

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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 Huban, Corporation Counsel, Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, Fire Chief Scott Skinner and Police Chief Ron Boisvert.

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 Police Chief Ron Boisvert to discuss a police matter with the Council. Police Chief Boisvert noted that he distributed a package regarding two handicap parking signs. The requests were for 410 7th Street and 108 15th Street. Police Chief Boisvert's recommendation was to deny these requests for handicapped parking. Police Chief does not feel these requests meet the criteria in the City Charter. Additionally, Police Chief Boisvert is requesting the Council consider a Stop Sign on 4th Avenue and 10th Street. The Arsenal has an old unused gate that has a flashing light. The Arsenal will be deactivating the flashing light as part of their energy reduction plan. The Stop Sign would control traffic heading south on 4th Avenue.

ITEM #2 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that as Commissioner of Public Safety he would like to read a Statement of Policy. Halloween is an evening where substantial problems have occurred over the years, especially in the later evening hours. Large groups of young persons and teenagers have throughout the years have been too enthusiastic and their actions have gotten out of hand. The residents of the City have experienced significant vandalism to cars and property. There have been loud and boisterous groups of young people well into the late evening. The earlier hours on Halloween are usually when the younger children celebrate the holiday and visit their neighbors. The Commissioner of Public Safety is the Commissioner of Police per the City Charter and the NYS Penal Law. The Commissioner pursuant to authority vested in him by the City Charter and the City Code of Ordinances may enact a "one night" evening curfew to deal with the late evening problems that occur on Halloween Night. Therefore, I will implement a reasonable rule and regulations to deal with this once a year problem. I will order and direct the Police Department to enforce a curfew for the evening of October 31, 2011 that would prohibit all young persons under the age of 18 years from being on the streets, avenues, parks and public right of ways within the City of Watervliet from 10:00 P.M. until 6:00 A.M..

The Police Department will require any violator to go directly home or at their discretion require that the parent or guardian of the minor who is violation of this curfew pickup said child at the Police Station. Certain young persons may be returning home from work or have a legitimate purpose for being in violation of this curfew. The Police department will use discretion in these instances. This information will be placed on the website and VLIET Channel 17.

ITEM #3 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that he wanted to update the City Council on some Public Works issues.

Mr. Gleason explained that the City held its 7th Bulk Item Debris Week. There was 176.18 tons of debris/garbage picked up costing the City nearly \$8,976.00. This was an increase of 8% over the 2010 Fall Bulk Item Debris week. Mr. Gleason noted that when this program was started it was felt that as the program grew the tonnage would decrease. This has not been the case the tonnage has increased steadily. Chris Daus, Working Supervisor of the Sanitation Department reports that a majority of the problems with bulk week come from absentee landlords. Absentee landlords bring bulk items in from outside the City to dispose of. Mr. Daus is putting together a proposal for 2012 to change the program. Once the proposal has been completed it will be presented to the Council for consideration. Mr. Gleason then thanked the Sanitation Department for the great job they do cleaning our City.

The Water Department has started the City's annual Fall Flushing on Tuesday, October 11, 2011. The Fall Flush will run until November 28, 2011. Residents may notice a discoloring of their water when the lines are flushed on their block. If the discoloring occurs, Mr. Gleason requests that you run your water for 5 minutes. If after the 5 minutes your water is still discolored to call the Water Department at 785-7082.

Mr. Gleason noted that the Upper/Lower Dam work is progressing slowly. Due to wet conditions the contractor Gallo Contracting is 4 weeks behind schedule. Gallo Contracting will double the working crew on the project. Gallo Contracting expects to have the project completed by November 15, 2011. This project was funded by a NYS grant. One condition of the grant is that all work must be completed by December 30, 2011. It has been made clear to the contractor that the project must be completed by then or they will not be paid.

Mr. Gleason explained that at the Service Reservoir there is ½ day of work left for Malloy Contracting to finish the project. A small amount of grading to eliminate the ruts. The Water Department will perform some small drainage work at the base of the reservoir that was not called for in the contract. The drainage work may be performed in the late fall of this year or early next spring. Once Malloy Contracting is completed the Department of Environmental Conservation will come in to inspect the project.

Mr. Gleason explained that Hillside Drive Project is waiting on the grate structure that will be installed on the redesigned storm water inlet which is located at the beginning of the High School parking lot. A new guiderail will be installed 40 feet west of the new fence that was installed around the water inlet. Hudson River Contracting has already completed the repaving if Hillside Drive.

Mr. Gleason noted that the 7th Street/Erie Canal Park sod work has been completed. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. Bob Loya, Recreation Working Supervisor is finishing up on installing informational plaques, stones and caps for the walls. Ballard's will be installed on the east and north side of the park every 6 feet. The ballards will be installed after the ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Loya plans on replacing trees that were removed during construction.

Mr. Gleason noted that test digs and catch basin work should start within a week on the 23rd Street Repaving Project. The paving portion of the project will begin on Monday, October 31st with the paving to be completed within a couple days. Luizzi Bros. Contracting is having a hard time finding a sub-contractor to work on the traffic signals. The City is meeting with Luizzi Bros on Friday, October 21st to address this issue.

Mr. Gleason noted that 100 feet of pipe has been installed on 9th Street near Red's Field. The piping will be connected to a catch basin on the corner of 9th Avenue and 4th Street. This will improve the overall drainage on the street.

Mr. Gleason explained that Stan's Combustion is in the final stage to replacing the boiler for City Hall. This boiler is very similar to the boiler installed last year in the Civic Center. Stan's Combustion is waiting on the delivery of the burner for the boiler. Once the burner has been received the boiler installation will be completed.

Mr. Gleason noted that in order to streamline calls to the Department of Public Works his Administrative Assistant Phyllis Carroll is working on a computerized phone log. It is the City's goal to have a person answer and log all calls made to any Department of Public Works (Sanitation/Water/Public Works). Currently calls that come into Sanitation or DPW may go to voice mail. The City is currently working on a system that will roll over any unanswered calls to the Filter Plant. The Filter Plant has the personnel that will answer and log the phone calls.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 8759 – 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 a Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Watervliet City Court for those persons who wish to be heard regarding the Water/Sewer rent Roll for the period November 1, 2011 thru April 30, 2012. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that there will be no increase in the rates. This will be a chance for the public to comment if anyone so desires to. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8760 – 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 of Watervliet will accept sealed bids until 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, for surplus vehicles and equipment of no longer use for City purposes. Before voting Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk explained what vehicles and equipment were being sold. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8761 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to create and develop applications under the New York State Consolidated Funding Application Process for the Community Development Block Grant Program, The Canalway Grant Program, The affordable Housing Corporation Grant Program, The Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, The Community and Waterfront Revitalization Program, The Energy and Environmental Improvements Program, The Green Innovation Grant Program and/or The Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and Heritage Areas Program (NYSOPRHP) requesting a matching (CFA) grant to fund improvements and enhancements to Hudson Shores Park. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that this Resolution will allow the City to apply for funding from these grant agencies. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8762 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to submit a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) requesting a matching (CFA) grant to fund improvements and enhancements to Hudson Shores Park. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8763 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to submit a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC) requesting a matching (CFA) grant to fund the elimination of the 18th Street Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO). Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8764 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to submit a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) requesting a matching (CFA) grant to fund engineering, design and construction costs to extend the Hudson-Mohawk Bike Trail from the 4th Street Trailhead Site to the Hudson Shores Park. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8765 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Emergency Medicine Physicians of Albany County, PLLC for a period of one (1) year commencing on November 1, 2011 and ending on October 31, 2012 and further authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting mark Gleason, General Manager explained that agreement allows for supervision and medical direction to the City's EMS personnel. Mayor Manning noted that this will be done by one specific individual who works for this company. They specify in emergency medicine. Mayor Manning also stated that this agreement is \$200 more than what the City paid the last Medical Director. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 8766 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the refunding of all or a portion of certain outstanding Bonds, stating the plan of refunding and further authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,150,000.00 refunding bonds and determining other matters in connection therewith. Mayor Manning explained that this Resolution will put the City in a position to refinance some old debt and get a lower interest rate. This will depend on the rate structure. This has a potential to save over \$15,000 the first year and over \$100,000.00 over a 10 year period. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

William Meher – 1817 3rd Avenue – Watervliet, New York – Mr. Meher complained that when you call City Hall no one answers the phone. When he punches in the number he never gets the right person. Mayor Manning responded by saying that the City just got a new phone system that will alleviate a lot of Mr. Meher's complaint.

Don Whitehead – 1921 8th Avenue – Watervliet, New York – Mr. Whitehead explained that the tree replacement was supposed to happen on 19th Street in October. Mr. Gleason stated that the company still has two weeks to plant. Mr. Whitehead also stated that the trees that are in place have experienced vandalism. Mr. Whitehead questioned whether or not 8th Avenue has a truck traffic weight limit on it due to the infrastructure below it. Police Chief Ron Boisvert noted that he will check the Charter to get an answer to this question.

Before closing Mayor Manning reminded all about the Haunted DOME on Halloween evening. Mayor Manning also announced the dedication of the park on 7th Street in honor of Mayor Hugh Donnelly on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.

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 into Executive Session at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council