

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011 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, Councilwoman Ellen R. Fogarty and Councilman Nicholas W. Foglia 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, Rosemary Nichols, Deputy General Manager of Economic Development and Planning, Mark R. Gilchrist, Assessor/Building Inspector, Police Chief Ron Boisvert and Captain Scott Skinner.

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

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ITEM #1 – Mark Gleason, General Manager requested Rosemary Nichols, Deputy General Manager of Economic Development and Planning to address the Council. Ms. Nichols explained that she met today with the Albany County Planning Board regarding their review of the Comprehensive Plan which was submitted by the City. Ms. Nichols reported that Albany County had nothing but positive comments about the plan submitted. Ms. Nichols noted that Albany County approved the Comprehensive Plan without any dissention. Ms. Nichols also brought something to show the public that has to do with an illustration of the Geographic Information System (GIS). This is an oversized document that comes from the Comprehensive Plan which shows the entire City. Now that the Albany County Planning Board has approved our Comprehensive Plan the next step is to draft a statement of SEQR findings. This will be available for review next week for the Council, Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee and the Planning Board. Ms. Nichols would like to propose to the Council that they act on the SEQR findings for the March 3, 2011 meeting prior to acting upon the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Nichols concluded by explaining that she is working with Mayor Manning on how to put together the money so that people may begin to work on the re-zoning.

ITEM #2 – Mark Gleason, General Manager requested that Acting Fire Chief Scott Skinner address the Council on a grant award the City received. Acting Chief Skinner explained to the Council that Captain Thomas Eagan did all the work on the grant that was received by the City. The grant received from the Federal Government was for approximately \$225,000 for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant. Acting Chief Skinner noted that there is a 5% match required by the City which amounts to approximately \$11,000. The Fire Department will be getting 4,000 feet of supply line, hydrant adapters, two cardiac monitors and two CPR machines. Acting Chief Skinner requested that Captain Eagan provide the Council with some further details. Capt. Eagan stated that the funding the Fire Department achieved is over 1.2 million dollars. Capt. Eagan requested to the Council that when it comes to federal cut backs that the Council become vocal to keep the funding available for the Assistance to Firefighter Grants. Capt. Eagan thanked the City Administration on behalf of the union and department for its support with the grant programs.

Acting Chief Scott Skinner noted that Capt. Eagan has written 8 grants. Of the 8 grants submitted 6 were successful in obtaining funding for the Fire department. Mayor Manning formally thanked Capt. Eagan for the hard work and dedication in obtaining these grants. Mayor Manning noted that these series of grants are very competitive and the City has been very fortunate in obtaining this grant money. This grant money also allows the City to deflect some of the needed municipal funding from the taxpayers. Mayor Manning also thanked Senator Schumer for all of the support his staff has given the City with the Assistance to Firefighter Grants.

ITEM #3 – Mark Gleason, General Manager informed the Council that Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance and himself met with representatives of the Honeywell Company regarding the ongoing energy project status. Mr. Gleason noted that as of today the City has received over \$50,000 of approximately \$500,000 of NYSERDA grant funding. Mr. Gleason wanted to review the meeting and the three phases which Honeywell has been working on.

Phase I was the completion and installation of new water meters in businesses in the City. Additionally was the Building Weatherization and window film treatment.

Phase II was the solar boathouse, new motors and drives at the Water Plant and a complete retrofit of all lights in City owned buildings.

Phase III was the new boiler in the Civic Center and the solar projects at the Fire House and the Senior Citizens Center.

Mr. Gleason reminded all in attendance that Honeywell guarantees to make up any difference in payments for the project in the energy hours saved. This energy project will not cost the City any additional expense.

Mr. Gleason also discussed the ongoing boiler problem in City Hall with Honeywell. This is the second heating unit within the past 14 years. Honeywell gave the City two options. The first was to replace the boiler. The second option was to replace the system with a variable refrigerant volume system. This would allow the City to supply air conditioning in the summer and a heating system in the winter. The system would be located on the roof and not in the cellar. Basically, the system would provide heating and air conditioning in each office. This would eliminate the need for any separate air conditioning needs for each office. This would also allow the City to control the temperature in each office. The advantage is centralized heat and centralized air conditioning. There would no longer be a need for the DPW to place the air conditioners in the windows. Mr. Gleason further explained that there may be a chance that national Grid may contribute nearly 10% to this project.

Mr. Gleason explained that at the meeting discussions were held about the moisture problem at the Fire House. The good part is the Fire House is air tight, the bad part is the moisture being created due to how tight the Fire House is. Honeywell recommended that the City replace the heating units that are currently in place with a tubular unit that vents out the moisture. The second option was to install two dehumidifying vent fans. After discussion the recommendation will be to install the two dehumidifying units in the Fire House.³

Mr. Gleason noted that the final item discussed was the timeframe for the solar projects at the Fire House and the Senior Citizen Center. Mr. Gleason explained that the Fire House Solar Project would begin sometime next week and the Senior Center Solar Project would begin sometime in March. Completion for both of these projects will be by the end of April.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 8693 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby designates the week of April 11, 2011 thru April 15, 2011 as Bulk Item Disposal Week. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this will be the 6th Bulk Item week the City has conducted. Mr. Gleason requested that residents consult the City's website as far as what you can and can't throw out. The Bulk Items need to be placed out on the night of the regular garbage pickup. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8694 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with Siena Fence Co. Inc., P.O. Box 4893, Clifton Park, New York 12065 in the amount of \$9,980.00 for the 12 foot chain link security fence to be erected around the Solar Boathouse in Hudson Shores Park. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this security fence is being paid for by a NYS grant. Mayor Manning asked how the bid results were for the fence. Mr. Gleason noted that he was very satisfied with the quote submitted by Siena Fence.

RESOLUTION NO. 8695 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with the Watervliet Historical Society for the period January 1, 2011 and ending on December 31, 2011. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this contract is for the Watervliet Historical Society who utilizes the City's Cultural Center on First Avenue. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8696 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council to advertise once in the official newspaper that the City is issuing a Request for Qualifications to provide assistance to the City of Watervliet Department of Planning and Community Revitalization on Thursday, March 10, 2011 no later than 3:00 P.M. in the Department of Planning and Community Revitalization, Room #2, City Hall, Watervliet, New York 12189. Before voting Rosemary Nichols explained that the City has been completely satisfied with the consulting work of Paul Murphy and Nicholas Ostapkovich. The City has been advised by the office who administers the CDBG Grant that it is appropriate to issue a Request for Qualifications to identify the possibility of other consultants who may be available for the City to use for the CDBG applications. Ms. Nichols does not want the City to have a negative characterization of the consultant process. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8697 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement with the Hudson-Mohawk Urban Cultural Park Commission for the period January 2, 2011 and ending December 31, 2011 and further authorizes and directs Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that this agreement allows the City to join the Hudson-Mohawk Urban Cultural Park and Riverspark. Ms. Nichols explained that the payment is an annual contribution. The contribution is distributed equally on a pro rata basis by population. Riverspark has been very supportive of the City with grant applications which have been applied for and to assist the City in performance with public events held by the City. Ms. Nichols further stated that this complies with a promise made a number of years ago by the City. Additionally, the other communities do the same and it is an activity important to all local municipalities. Mayor Manning stated that the payment is in the amount of \$3,012.00. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8698 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to file an application under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program and further authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to accept and receive a grant to fund the construction of a green roof at Watervliet City Hall. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that this will be the second grant that the City has applied for related to this type of project. This would allow the City to build a green roof on the flat portion of the building in back of City Hall. The flat roof faces south and gets a lot of sun exposure. Mayor Manning a further explained that J. Kenneth Fraser Associates put this grant together for the City of Watervliet. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8699 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the Professional Engineering Services Agreement and Task Orders between the City of Watervliet and Albany Engineering Corporation commencing on August 1, 2010 and terminating on December 31, 2015 and further authorizes and directs Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that each year the City has a master services agreement with Albany Engineering to manage the reservoir and hydro projects. They are also the lead engineer for the Delta Dam Project. As we enter an agreement each year with Albany Engineering the City defines how much we want them to do and how much they are allocated to spend by task orders. The money utilized comes from the Water Fund Budget. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 8670 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of funds from certain under spent accounts to over spent accounts in the annual estimate necessary due to unforeseen circumstances. Before voting Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk explained on behalf of Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance that these transfers are budget neutral transfers from the year 2010. The budget neutral transfers have no effect on the budget. The transfers come from the General Fund and the Water Fund. Mayor Manning noted that City leaves 2010 in excellent financial order. Mayor Manning explained that the City can accrue back certain expenditures that happen in January and February 2011 into the 2010 budget cycle. In the 2010 budget the City had appropriated \$250,000 in fund balance which the City will not have to appropriate. The City will end with the same fund balance as it started with. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

Mayor Manning announced that Acting Chief Scott Skinner and himself met with the consultant on the Fire Study. The City is evaluating the potential consolidation of fire service with the City of Cohoes. The study has not been going the way the Mayor thought it would the consultant is starting to see the City's idea of the purpose of the study. The consultant is now focusing the study on the needs and concerns of the City. The study should be wrapped up within a month or two.

Mayor Manning explained that the City has a Government Efficiency Study to combine with the Town of Guilderland to construct and distribute treated water. The study is looking of the feasibility of what type of legal entity would be able to that seeing that we are a City and they are a Town. The study started off quickly but has been delayed for a while. Now the study has been on track and should be completed within the next couple of months. The study will provide the basis as to how serious the discussions we can have with the Town of Guilderland about building a new facility. Mayor Manning further explained that our facility in Latham is over 100 years old. The Town of Guilderland is at a crossroads to expand existing facilities or build a new one. The City and the Town both draw water from the reservoir in Guilderland then pump it away. This idea would actually allow us to treat the water at the reservoir. It would also put us in a position to sell treated water to other communities in western Albany County. Both studies were paid for by the State of New York.

Mayor Manning announced that next week the City will hold a meeting with the NYS Canal Corporation regarding the lease of the dam at Lake Delta in Rome, New York. This would allow the City to go ahead to execute our FERC permit to build a hydro plant.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NONE

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session. The meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF
THECITYOF WATERVLIET, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011.**

The meeting was called to Order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 7:35 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning, Councilwoman Fogarty and Councilman Foglia were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Mark Gleason, General Manager, Yorden Huban, Corporation Counsel, Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, Mark Gilchrist, Assessor/Building Inspector and Police Chief Ron Boisvert.

ITEM #1 – Mayor Michael P. Manning discussed in detail an Assessor’s Office issue. Mark Gilchrist, Assessor/Building Inspector provided the Council a complete report on the facts and his recommendations related to an assessment issue.

ITEM #2 – Mark Gleason, General Manager requested Police Chief Ron Boisvert to discuss a personnel issue. Chief Boisvert provided a detailed outline of all the options related to this personnel option for the Council to consider.

ITEM #3 – Mark Gleason, General Manager discussed a personnel issue involving an employee working for the City. Mr. Gleason provided the Council with the complete facts related to the issue and the final position the City took as far as discipline.

ITEM #4 – Mayor Michael P. Manning discussed in detail a proposal regarding a pending Workers Compensation case the City is involved with.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Session, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Executive Session.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council