

**NORWALK CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

January 10, 2012  
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court  
Norwalk, Ohio

**WORK SESSION**

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Council President Steve Euton called the Work Session to order. The following Council members were present: Chris Mushett, Deb Lucal, Scott Meyer, Chuck Furey, Kelly Beck, Steve Schumm, Steve Euton and Robert Carleton.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Finance Director Diane Eschen, Safety/Service Director Mark Schloemer, Fire Chief Shawn Dickerson and Law Director Stuart O'Hara were also present.

Mr. Euton distributed Council's Committee Assignments. The sheet is hereby attached.

*Item No. 12-003*

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE WRITTEN PLAN OF THE TREE BOARD AS THE 2012 COMPREHENSIVE TREE PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORWALK

Mr. O'Hara said this is the annual updated plan that is required to come before Council. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

*Item No. 12-009a*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR A 2012 REFUSE TRUCK FOR THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER

Mr. Schloemer explained the need for a new refuse truck. He stated that the Sanitation Superintendant would like to replace the 1995 "Big Red" side loader refuse truck. The truck does not hold an entire route of trash and the spring ejection platform system is not effective. Big Red was originally bought to pick up paper and co-mingle recycling.

Mrs. Eschen said \$200,000 is in the budget for this purchase. Big Red will be traded in and the funds from the trade in will be applied towards the new truck. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

Item No. 12-010

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2011 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2011-049 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Eschen stated that this is a supplemental for the Water Revenue Fund totaling \$22,330 for the West Main Street Waterline design. The Public Works Director would look to complete the design and secure funding for this project prior to the Urban Paving Program in 2013. Mrs. Eschen said funds will need to be barrowed for this project.

Mr. Carleton wanted to know the location of the line. The Administration was not definite on the location. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

Item No. 12-011

A RESOLUTION THANKING DWIGHT TKACH FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK

Item No. 12-012

A RESOLUTION THANKING SHANE PENROSE FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK

Item No. 12-013

A RESOLUTION THANKING HARRY BRADY HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK

Item No. 12-014

A RESOLUTION THANKING SCOTT KRICHBAUM FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK

Mr. Furey asked why former Mayor Lesch was not being thanked for her service. Mrs. Eschen said she was asked by Mayor Duncan to research weather or not prior Mayors had been thanked. She found that prior mayors were not thanked. Mr. Furey said it would be a nice gesture to recognize her. Mr. Euton asked that legislation be drafted.

There being no objections the clerk was instructed to *place Item No. 's 12-011, 12-012, 12-013 and 12-014* on the agenda for the next regular session.

Mayor Duncan informed Council that the Public Works Director was currently in a meeting with contractors therefore Mr. Snyder was not available to address the next few items.

Item No. 12-001

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE 2012 STREET RESURFACING AND CONCRETE REPAIR PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE AWARDING OF A CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER

Mr. Euton asked that a list of the proposed streets be included in Council's packet for next week's meeting. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

Item No. 12-002

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE 2012 SIDEWALK REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AFTER BIDDING

Mr. Mushett said there was some talk that if the City were to purchase the former Home Lumber property for a new fire station that the 2012 Sidewalk Program may not occur. Mrs. Eschen said it was her understanding that the Public Works Director felt that since the property owners were already notified that the City should proceed. Mayor Duncan concurred that Mr. Snyder did not want to halt the process that was already underway. Mrs. Eschen said \$80,000 is in the 2012 budget for this project. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

Item No. 12-004

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE NORWALK 2012 SEWER LINING PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AFTER BIDDING

Mrs. Eschen said last year's sewer lining project was successful therefore Mr. Snyder has proposed to line Williams Avenue and Rosedale Boulevard sewers as well. The engineers estimate is not yet for the project. \$75,000 is in the budget for this project. There being no objections the clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next regular session.

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Mr. Schumm stated that he has received citizen complaints about the closed gas station on Benedict Avenue. He said he would like to get the parcel designated as a safety hazard. He said he spoke with the Bureau of Underground Tanks in Columbus and there are three underground tanks still existing on site. He said the Bureau is going to send someone to inspect the tanks.

Mr. Schloemer said he has researched the issue. He said the property is under private ownership and they are current on their taxes. He stated that if the tanks are in working order the property could be sold and returned to productivity. Economic Development Director Ellen Heinz said she too has reviewed the file regarding the property and according to the last inspection no leaks were found therefore the property would not pass as a Brownsfield site. If leakage is found it may be eligible for a Brownsfields Grant.

Mr. O'Hara said the parcel is private property and the City could take action if the zoning code under property maintenance was violated. If the Court ordered the property to be demolished the City would have to front the expense.

Mr. Carleton stated that the station closed due to the lack of business when Benedict Avenue was closed for bridge repair. He said the City does not know if the owner is actively trying to market the property. Finding out weather or not it could be a reusable piece of property needs to be pursued first before demolishing the property.

Mr. Mushett asked for an update on three properties: the grain elevator site, the house that burnt down on the corner of Pleasant and Jefferson Street and the Shamrock property. Mayor Duncan said the Administration is working on the grain elevator site. Mrs. Heinz said she is working on the Shamrock site but she cannot yet release information. Mr. Euton asked that the Administration look into these issues and report back to Council.

Mr. O'Hara reviewed the tentative schedule and topics for Council's upcoming training sessions. The topics are hereby attached.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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Stephen E. Euton  
Council President

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Lisa J. Hivnor  
Clerk