

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET  
THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 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, Fire Chief Don Clickner, Police Chief Ron Boisvert 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 noted that Boy Scout Ben Messina worked on a project with the Building Department to obtain a Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge. Ben discussed the history of Watervliet from its inception until its current status. Ben had paper cut outs showing the different eras of Watervliet. Ben went on to explain all of the current projects which are ongoing in the City of Watervliet. Ben thanked Mark Gleason; General Manager for all his assistance with progressing this project. Mr. Gleason also noted that Ben was actively involved with adopting the pocket park across from 25<sup>th</sup> Street and he is involved with the aviation program on Saturday's in the DOME. The Council thanked Ben for his presentation and wished him well progressing through the boy scouts.

**ITEM #2** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that on Thursday, April 23, 2009 the Solid Waste Management Partnership met in the Watervliet Senior Citizen Center. Mr. Gleason noted that two topics were discussed at this meeting. The SWMP in conjunction with Clough Harbour Associates performed a waste characterization field study over a five day period in February. There were 35 trucks randomly chosen who had their contents examined while disposing into the landfill. The results were 18.7% of the garbage was made up of food waste, 11.1% was made up of other paper, 7.9% made up of dirt and other fine particulars, 5.7% was textiles and leather, 4.5% was corrugated cardboard, wax paper and pizza boxes and the remaining 52% turned up to be numerous other categories. Clough Harbour & Associates also reported on the request for information sent out in February. The partnership placed advertisements for the RFI on a nationwide trade magazine asking for technologies on dealing with solid waste. The partnership received 15 responses of which 12 of the responses were under consideration. Three of the remaining responses were involving turning solid waste into pellets to burn for energy. Mr. Gleason further explained that consideration is a controversial subject, today technology is such that new landfills pollute the air more than new incinerators. At this point the partnership is a fact finding group.

**ITEM #3** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that he wanted to update the Council on the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project. Mr. Gleason noted that project includes the reconstruction of 19<sup>th</sup> Street from the City line to the Congress Street Bridge. The project will include curbing, pavement, storm drain systems, traffic signs, street signs, parking lanes, pavement markings, concrete sidewalks and replacement of the main west of the railroad tracks. Mr. Gleason noted that the total cost of the project will be \$8.2 million dollars. The stimulus funds are appropriated, the plans are sitting on the Governor's Office awaiting approval. The stimulus funding will save the taxpayers \$400,000.00 on this project. Mr. Gleason further stated that the City will be taking advantage of this project by improving the water main on Grotto Court, Ball Place and Wiswall Avenue. The cost for this enhancement will be \$300,000.00. This stretch of water main has been in need of replacement for a long time. Once the General Contractor is in place residents of Wiswall Avenue, Grotto Court and Ball Place will also be given the opportunity to replace their laterals. There is contact information related to the lateral replacement on Vliet Channel 17 and on the City's website. The City would like residents to have the chance to ask questions before the project begins. Mr. Gleason stated that the project will take two full construction seasons beginning in 2009 and ending in 2010.

Councilman Diamond asked Mr. Gleason if the City was meeting with the business owners along 19<sup>th</sup> Street to address the problems that will arise during the construction phase of 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Gleason stated that once the contractor has been hired the businesses along 19<sup>th</sup> Street will be invited in to discuss the construction process. Additionally, Mr. Gleason noted that the 19<sup>th</sup> Street corridor will not be completely closed during construction.

**ITEM #4** – Mark Gleason; General Manager informed the Council that NYSERDA informed the City that the City has been awarded a grant to test a fuel efficiency improvement additive. The additive will cut fuel consumption by up to 7%, it will reduce engine wear and drastically cut down on the carbon dioxide emissions. Testing is expected to begin this summer and continue for approximately nine months. Mr. Gleason noted that the City will receive the additive for free and will receive reimbursement for expenses and testing. This project places the administrations efforts to reduce the City's carbon footprint for future generation, along with reduces expenses and works more efficiently.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 8414** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to execute all necessary documents to complete the sale of the 2003 Ford Crown Victoria and the 1994 Chevrolet Caprice of no longer use for City purposes. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8415** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council and the City of Watervliet. Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that this is the agreement regarding the floating docks in Hudson Shores Park as part of the Hudson River Grant Trails Program. The docks are to be installed in Hudson Shores Park and will allow small watercraft access to the Hudson River. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8416** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to file an application under the 2009 Preserve New York Grant Program and authorizing the Mayor to accept and receive a grant for technical assistance and cultural resource survey purposes. Councilman Diamond stated that Rosemary Nichols could not be here tonight and asked him to explain that this is a grant for an experienced historian to lead volunteer efforts to integrate cultural data with existing resource data that the City has. When a Cold Resource Survey is complete the City intends to start a series of programs that will educate the residents on the unique character of their neighborhoods. Mayor Manning noted that this was the only grant the City did not receive in 2008. Mayor Manning also noted that Ms. Nichols noted that the City has not had a City Historian in quite some time and the City may want to consider filling this position. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8417** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the official newspaper that upon notification from the New York State Department of Transportation for the “Authorization to Advertise” that the City will receive bids for the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project. Before voting Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that this authorizes the advertisement for the bid of the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction Project pending NYSDOT/FHWA approval which is sitting in Governor Patterson’s office. Once the Governor signs the authorization this resolution allows the City to bid immediately. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8418** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with Senrose, LLC for the purpose of organizing a learn to crew program. Before voting Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that this a summer recreation program that will teach our children the basics of crewing. This program will be utilizing the new docks at Hudson Shores Park when installed. Senrose, LLC is a local crew coach who will teach the kids the skills of crewing. Mayor Manning noted that this will be a camp program that the participants will pay a fee to join. The fees collected will pay for Senrose, LLC to administer this program. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8419** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the official newspaper that the City will be accepting sealed bids on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 10:00 AM for the project consisting of earthwork to construct a new grassed spillway and regarding the top of the existing dam. Before voting Mark Gleason; General Manager explained that project will improve and reconstruct parts of the upper dam and connecting spillway. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8420** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley; City Clerk to advertise once in the official newspaper that the City will be accepting bids on Friday, May 8, 2009 at 10:00 AM for the purchase and installation of low profile docking and gangway at Hudson Shores Park. Councilman Diamond asked if this was enough notification for a company or individual to bid on this. Mayor Manning stated yes that this is a specialized project there are a limited number of low profile dock suppliers and a limited number who install the docks. To get an estimate of the cost the City has contacted these suppliers. Councilman Diamond wanted to be sure that there would be enough time for the bid advertisement. Yorden Huban; Corporation Counsel explained that he researched the statutes in the General Municipal Law and that there had to be five days to advertise prior to the bid opening. Mayor Manning concluded by noting that the City is in a little bit of an urgency to get the docks in prior to June 14<sup>th</sup>. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8421** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute a Purchase Power Agreement with Hess Corporation, 1 Hess Plaza, Woodbridge, New Jersey for the purchase of energy services for the City of Watervliet facilities. Mark Gleason; General Manager explained to the Council that this will allow the City to purchase power from the Hess Corporation. The City has been purchasing power on the open market for the past year. The price the City will be locking into tonight is the lowest price for power in years. The City will spend less money next year for power than we did this year. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

### **APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 8422** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$14,000.00 from the Police Payroll Account to the Police Special Wages Account for 207C wages paid for the months of January, February, March and April 2009. Before voting Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained that this is Workers Compensation Wages paid for those four months. This is a reimbursement from the Payroll Account to the Special Wages Account. This is a budget neutral transfer which does not affect the budget. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8423** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$12,000.00 from the Fire Payroll Account to the Fire Special Wages Account for 207A wages paid for the months of January, February, March and April 2009. Before voting Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained that this is the same as the previous Resolution just a different department. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8424** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$3,000.00 from the Police Overtime Account to the Police Training Account for additional Police Training. Before voting Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained that this is for some additional training for the Police Department. There was money left over from reimbursements from the previous year from the Police Overtime. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Diamond, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8425** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$8,000.00 from the Fire Overtime Account to the Fire Equipment Account for a new Life Pak 12 Defibrillator. Before voting Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained that the total cost of the defibrillator would be \$17,000.00, the City only had \$9,000.00 left in the account which is what prompted the need for this transfer. Upon motion of Councilman Diamond, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained to the Council that the City completed the audit last Friday. Mr. Fahr noted that the fund balance for the General Fund in the year 2007 was \$436,000.00. The audited totals for 2008 went to \$832,000.00 which was a 91% increase in the fund balance. The Water Fund balance went from \$196,000.00 to \$447,000.00 which proves to be a 128% increase. The Sewer Fund went from \$8,000.00 to \$71,000.00. Additionally, a report will be submitted to the Comptrollers Office on Friday, May 1, 2009.

Before moving on to the Public Comment period Mayor Manning wanted to update all in attendance on a couple of issues.

Councilman Diamond thanked all who participated in the Keep Vliet Neat Day.

Mayor Manning informed all in attendance that the City will sponsor the Army Material Command Band Concert on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The City will host a lunch in Hudson Shores Park that afternoon for the band.

Mayor Manning discussed the new ambulance service. Captain Skinner noted that approximately 270 transports for the year. Robert A. Fahr; Director of Finance explained that a report will be sent to the City regarding the amount that should have been collected and what is outstanding in billing. At this point the City will match up the numbers. The year to date the City has received in cash \$32,000.00. The City has budgeted \$150,000.00. It is really to early in the process as the payments go to a variety of insurance carriers before final payment is made. The money received in January and February of 2010 will be accrued into 2009.

Robert A. Fahr; Director explained to the Council that the Water Bills will be mailed to homeowners on Friday, May 8, 2009. Mr. Fahr stated that there will be no increase from the last period. Mayor Manning explained that the City will be meeting with the Town of Guilderland to modernize the contact and renegotiate the contract.

Mayor Manning explained that the City received a grant to review the Charter for the City and the City of Cohoes. The intent would be to review the consolidation of services, specifically Fire and EMS. There is also a similar grant pending with the Town of Guilderland to study a joint water treatment/distribution system.

Page Seven  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 30, 2009

Mayor Manning discussed the grant with Taconic Energy whereby the City will receive approximately \$13,000.00 to cover the salary and expense to cover program management. The City will be placing an additive in the gasoline tank which will be a part of this study. The City will gain gas fuel efficiency as well as getting paid for the services. Mayor Manning explained that the City was awarded a contract last year to add an emissions reduction device on our diesel trucks. The City will be doing a pilot program with the City of Schenectady.

Councilwoman Fogarty thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their assistance with the incident at the Pioneer Savings Bank lobby. The bank officials at all times felt that they were completely informed. Councilwoman Fogarty stated that she was there the entire time and that all work done by the Police and Fire was extremely professional.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There no comment Mayor Manning closed the Public Comment Period.

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 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET  
THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009**

The Executive Session was called to order by Mayor Manning at 7:50 PM.

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, Police Chief Ron Boisvert and Alaina LaFerriere; Law Clerk.

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason; General Manager provided the Council with a detailed update related to the Police Benevolent Association contract issues.

There being no further business to come before the Council in Executive Session, a motion was made and seconded for adjournment of the Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council