

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, AT 7:00 P.M.

*****Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this meeting was held via video conference*****

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

Roll call showed that Mayor Patricelli, Councilwoman Diamond and Councilman Torncello were present.

Also present from City Administration were: City Manager Joe LaCivita, Director of Finance Amanda Austin, Corporation Counsel Yorden Huban, Acting Chief of Police Brian Strock, and Deputy City Clerk Dave Wheatley.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Patricelli

Councilwoman Diamond made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 11-19-2020 meeting which was seconded by Councilman Torncello. A vote was taken to dispense with the reading of the minutes which passed 3-0.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

City Manager Joe LaCivita spoke to the council on the following issues:

- Striping for the bike path is continuing.
- The heating system installation in the church is anticipated to be completed on 12/8/2020
- Mayor Patricelli, Acting Chief Strock, members of the fire department and Mr. LaCivita have been involved with the County regarding testing and vaccination sites for COVID 19. There has been discussion regarding moving the Whitney M. Young testing facility into the DOME for the winter.
- City Hall has been closed to the public due to the daily rise of COVID-19 cases in the county, the City of Watervliet and in the 12189-zip code. Business is being conducted via appointment only at this time. The numbers for the City and the zip code are being posted daily on the front door of City Hall and on the City's website and Facebook pages. Councilman Torncello questioned Acting Chief Strock regarding his officers walking into homes where someone is quarantined or positive. Acting Chief Strock indicated that the information is manually entered into the 9-1-1 system and the police and fire departments are notified when called. The system is not perfect but is working.
- Mr. LaCivita read a notice advising that this council meeting is held remotely under Governor Cuomo's Executive Order # 202-1

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 2031 – An Ordinance adopting the Annual Estimate and fixing the rate to be employed in computing the amount to be collected for the City taxes for the year beginning January 1, 2021.

Upon a motion by Councilman Torncello, which was seconded by Councilwoman Diamond this ordinance passed 3-0.

RESOLUTION No. 9788 – A Resolution regarding closure of Watervliet City Hall to the public.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Diamond, which was seconded by Councilman Torncello this ordinance passed 3-0.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ACCOUNTING

Director of Finance Amanda Austin updated the council on the following items:

- The City closed on a \$2.5 million dollar BAN this week at a rate of .56%. This money will be used to pay for the 9th Avenue water line project along with the Bike Path project until grant funding is received.

***Prior to the Public Comment period Mayor Patricelli discussed the following items:

- On Tuesday of this week the City began work, in conjunction with staff from Albany County, using the Sewer Vac machine to clean the catch basins throughout the City.
- The Redemption Church food drive was held today and helped 180 residents.
- The Watervliet Historical Museum will hold a Christmas Pageant on December 12 and 13 and again on December 19 and 20 in the church from 12PM to 4PM. They will be handing out ornaments which were made locally, and Santa will make an appearance.
- The City will welcome home Sgt. Rebecca Meerwarth from a 10-month military deployment tomorrow. A Welcome Home sign has been placed at the city line on 3rd Avenue. The council will make a formal presentation to Sgt. Meerwarth at the next council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NONE

After the public comment period Councilman Torncello made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Councilwoman Diamond. This motion passed 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 17, 2020 7:00 P.M.

*****This meeting will be held virtually*****

Respectfully Submitted,

David C. Wheatley
City Clerk & Clerk to the Council