

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2016 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 Fogarty and Councilman Foglia were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Mark Gleason General Manager, Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Fire Chief Conlen, Acting Police Chief Lt. Spain and Jeremy Smith City Clerk/Clerk to the Council.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council minutes as written for May 5, 2016.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

ITEM #1 – General Manager Mark Gleason stated that the City’s water system that serves the Highland Club Apartments, Fenimore Trace Apartments and residents on Hillside Drive was in noncompliance with the drinking water standard for total Trihalomethanes (THMs). This was the first noncompliance violation since 2002. It is important to note that this is not an emergency and the drinking water was and is still safe to drink, cook with and bathe in. A letter went out to all residents about the non-compliance (although only the residents of Highland Club Apartments, Fenimore Trace Apartments and Hillside Drive were in noncompliance). To help keep the THM’s in compliance; the Water Department has installed a GridBee GS-9 Potable Tank Mixer in the Water Tower that supplies water to the Highland Club Apartments, Fenimore Trace Apartments and residents on Hillside Drive. The GridBee GS-9 Potable Tank Mixer will circulate the water in the tank which will work to reduce THMs in the tank. The water treatment plant operators are also changing certain water treatment processes to reduce the formation of THMs as well as examining what changes might be made in the water distribution system to minimize THMs. We are working with our consulting engineers at Weston & Sampson on any other solutions to high THM’s. Mr. Gleason further stated that the readings are a 4 quarter average. The rest of the city average reading was 65. Albany County DOH dictates that although only a small portion of our customers are affected, we must send the letter out to everyone. Mr. Gleason asked if there were any questions.

A comment from the floor was made by a resident that stated she rents and therefore did not receive a copy of the letter.

Mayor Manning stated that this is a problem with the mailing system because mailers are sent to homeowners and in the future this type of mailer will be corrected to reach all residents.

A comment from the floor was made suggesting that the issues with the water stem from a lack of maintenance at the Reservoir in Guilderland and that this has also caused issue for Guilderland.

Mr. Gleason stated that the issues at Guilderland are separate from Watervliet and it is due to where they pull water and how outdated their water treatment facility is. Mr. Gleason

further stated that a meeting is being set between Watervliet and Guilderland to come up with ways to work together on maintenance of the water source.

ITEM #2 - General Manager Mark Gleason thanked Charles Patricelli and the volunteers that he organized in spreading mulch at our parks.

ITEM #3 - General Manager Mark Gleason announced that the tank in Veterans Park has been undergoing a complete cleaning/restoration by the United States of America Brotherhood of Tankers. The Brotherhood is an organization of veteran armored tank crewmen who travel the county restoring old tanks. The brotherhood will:

Power wash the tank

Sand/grind exterior surfaces

Paint the tank in a NATO tri-color scheme (accurate to the period the tank was active)

Mount the M60A3 information plaque on or near the tank

Total City cost of the project is estimated to be \$1200. The brotherhood plans on having the tank restored by the Memorial Day Parade and they also plan on marching in the Parade.

ITEM #4 - General Manager Mark Gleason announced that the DEC stormwater audit has been completed. We have passed (audit is Pass/Fail-no grading or rating). Mr. Gleason thanked Dave Dressel for leading us and delivering a successful audit.

ITEM #5 - General Manager Mark Gleason stated that the blacktopping of streets in Watervliet has been pushed back until the middle of June. The highway department is still preparing the designated streets for blacktopping (installing risers at water shut off valves). Callahan paving has also suggested we mill out from the curbs to maintain the height of the curbs.

ITEM #6 - General Manager Mark Gleason announced that the Memorial Day parade is set for Monday May 30. The parade steps off at the high school at 10:00. The Parade proceeds down 19th street to Veterans Memorial Park. Mr. Gleason further stated that there will be over 500 participants and 35 vehicles and that this year's Grand Marshall is retired councilman Bill Anderson.

Mayor Manning introduced County Executive Dan McCoy who was present at the meeting to address the Council and the public on the workings of Albany County.

County Executive Dan McCoy began by thanking the Mayor and the Council as well as the public for allowing him to take some time to update everyone on what has been happening throughout Albany County.

County Executive McCoy explained the partnership with Watervliet and other municipalities within the County. One of these is also a partnership with the AAU. This past

year the County, AAU and Watervliet partnered to offer karate and lacrosse in the city of Watervliet. The lacrosse took place at the Dome and the Karate took place at the Civic Center.

County Executive McCoy stated that this is the type of creative partnership that has allowed the County to continue to offer unique services without having to use tax dollars.

County Executive McCoy stated that the County is no longer acquiring debt to make payroll and has also increased the amount of money in the reserves.

County Executive McCoy stated that although the County has offered specific services for 20, 40, 60 and even 80 years, this does not mean that they are the best services and that the County continues to provide the best services to the residents and is continually making changes to provide these services at no increase in tax dollars.

County Executive McCoy stated that over the past two years the county taxes have had a 0% increase and also commended the City of Watervliet for continually staying under the tax cap even before the cap had been introduced into legislation.

County Executive McCoy announced that even though it has not been made official yet, one of the ways that municipalities within Albany County continue to work together will be evident again as Watervliet will be donating football goal posts to the newly started Berne area football program. County Executive McCoy thanks Mayor Manning and Superintendent of Watervliet schools Dr. Lori Caplan for the hard work in making this possible.

County Executive McCoy thanks the public and the Council and administration of Watervliet again for allowing him to take some time at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1962 – An Ordinance of the City of Watervliet repealing Ordinance No. 1957 and cancelling the proposed sale of a portion of 20th Street. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, Seconded by Mayor Manning, this Ordinance was passed by a 2-0-1 vote. Councilwoman Fogarty abstained.

ORDINANCE NO. 1963 – An Ordinance of the City of Watervliet Authorizing the publication once a week for three consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the city for the proposed sale of a portion of Twentieth Street, more particularly described as a strip of land being approximately 50 feet wide and 103.70 feet long. City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that this was the first reading. Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban stated that at the next meeting there would be a second reading and there will be a change on the date of the Public Hearing. There was no action taken.

RESOLUTION NO. 9271 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Jeremy Smith, City Clerk/Clerk to the Council to advertise in the official newspaper that a public hearing will be held on June 2, 2016 at the City Council meeting that will be held at 7:00 PM at the J. Leo O’Brien Facility Senior Citizen Center, 1501 Broadway, Watervliet, New York, pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR 570.486 and the rules of the New York State Citizens Participation Program for the purpose of reporting to the City Council and the public on the progress and effectiveness of NYS OCR 2014 Microenterprise Grant 1210ME12-14 and allow persons as which to be heard to comment regarding said grant. Upon a motion from Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9272 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Jeremy Smith, City Clerk/Clerk to the Council to advertise in the official newspaper that a public hearing will be held on June 2, 2016 at the City Council meeting that will be held at 7:00 PM at the J. Leo O’Brien Facility Senior Citizen Center, 1501 Broadway, Watervliet, New York, pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR 570.486 and the rules of the New York State Citizens Participation Program for the purpose hearing public comments on the City of Watervliet’s community development needs, and to discuss the possible submission of one or more Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for the 2016 program year for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefitting low/moderate income persons. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilwoman Fogarty this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

Mayor Manning presented a Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 9273 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby accepts the quote and awards a contract for maintaining overgrowth on vacant lots and abandoned homes to Bill Sheehy & Ryan Boisvert Lawn Mowing & Yard Work. Prior to voting Mayor Manning stated that there were three quotes turned in to the City Clerk’s office. Upon a motion by Councilwoman Fogarty, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

Fire Chief Rob Conlen announced that the Fire Department was successful in receiving a grant for equipment. The grant is a \$100,000.00 grant that was written by Captain Tom Eagan.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Paul Huban – 1500 12th Avenue – Mr. Huban thanked the Council for providing a prospectus for the proposed sale of 20th street. Mr. Huban asked if there is utility and infrastructure within the area of sale, would those that currently own the utility have to pay rent to the new owner.

Paul Goldman, Legal consultant for the City of Watervliet stated that these utilities may have easement rights and they would not be subject to paying rent.

Mr Huban asked if pins could please be placed at the site so that it could be seen what the boundaries of the property are.

Mr. Goldman stated that the Council heard Mr. Huban's request for this at the last meeting and is having pins placed for this reason.

Mr. Huban asked what the increments would be for during the bidding process since it is not laid out in the prospectus.

Mr. Goldman stated that the increments will be defined by the General Manager on the date of the auction.

Jeff Foster – 1201 8th Avenue – Mr. Foster asked the mayor if he had time to review Ordinance 1963 and if so does she agree with numbers 14 & 15 as stated in the Ordinance.

Mayor Manning stated that he has had time to read the Ordinance and does agree with those statements.

Charles Patricelli – 720 7th Avenue – Mr. Patricelli began by thanking General Manager Mark Gleason for working with him to allow volunteers to work in the parks and that although he appreciates the recognition the General Manager gave in his report it is not necessary.

Mr. Patricelli stated that he was upset when he heard that some people tried to stop the volunteering from taking place and took it so far as to contact a union member and told that member to file a grievance. Mr. Patricelli asked that the Council look into this claim. Mr. Patricelli further stated that mulch was not just what was needed in the parks but the parks are in need of major repairs and it is very dangerous. Mr. Patricelli asked what the process is to look at the parks and whose responsibility it is to ensure their safety.

Mr. Patricelli stated that he has noticed several depressions as a result of poor workmanship and oversight of water or sewer line replacement within the City. Mr. Patricelli noted that none of the areas he has noticed were done by Greenwood but instead by other contractors. Mr. Patricelli stated that if inspections were done properly at the beginning then the City would not have to go back and expend unnecessary funds to repair these issues.

Mr. Patricelli stated that he could not make a strong enough argument that the City needs to hire a person with accounting experience and specifically municipal accounting experience to be the Director of Finance. Mr. Patricelli further stated that the City cannot afford to not have an experienced person to maintain the books and present a professional forecast of the financial position. Mr. Patricelli stated that with the resignation of the only person in the finance department with accounting experience, he is requesting that an immediate search begin for a qualified Director of Finance.

Amanda Austin – 4 Grotto Court – Mrs. Austin began by Congratulating the Fire Department on their receiving of the grant that was mentioned during the meeting.

Mrs. Austin thanked the City for allowing her and several other volunteers to “tag” to help raise money for the relay for Life fundraiser that will take place on June 4, 2016.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that in response to one of Mr. Patricelli’s question about safety and responsibility at the parks, one way that this is monitored is by the City’s Liability insurance Company HCC. Mr. Smith stated that every 2 years Ken Haverlan from HCC Risk Management comes to the City and goes to all of the city property to determine any risk. Most of the time is spent at the parks. Mr. Smith sated that Mr. Haverlan then provides the City with recommendations for the City to ensure safety.

General Manager Mark Gleason requested that the Council adjourn into executive session and further requested that Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Acting Police Chief Mark Spain, and City Clerk Jeremy Smith attend the meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

With there being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting into executive session. The meeting was adjourned into executive session at 7:47pm.

Next Meeting: June 2, 2016 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2015**

The meeting of the Executive Session was called to Order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 7:50 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning, Councilwoman Ellen R. Fogarty and Councilman Nicholas W. Foglia was present.

Also present from City Administration were: Mark Gleason, General Manager Yorden Huban, Corporation Counsel, Lieutenant/Acting Chief Spain and City Clerk Jeremy Smith.

The Council and administration discussed a personnel issue. There was no Legislation voted on.

A motion was made to adjourn the executive session at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council