to gauge interest in selling the property.

Mr. Peterson responded that he wished to purchase the property to put in a parking lot and that the neighbor's aggressive dog is intimidating to customers.

Council Member Burns commented that this is a wide right of way and questioned if it can be split down the middle for the property owners.

Mrs. Corriveau stated that there are more than two abutting property owners.

Mr. Peterson noted that a portion of it is Chiappone's parking lot.

Council Member Burns questioned why the parking lot was built if the owner knew it was not on his property.

Mayor Graham noted that there is some encroachment.

Mr. Mix said this is a little beyond a paper street with a deed dating back to the early 1800s. He noted that not all of it is traversable and further detailed the layout of the street to Council.

Council Member Burns asked if Credo has parking in that area.

Mrs. Corriveau said they do not park there.

Mayor Graham commented that the issue of the aggressive dog cannot be resolved tonight.

Mrs. Corriveau said this decision is up to Council.

Council Member Butler inquired how long ago Mr. Peterson was told he could not buy the property.

Mr. Peterson replied it was about six or seven years ago.

Attorney Slye noted that the decision had to do with the location and maintenance of the power poles on the property.

Mr. Peterson suggested selling a portion of the street.

Council Member Burns asked if the power poles are owned by National Grid.

Attorney Slye replied that an easement was given and that they likely do not wish to move the poles.

Council Member Burns said that she has several power poles on her property on Mullin Street.

Attorney Slye noted that his hypothesis is that there is an easement in her deed.

Mayor Graham suggested looking into correspondence to see when this topic was first introduced.

Mr. Peterson said one option would be to allow each neighboring property owner a section of the land so they can all use it for their own purposes.

Mrs. Corriveau reminded Council that Credo cannot be left out of the picture.

Mayor Graham said that staff needs to research this for a practical solution.

Council Member Burns also said that she would like to see prior correspondence.

Property Donation to the City – VL Mill Street, Parcel No. 3-11-138.002

Mrs. Corriveau reviewed the report with Council and noted that it is encumbered by a number of utility easements. She said the heirs to the estate tried to market the property but found it is not marketable and are interested in gifting it to the City.

Council Member Burns said she would be willing to accept it.

Council Member Butler questioned if there is any reason not to take accept the property.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that there is not.

Mr. Mix noted that the crossing of utilities on the property make it difficult to develop and there are three or four encroachments by sheds or fences by neighbors.

Request for In-Kind Assistance, 122 Ten Eyck Street

Mayor Graham said he hopes the sale price of this property will cover the construction funding and that the City had no prior knowledge of the oil tank found under ground.

Council Member Macaluso noted that there are no numbers, no description of work to be done and that she would like to see some specifics.

Mrs. Corriveau said that Mr. Schweitzer was alluding to some excavation work and reminded Council that the property was sold to DANC.

Mayor Graham stated that it comes down to the profit margin on the house, if any.

Council Member Burns said that the City has not been involved in this and wonders why Council is being asked to take on this responsibility. She said that Watertown Trust or DANC are more appropriate to ask.

Council Member Butler noted that he is open to it but that he would like more details.

Sewall's Island Redevelopment

Mayor Graham reviewed the memo with Council noting that Watertown Trust is willing to assume the duties of attracting developers and that Council's blessing is being sought.

Council Member Butler asked how the area is currently zoned.

Mr. Mix said it is heavy industry and commercial but that in the future it could be a combination of residential, commercial and recreation.

Mayor Graham asked if this is a planned development district.

Mr. Mix replied that a planned development district is based on a specific plan and there is no such plan in place for that area currently.

J.B. Wise Parking Lot, Former Manufactured Gas Plant Update

Mrs. Corriveau told Council the DEC contacted the City and gave authorization to move forward with the project. She noted that the City has been through this process before, referencing the Newell Street bus garage. Mrs. Corriveau also stated that the City has specific line items to add to the bid for clean-up, in which the costs will be born by National Grid not the City of Watertown.

Mayor Graham questioned if the contractor will separate the costs.

Mrs. Corriveau said the project will take slightly longer.

Mayor Graham asked if the affected area is concentrated behind the Court Street buildings.

Mr. Hauk replied that it is in the Empsall Plaza area. He noted the importance of having an agreement in place ahead of time should the City need it. Mr. Hauk added that a bid could be acquired in August.

Lachenauer Plaza Fountain

Mayor Graham said that no decision will be made on the design now and that the designs are appreciated.

Mrs. Corriveau told Council that the North Country Arts Council will accept responses until July 11, 2010.

Mayor Graham noted that it is up to Council to decide on the design.

Council Member Burns said she wants to see what the public chooses but commented that the one with the most votes doesn't necessarily win.

National Grid – Utility Tax – Gross Receipts, Update

Mrs. Corriveau said that she, Mr. Mills and Attorney Slye will participate in a conference call to discuss the settlement agreement from National Grid concerning erroneously included revenues

from electric transmission and distribution service and gas transportation service not originating within the City of Watertown in its taxable gross receipts.

Council Member Butler inquired how to verify the numbers given to the City.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that she does not know if there is any way to verify the figures unless an audit firm is hired.

Council Member Burns asked if an audit would be paid for through NYCOM and if it would be cost effective.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that there are companies that audit utilities all the time. She added that the company would take a cut of what they find and that this is a complicated situation.

Delayed Pension

Mayor Graham noted that the legislature approved the delayed pension, an issue that may come before the Council and that other municipalities have expressed reluctance and suggested steering clear of it.

Mrs. Corriveau said she will take a look at the issue and stated it is a way to pay operating expenses over time.

Board of Audit

Mayor Graham mentioned that the Board of Audit agreed to pay a resident who was mowing his lawn and hit a water pipe cover causing substantial damage to the mower. He also mentioned a suit which was brought several years ago concerning Dr. Pierre which is now settled.

Attorney Slye said that in 2004 Dr. Pierre Kamguia was accused of resisting arrest and sued the City in 2005. He said the lawsuits with Watertown Eye Surgeons and Rothschild & Associates have already been settled and he recommended settling with Dr. Pierre Kamguia for \$4,800.

Council Member Macaluso inquired if he will accept the settlement.

Attorney Slye said he will accept.

Mayor Graham said the Board often looks at nuisance settlements, which the City does not often pay but in these cases payment was warranted.

Council Member Burns noted that this has been ongoing for five years and that it is a unique situation for the Board of Audit.

Attorney Slye said the Board is not called upon to settle many cases at all and the cases looked at have a limit of \$5,000.

Masonic Temple

Mayor Graham noted that feasibility studies will be done on the Masonic Temple building and more research is needed to determine the proper course of action.

Council Member Butler asked if there is an interested party.

Mayor Graham said that there was but they are no longer interested.

Cedar Street

Council Member Burns said she has received several calls from residents of Cedar Street regarding the increased traffic flow due to work being done on Breen Avenue. She said they have noticed an increase of dust with the traffic flow and she posed the question to have crews spray the streets to minimize dust.

Mrs. Corriveau said the contractor will be looked at to do that work.

Mr. Hawk stated negotiations will have to take place for the additional work.

Council Member Burns also said there was some concern for the increase in traffic because the street is not in the best condition and wondered if there is some way to monitor the traffic.

Mayor Graham asked about the completion date for Breen Avenue.

Mr. Hawk replied that he is not sure but that work is probably ahead of schedule.

Relief from Heat

Council Member Burns asked Council to keep in mind those residents who do not have proper heat relief and suggested putting out a press release to remind them of air conditioned public venues. She suggested opening Council Chambers to the public during the day and handing out bottled water to those who need it.

Mayor Graham also suggested publicizing the pool schedules.

Concert in the Park and Vending

Council Member Burns commented on the wonderful Fourth of July concert at Thompson Park but had questions regarding the vendors in that they could not keep up with the number of customers.

Mrs. Corriveau said the Conservancy has the contract for vending throughout the park. The other tables present were Operation Yellow Ribbon, since they sponsored the first act that night, and the Syracuse Symphony.

Mayor Graham noted he was not aware that the Conservancy had exclusive vending rights.

Attorney Slye reminded Council that nothing prohibits the Conservancy from contracting with other vendors.

Mayor Graham suggested looking at negotiating the practice.

Noise Ordinance

Council Member Butler said he has received calls from a resident on Leray Street regarding excessive noise. He said the City Clerk of Syracuse sent him the ordinance on sound reproduction and said it is enforced every day. He proposed adding some additional language to our books and said he thinks tickets should be written for those in violation. Council Member Butler suggested preparing an ordinance for the next Council meeting.

Mayor Graham mentioned a neighbor dispute on Hoard Street, pointing out what may be a tolerable noise level at 2:00 p.m., for instance, to some is intolerable to others.

Council Member Butler stated he wanted to give Council and staff this information because it is a problem that can be addressed.

Mini-Hydros

Council Member Butler said he had a discussion with Roger Bason who produces mini-hydros for hydro kinetic power. He suggested inviting him to a work session to present to Council what can and cannot be done.

Mrs. Corriveau noted that she spoke with him as well and he is tentatively scheduled for next Monday's work session. She said that this is a demonstration project and the company is not yet in full production.

Mayor Graham stated that it is important to not violate the 40 year franchise agreement.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that she has pulled the contract and will review it.

Crosswalk

Council Member Butler asked about an update on the crosswalk on the corner of Public Square and Factory Street.

Mr. Hauk replied that he will check to see if an observation has been do

Hedges near Corners

Council Member Macaluso said residents have mentioned to her that the line of sight is compromised at some corners in the City due to shrubs. She mentioned specifically the corner of Stone and Meadow streets.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that Codes should be contacted on the issue.

Barricade

Council Member Smith noted that the concrete barricade blocking cars from exiting the parking lot of Mr. Sub has been moved.

Mrs. Corriveau said she will have staff look at it.

Overgrowth on Sidewalks

Council Member Smith commented that overgrowth of trees and bushes along Thompson Boulevard, between Franklin and Gotham streets, covers the sidewalks forcing pedestrians into the street. He also noted that there is a lot of overgrowth covering the old pumping station in the park.

Freeman Bus Event

Council Member Smith wished to congratulate Freeman Bus on a very successful event at Thompson Park. He suggested giving them some recognition at a Council meeting.

Health Care Act

Mrs. Corriveau told Council that as part of the health care act, a temporary program allows plan sponsors reimbursement of early retirees on claims from \$15,000 - \$90,000 per year, until the funding for the program runs out. She asked Council to authorize her to sign on behalf of the City.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROXANNE M. BURNS

Be it resolved that authority is given to City Manager Mary M. Corriveau to sign the ERRP Application on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER JEFFREY M. SMITH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

RULES WERE WAIVED BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Budgets

Mrs. Corriveau noted that the adopted budgets have been printed and the final hydro figures are totaled.

Downtown Banners

Mrs. Corriveau said the banners have been ordered and that the Chamber of Commerce, AUSA and FDRLO each purchased some. She added that the zoo is no longer interested. Mayor Graham asked about the cost.

Mrs. Corriveau said they are \$84.00 for each banner when several are purchased at a time.

Community Survey

Mrs. Corriveau pointed out that JCC's 11th Annual Survey of the Community has been released and recommends that Council review it. She noted it has many positives about downtown.

Aviary Meeting

Mrs. Corriveau told Council about the Aviary ad-hoc meeting with Dr. John Scott Foster and the possible meeting dates of July 13 or 14.

Jefferson County Fair and Concert

Mrs. Corriveau reminded Council that the Jefferson County Fair will begin run from July 13 to July 18. She noted that there will also be an Alan Jackson concert during that time and that staff is working with various agencies regarding parking and traffic control as the concert will draw an additional 5,000 to 7,000 people.

Mayor Graham asked if we bill for the additional air conditioned tents.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that the City bills for any costs over what is normally consumed but that we do not charge for every single expense incurred.

Solar Panels

Council Member Smith commented that he has the permit for the installation of the solar panels for his home.

ADJOURNMENT

**AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR MEETING WAS DULY ADJOURNED AT 8:50 P.M.
BY MOTION OF COUNCIL MEMBER BUTLER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL
MEMBER MACALUSO AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.**

Amanda C. Lewis
Deputy City Clerk

