

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015 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 and Councilwoman Ellen R. Fogarty and Councilman Nicholas Foglia were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Mark Gleason General Manager, Jeremy Smith, City Clerk & Clerk to the Council, Mark Gilchrist Assessor/Building Inspector, Acting Fire Chief Rob Conlen and Robert Fahr, Finance Director.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council minutes as written for March 5, 2015.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT – General Manager, Mark Gleason stated that the city of Watervliet’s Spring Bulk week will be held the week of April 24-27.

Items go out at the same time as your garbage. Residents must follow the guidelines set in the Sanitation/Recycling policy. Materials must fit into a 4ft. X 4ft. x 8ft. area. NO Refrigerators/Electronics/Hazardous Materials.

General Manager, Mark Gleason stated that the City will hold an Electronic Recycling day on Friday May 1. The event will be Held at The DPW (Behind the Firehouse) from 7am to 2pm, Watervliet Residents Only. Televisions and other Electronics are FREE; there is a small charge for tires, propane tanks, air conditioners and refrigerators.

General Manager, Mark Gleason stated that due to the unseasonably cold weather the asphalt plants remained closed. The plants produce hot asphalt used for blacktopping. We have been told that the plants will open around April 20. This delay means our DPW crews will not be able to repair potholes or street opening (resulting from repairing water lines) for another 2 weeks. DPW will make temporary repairs on potholes using “cold patch”, once the plants open a more permanent fix will be made using hot asphalt.

General Manager, Mark Gleason stated that the City’s Grass & Leaf Pick up Program Begins Friday April 10 and will run until November. The Sanitation Department will pick up grass clippings on Fridays. Material must be placed in grass bags. Tree branches will be picked up but the branches must be cut into 3 foot sections and be bundled together (bundles must be able to be picked up by a single employee). The City will dispose of the materials thru WM Biers Landscaping in the Port of Albany.

General Manager, Mark Gleason stated on Tuesday March 31 over 200 residents from Watervliet and Colonie participated in a meeting concerning Green Renewable Inc. compost facility located in Colonie on the Watervliet boarder. Officials from DEC ran the meeting with representatives from Green Renewable on hand. The residents complained about the horrendous smell that comes from the facility. Green Renewable is looking to expand the facility from the current 9,000 cubic yard compost permit to 50,000 cubic yards. Mr. Gleason encouraged all residents to sign a petition against the facility and the expansion on Facebook (change.org).

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1938 – An Ordinance directing and Authorizing City Clerk Jeremy A. Smith to advertise once a week for three weeks that the City of Watervliet will sell certain surplus vehicles of the City of Watervliet Police Department and Department of Public Works at Public Auction. Prior to voting General Manager Mark Gleason stated that the vehicles consisted of an out of service police vehicle, an out of service pick up truck, an out of service dump truck and a brush chipper that had been replaced. Upon a motion by Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Ordinance was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9150 – The Council of the City of Watervliet officially expresses its opposition to the expansion of and encourages DEC to halt usage of the composting facilities located in the Town of Colonie at 191 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham, NY 12110 and 9 Crabapple Lane, Watervliet, NY 12189. Prior to voting General Manager Mark Gleason referenced his previous report to the council. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 9151 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$10,400.00 from the Police Payroll Account (A3120.1001) to the Police Special Wages Account (A3120.1005) for the 207C wages paid for the months of January thru March 2015. Prior to voting Director of Finance Bob Fahr stated that this is a quarterly transfer due to Workers Compensation. Upon a motion by Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9152 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the transfer of \$26,310.00 from the Fire Payroll Account (A3410.1001) to the Fire Special Wages Account (A3410.1005) for the 207A wages paid for the months of January thru March 2015. Prior to voting Director of Finance Bob Fahr stated that this is a quarterly transfer due to Workers Compensation. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NONE

Item #1 – Assessor Building Inspector, Mark Gilchrist presented a plan to the City Council to re-levy the fees for vacant properties on to the next year's Tax Roll if the fees are not paid.

Mr. Gilchrist stated that the past years revenue from these fees was around \$45,000.00 and that amount was approximately half of the charged fees. By re-levying the fees that were not paid it would increase the revenue to near \$90,000.00.

Mr. Gilchrist stated that there are a few vacant properties that are exempt from the fee due to specified circumstances.

Mr. Gilchrist stated that Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban had been working on the changes needed to the policy.

Councilman Foglia asked that the waiver process be formulized upon writing the policy.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24pm.

Next Meeting April 23, 2015 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council