

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012 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, Rosemary Nichols, Deputy General Manager of Economic Development and Planning, Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, Mark R. Gilchrist, Building Inspector/Assessor, 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.

Before opening the business portion of the City Council Meeting, Bruce A. Hidley announced that Mayor Manning, Councilwoman Fogarty and Councilman Foglia had a special presentation to make. Mayor Manning explained that the City Council is continuing the tradition of welcoming back a resident who served our country in the armed services overseas. Mayor Manning announced that Chief Petty Officer Joseph Kunz coming back to Watervliet. Mayor Manning then officially welcomed Chief Petty Officer Kunz. Mayor Manning recognized Chief Petty Officer Kunz with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the citizens of Watervliet. Mayor Manning then read the Certificate and presents the Norman Rockwell welcome home GI painting to Chief Petty Officer Kunz. A round of applause was given by all in attendance. On behalf of the residents of the City of Watervliet and the Council of the City of Watervliet, Mayor Manning once again thanked Chief Petty Officer Kunz for his service to our country.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ITEM #1 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, Councilwoman Fogarty, City Clerk Bruce A. Hidley and Mr. Gleason met with over 70 Senior Citizens regarding the status of the J. Leo O'Brien Senior Citizens Center. Mr. Gleason made it very clear that the Senior Center is open for daily activities. The building will be open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. and when needed for evening activities. The City answered questions and discussed the ground work for an organizational structure and replace the Senior Center Board of Directors once they announced the Board of Directors were dissolving. The Albany County Department of Aging had a contract with the Board of Directors to administer the lunch program. The Watervliet Senior Citizens Board decided not to renew the contract with the County Department of Aging. Within a week timeframe the City was able to assure that any senior citizen would be provided a lunch. The lunch would be administered thru the Green Island Senior Citizen Center. A senior may drive there or take the transit bus that serves Watervliet and Green Island. With that short term solution to the lunch program solved the administration is working on a permanent answer. There have been three different groups wanting to consider running the lunch program.

One of the agencies was the Cohoes Senior Citizen Center who was represented by Executive Director Keith Hornbrook. The initial plan would be for them to bring in hot lunches from Cohoes Senior Center to serve to the Watervliet Seniors. Another organization who expressed an interest was the Senior Services of Albany who currently serve approximately 1000 meals a day in the Capital District. They would basically do the same thing by transporting the lunches into the Senior Center. It is hoped that a decision can be made and have hot lunches back in the Senior Center by late January or early February. The meeting also discussed what type of structure will be formed to guide the Senior Center. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 10:00 A.M. Mr. Gleason thanked Albany County Legislator Sean Ward, Maggie Alix and Jill Alix. Maggie and Jill run the Senior Center in Green Island they stepped up to the plate without any hesitation to assist our senior's with a lunch. This is only a short term solution for the lunch activity.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 8779 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes that the regular meetings of the Council during the year 2012 be held in the Council Chambers and City Court at 7:00 P.M. on the first and third Thursday's of each month. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8780 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Bank of America, Watervliet Branch, J.P. Morgan Chase Manhattan Bank, Pioneer Commercial Bank, HSBC Bank USA and First Niagara be and they are hereby designated official depositories for City funds during the year 2012. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this Resolution was approved and adopted. Councilwoman Fogarty abstained from voting.

RESOLUTION NO. 8781 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes that the Troy Record be and hereby designated as the official newspaper of the City of Watervliet for the year 2012. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8782 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby designates the Order of Business for the Council for the year 2012. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8783 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and permits City Officials to attend meetings and conferences held during the year 2012. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8784 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby designates Polling Places in the City of Watervliet for the year 2012. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8785 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby adopts the City of Watervliet Procurement Policy pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 104. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8786 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with James Bulmer, LLC for the period January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that Mr. Bulmer is very valuable consultant in the area of major projects such as the 19th Street Reconstruction and the Upper/Lower Dam. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8787 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the Public Administrative and Consulting Services and Support contract between the City of Watervliet and Murphy Consulting Services for the period January 1, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 and further authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that he relies on Mr. Murphy's advice on a lot of issues and Mr. Murphy works very close with the Planning Department on grant proposals. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8788 – 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, 2012 thru December 31, 2012. Before voting Mayor Manning stated that this is the use agreement for the building. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this Resolution was approved and adopted. Councilwoman Fogarty abstained from voting.

RESOLUTION NO. 8789 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with the Watervliet Public Library for the period January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that this agreement is for use of the building and a stipend to operate. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8790 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an animal shelter agreement with Latham Animal Hospital for the period January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this agreement will allow our Animal Control Officer to deliver picked up stray animals to this facility. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8791 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an animal shelter agreement with Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society for the period January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8792 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the Professional Information Technology Consulting Services Contract between the City of Watervliet and Capital Region IT, Inc. for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 for the City of Watervliet's information technology infrastructure to assure operability of network functions and server ability. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8793 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the Professional Information Technology Consulting Services Contract between the City of Watervliet and Capital Region IT, Inc. for a period of one year commencing on January 1, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 for the City of Watervliet's information technology infrastructure at the Police Department. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8794 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to file an application under the CDTC Linkage Planning Program for 2012 and 2013 and if successful further authorizes Mayor Manning to accept and receive a grant for the purposes of the Linkage Planning Program and to enter into all necessary documents. Before voting Rosemary Nichols, Deputy General Manager of Economic Development and Planning explained that this is the first of annual grants for a Linkage Study. The City is now proposing to do a bicycle and pedestrian study for the entire City. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8795 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with Hacker & Murphy, LLP for the period January 1, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 for professional legal services regarding property tax matters. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that Hacker & Murphy represent the City on assessment challenges a specialty field they are experts in. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8796 – 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, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 for the premises located at 1510 First Avenue, Watervliet, New York. Before voting Mayor Manning explained that this a use agreement for the Historical Society to use the Cultural center across the street. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8797 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute an agreement with David Perino, Esq. for the period January 1, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2012 for professional legal services as a Vehicle and Traffic Prosecutor for the City of Watervliet Traffic Court. Before voting Yorden Huban, Corporation Counsel explained that this allow Mr. Perino to act as the designee for the prosecution of vehicle and traffic matters in the Watervliet City Court. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8798 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Police Chief Ron Boisvert commencing on January 5, 2012 and ending on December 31, 2013 and further authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8799 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and approves Task Order Agreements 1 thru 5 to the Master Service Agreement between the City of Watervliet and Albany Engineering Corporation for the year 2012 and further authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Mayor Manning stated that the City has not been able to meet with Albany Engineering to review the Task Orders and with that Mayor Manning made a motion to TABLE this Resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty. This Resolution was tabled 3 Ayes 0 Nays.

RESOLUTION NO. 8800 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and approves the 3% ambulance rate increase for the year 2012 with Certified Ambulance Group. Before voting mayor Manning clarified that this is not an increase by CAG this is the insurance industry increase for medical costs associated with ambulance care. CAG collects for us but they do not set the fees. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

ITEM #1 – Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained to the Council that the tax bills were mailed out last week. The Director of Finance Office will be open from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon for the next four Saturday's to assist working home owners pay their tax bill.

ITEM #2 – Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained to the Council that the City might have the 4th quarter sales tax by the next City Council Meeting. Mayor Manning asked if this was the last remaining piece to the 2011 budget. Mr. Fahr stated that this is the largest piece there is still accrual of the ambulance revenue, mortgage tax and other miscellaneous income.

Before moving into the Public Comment period Mayor Manning stated that we still need approximately 10 residents to step forward to participate in the Organic Waste Program. By taking the organic Waste out of the stream it could potentially see a savings of \$52 per ton to dump the waste. The City is hoping that down the line we can do something useful with the organic waste such as energy or compost.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Robert Gusberti – 1212 Hillside Drive – Watervliet, New York wanted to discuss an event that will be happening in approximately a year and a half. The event would be the 225 year anniversary of the Town of Watervliet. Mr. Gusberti explained that Bob Loya, Recreation Supervisor and Mr. Gusberti are sitting on this committee. Mr. Gusberti would like the parade to start in the Port Schuyler section of the City and have the parade cut thru the Arsenal. Mr. Gusberti noted that the Arsenal stated the parade couldn't go thru due to security reasons. Mr. Gusberti would like the City Council to put some pressure on the Arsenal to see the parade go into the Arsenal. Mr. Gusberti noted that Bob Loya is looking into the Hudson Shores Park for a get together after the parade. Mr. Gusberti would also like to honor Peter Delassandro who was a Medal of Honor winner from Watervliet, NY. Mayor Manning will speak with Recreation Supervisor Bob Loya about this entire issue. Mr. Gusberti stated that another meeting will be held in two weeks and he is hoping to have some answers by then. Police Chief Boisvert explained that he didn't recommend that the parade go thru the Arsenal if the Federal Government raised the threat level the parade would be in jeopardy. The Arsenal does not set the threat assessment level. Mayor Manning will comment on the items which are under the City's control.

There being no further business to come before the Council a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council