

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Councilwoman Ellen R. Fogarty at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call showed that 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 and Police Chief Ron Boisvert.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council Minutes as written for April 4, 2013.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ITEM #1 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that the Water Department starts the City's annual Spring Flush on April 21, 2013. The flush will run until approximately May 30, 2013. The flush forces the water thru the water main pipes at a high velocity, removing all accumulated mineral sediment and biofilm. Biofilm is a collection of organic and inorganic, living and dead material that may cling to the inside of water pipes. Our flush eliminates all sediment and biofilm. Residents may notice a discoloring of their water when the lines are being flushed on their block. If the discoloring occurs, you should run your water for 5 minutes. If after 5 minutes your water is still discolored, we ask that you call the Water Department at (518) 785-7082.

ITEM #2 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that today was the final day of bulk week. Residents were able to put out the 4'x4'x8' long pile of debris. Initial numbers indicate that we are about the same as last year. Unfortunately property owners have tried to take advantage of the program by putting too much out. Most of the problems of too much debris out come from out of town landlords. Out of town landlords see Watervliet as a free twice a year dumping ground. Chris Daus, Sanitation Working Supervisor will have a final report for the may City Council meeting. Mr. Gleason noted that the Sanitation Department will also hold an Electronic Recycling Day on Friday, April 19, 2013. Residents are asked to bring their electronics to the Department of Public Works yard (behind the Firehouse) between the hours of 7:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. There is a small fee for the electronic items. The prices for the electronic devices are set by the vendor not the City of Watervliet.

ITEM #3 – Mark Gleason, General Manager explained to the Council that the redevelopment of 19th Street started this week with the demolition of the boiler room and the start of the demolition of the church. Mr. Gleason noted that as the picture demonstrates there appears to be no structural steel skeleton. Dan's Hauling the demolition contractor is trying to salvage as much of the property as possible.

The City is cautioning people that removing bricks from the site is stealing. Going onto an active demolition site for the purpose of removing bricks that belong to the property owner is not only dangerous it is also illegal (trespassing). A plan for issuing bricks is being worked on. Mr. Gleason will have a more extensive report for the May meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1897 – An Ordinance of the City of Watervliet, New York providing that the Code of the City of Watervliet Chapter 260, “Vehicle and Traffic”, Article IV, “Handicapped Parking”, Section 260-30 (c), “Sign Locations” be amended. Mark Gleason, General manager explained that this Ordinance will allow handicapped parking in front of their residences. Before voting Police Chief Ron Boisvert explained that he has reviewed the two locations and recommends to the City Council that handicapped signs be placed up for parking purposes. Police Chief Boisvert noted that his recommendations are for 201 16th Street and 1242 5th Avenue. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Ordinance was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8928 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Watervliet and the Watervliet Uniformed Firefighters Association and further authorizing and directing Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the same. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this agreement to continue to service the Village of Green Island with the City’s ambulance service. This is a temporary agreement until the actual contract is signed. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8929 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to file an application under the Community Development Block Grant Program for the grant year 2013 and further authorizing Mayor Michael P. Manning to accept and receive grants for the Community Development Projects. Before voting Mark Gleason, General Manager explained that this legislation names Mayor Manning as the representative for the City of Watervliet. Mayor Manning signs off on all Community Development Block Grants that the City applies for. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8930 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council to comply with the New York State Retirement System Filing and Posting requirements regarding a Standard Work Day. Before voting Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk explained that whenever an elected official serves a new term the City must file a Standard Work Day compliance form. This form must be posted for 30 days on the website and on the bulletin board for the public viewing. In addition to Councilwoman Fogarty the City will be posting Fire Chief Scott Skinner and Police Chief Ronald Boisvert. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 8931 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Police Payroll Account to the Police Special Wages Account. Before voting Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained that this Resolution and the next Resolution are budget neutral transfers done periodically. Upon motion of Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 8932 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of funds in the amount of \$39,000.00 from the Fire Payroll Account to the Fire Special Wages Account. Upon motion of Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was approved and adopted.

Robert A. Fahr, Director of Finance explained that the 2012 financial audit was completed. The Sewer Fund ended up with a fund balance of \$188,000.00. The Water Fund balance was \$613,000.00. The General Fund balance was \$945,000.00. The General Fund was short of the City's goal of \$1,000,000.00 due to state reimbursements that weren't paid within the 60 day period.

Councilwoman Fogarty reminded all in attendance about the 17th annual "Keep Vliet Neat Day". The event will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon. The event will clean our parks and boulevards throughout the City. There will be lunch at the DOME immediately following the cleanup. All participants are encouraged to attend. It was requested to bring a rake with you.

Bruce A. Hidley, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council reminded all in attendance that the next City Council Meeting will be on Thursday, May 9, 2013 and on Thursday, May 23rd, 2013. This will be the 2nd and 4th Thursday's this month.

Councilwoman Fogarty explained that the opening day of the Little League will be on Saturday, April 27, 2013. There will be a parade at 10:00 A.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Charlene Akullian – 813 24th Street – Watervliet, New York – Ms. Akullian stated that the events this past week have in my opinion brought shame and ridicule to our City. I want to be on record by calling on the resignation of Mayor Manning and our two Council people. They do not represent the people of this City. They should be removed as soon as possible.

Marion Fotache – 1554 3rd Avenue – Watervliet, New York – Ms. Fotache stated that today we were able to see the inter faith memorial service from the Cathedral in Boston, Mass. For the victims of the Boston Marathon tragedy. This beautiful cathedral very reminiscent to our own St. Patrick's Church. St. Patrick's can't be called a cathedral but it is just as beautiful. We saw this carnage at the marathon which was reminiscent of 911. The speculation that it was perpetrated by a foreign power. Meanwhile we witness this destruction in the City of Watervliet. The destruction of a valuable landmark. I'm tired hearing of this sentimentality because everyone has this for their own church. This was a rare edifice. It is such a pity, for you to capitulate to people who have no respect for the durability, quality and the splendor of that edifice. We still have beautiful churches in Watervliet, but they are on side streets. Will people take the time or even stay in Watervliet. Why would people even bother to investigate what's on a side street. It's a pity, it's a tragedy. Thank you

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce A. Hidley
City Clerk and Clerk to the Council