

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2009 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 Gleason; General Manager, Yorden C. Huban; Corporation Counsel, Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance, David Wheatley; Deputy City Clerk, Police Chief Ron Boisvert, Fire Chief Don Clickner and Mark Gilchrist; Assessor/Bldg Inspector.

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

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason; General Manager thanked Jim Bulmer, Water Department Supervisor for his over 30 years of service to the City of Watervliet. Mr. Bulmer will retire from the City on Friday, January 16, 2009. Mr. Gleason noted that Jim Bulmer made his move from Deputy General Manager to General Manager a very smooth one. Mr. Gleason further explained that Mr. Bulmer took on several new tasks which made his transition a smooth one. Mr. Bulmer's knowledge of the City's Water and Sewer System is unmatched. Through Mr. Bulmer's knowledge and guidance the Water Department is much more efficient and automated. Mr. Gleason will be able to take advantage of Mr. Bulmer's expertise as he will continue to work with the City as a Consultant.

**ITEM #2** – Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 he attended the Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership. The Partnership met to set goals both short term and long term for the group. The group went over a request for information document that will be sent out in February to all Solid Waste Contractors. The group is looking for information for future technologies involving solid waste disposal. The overall goal is to find environmentally acceptable solution for the regions solids waste. Mr. Gleason noted that there are 13 entities/municipalities involved working together with this group. Mr. Gleason noted that last month he distributed the Capital Region Solid Waste Management Plan. The Plan distributed by Mr. Gleason must be adopted by the Council sometime in the near future. Mr. Gleason plans to put The Plan on the agenda for the next meeting.

**ITEM #3** – Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that the City has received word from other municipalities that the cost of recycling has gone up drastically. Mr. Gleason noted that the City of Cohoes went from receiving \$2,500.00 per month to having to pay \$3,000.00 for recycling for the month of December. Mr. Gleason also noted that the Village of Green Island went from getting \$10.00 per ton per month for paper, the Village is now paying approximately \$60.00 per ton to get rid of the paper. Mr. Gleason explained that currently the City of Watervliet pays nothing to get rid of the recyclables but the City does not get any revenue for recyclables. The City has a contract with Waste Management until May 2009. A meeting has been scheduled with the officials of Waste Management to discuss the future of recyclables with Waste Management. When that meeting has been conducted Mr. Gleason will inform the Council of the outcome.

**ITEM #4** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that O'Brien and Gere has completed the Environmental Compliance Review (ECR) that the City hired them to complete. Mr. Gleason has already distributed the ECR to the Council for their review. There are some parts of the report which has already been addressed. Mr. Gleason is working on a course of action for the rest of the ECR report. Mr. Gleason will continue to update the Council at a later date.

**ITEM #5** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that the City has had three (3) snow emergencies during the past month. Mr. Gleason noted that the Department of Public Works and the Police Department worked beyond expectations removing the snow from our streets. Mr. Gleason stated that after each storm the streets were cleaned curb to curb within ten (10) hours. Due to the new snow removal policy and the new snow removal package put in place the task was much more efficient than ever before. Unfortunately, the City had to tow 150 cars during the snow emergencies. Mr. Gleason thanked Dave Dressel, his staff, Police Chief Ron Boisvert and the Watervliet Police Department for their fine work removing the snow.

**ITEM #6** – Mark Gleason; General Manager requested Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to announce a change in dates for the City Council Meeting. Mr. Hidley informed all in attendance that the February 5, 2009 Council Meeting would be cancelled due to a conflict in schedules. Mr. Hidley noted that the February 5, 2009 Council Meeting would be moved to January 29, 2009 which is the 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday of January.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**NONE**

## NEW BUSINESS

**RESOLUTION NO. 8355** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby designates the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM as the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Watervliet for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8356** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Official Depositories for City Funds for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted by the following 2 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8357** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Troy Record as the official newspaper for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8358** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Order of Business for City Council Meetings for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8359** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes City Officials to attend meetings and conferences for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8360** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Polling Places in the City of Watervliet for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8361** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Commissioner of Deeds in the City of Watervliet in the City of Watervliet for the period January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2010. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8362** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with the Watervliet Civic Center for the period January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009. Mayor Manning requested Yorden Huban; Corporation Counsel to provide the Council with advice regarding all of the Council members being a Civic Center Board Member. Mr. Huban stated that it is not a conflict of interest for the Council. The Council is acting on behalf of the City in a contractual agreement. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8363** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the action of Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the official newspaper that the Planning Department is seeking proposals from Engineering/Consulting Firms qualified to provide assistance in conducting a Geographic Information System Implementation Program. Before voting Mr. Hidley explained that this Resolution authorizes me to advertise prior to legislative action. Mayor Manning explained that there was need for the City to submit a grant to fulfill some financial needs. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8364** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement by and between the City of Watervliet and the Watervliet Public Library for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8365** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement by and between the City of Watervliet and the Watervliet Senior Citizens Center for the year 2009. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8366** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes that the award of bid for the roof replacement at the Watervliet Filtration Plant be awarded to Titan Roofing Inc., 70 Orange Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 in the amount of \$14,875.00. Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that this project is the back part of the Filtration Plant. The roof is finally deteriorating to the point where the roof needs to be replaced. Councilman Diamond asked if this roof replacement would come with a warranty. Mr. Gleason stated yes it does. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8367** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby adopts the City of Watervliet Procurement Policy for the year 2009 which was also adopted in 2007 and 2008. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8368** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the Official Newspaper regarding a Public Hearing on amending an Ordinance which would provide a partial tax exemption for those persons over the age 65 with a limited income to be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Before voting Mark R. Gilchrist; Assessor/Building Inspector explained that City has passed similar legislation every two years increasing the sliding scale of income limits for senior citizens. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8369** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the Official Newspaper regarding a Public Hearing on a Local Law adopting the amended provisions of the Real Property Tax Law Section 458B which provides for exemptions for Cold War Veterans be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Before voting Mayor Manning noted that this Public Hearing will be the same night on a related topic. Mayor Manning then requested Mr. Gilchrist to place the sliding scale information on the website. Mr. Gilchrist also stated that the Local Law will have an impact on the 2010 City and County taxes. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8370** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society for the period January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009. Mark Gleason; General Manager noted that this contract will allow our Animal Control Officer to shelter stray dogs. Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban explained that there have been some minor fee changes. Mr. Gleason noted that our Animal Control Officer Garry Sutton is very good about finding the dog owner. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8371** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the Official Newspaper regarding a Public Hearing on amending an Ordinance which would provide a partial tax exemption on Real Property owned by certain individuals with limited income who are disabled on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8372** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to complete and sign the determination of significance confirming the Negative Declaration for the installation of a floating dock and gangway providing access to the Hudson River from Hudson Shores Park. Mayor Manning explained that this action will fulfill the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) to place a dock and boathouse in Hudson Shores Park. This states that there will be no significant impact on the environment. Mayor Manning explained that this is the last piece to be put in place for the joint application of the Army Corp. Mayor Manning expects that there will be no obstacles in the way of this process. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was approved and adopted.

### **APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING**

Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance informed the Council that he will have several budget transfers for the next Council Meeting. Mr. Fahr noted that these transfers will be budget neutral for the meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Manning asked Mr. Fahr if there will be some type of report as to how the City made out for 2008. Mr. Fahr responded by saying that it will be sometime in February that a report will be ready.

Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained to the Council that the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Sales Tax distribution was down 7.4%. The City lost \$63,000.00 compared to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2007. Mr. Fahr noted that the City came in \$167,000.00 over the budget amount for 2008. The City kept that same budgeted amount for 2009.

Before beginning the Public Comment Period Mark Gleason; General Manager Thanked the Sanitation Department for all the work they did during our recent snow storms. Mr. Gleason noted that they didn't miss a day and there was very little overtime needed to get the sanitation work done. Mr. Gleason requested that Christopher Daus; Sanitation Supervisor thank his entire staff for the work they have done for our residents. Mayor Manning noted that there was one driver who had a perfect attendance of not one sick day since the Sanitation Department was started.

Mayor Manning explained to all in attendance that effective January 1, 2009 the City's Ambulance service started. The first call came on New Years Day at 8:15 AM. There have been 40 calls since the ambulance started. Mayor Manning noted that in order to break even the City needs to average a call a day. In order to make budget the City needs at least a call and ½ a day. Mayor Manning stated that at least 1/3 of the calls have been for Advance Life Support which means the City's Fire Personnel administered the drug needs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**NONE**

There being no further comment Mayor Manning closed the Public Comment Period.

Before closing the Council Meeting, Mark Gleason; General Manager requested that the Council break for Executive Session to discuss contractual legal matters. Mr. Gleason requested that Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Director of Finance Robert Fahr, Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk and Law Clerk Alaina Laferriere.

Councilman Charles J. Diamond requested that the Council Meeting this evening be dedicated to James Bulmer who will retire effective January 16, 2009 after over 30 years of service to the City.

Mayor Manning then officially dedicated the meeting in honor of James F. Bulmer.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn into Executive Session, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2009 AT 7:45 P.M.**

The Executive Session meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 7:45 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 Gleason; General Manager, Yorden C. Huban; Corporation Counsel, Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance and Law Clerk Alaina Laferriere.

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason; General Manager provided the Council with an update on the negotiations with the Civil Service Employees Association Local 1000. The Council authorized Mr. Gleason to continue with the negotiations and to update them as the process continues.

**ITEM #2** – Mark Gleason; General Manager provided the Council with a proposed fee schedule for the use of parks in the City. The Council authorized Mr. Gleason to proceed with the recommended fees proposed.

There being no further business to come before the Council during Executive Session, a motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council