

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET  
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013 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, Police Chief Ron Boisvert, Fire Chief Scott Skinner and Mark Gilchrist, Assessor/Bldg. Inspector.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council Minutes as written for March 7, 2013.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that on Monday, March 11, 2013 William Ashline, Water Department Working Supervisor and Mr. Gleason met with Sean Ward of Green Island and their engineering firm of Barton and Loguidice to discuss a water connection between the two municipalities. Mr. Gleason noted that the connection could take place somewhere near our valve on 25<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway. The City of Watervliet has a 10” capped main at that location, The Village of Green Island has an 8” main within 50 yards. This connection would allow the City of Watervliet to supply water on an emergency basis to Green Island. The project would also include a metering pit and a pressure reduction valve. The City of Watervliet’s water pressure is much greater at that point than the Village of Green Island. The City of Watervliet and the Village of Green Island have held discussions in the past about a joint project. A few years ago the Village of Green Island lost its water supply due to a pipe collapsing. At that time the Village purchased water from the City of Cohoes for a year using their connection in the northern end of the Village. At that time the Village and the City were not in position to fund a project which was estimated to cost \$250,000. Discussions have resumed due to the Village of Green Island has a reconstruction project slated for Albany Avenue this summer much like the City’s reconstruction Project on 19<sup>th</sup> Street. The thought was that while the street is opened up the Village would increase the size of the main and place infrastructure that would accept a connection from us. To pay for the project (connecting the two water mains) the City of Watervliet and the Village of Green Island would apply for a Shared Services Grant. Mr. Gleason noted that this would be a win/win for both municipalities. The Village of Green Island will write the Shared Services Grant Application as they have a grant writer on staff. The project could provide water for both municipalities in case of an emergency. The project also allows the City of Watervliet to sell water to Green Island in the future. Mr. Gleason will keep the Council updated as to any developments with this project.

**ITEM #2** – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that on Friday, March 15, 2013 the City participated in the first Watervliet Bicycle Master Plan Advisory Committee Meeting. Bruce A. Hidley and Mark Gleason, General Manager represented the City Administration with Don Whitehead and John Broderick as our community residents. Other groups that participate in the meeting included the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC), Albany County, Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) and Alta Planning and Design. The Bike study is being funded thru a CDTC Linkage Planning Program. The City is responsible for \$15,000 towards the \$50,000 for the study. Of the \$15,000 cost the City obtained an additional grant of \$9,100 from the Hudson River Greenway. The final cost to the City will be \$5,900. The goal of the grant is to produce a study that would make recommendations to better connect the Mohawk Hudson Bike Trail the begins/ends at the 4<sup>th</sup> Street with Hudson Shores Park. The plan will look at placing a bike/hike trail on the east or west side of highway I787. The study will also identify funding sources for whatever project is recommended by the study. The first public meeting for the project is scheduled for May 6, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the J. Leo O'Brien Facility Senior Citizen Facility.

**ITEM #3** – Mark Gleason, General Manager informed the Council that the evergreen tree the City planted last spring in Veteran's Memorial Park has contracted needle cast tree disease. This fungus strikes young trees in late winter into early spring. The tree has been removed and will be replaced in early May. Under the advisement of Cornell Cooperative Extension we are taking the precaution of removing all of the soil in the surrounding area. We are also having the soil in the park tested to be sure the disease does not spread. Mr. Gleason will keep the Council updated on any developments regarding this issue.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 8923** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Jefferson Solutions, Inc. and further authorizing and directing Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained that the City has to do an OPB Report regarding post employee benefits. A third party will come in and give us a report as to how much the future cost for our retiree health insurance costs will be. This report becomes a part of the City's Annual Report. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8924** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Police Chief Ronald A. Boisvert, Jr. and further authorizing and directing Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this contract is an extension of the existing contract for two more years. Mr. Gleason detailed the Police Chief's value to the Administration and the residents of the City of Watervliet. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8925** – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to appoint David R. Dressel and General Manager Mark Gleason to serve on the Stormwater Coalition of Albany County Board of Directors. Before voting Mark Gleason explained that this will appoint Dave Dressel to the Coalition. Mr. Dressel has been an alternate to the coalition the past three years. Mr. Dressel works in the Watervliet Department he has an engineering degree and is a certified Water Treatment Plant Operator. Mr. Dressel has been working with the coalition the past three years, he knows all of the challenges the coalition faces. This is a great appointment and a great use of Dave's talents. Councilman Foglia asked what Mr. Dressel's official title was. Mr. Gleason noted that under Civil Service guidelines he is a Certified Water Plant Operator. Councilman Foglia then asked to explain more about the Stormwater Coalition. This program is the Albany Pool that faces a lot of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) issues with the MS4 requirements. When the City gets some heavy rainfall they will sometime mix making its way into the Hudson River. The Federal Government wants to eliminate all the CSO's. It would take approximately \$1 million dollars for each of these to do that. Mr. Dressel has been working very hard with the committee in the Albany Pool to find some type of common ground to reach their goal of not having any sewer water in the Hudson River. This has been ongoing for many years. Councilman Foglia asked if there was a goal of a certain timeframe that a report will come out telling us exactly what we need to do. Mr. Gleason explained that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation was supposed to come out with a report last year. Mr. Dressel who attends the meeting now says that NYSDEC will have something for the public in June 2013. The report will spell out exactly what each municipality apart of the Pool has to do. Mr. Dressel doesn't feel that this will happen as NYSDEC and the Federal Government are butting heads on this issue. Unfortunately like everything else this mandate is being passed down to the municipalities. They keep pointing to a project in Buffalo that cost \$500 million dollars. Where is that kind of money going to come from to eliminate the CSO's? Councilman Foglia asked what if the City had to come up with 2 million dollars, how we would pay for this by bonding. Mayor Manning noted our share was \$2 million dollars our actual work done was \$100 thousand dollars. There are a few that account for most of the work like Cohoes, Albany and Rensselaer County. The City of Watervliet has 4 CSO's to deal with. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

## **APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING**

Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained that there are no budgetary transfers tonight. Mr. Fahr did want to let the City Council know that the independent auditors will be here on Monday, 25, 2013 for begin the 2012 audit. The report is due by May 1, 2013. Councilman Foglia asked if the recommendations from last year's report were taken into consideration to correct. Mayor Manning noted that they are findings. Basically the audit recommended a better control of our grant programs. There were no major findings from 2011 audit report.

The Easter Bunny breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2013. The breakfast will be held from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 AM. The Easter Bunny will be there for pictures throughout the morning.

Councilman Foglia asked if a spring cleanup was scheduled for this year. Mark Gleason, General Manager noted that the Bulk Item Pickup week will be the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>. Bob Loya, Recreation Supervisor has scheduled the Keep Vliet Neat Day for Saturday, April 20, 2013. Mr. Gleason will have more information at the next City Council Meeting.

Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance asked if Mayor Manning had any new about the State Budget. Mayor Manning noted that he heard it was a landmark budget. The City was scheduled to get more aid but was quickly penciled out. Mayor Manning won't know any more until the actual budget is passed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**NONE**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss Labor Negotiations. The meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 7:20 P.M.

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, MARCH 21, 2013.**

The Executive Session was called to Order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 7:40 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning, Councilwoman Ellen R. Foglia 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 and Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance.

**ITEM #1** – Mark Gleason, General Manager updated the City Council on the status of the U.F.F.A. contract negotiations. Mr. Gleason provided the City Council with detailed information necessary for them to consider finalizing the administrative end of the negotiations. After a detailed discussion the Council agreed with the proposal and requested Mr. Gleason to present these discussion items to the U.F.F.A.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley  
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council