

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Norwich was held February 6, 2017 at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Hinchey, Aldermen Nystrom, Philbrick, Braddock, Gould, Martin and Nash. City Manager Salomone and Corporation Counsel Michael Driscoll were also in attendance. Mayor Hinchey presided.

Ald. Martin read the opening prayer and Ald. Gould led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hinchey called for a moment of silence for the passing of Gene Arters, Director of Emergency Management for the City.

Upon motion of Ald. Philbrick, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the minutes of January 3 and 17, 2017.

Ald. Nash read the following proclamation:



City Of Norwich

Mayor’s Office

Deberey Hinchey, Mayor

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, in the last three years **Norwich Youth Football Wildcats** league has sent four football teams to the Southern New England Youth Football Conference Super Bowl; they have won three of the four super bowls with our twelve and under team coming in as 2016 undefeated champions; and

**WHEREAS**, all four of the teams that went to the Super Bowl were undefeated; within the same conference of thirteen towns, our cheerleaders have brought home multiple first place competition trophies over the past three seasons as well; the junior and senior division cheerleaders are the 2016 first place champions; and

**WHEREAS**, they have also brought home multiple first-place trophies in each of the prior two years consecutively; despite horrendous field conditions, the league continues to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, this was our first season working with Lee-Ann Gomes as a representative of the city and she has been extremely supportive of our leagues’ accomplishments.

**NOW THEREFORE, MAYOR DEBEREY HINCHEY AND NORWICH CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM, PETER NYSTROM, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH**, do hereby recognize and congratulate the **2016 NORWICH YOUTH FOOTBALL WILDCATS** for their outstanding athletic accomplishments and for the pride and joy they have brought the City of Norwich.

**Dated this Sixth day of February, 2017**

**Deberey Hinchey**  
Mayor

**William Nash**  
Alderman

Mayor Hinchey advised the public that there is a vacancy on the Commission for Persons with Disabilities and that an access and awareness brochure will be posted on the City’s webpage.

Upon a motion of Ald. Martin, seconded by Ald. Gould, it was unanimously voted to accept the resignation of Ray Dussault from the Zoning Board of Appeals thanking him for his service.

Upon a motion of Ald. Braddock, seconded by President Pro Tem Nystrom, it was unanimously voted to accept the resignation of Marge Blizzard from the Redevelopment Agency thanking her for her service.

City Managers Report:



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**To:** Mayor Hinchey and members of the City Council  
**From:** John Salomone, City Manager  
**Subject:** City Manager’s Report  
**Date:** February 6, 2017

I would like to acknowledge the sudden passing of Gene Arters, Emergency Management Director for the City for over 15 years. He was a true gentleman and highly respected for his commitment to the community when storms and flooding threatened our city. He will be sadly missed. I have appointed Chief Scandariato to serve as Interim Director and will evaluate the necessary tasks that the director is involved with to determine a permanent replacement for the position.

The Mayor and I continue our weekly meetings and we both attended SECOG and SEAT meetings on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Union negotiations continue with the Police.

I had my monthly meeting with department heads. Josh Pothier and Tony Madeira from Finance announced that there will be a redesign of the City’s Website provided by Civic Plus. There are no hard costs associated with this redesign since it was part of the original package provided from Civic Plus when the city converted in

the fall of 2012. Chief Daley announced that 4 members of the Norwich Color Guard were invited to attend the AFC Championship Game at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, MA. Captain Christopher Ferace, Sargent John Perry, Officer Neil Carmody and Officer Steve Callender were the lucky attendees. They were extremely proud and honored to represent Norwich. Pictures of the event are on the City’s Facebook page.

Gary Evans, Director of the Community Development Office announced his resignation effective February 1, 2017 to take a job with a former employer. We wish him well in his new position with the City of New Britain.

I meet with Red McKeon for a tour of Occum. He provided me with a wealth of information of the town history.

I attended the Greater Norwich Chamber Board Meeting on January 25th.

I meet with JP Mereen, representatives from Norwich Golf Course Authority and city staff regarding preliminary process of approval for an irrigation pond at the site.

I met with staff members to review the information we had received from SHPO regarding the Reid & Hughes and forwarded a list of concerns to Todd Levine prior to the meeting that was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January.

On Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> several city staff members, members of Norwich Heritage Trust, and representatives of the Woman’s Institute had a second meeting with Todd Levine from SHPO regarding the proposal to preserve the property. We agreed to meet again on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Action items were requested to be received by February 7th. On February 2nd, the Public Works Department covered 18 windows on the front of the building with 48 sheets of plywood as a precautionary measure since glass had fallen from the 3<sup>rd</sup> story windows onto the sidewalk below. The proposed demolition bid schedule is as follows:

Pre-bid Meeting - February 14
RFI’s Due – February 17
Addendum Issued –Feb 23
Bid Opening – February 28

Ethics training is underway. My assistant, Jacquie Barbarossa, is tracking those who were scheduled to take the class by January 31, 2017. In addition to City Council, all City Department Heads, Volunteer Fire Chiefs, Corporation Council, heads of NCDC, Otis, NPU, Board of Education, Housing Authority and Uncas Health were requested to take the online course. Several employees have participated per their director/managers request. Employees from Finance, City Clerk, Human Resources, Planning & Development, Community Development Office, Public Works Supervisors and four division heads from Norwich Public Utilities also took the online class. As of Friday, February 3rd, 57 individuals had completed the course. This includes 30 of the 33 originally requested.

Per an employee suggestion, Jacquie is working with Gabe Lipman, Art Teacher from Norwich Public Schools to display student's art on several bulletin boards throughout City Hall. Artwork will be located outside of Council Chambers, across from the Tax Collector’s Office and in the City Manager’s Office. We are looking forward to sharing the student’s artistic talent with the citizens of Norwich.

Mayor Hinchey called for citizen comment on resolutions.

Marvin Serruto, 100 Starr St, stated that the candidates in resolutions # 1-3 are very worthy. He is also in favor of resolution #4 and hoped all negotiations are in good faith.

Rodney Bowie, 62 Roosevelt Ave, talked about resolution #5 and asked the Council to keep raises and expenses down. He asked not to leverage one position against another.

Mayor Hinchey declared citizen comment on resolutions was closed.

Upon a motion of Ald. Braddock, seconded by Ald. Nash, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by President Pro Tem Nystrom, Ald. Braddock and Gould.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the below named be appointed as an **alternate member** to the Historic District Commission with a term to expire on December 31, 2017 or until a successor is appointed:

Regan Miner (D)

Upon a motion of President Pro Tem Nystrom, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by President Pro Tem Nystrom, Ald. Braddock and Gould.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the below named be appointed as a **regular member** of the Senior Affairs Commission with a term to expire on September 01, 2017 or until a successor is appointed:

Frank Jacaruso, Jr. (D)

Ald. Gould stated the following resolution introduced by Ald. Gould and Braddock is being withdrawn by the sponsors:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the below named be appointed as a **regular member** of the Mohegan Park Improvement and Development Advisory Committee with a term to expire on December 31, 2018 or until a successor is appointed:

Charles R. Evans, Jr. (D)

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by Ald. Gould and Philbrick.

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Norwich by resolution adopted September 6, 2016 directed City Manager John Salomone to enter into a Real Estate Listing Agreement with Allyn and Associates Realtors to offer to sell certain properties including 109 Laurel Hill Avenue which the city had acquired by a tax collector sale; and

**WHEREAS**, said Listing Agreement was entered into; and

**WHEREAS**, Allyn and Associates Realtors have presented a Purchase and Sales Agreement to sell the property at 109 Laurel Hill Avenue to Cleverson DeSilva for a price of \$17,000.00 as a cash sale with no mortgage contingency.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that, City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed to enter into said

Purchase and Sales Agreement, if satisfactory to him, pertaining to the property at 109 Laurel Hill Avenue agreeing on behalf of the City of Norwich to sell the property to Cleverson DeSilva at a price of \$17,000.00 subject to customary adjustments.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH** that City Manager John Salomone be and hereby is authorized and directed, upon Cleverson DeSilva's timely tender of the purchase price of \$17,000.00 as increased or decreased by appropriate adjustments, to execute a deed satisfactory to him and such other documents as are necessary to complete the transaction conveying said property to Cleverson DeSilva and to receive and deliver all documents necessary for the completion of this transaction.

Upon a motion of Ald. Braddock, seconded by Ald. Philbrick, it was unanimously voted to suspend the rules to take action on resolution #5 after executive session.

Upon a motion of Ald. Martin, seconded by Ald. Gould, it was unanimously voted to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 1-200(6), for the purpose of discussing the strategy and negotiations with respect to union issues. City Manager John Salomone, Director of Human Resources Brigid Marks, Comptroller Joshua Pothier, and Corporation Counsel, Michael Driscoll, shall be asked to participate during all or portions of this Executive Session at the request of the City Council.

The council was in Executive Session from 7:55 pm to 9:11 pm, at which time Mayor Hinchey, stated no votes were taken.

Upon a motion of Ald. Martin, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to return to regular session.

Upon a motion of Ald. Philbrick, seconded by Ald. Braddock, it was unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution introduced by City Manager Salomone.

RESOLVED, that the proposed Agreement between the City of Norwich, AFSCME, Local 818, Council 4 – Public Works Supervisors, covering the period between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2019, be, and the same hereby is, approved in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-474; and further, that the City Manager, John Salomone, be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to execute the same in the name of the City.

Upon a motion of Ald. Gould, seconded by Ald. Martin, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:15 pm.



CITY CLERK