

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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, Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, and Fire Chief Rob Conlen.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council minutes as written for August 20, 2015.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

ITEM #1 – General Manager Mark Gleason announced that the week of October 26 has been designated as Fall Bulk Debris Deposal Week. During this week City of Watervliet Residents may depose of bulk items for free. Residents must follow the guidelines set in the Sanitation/Recycling policy (4x4x8 foot space/no refrigerators/electronics/hazardous materials/car-truck tires).

Mr. Gleason asked that residents refer to the City of Watervliet's Web Site for more information. Residents will be asked to depose of bulk items on the same day as their regularly scheduled garbage pickup date.

Mr. Gleason further explained that the Sanitation Department will also hold an Electronic recycling day. This will allow residents to recycle any electronic items that are no longer of use. Residents should bring their unwanted electronic items to the DPW, behind the firehouse.

ITEM #2 – General Manager Mark Gleason stated that this week the Water Department had to terminate the waterline into 624 3 Ave due to the property being slated for demolition. Mr. Gleason showed pictures to demonstrate that the conditions under 3rd Ave are challenging at best.

Mr. Gleason stated that the City is working on a combination of grant funding/CHIPS funding and the Albany Community Pool funds to reconstruct 3rd Ave.

Mr. Gleason stated that the City hopes to start the project next year and finish in 2017.

ITEM # 3 – City Clerk Jeremy Smith announced that there would now be a presentation by Jeff Budrow of Weston & Sampson on EFC Grant.

Mr. Budrow began by stating that he has worked on the City of Watervliet's water and sewer infrastructure nearly 30 years ago and therefore has a vast knowledge of the infrastructure and that is why he was asked to aid in the grant application.

Mr. Budrow stated that the grant, if awarded to the City would cover 60% of infrastructure work up to \$2 million.

Mr. Budrow explained how vast and old most of the water infrastructure system is. He further explained the information that is required in the application.

Mr. Budrow stated that there are three resolutions on tonight's agenda in regards to this grant. The first is a SEQRA form that needs to be done and explained that this action is considered a Type II action and is exempt from further environmental review. The second Resolution is a Bond Resolution. Mr. Budrow explained that this Resolution does nothing more than show that the City has the ability to bond this amount of money to cover cost of infrastructure work and can cover the match of the grant if awarded. Mr. Budrow further explained that this amount of money in the Resolution may not need to be borrowed if other funding becomes available. The third Resolution is the Council giving permission for the Mayor to sign the application and submit it as well as to accept the grant upon award.

Councilman Foglia asked Mr. Budrow if the infrastructure work would be done prior to other work on 3rd Avenue.

Mr. Budrow explained that third avenue infrastructure was a portion of what was applied for in the grant and that the idea is to apply for this grant money so that it can fall into the timeline to allow for all work on 3rd Avenue to be completed in the proper order. Mr. Budrow further explained that you never want to pave a road and then have to re-dig to work on infrastructure.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith explained that the City was notified of the grant and then put together a scope of work to be done. At that time Mr. Budrow was contacted and his team was able to prepare the grant in just two weeks' time. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Budrow and his team for their quick and efficient work.

Mr. Budrow thanked Mr. Smith and further explained that this grant is highly competitive across the State.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 9197 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Mayor Michael P. Manning to issue a non-binding letter of intent, to SunEdison, for the purpose of discussing and negotiating the terms and conditions of a proposed Solar Power and Services Agreement, subject to the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal, the non-

binding letter of intent, and approval by the Council of the City of Watervliet. Upon a motion from Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9198 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves a professional services agreement between the City of Watervliet and SKD Environmental Systems, LLC, P.O. Box 26, Minoa, New York 13116. Prior to voting, General Manager Mark Gleason explained that this was the Pilot Plant Project for organic waste that the City had received a grant for. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9199 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby determines that the proposed EFC Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant project is a Type II action and that no further action or review relative to this project is required by SEQRA. Prior to voting, Mayor Manning stated that this and the next few resolutions were those that were mentioned in the presentation by Jeff Budrow. Upon a motion from Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9200 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby Authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute a final application on behalf of the City of Watervliet under the New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015 Drinking Water Grant program and further Authorizing the Mayor to accept and receive a grant for drinking water infrastructure improvements. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 9201 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves a Bond Resolution authorizing the issuance of an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 (Five Million) in serial bonds for the purpose of financing water supply and distribution systems. Upon a motion from Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Amanda Austin – 4 Grotto Court – Ms. Austin began by introducing herself and others that were standing with her as the Watervliet Community Association. Amanda stated that the groups mission is to rebuild community spirit and enhance the quality of life. Ms. Austin further stated that they want to go back to the times when they all knew and trusted their neighbors and had pride to live in the City. Ms. Austin then stated that the group is not a political organization and instead are striving to bring people together and not push them apart.

Amanda stated that the group will be holding community pot luck at the Hudson Shores Park on October 3rd and that they are looking for a place to have their regular monthly meetings.

Sherry Cassidy – 403 4th Street – Mrs. Cassidy brought up a comment from the previous meeting where it was mentioned that summer help teenagers had been charged \$6 to cash their checks at Bank of America. Mrs. Cassidy's suggestion was to change banks if this fee could not be removed.

Councilwoman Fogarty stated that a lot of banks charge a fee for cashing a check but that it is the bank that imposes the fee and not the City.

Mayor Manning stated that each year the City sets its banks for the year and that it is being looked into and that it will come up at the beginning of the year.

Nancy Forgett – 1230 5th Avenue – Ms. Forgett stated that there is a vacant store on her block that has been vacant for many years and would like to know what is being done about it. Ms. Forgett further explained that the windows are broken, grass goes uncut, etc..

Mayor Manning stated that this specific location will be looked into.

Donnelly Whitehead – 1921 8th Avenue – Mr. Whitehead stated that the area on road on Route 32 for the Bike Path is extremely dangerous due to disrepair, pot holes and debris. He stated that this is the second time bringing the complaint to the City's attention.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that the City has applied for grants through the CFA to complete the section of the bike path and that will be announced in late November.

Mayor Manning asked that this be added to the next meetings old business for a report.

With there being no further comment a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44pm.

Next Meeting: September 17, 2015 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council