

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Manning at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Manning, Councilman Foglia and Councilman Patricelli were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Acting General Manager/Clerk to the Council Jeremy Smith, Director of Finance Michael McNeff, Fire Chief Conlen and Police Chief Spain.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the City Council minutes as written for February 2, 2017.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

ITEM #1 – Acting General Manager Jeremy Smith stated that within the last week the City of Watervliet experienced two large snow storms resulting in 2 Snow Emergencies. The first Snow emergency was on Friday 2/10 after a storm that left approximately 7 inches of snow in the City of Watervliet. The second snow emergency took place on Valentine’s Day, Tuesday February 14 after a storm on Sunday-Monday 2/12-13. This storm also left 7 inches. Mr. Smith further explained that during a Snow Emergency, all vehicles are required to be removed from streets so that they can be plowed curb to curb to allow for Public Safety and health vehicles to have ability to travel... and in some cases of some City Streets so that any vehicle can travel. During the first snow emergency 63 cars were ticketed and towed and during the second snow emergency 36 cars were ticketed and towed. Mr. Smith stated that all departments should be recognized as any type of emergency within the City requires all departments to work together to ensure safety and security and provide the highest quality of service for all of our residents and visitors. Mr. Smith stated one example, that although they did not provide snow removal, the sanitation department was diligent in picking up all garbage and recycles on their specific dates. Mr. Smith recognized two department heads in particular. Mr. Smith recognized Working Supervisor of the Highway Department Mark Cady for his and his crews work on the streets. Mr. Smith stated that he has received an enormous amount of positive feedback, much of which stating that the streets are the best they have ever been. Mr. Smith also recognized Police Chief Spain. Mr. Smith stated that although he likes to poke fun at the Chief for his Social Media Presence, his pre planning, his communication and his departments customer service lead to this being what Mr. Smith considers the most successful snow emergencies in the City’s history of our current policy. Not only are the streets clear and safe but the amount of cars towed are 2 of the 3 least amounts of cars ticketed and towed. This is a direct effect of Chief Spain’s Communication and his department’s dedication to assisting the residents of the City of Watervliet.

ITEM #2 – Acting General Manager Jeremy Smith introduced Donna Larking from Upstate Kayak Rentals.

Ms. Larkin presented a proposal to start a Pilot program at Hudson Shores Park for her mobile kayak rental business. Ms. Larkin stated that she has been running a rental in Waterford for the past three years and is looking to expand. She stated that she has also met with Bethlehem and they are considering the proposal as well.

Ms. Larking stated that her company is fully insured and that Upstate Kayak Rentals would be fully responsible for all rentals and liability of the customers. Ms. Larkin explained the process that would be used for renting kayaks as well as what she would need from the City to be successful.

Ms. Larkin closed by stating that she was looking for an answer by March 1 to allow for proper preparation.

Mayor Manning stated that the next meeting of the City Council is on March 2, 2017 and an answer would be ready for that meeting.

ITEM #3 – Acting General Manager Jeremy Smith announced that the February 2017 Citizen of the Month is Karen Smith. Mr. Smith stated that Karen Smith has for decades expended her own finances and great personal effort to care for stray animals, in particular cats, in the City of Watervliet. Mr. Smith further stated that Karen Smith volunteers regularly at the Watervliet Library and is the coordinator for the local HAM radio organization who is always on hand at the Arsenal City Run.

Mayor Manning presented Ms. Smith with a certificate as the February 2017 Citizen of the Month.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 9324 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby confirms the appointment of Jeremy A. Smith as Acting General Manager for the City of Watervliet. Prior to voting Councilman Patricelli stated that he does not have a problem with the person in the position but does take issue with the salary of an acting position. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli, this Resolution was approved by a 2-1 vote. Councilman Patricelli voted nay.

RESOLUTION NO. 9325 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby confirms the appointment of Scott O'Reilly as Acting City Clerk for the City of Watervliet. Upon a motion by Councilman Patricelli, seconded by Councilman Foglia, this Resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9326 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby confirms the appointment of Casey Mills as Temp/Seasonal Sanitation Worker for the City of Watervliet. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this Resolution was unanimously withdrawn.

RESOLUTION NO. 9327 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby confirms the appointment of David Lynch as Temporary Part Time Clerk for the City of Watervliet. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this Resolution was unanimously withdrawn.

RESOLUTION NO. 9328 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby confirms the appointment of Michelle J. Fernandez as Temporary Part Time Grant Administrator for the City of Watervliet. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this Resolution was unanimously withdrawn.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 9331 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Weston & Sampson, PE, LS, LA, PC, 22 High Street, Rensselaer, New York 12144, titled Task Order DWSRF-1, for engineering services in connection with the DWSRF Grant. Prior to voting Councilman Patricelli stated that he disagreed with the process in hiring the Engineers and felt this should have originally been RFP'd. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli, this Resolution was approved and adopted by a 2-1 vote. Councilman Patricelli voted nay.

RESOLUTION NO. 9332 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the application of the City of Watervliet for a tree planting grant under the Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program pursuant to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation guidelines and authorizes a 25% grant match not to exceed \$12,500.00 pursuant to the regulations. Upon a motion by Councilman Patricelli, seconded by Councilman Foglia this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9333 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the 2017 Animal Shelter Agreement between the City of Watervliet and the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society, 3 Oakland Avenue, Menands, New York 12204 for a period of one (1) year commencing on January 1, 2017 and ending on December 31, 2017. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9334 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and Barclay Damon, LLP, 80 State Street, Albany, New York 12207 to act as municipal bond counsel for the City of Watervliet in connection with the financing of the work to be performed pursuant to the NYS Water Grant that was awarded to the City of Watervliet by the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. Upon a motion by Councilman Patricelli, seconded by Councilman Foglia this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9335 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby adopts the City of Watervliet Procurement Policy for the year 2017 pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 104. Prior to voting the Council discussed setting a limit to the procuring of Professional services and decided that the policy should state a \$5,000.00 threshold for requesting proposals. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9336 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby accepts the bid from Bunkoff General Contractors, Inc., 790 Watervliet Shaker Road, Latham, New York 12110 in the amount of Four Hundred and Fifty One Thousand and 0/100 Dollars (\$451,000.00) for rehabilitation work to be performed at the Watervliet Civic Center (the Civic Center Public Facility Rehabilitation Project), the lowest responsible bidder in conformance with the specifications. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Councilman Patricelli this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Paul Huban – 1500 12th Avenue – Mr. Huban stated that he was looking for an answer to his previous question about the 180 day clause in the agreement for the sale of 20th Street. Mr. Huban recommended that a member of the Council propose legislation to revert the property back to City ownership as stated in the clause.

Mayor Manning stated that at this time the Council would not be proposing to revert the property back to City Ownership.

Jeff Foster 1201 8th Avenue – Mr. Foster stated that Council meetings are now more interesting since not every member of the Council agrees on things and there are votes against specific legislation. Mr. Foster further stated that he believed that the Charter needed to be changed to have more Councilpersons, specifically one from each of the 4 Wards within the City and then the Mayor.

Members of the Council expressed that they are not opposed to expansion.

Don Whitehead – 1921 8th Avenue – Mr. Whitehead stated that he too believes that the Charter should be amended and that further information should be made available in the instance that a Mayor was to resign.

Todd Smith – 902 19th Street – Mr. Smith stated that he is looking to formally coordinate the City of Watervliet business Owners Association. Mr. Smith presented the Mission Statement and Goals of the Association.

With there being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. The meeting was adjourned into Executive Session at 8:05pm.

The regular Meeting of the City Council was called to reorder back in session at 8:49pm. With no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Next Meeting: March 2, 2017 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017**

The meeting of the Executive Session was called to Order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 8:08 P.M.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning, Councilman Nicholas W. Foglia and Councilman Patricelli were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Jeremy Smith, Acting General Manager & Clerk to the Council, Michael McNeff, Director of Finance Police Chief Spain, Private Counsel Jonathan Bernstein, and Yorden Huban, Corporation Counsel.

The Council and administration discussed pending legal matter. There was no legislation voted on or discussed during the executive session.

A motion was made to adjourn the executive session at 8:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council