

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 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 and Councilman Foglia were present.
Councilwoman Fogarty was excused.

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 March 3, 2016.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

ITEM #1 – General Manager Mark Gleason announced that the City of Watervliet will hold Spring Bulk Week the week of April 4-7. 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. Mr. Gleason further stated that the City will hold an Electronic Recycling day on Friday April 8. The event will be held at The DPW (Behind the Firehouse) from 7am to 2pm, Watervliet Residents Only. There will be a small charge for tires, propane tanks, air conditioners, refrigerators, televisions and other electronics as well.

ITEM #2 – General manger Mark Gleason stated that Jeremy Smith’s success in obtaining grant funds for the reconstruction of Rt. 32 has led to the freeing up of CHIPS (consolidated highway improvement projects) funds. The past 2 years the City has kept the CHIPS funds in reserve to use towards the reconstruction of Rt. 32. The City currently has a balance of \$209,911. On April 1 (start of NYS fiscal year) we expect to receive another \$200,000, generating \$400,000 in CHIPS funding available to the City. Again thanks to Jeremy’s persistence, the Rt. 32 street reconstruction project will be covered by NYS CDTC (Capital District Transportation Committee) funding. The extra funds will be used to replace a Highway Department truck and blacktop miles of city streets. Mr. Gleason further explained that the truck is a 2016 International Terra Star. The truck, costing \$98,000 will be purchased off of a state contract (no bidding is required). The 2016 International Terra Star will replace a 2007 Ford 550 (truck to be transferred to the recreation department), recreation will retire a 1999 truck. The 2016 International Terra Star is a bigger, heavier duty truck which will primarily be used for hauling heavy payloads, plowing and salting. Mr. Gleason further stated the Streets that will be blacktopped this spring:
Broadway 23rd St to 25th St, 5th Ave 23rd St to 25th St, 13th St Broadway to 2nd or 3rd ave, 5th, St Broadway to 3rd ave, 7th Ave 1st St to Dead end, 7th St 3rd Ave to 8th Ave, 6th St 3rd Ave to 8th Ave.

Mr Gleason then stated the Streets that have been blacktopped within the last 5 years:
19th Street, 25th Street , Sections of 23rd and 2nd ave, 7th ave. from 25th to 19th

Mr. Gleason then stated the timetable for Rt 32 reconstruction:
Green Project 2016-2017, Mill and Fill RT 32 2017, Bike/Hike Trail 2018

ITEM #3 – General Manager Mark Gleason announced dates for some upcoming Spring Events in the City of Watervliet;
March 23 Café Night (WHS), March 26-Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, April 9 Civic Center Wing Wars, April 15 Library Dinner, April 16 RPI Rowing Team Regatta (Hudson Shores Park), April 16 Chili Cook-off , April 23- Little League Parade, May 1 Kids Count Golf Tournament, May 30-Memorial Day Parade .

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING #1 – A Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing those persons who wish to be heard regarding proposed Local Law No. 1 for the Year 2016, a local law to amend Chapter 230. Sewers of the Code of the City of Watervliet.

Mayor Manning opened the Public Hearing and stated that due to the proposed increase in the Sewer rates within Local Law #1 2016, the City would be once again advertising a public Hearing on April 7th. Mayor Manning stated that comments will still be heard today but can also be heard on April 7th.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith read the proposed changes to Local Law #1 including the proposed 3% increase.

General manager Mark Gleason explained that this was in part due to a consent order by the NYSDEC to regulate the Combined Sewer Overflow.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that he would be explaining the Green Infrastructure Project that Mr. Gleason eluded to, later in the meeting upon the approval of the Lowest bidder. With there being no further comment mayor Manning closed the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING #2 – A Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing those persons who wish to be heard regarding proposed Ordinance No.1958 an Ordinance of the City of Watervliet, New York providing that Chapter 266. Water of the Code of the City of Watervliet be amended.

Mayor Manning opened the Public Hearing and stated that once again people were allowed to comment but there would also be a Public hearing on April 7, 2016 to discuss this Ordinance.

City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that there is no proposed increase in the rates.

A comment from the audience was made in regards to adding meters to all residential properties to make the water pricing fair for all.

With there being no further comment, Mayor Manning closed the Public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

LOCAL LAW #1 2016 – A Local Law to Amend Chapter 230. Sewers of the Code of the City of Watervliet. City Clerk Jeremy Smith announced that this was a first reading of the proposed Local Law and that no action would be taken at this meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 1956 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Jeremy A. Smith, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council to publish for ten days in the official newspaper of the City, pursuant to provisions of Section 162 of the City Charter, the intention of the Council of the City to discontinue the portion of 20th Street and on April 21, 2016, this Council will hold a Public Hearing concerning the proposed discontinuance of a portion of 20th Street at the J. Leo O'Brien Senior Citizen Center, Watervliet, New York at 7:00 P.M. at which time all persons interested may be heard in opposition to or in favor of such discontinuance. City Clerk Jeremy Smith announced that this was a first reading of the proposed Ordinance and that no action would be taken at this meeting. Paul Goldman of Goldman Attorneys stated that this and the next Ordinance were in association with the proposed plans for Stewarts to build a facility where the current Pioneer Savings bank is.

ORDINANCE NO. 1957 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Jeremy A. Smith, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, to publish once a week for three weeks in the official newspaper of the City, pursuant to provisions of Section 30 of the City Charter, the proposed sale by the Council of the City of a portion of 20th Street. On May 5, 2016 at 7:00 PM this Council will hold a Public Hearing at the J. Leo O'Brien Senior Citizen Center, Watervliet, New York concerning the proposed sale of the Property at which time all persons interested may be heard in opposition to or in favor of such proposed sale of the Property and that General Manager of the City will sell the Property to the highest bidder, subject to the Minimum Bid and the Approving Ordinance of the Council, at a Public Auction on 20th day of May, 2016 at 10:00 AM in his office at City Hall, 2 Fifteenth Street, Watervliet, New York 12189. City Clerk Jeremy Smith announced that this was a first reading of the proposed Ordinance and that no action would be taken at this meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 1958 - An Ordinance of the City of Watervliet, New York providing that Chapter 266. Water of the Code of the City of Watervliet be amended. City Clerk Jeremy Smith announced that this was a first reading of the proposed Ordinance and that no action would be taken at this meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 9255 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Mayor Michael P. Manning to execute a contract with Capital District Physicians Health Plan for Health Care Coverage for the period between January 1, 2015 and December 31 2015. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9256 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorizes and directs Jeremy A. Smith, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, to advertise in the official newspaper of the City that a Public Hearing will be held in the J. Leo O’Brien Senior Citizen Center, Watervliet, New York on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM for the purpose of hearing those persons who wish to be heard regarding proposed Local Law No. 2 for the Year 2016, a local law to amend Chapter 108. Animals of the Code of the City of Watervliet. Prior to voting, Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban stated that this was to clean up the Chapter and add larger fees to the Dangerous Dogs Section of the code. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9257 – That The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby accepts the bid and awards the contract for the Route 32 Green Infrastructure Project to August Bohl Contracting Co., Inc 197 Broad Street, Albany, NY 12202, in the amount of Nine Hundred Twelve Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$912,245.00), the lowest responsible bidder in conformance with the specifications, and Mayor Michael P. Manning be and he hereby is authorized and empowered to execute a contract. Prior to voting City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that this is the project that answers the DEC Consent order for the CSO’s in the City. Mr. Smith further stated that this contractor has done several other projects in regards to local DEC Consent orders and the City has received positive feedback. Mr. Smith gave a brief description of the work to be done. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9258 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby accepts the proposal for engineering services submitted by Weston & Sampson®, 22 High Street, Rensselaer, New York 12144, for the Watervliet Civic Center Capital Improvement Project. Prior to voting City Clerk Jeremy Smith stated that their were two proposals received and that Weston & Sampson was chosen due to their extensive knowledge of the project. Mr. Smith further stated that this was the next step in the Civic Center project and that the City is moving much closer to beginning construction. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9259 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an Amended and Restated Memorandum of Lease and Second Amendment to Lease Agreement between the City of Watervliet, and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless regarding the lease of a portion of 1234 19th Street in the City of Watervliet together with certain positions on the water tank owned by the City of Watervliet. Prior to voting Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban stated that this resolution was to change the language in the current agreement which was incorrect in the original contract. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9260 – the Council of the City of Watervliet hereby authorized and directs Jeremy A. Smith, City Clerk and Clerk to the Council, to advertise in the official newspaper of the City that a Public Hearing will be held in the J. Leo O’Brien Senior Citizen Center, Watervliet, New York on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM for the purpose of hearing those persons who wish to be heard regarding proposed Local Law No. 1 for the Year 2016, a Local Law to amend Chapter 230. Sewers of the Code of the City of Watervliet and further increasing Sewer Rents for the period of November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016 and proposed Ordinance No. 1958, an Ordinance amending Chapter 266. Water of the Code of the City of Watervliet and further establishing Water Rates for the period November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016. Upon a motion by Councilman Foglia, seconded by Mayor Manning, this resolution was unanimously approved and adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Michael Calicone – 401 2nd Avenue – Mr. Calicone stated that he wanted to thank the Council and Administration for being so open and explaining the legislation on the agenda. Mr. Calicone stated that he explanations are very helpful to the public.

Maryann Cicetto – 120 3rd Street – Ms. Cicetto stated that received a parking ticket for slightly parking on the grass in front of her house. She asked that the Council review her street to see if it could be a one way or another parking alternative.

Jeff Foster – 1201 8th Avenue – Mr. Foster asked the Council if they thought it would be fair for homeowners to place meters at their property for water readings. He stated that it would be on the homeowners to cover the cost of the meter and install, but that it would be fairer for all. Mr. foster also stated that he knows people in the Town of Colonie and Guilderland whom pay much less for their water and that Guilderland buys their water from Watervliet.

Mayor Manning stated that comparing City’s and town’s water billings is difficult because towns do not include the infrastructure in their billing but instead include it in their taxes. Cities have infrastructure included in the bills.

With there being no further comment a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

Next Meeting: April 7, 2016 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy A. Smith

City Clerk and Clerk to the Council