

**ADJOURNED COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
December 13, 2004  
7:30 P.M.**

**MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING**

**PRESENT:**           **COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY  
COUNCILWOMAN ROXANNE M. BURNS  
COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH  
COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF  
MAYOR GRAHAM**

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

Mayor Graham opened the adjourned meeting with a moment of silence in memory of Charles Morse, member of the Watertown Police Department who passed away last week.

Mrs. Corriveau introduced the new City Assessor, Brian Phelps, to the Council. Mr. Phelps will start his position with the City on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN CLOUGH TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SATELLITE OFFICE, SIGNOR, LLC.**

**MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LABOUF AND CARRIED BY ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Councilwoman Burns remarked that it needs to be emphasized that Council was not opposed to extending the lease for the satellite station. They were merely raising questions concerning the philosophy of community policing.

Councilman Clough asked if all of the City police officers were being trained in community policing.

Chief Piche stated that they are all trained in community policing and in the philosophy of problem solving. He explained that they receive the training during their basic training and then have in-service training every other year.

Mayor Graham commented that he didn't know if he agreed with the storefronts and felt that they may offer a false sense of police presence. He questioned the extent of the area served by the North Side station. He remarked that he has long lamented the lack of presence in City Hall. He also commented that the City has fire stations on Mill and State Streets if we need to use public buildings to provide the presence, especially at a time when we need to rebuild public confidence in the Police Department. He stated that he also has deep concerns when a community police officer becomes an advocate for a neighborhood's agenda.

Councilman Bradley asked about the hours of operation for the satellite station.

Chief Piche explained that the officers work a shifting schedule. They can shift to evenings if there are neighborhood meetings, etc. Basically, the usual hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Councilman Bradley remarked that the MMA study suggested taking those four positions and putting them back on patrol and have everyone doing community policing. With everyone doing the job, it makes for 24 hours a day coverage. He also commented that he has been on the Council for almost a year and in that time, he has not seen any action on the MMA study.

Chief Piche explained that they have done the training that the study suggested. He also explained that the storefronts are only one method of community policing being used. He stated that he totally agrees with the department wide philosophy for community policing. He referred to the various methods used in the Syracuse Police Department and the fact that in addition to their storefronts, they also put a mobilization unit trailer in a neighborhood that needs to be cleaned up.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that they are looking at 12-hour shifts, which would hopefully give the City more coverage with less overtime.

Councilman Bradley remarked that if we have 60 people dedicated to community policing, we would have new ideas and new viewpoints.

Chief Piche responded that the majority of patrols are answering calls and they don't always have the time to do quality of life issues with a particular neighborhood such as those that involve the City Codes Department.

Councilman Clough remarked that he feels that the police are doing community policing when they do patrols and answer calls. He also remarked that road patrols do turn over cases to the community police officers when necessary.

Chief Piche responded that property problems are referred to community police officers. He also explained that the JCC surveys indicate that community policing storefronts are working.

Councilwoman Burns remarked that she is disappointed that the Police Department cannot address quality of life issues.

Chief Piche remarked that he didn't mean that was the case on a daily basis.

Councilwoman Burns asked about the swing shift which was suggested in the MMA study.

Chief Piche referred to the fact that they are discussing 12-hour shifts and this would impact the swing shift.

Councilwoman Burns commented that the swing shift makes sense and would be a cost savings. She commented that she would really like to see it implemented. She also commented that Neighborhood Watch was successful in the beginning. Now people want to see it citywide and not just one police officer working one shift in one specific area.

Councilman LaBouf asked how many recommendations had been accomplished from the MMA study.

Mrs. Corriveau listed the recommendations and the ones that were done or in the process of being done.

Councilman Bradley asked about the new platoon D and the fact that it was listed as priority 1.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that while it was listed that way, it is something that has to be negotiated.

Councilwoman Burns asked why it couldn't be done at the discretion of the chief.

Chief Piche advised that the shift hours are in the contract. Therefore, to change anything pertaining to that requires negotiations.

Attorney Slye explained that once a shift is negotiated, any changes to it have to be negotiated as well.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that if there is a specific incident occurring, such as the rock-throwing incident, the Chief could use his discretion. Otherwise, it has to be negotiated.

Mayor Graham asked why other buildings weren't considered.

Mrs. Corriveau responded that the Police have indicated that being on lower State Street is better than the former location.

Councilman LaBouf asked Chief Piche about the Syracuse storefronts.

Chief Piche explained that they have storefronts in three areas of the City. They also use the trailer in various neighborhoods throughout the City until that area gets cleaned up.

Councilman LaBouf commented that prevention is the big key of community policing and visibility is a large part of prevention. He also advised that Esther Smith, a volunteer at the satellite station, was in the audience and had signatures from residents who wanted to keep the station where it is.

Mayor Graham commented that several people told him that they didn't even know that it existed. He also commented that we do have a moral obligation to complete the terms of the lease.

Councilwoman Burns remarked that she doesn't want to hold the landlord hostage over this.

Mayor Graham remarked that we must follow through on what was stated. However, he would encourage staff not to occupy space without a valid lease in place.

**Esther Smith**, station volunteer, addressed the chair explaining that she had a list of 64 signatures wanting to keep the office open. She explained that the elderly would have a hard time getting to the office if it was moved to the Riverside Apartment location.

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

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH**

WHEREAS the Watertown Housing Authority is the current owner of real property commonly known as Cloverdale Apartments, under Watertown Tax Parcel No. 4-07-201, and

WHEREAS the Cloverdale Apartments are unoccupied, and

WHEREAS the Cloverdale Apartments will not be renovated by the Watertown Housing Authority, but the City may be in a position to obtain redevelopment of the property through programs available to the City, and

WHEREAS the Watertown Housing Authority has agreed to convey the Cloverdale Apartments to the City for redevelopment purposes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby determines that it is in the best interests of the City of Watertown that the Cloverdale Apartments property be redeveloped for residential use, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to obtain title to the Cloverdale Apartments property in the name of the City of Watertown for no monetary consideration, and to execute all documents necessary to affect a transfer of title.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA**

Rules waived by motion of Councilman Clough, seconded by Councilman LaBouf and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Councilman Clough explained that this property had been discussed since he and Councilwoman Burns had been on Council and he thanked the Mayor for the work he has done on getting this moving ahead.

Councilman LaBouf also thanked the Mayor.

Councilwoman Burns remarked that she echoed Councilman Clough's comments and explained that there has been much discussion on this since they both came on to the Council. She commented that this is a nice piece of property in a nice part of town and the City owes it to the people in the North side to have this developed. Councilwoman Burns also thanked staff and Mayor Graham.

Mayor Graham commented that Mrs. Corriveau did quite a bit of work on this. He explained that a developer is very interested in the site. He also explained that the site needs to be demolished and redeveloped. The developer needs to prepare grant applications that have a deadline in the winter.

Councilman Bradley commented that when considering redevelopment, we should also keep in mind the 801 military housing units that will be coming up empty soon.

Mayor Graham commented that those units, owned by Uccellini, should take care of themselves and will probably be rented by military families. He commented that the City wants to be seen as on the leading edge of the housing market.

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Amendment No. 48 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan, effective December 20, 2004, as follows:

**Assessor      \$50,000**

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon permanent appointment, the salary will increase to \$53,000.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA**

Rules waived by motion of Councilman Clough, seconded by Councilman LaBouf and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

**ORDINANCES**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH**

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital project hereinafter described, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, 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 the specific object or purpose of paying the cost of the purchase of an excavator vehicle to be used by the City for construction and maintenance purposes, in and for the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$166,000 serial bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the maximum estimated cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is \$166,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$166,000 serial 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 specific object or purpose is fifteen years, pursuant to subdivision 28 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

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 serial 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. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said City, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

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 serial 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 full 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 COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA**

(Unanimous consent moved by Councilman Clough, seconded by Councilman Bradley and carried with all voting in favor thereof.)

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**COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**

**Purchase of Fire Pumper:**

Reports concerning this were presented to Council by Mr. Cleaver, Purchasing Agent and Fire Chief Gaumont.

Mrs. Corriveau remarked that the major issues and differences are warranties and independent front suspensions.

Chief Gaumont responded that warranties offered by KME were inferior to Pierce's. He said that the warranties for the independent front suspension were one year in the KME bid and five years in the Pierce bid. He also mentioned that KME is proposing using some parts from several foreign countries and assembling the parts in Poland, while Pierce would use American parts, with assembly in Wisconsin.

Mr. Cleaver remarked that KME met each bid specification as it was laid out and that he "takes issue" with the chief's recommendation. He stated that KME had no substantial deviations from the specifications that would warrant discounting its bid in favor of a higher bid.

Mayor Graham commented that his concern is over the integrity of the bid process. He remarked that there should have been a meeting of the minds before all of this went out. He stated that he finds it difficult to leap frog over the apparent low bid when the Purchasing Agent says that it meets the bid specs.

Mr. Cleaver remarked that on the bid form, there are places for check marks. If the company checks "yes", they have to provide it according to specs. KME did so. He also explained that the contract states that in any controversy, the City specs would prevail.

Councilwoman Burns referred to Chief Gaumont's comments concerning these bids and remarked that the Chief has raised valid points. She asked Mr. Cleaver for verification of the fact that if the company checked "yes", they would be required to provide what the specs say.

Mr. Cleaver remarked that whatever the City has listed in the specs have to be provided unless the company checked "no".

Attorney Slye advised that he agreed with that statement. He stated that the City has to follow the process. He also remarked that Mr. Cleaver does this for the City day in and day out. Attorney Slye also remarked that he is not making light of what the Chief has said. However, the law is that the City will take the lowest responsive responsible bid.

Mayor Graham discussed the safety issue.

Councilman Clough asked how many rollovers there had been in the last forty years.

Chief Sayre said that there had been one in the 1940's or 1950's and one person was killed.

Mr. Cleaver responded by saying that he was not saying the other items were not needed; he was merely trying to stay within the budget figures and purchase a truck within that amount.

Chief Gaumont asked what would happen if KME were selected and couldn't meet the warranties.

Mayor Graham responded that while he buys into the safety issue, he also buys into the bidding process. He commented that the City shouldn't rebid just because the Council made a budget judgment when they didn't know the cost. He stated he would favor accepting the KME bid.

Councilman Clough remarked that this truck is an \$80,000 - \$100,000 overbid and the Council owes it to the taxpayers to put it out for a rebid.

Mrs. Corriveau advised that this was what staff had recommended be done.

Councilman Bradley remarked that if the City does rebid, we need to be sure that all of the major components are made in the U.S.

Mr. Cleaver remarked that the second bidder also has components from other places.

Mrs. Corriveau remarked that we live in a global community.

Councilman Bradley responded that if some of the parts came from Ireland and the President said that the U.S. was not going to trade with Ireland any more, where would we get the parts?

Councilwoman Burns remarked that she wants the Purchasing Agent, City Manager and Fire Chief to get together and come back with a final recommendation for the rebidding process.

Councilman Bradley remarked that he agrees with Councilwoman Burns that this be done.

Mayor Graham responded that it is incumbent upon Council to decide a course of action.

The following resolution was introduced:

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILWOMAN ROXANNE M. BURNS**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of one new and unused 1500 G.P.M. fire pumper truck, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to eight (8) prospective bidders, and

WHEREAS five (5) bids were submitted and publicly opened and read on Wednesday, October 20, 2004, at 11 a.m., and

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Agent Robert J. Cleaver reviewed the bids received, as well as receiving a recommendation from Fire Chief Daniel Gaumont, and

WHEREAS it is Mr. Cleaver's recommendation, in view of the fact that the Capital Appropriation for this item is \$280,000 and the lowest base bid received exceeded that amount by \$87,783, and the recommendation bid by the Fire Chief exceeds the appropriation by \$110,120, that the City Council reject all bids submitted,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby rejects all bids submitted for the purchase of one new and unused 1500 G.P.M. fire pumper truck.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA EXCEPT MAYOR GRAHAM VOTING NAY.**

Rules waived by motion of Councilwoman Burns, seconded by Councilman Bradley and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

**Phone Systems:**

Mayor Graham asked Mr. Cleaver about the phone system proposal.

Mr. Cleaver explained that proposals were requested from state contract vendors. Mr. Allen submitted his proposal a week ago. Another one was submitted from a Syracuse firm on Friday. The proposals are being compared.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that staff is trying to garner proposals on something that is reasonably priced so that it can be brought back to Council for review.

Mayor Graham asked what kind of system it would be and what network we would be using. He commented that some people in the phone business don't agree with City staff on the system.

Mrs. Corriveau stated that staff isn't looking at DANC's network. They are looking at a phone system that will allow us to look at other options in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR MEETING WAS DULY ADJOURNED AT 8:50 P.M. BY MOTION OF COUNCILMAN CLOUGH, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.**

**Donna M. Dutton**

City Clerk