

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET  
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning, Councilman Charles J. Diamond and Councilwoman Ellen R. Fogarty were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Mark E. Gleason; General Manager, Rosemary Nichols; Deputy General Manager, Yorden C. Huban; Corporation Counsel, David Wheatley Deputy City Clerk, Fire Chief Don Clickner, and Mark R. Gilchrist; Assessor/Bldg. Inspector.

A motion was made and seconded to approve and adopt the minutes from the previous Council Meeting.

The following agenda was presented to the Council by David Wheatley, Deputy City Clerk

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that the Department of Public Works Water Department along with the Highway Department have been working on the Service Reservoir on Rt. 155. Mr. Gleason explained that the Service reservoir is an important part of our water filtration system. The Service Reservoir holds a seven day supply of water and allows the settling of impurities. Mr. Gleason noted that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) made recommendations as to work that needs to be performed on the reservoir. The City is currently working on removing trees and stumps in that area. The City has consulted with Brad Grant of J. Kenneth Fraser Associates regarding the way the trees and stumps are removed so that the removal does not weaken the integrity of the reservoir. This is an on going project which will take all summer to complete. Mr. Gleason further explained that DEC will inspect the site on April 29<sup>th</sup>, at the inspection the City will find out what work will need to be done there. Mr. Gleason concluded by stating that unfortunately the City may be facing a similar civil works project along the lines of the upper/lower dam.

**ITEM #2** – Mark Gleason; General Manager discussed with the Council about the Sanitation Department. Mr. Gleason explained that Sanitation officially began their duties and responsibilities this week. Mr. Gleason introduced Mr. Christopher Daus who will act as the Sanitation Supervisor. The truck drivers will be Mike Pontore and Matt Sausville. The Laborers will be Jake Gilchrist, Erik Gettings, Eric Phillips and John LeGault. Mr. Gleason noted that this department has assumed the job of picking up yard waste and bulk items as well as picking up the park areas. It is anticipated that the Council will adopt a new refuse policy on May 1. Mr. Gleason concluded by stating that all the refuse/recycling information will be on the website and that two ½ page ads will be placed in the Troy Record.

**ITEM #3** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that the City of Watervliet has made arrangements with E Lot Electronics to host an electronics disposal day at no cost to residents. Mr. Gleason explained that Green Island and Cohoes will also participate with this program. Mr. Gleason noted that the tentative date for this program will be May 17, 2008 in Hudson Shores Park. Residents will be required to show proof of residency in order to dispose of the electronics.

**ITEM #4** – Mark Gleason; General Manager announced to the Council that the Spring Flushing Program will begin on April 30<sup>th</sup> until June 6, 2008. Mr. Gleason noted that residents may notice a discoloration of water when the lines are being flushed in their areas. Mr. Gleason explained that residents should run their water for five minutes if discoloration occurs. If after the five minute period your water is still discolored then contact the Water Department at 785-7082.

**ITEM #5** – Mark Gleason; General Manager discussed the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project with the Council. Mr. Gleason explained that Clough Harbour Associates (CHA) has not received the clearance to bid the project yet. At issue is the completion of the Railroad crossing and the Rite Aid, Right of Way acquisition. New York State Department of Transportation will not let CHA bid the project until these issues are resolved. Joe Cimino of CHA has revised the estimate for the start of the project until late July to early August 2008. Mr. Gleason noted that this delay may allow Mayor Manning resolve the problem of the presence of bump outs at each signaled intersection of 19<sup>th</sup> Street. It is well recognized that the bump outs will cause the businesses at these intersection to lose parking spaces. Mayor Manning's idea is to offer 17 parking spaces on the east side of 19<sup>th</sup> Street of St. Patrick's Church. The business customers could park there and walk a short distance to 19<sup>th</sup> Street to do their business. This would be an excellent opportunity to fold all of this into the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project. Mayor Manning has spoken with the Catholic Diocese who has already given the City its approval for the use of this parking area. Joe Cimino of CHA is working with DOT on the details to get reimbursed from NYS. Mr. Gleason also stated that this proposal will also push back the start of the project until September due to the application needed to take land from a religious organization. Mr. Gleson feels that since the project is being delayed by the railroad and Rite Aid that the City should take advantage of this opportunity to include the church property in the project. The Council also agreed that this would be an excellent opportunity to pursue this land acquisition.

**ITEM #6** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that City Clerk Bruce A. Hidley will be sending out the Timewarner Senior Citizen Discount applications to homeowners and renters. Mr. Gleason explained that there is certain eligibility requirements in order to receive the \$3.00 per month discount from Timewarner. The discount applications will be available in May 2008 with the discount beginning in the August billing cycle.

**ITEM #7** – Mark Gleason; General Manager requested Rosemary Nichols Deputy General Manager of Economic Development to discuss a grant issue with the Council. Ms. Nichols informed the Council that the City of Watervliet received a Technical Assistance Grant from the New York State Office of Small Cities in the amount of \$25,000.00. Part of the funding includes another grant in the amount of \$14,500.00 from the Watervliet Arsenal Partnership. The two grant programs together allow a complete study of the portions of Watervliet that have not been studied as part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction and the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. The two grant programs will tie into the application for the Rt. 32 linkage study through the Capital District Transportation Committee. Ms. Nichols concluded by informing the Council about the Comprehensive Planning Process. The elements of this study include physical infrastructure, social infrastructure, historic resources, business infrastructure and government services. The public will be involved in a series of meetings with the opportunity for input and dialogue at each step of the process.

**ITEM #8** – Mark Gleason; General Manager requested Police Chief Ron Boisvert to read a letter into the record from the family of Richard Meher. Chief Boisvert read the letter which extended the deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for the tribute to retired Police Officer Richard Meher at his wake and funeral procession. The letter placed special recognition to Sgt. Pat Donlon, Sgt. Jack Brant and Lt. Jack Kimmey. Chief Boisvert requested that this letter be placed in the official record. Mayor Manning stated that it was an honor for the City to pay tribute to a retired Police Officer in this manner. Mayor Manning then requested that the letter from Mrs. Rita Meher be placed in the official record.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**None**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 8237** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to file an application under the Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing Mayor Manning to accept and receive a grant for Community Development purposes. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8238** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the sale of the 1992 Mack Packer to Dado’s Inc., 723 State Highway 29, Broadalbin, New York 12025, in the amount of \$5,276.00. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8239** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an extension agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for the sale off excess power generated by the Hydroelectric Facility until April 30, 2010. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING**

**NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**NONE**

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council