

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2018 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 Patricelli, and Councilman McGrouty were present.

Also present from City Administration were: General Manager Jeremy Smith, City Clerk & Clerk to the Council Scott O'Reilly, Director of Finance Mike McNeff, Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Police Chief Mark Spain and Fire Chief Rob Conlen

Councilman Patricelli made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the previous meeting, which Councilman McGrouty seconded. A vote was then taken to dispense with the minutes that passed unanimously.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Jeremy Smith announced the City Council Meeting schedule for the remainder of the year which included 2019 budget workshops and presentations.

Next, Mr. Smith answered some questions from previous meetings regarding a new home being built on Third Avenue. General Manager Smith stated that all permits had been received for construction. However, the City had to issue stop work orders multiple times because the work being done did not match the plans that were submitted. Each time a stop work order was issued the owner submitted new sets of plans.

Mayor Michael Manning then presented the August 2018 "Citizen of the Month" to Kelly Gilchrist.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1984 – 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.

This was the first reading of this Ordinance.

Police Chief Mark Spain explained that this was a request to have a handicapped parking spot placed at 409 3rd Avenue.

After a motion was made by Councilman Patricelli, which Councilman McGrouty seconded, the Ordinance passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 1985 – An Ordinance of the City of Watervliet, New York providing that Chapter 123. Brush, Grass and Weeds of the Code of the City of Watervliet be amended.

This was the first reading of this Ordinance.

General Manager Jeremy Smith explained that this change to the City code adds some clarity and will help with enforcement by adding a maximum length grass and weeds cannot reach as opposed to dictating how many times grass needs to be cut per month.

Councilman Patricelli stated the City needs to lead by example by keeping up with its own properties.

Upon a motion from Councilman McGrouty which was seconded by Councilman Patricelli, the Ordinance passed with a 3-0 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 9517 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves and authorizes Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute the Statement of Intent, that the City of Watervliet intends to renew its Stormwater Coalition of Albany County membership for 2019 and will contribute to the Coalition their portion of membership dues in the amount of \$18,596.00.

General Manager Smith explained that this is an annual membership for the City. This year’s increase is to accomplish tasks that the City cannot do with its own forces. Councilman McGrouty asked what types of tasks this would include. Mr. Smith stated facilities updates, outfall screening, and mapping updates.

Councilman Patricelli then made a motion to move on the Resolution which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty and the Resolution passed with a 3-0 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 9518 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the gift and transfer of a vehicle owned by Robert J. Mauro, residing at 3286 Marilyn Street, Schenectady, New York 12303, to the City of Watervliet for use by the City of Watervliet Fire

Department for training purposes.

Fire Chief Rob Conlen explained that this vehicle has been donated to the Fire Department and will be used for extrication training.

Councilman McGrouty made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Patricelli and the Resolution passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 9519 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Scott P. O'Reilly, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, to advertise once in the official newspaper of the City that the City of Watervliet will issue Request For Proposals (RFP) for professional consulting services for the video inspection and documentation of sanitary sewers in the City of Watervliet and that proposals must be received in the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00 PM on August 31, 2018.

General Manager Jeremy Smith noted that the City had previously went out to bid for this service, but no proposals were submitted. He also noted that this will be fully funded by a grant and it will cover roughly half of the City's sanitary sewers.

After a motion from Councilman Patricelli, which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty the Resolution passed with a 3-0 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 9520 - The Council of the City of Watervliet here approves, ratifies and confirms the appointment of Lois Gundrum to serve as a member of the City of Watervliet Tree Committee to March 19, 2019.

General Manager Smith explained that Ms. Gundrum was highly qualified for this position based on her years as an educator.

After a motion from Councilman McGrouty which was seconded by Councilman Patricelli, the Resolution passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 9521 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby accepts the bid and awards the contract for the New York State Route 32 Roadway Restoration Project to New Castle Paving, LLC, 1 Madison Street, Suite 100, Troy, New York in the amount of Five Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-One and 25/100 Dollars (\$582,991.25), the lowest responsible bidder in conformance with the specifications.

General Manager Jeremy Smith announced that this project is ninety-five percent grant funded. If approved, paving would start roughly August 20th.

Councilman McGrouty asked about the other bids for the project. Mr. Smith informed him that there was one other bid which was approximately seventeen thousand dollars higher.

Councilman Patricelli made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty, and the Resolution passed with a 3-0 vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 9522 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby determines that the proposed project, consisting of repair, maintenance and replacement of storm water infrastructure and combined sewer overflow (CSO) is a Type II action under SEQR and that no further action is required.

General Manager Smith explained that this is the next step for the second grant application for separating the City's CSO's. This particular grant will cover twenty-five percent of the total project.

After a motion from Councilman McGrouty which was seconded by Councilman Patricelli the Resolution passed unanimously.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

RESOLUTION NO. 9523 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes the increase of funds of a certain expenditure account and a certain revenue account in the annual estimate that has become necessary due to unforeseen circumstances.

General Manager Smith noted that any increase in the yearly budget over Two Thousand dollars must have Council approval. This action is due to the City having to pay Medicare reimbursement to retired members of the Police Department. He also explained, that the amount will be covered by an increase in Sales tax revenue for this year.

Upon a motion from Councilman Patricelli, which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty and the Resolution passed with a 3-0 vote.

Prior to the opening of the Public Comment Period, Councilman Patricelli touched on various topics.

First, he recognized Nick Rotello, who is a member of Scout Troop #78, who was in attendance and currently working on his Eagle Project. Councilman Patricelli thanked Nick for attending the evenings City Council Meeting.

Next, Councilman Patricelli asked for an update on the Seventh Street Park basketball court, noting that it is currently falling apart. General Manager Jeremy Smith explained that the City has received one quote of six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$6,800.00) but that the City will need additional quotes as per the procurement policy.

Councilman Patricelli then asked if the Passonno Paint sign issue had been resolved. General Manager Smith stated that the signs have been taken down, so the issue has indeed been resolved. Councilman Patricelli stated that he believes the City could have handled this issue

more “delicately” in an effort to show the City as being more “business friendly.”

He then asked Police Chief Spain about a traffic accident that took place earlier in the day involving a City police vehicle. Chief Spain reported that the accident took place at Nineteenth Street and Wiswall Avenue and that no one was hurt.

Councilman Patricelli then announced that the Albany County Sheriff’s Department held a Car Seat Safety check earlier in the day at the Watervliet Elementary School. He stated that roughly twenty-five cars participated and of those, twenty-three of them had car seats that needed to be adjusted or replaced. He then thanked the Sherriff’s Department for running the program.

General Manager Jeremy Smith then announced that CEJJ, Inc will be selling Ninety-five gallon auto-tip trash cans to City residents. They will be sold for sixty dollars plus tax and can be ordered through CEJJ. CEJJ will then deliver the cans to the City and residents can either pick them up from the City garage or have them dropped off.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Paul Huban – 1500 12th Avenue – Mr. Huban asked who in the City administration follows through on complaints voiced by residents at City Council meetings. He asked all three Council members if they follow through on these issues to which all three responded they “try to.” Mr. Huban then brought up a malfunctioning street light on Nineteenth Street that he had previously made the Council aware of and stated that no one followed through on it.

He then asked who in the City is taking care of the various pot holes in the City.

Also, Mr. Huban asked, if a thirty-five-foot set back was the law when building a new home in the City.

Councilman Patricelli explained that O’Brien Electrical is contracted to repair street lights and that they have been notified of the malfunctioning lights on Nineteenth Street.

Jack Shields – 369 3rd Avenue - Mr. Shields made a comment about City code violations and referenced what he believed to be numerous violations by Robert’s Auto Services in Port Schuyler.

Bob Palero – 1921 6th Avenue – Mr. Palero stated that the Watervliet Arsenal is no longer much of a military installation and asked if the City had ever looked into annexing parts of the Arsenal so that the City could collect tax revenue.

Mayor Manning informed Mr. Palero that the Arsenal would have to be formally demilitarized and closed by the federal government for that to be a possibility.

Kathy Crudo – 1863 9th Avenue – Ms. Crudo stated that she attended the car seat check that was held at the Watervliet Elementary School and expressed her gratitude for the event being held. She then asked if people needed an appointment with the Police Department to have their car seats installed. Police Chief Spain explained that the department has one designated officer for car seat installations and anyone can contact him to set up a time to have it done.

Ms. Crudo then stated she was in favor of the Ordinance regarding grass in the City but said 19th Street has a lot of high weeds that need to be taken care of.

Ellen Hughes – 1876 9th Avenue – Ms. Hughes made a comment about the grass and weeds being overgrown at 813 19th Street. General Manager Smith informed her that 813 19th Street is on the City’s list of vacant property’s to be mowed.

Ms. Hughes then asked a question about the City’s “Complete Streets” initiative. Mr. Smith stated that the City is working on recommendations for the “Complete Streets” advisory board and announced that there will be a “Complete Streets” work shop held on September 7th which will be open to the public.

Cisco Alescia – 409 3rd Avenue - Mr. Alescia thanked the Council for approving the handicapped parking space in front of his home.

He also stated that part of the sidewalk in front of his home was dug up as part of the ongoing project on Third Avenue in Port Schuyler and asked if it would be replaced. General Manager Smith informed him that the side walk would be replaced.

Peg Germano – 1124 7th Avenue – Ms. Germano asked for an update on the working going on at the Watervliet Reservoir. General Manager Jeremy Smith explained that the City currently has two water quality studies on going.

Ms. Germano then pointed out that many of the City’s storm sewers backed up during the recent heavy rain fall and asked if the City could use seasonal summer employees to clean them out. Mr. Smith explained that the recent storms dropped too much rain in a short amount of time for the sewers to handle. He also stated that the City didn’t receive the amount of Summer employment applications it had hoped for but that the Water Department employees are working on cleaning the sewers. Also, in the Fall the City will be able to use the City of Cohoes’ sewer vacuum truck as a part of the Shared Services agreement between the two cities.

Ms. German also brought up an issue with overgrowth along a fence at Clinton Park and General Manager Smith stated that he would look into it.

Jeff Foster – 1201 8th Avenue – Mr. Foster stated that the new house being built on 6th Avenue does not meet the twenty-five feet set back rule.

Mr. Foster then asked to have all City vehicles marked as City of Watervliet vehicles.

Lastly, Mr. Foster asked if there has been any movement on adding two more seats on the

Page Seven
City Council Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2018

City Council. Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban explained that it will take some time because City wards may need to be reconfigured and the City Charter would have to be rewritten.

With there being no further comments Mayor Manning closed the Public Comment period.

General Manager Jeremy Smith then requested adjourning into executive session to discuss a pending legal matter. He requested the City Council, City Clerk Scott O'Reilly, Director of Finance Mike McNeff and Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban be present for the executive session. A motion was made by Councilman Patricelli to adjourn the into Executive Session, which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty. The Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:09PM.

At 8:34PM Executive Session was adjourned, and a motion was made by Councilman Patricelli to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Councilman McGrouty. The Council adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm.

***Next Meeting: September 6, 2018 7:00pm**

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott P. O'Reilly

City Clerk & Clerk to the Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2018**

The meeting of the Executive Session was called to Order by Mayor Michael P. Manning at 8:15pm.

Roll call showed that Mayor Michael P. Manning and Councilman Patricelli were present.

Also present from City Administration were: Jeremy Smith, General Manager, Scott O'Reilly, City Clerk & Clerk to the Council, Director of Finance Mike McNeff and Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban.

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

A motion was made to adjourn the executive session at 8:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott P. O'Reilly

City Clerk & Clerk to the Council