

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

American Ambulance

7:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Alderman William Nash, Alderman H. Tucker Braddock, Alderman Gerald Martin

Administration and Staff Present: Chief Frank Blanchard, Yantic Fire Department; Chief Tim Jencks, Taftville Fire Department; Chief Pat Daley, East Great Plains Fire Department/Norwich Police Department; Chief Scandariato, Norwich Fire Department

Volunteer/Central Fire Departments and Others: Chris LaRose, Norwich Public Utilities; Ron Stotz, Yantic Fire Department; Hope Jencks, Taftville Fire Department; Glenn Arremony, American Ambulance; Adam Herz, Yantic Fire Department; Ed Martin, Laurel Hill Fire Department; Chris Colonair, Yantic Fire Department; Ken Leo, Yantic Fire Department; Sean Bennett, Yantic Fire Department; Kyle Seitz, Norwich Fire Department; Stacy Gould, Alderwoman/Citizen; Deberey Hinchey, Mayor City of Norwich; **DOT Attendees:** Will Britnell, Principal Engineer, Highway Design (State Design Section); Peter Talarico, Supervising Engineer, Highway Design (Project Development Unit); Paul Metsack, Project Engineer, Highway Design (Project Development Unit)

I. Call to Order – Quorum

Alderman Nash called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. There was a quorum present.

II. Approval of Minutes - Minutes of January 13, 2016

Alderman Nash motioned, seconded by Alderman Braddock, to approve the January 13, 2016 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Correspondence – None.

IV. Citizen Comment – Alderwoman, Stacy Gould thanked committee for being a part of the Emergency Management.

V. Old Business

a) iPad Solution Update

Training and silver panels update. City Council has participated in a demo.

VI. Other

a) DOT Presentation - Conceptual Improvements to Route 82 City of Norwich

SECCOG, working with the City of Norwich, identified corridor as a regionally significant problem.

Two Phase Project:

- Phase I – West Side
- Phase II – East side

1. Phase I

- Raised median
- Roundabouts
- 4 lanes (2 on each side)
- Hybrid Roundabouts

2. Phase II

- Raised median
- 2 lanes (1 on each side)

- Single lane roundabouts
3. **Benefits:**
 - Safety for bicyclist
 - Areas for buses to pull over
 - Raised medians will provide safety
 - 39% reduction in crashes
 - 7 existing traffic signals will be replaced
 - 76% reduction in injuries
 - 90% reductions in fatalities
 - 30% reductions in pedestrian crashes
 4. **Roundabouts**
 - U turns are very simple
 - Reduces congestion
 - All signals will be replaced
 - Traffic reduced to about 20 mph
 - All traffic heading in the same direction
 5. **City will be able to add aesthetics such as:**
 - Landscaping
 - Pavement
 6. **Cost of project:**
 - \$42 MIL
 7. **Timeframe:**
 - 3 Year design period
 - Phase I - 2 years construction
 - Phase II - 2 years construction
 8. **Other:**
 - Median heights are 4-6 inches (size of curb)
 - Access to businesses will be open
 - DOT will work with community during design and implementations
 - Funds are covered by state
 - Town would pay for aesthetics
 - Public Safety Commission will be involved
 - Copies of memo distributed will be provided at next council meeting

VII. New Business

a) NPU Update

- Forecast calls for severe cold in the next few days, will have extra call people on call to address any customer issues in a very timely manner. All training materials have been modified for fire departments and first responders. Letters are going out with packages of the new training material. Training materials will be provided to the Mayor, City Manager and City Council.

b) Fire House Status Updates

Chief Scandariato: Discussed reasons for switching to Emergency Reporting from Firehouse Software.

Laurel Hill Fire Department: Update on HVAC system; NPU Training Update; Membership Update.

Taftville Fire Department: Membership Update; Response update; Truck Issues; HVAC Update.

Yantic Fire Department: Membership update; Truck Update; Training Update; City Hall HR Background Check Update; PowerPoint Presentation scheduled for next meeting; Plain Hill Radio Tower Update.

Chief Pat Daley, East Great Plains Fire Department: Firehouse Roof Issues; Plowing Public Works Update; Response Update; Vehicle Update; Membership Update.

Chief Scandariato, Norwich Fire Department: Replacement of Hot Water System in Headquarter Station; Energy Efficiency Update.

Emergency Management: Routine Business, Update on Training Scheduling.

Chief Pat Daley, Norwich Police: Accident Updates; No Major Crimes to Report; Update on Sidewalk Issues; Officers in Schools Update; Upcoming Promotions.

VIII. Other

Warming Centers – Central Baptist Church is on standby

IX. Future Agenda Items

- Yantic Fire Department & East Great Plains Fire Department to present PowerPoint Presentations

X. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Alderman Nash, seconded by Alderman Braddock, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marixsa J. Romanella, Recording Secretary