

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF WATERVLIET
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 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 12-3-2020 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:

- Mr. LaCivita thanked Chris Daus, and Yorden Huban for all their hard work, dedication, and friendship. Mr. Daus is retiring after 36-years with the City of Watervliet and Mr. Huban accepted a position outside of the City.

***After this Mayor Patricelli read a proclamation declaring December 17, 2020 as “Christopher Daus Day” in the City of Watervliet.

- Provided an update on how the snow removal was progressing and advised that department heads were scheduled to meet on Monday to discuss how things went and what areas improvements can be made.
- Mr. LaCivita advised that the snow emergency is scheduled for 7:00AM to 7:00PM on December 18th
- The Police Policy Review Board will meet next on 1/6/2021. Mr. LaCivita advised that there have been a lot of good ideas discussed.
- Bulk Item Pick-Up, which was scheduled for Friday, December 18th has been moved to January 2021 due to the storm. All homeowners who signed up will be notified when the date has been determined.

- The City has participated in stakeholder meetings for the Congress Street Bridge study with the City of Troy, NYS DOT.
- Mr. LaCivita met with Siemens regarding the streetlight purchase program and hopes to have an RFP to go out to bid in January.
- Whitney Young used the DOME as a COVID testing site recently and while they have moved back into their building the DOME is available for future use if the need arises. The City will be looking for upgrades to the DOME in the future to make it a multi-faceted facility in the future.
- Councilman Torncello asked Mr. LaCivita to investigate how to better notify residents that the plows are in their area. Mr. LaCivita advised that all options are being considered and will be discussed at the department head meeting on Monday.

***At this time Mayor Patricelli presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a Norman Rockwell print to Sgt. Rebecca Meerwarth for her military service and welcomed her home. ***

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 9789 – The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves the Consent Order and Judgment in the matter of The Fiqh Mosque, Inc. vs. Tina Dimitriadis, in her official capacity as Assessor for the City of Watervliet, et al. and Goldberg Segalla LLP, special legal counsel for the City of Watervliet, is directed and authorized to execute the Consent Order and Judgment and Stipulation in full settlement of this matter and to do all things necessary and appropriate to give full force and effect to the terms of said settlement.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 9790 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves an agreement between the City of Watervliet and ABS Solutions, L.L.C., with an address of 30 Corporate Circle, Suite 107, Albany, New York 12203 commencing on January 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021 and further authorizes and directs Mayor Charles V. Patricelli to execute same.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 9791 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement between the Watervliet Police Benevolent Association and the City of Watervliet and further authorizes and directs Mayor Charles V. Patricelli to execute same.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 9792 - The Council of the City of Watervliet hereby approves, ratifies, and confirms the execution by Mayor Charles V. Patricelli of a Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Albany and the City of Watervliet for snowplowing services.

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 Albany County tax rate for the year 2021 has not been established yet. This will make it necessary to hold a Special City Council meeting on Tuesday, December 29th to adopt their annual rate.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NONE

Mayor Patricelli spoke about Meet Santa Night at Parker Brothers on Saturday, December 19 and the Santa Parade through the City scheduled for Sunday, December 20. The Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas

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 7:48 P.M.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 29, 2020 12:00 P.M.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
David C. Wheatley
Deputy City Clerk