



City Council **Minutes**  
The City of Cortland  
**January 21, 2020**

Council Meeting #2  
**January 21, 2020**  
25 Court Street  
7:00 PM

Present: Aldermen Kat McCarthy, Katy Silliman, Bruce Tytler, John Bennett, Jacki Chapman,  
Troy Beckwith, Thomas Michales

Excused: Alderman William Carpenter

Staff Present: Director of Administration & Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel,  
City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, City Police Chief Catalano, Confidential Secretary  
to the Mayor Devon Rainbow

**Public Hearing 1:** Submission of potential Community Development Block Grant applications to NYS Office of Community Renewal by City in 2020.

Opened public hearing at 7:02pm. No one present to speak. Closed public hearing at 7:03pm.

**Public Hearing 2:** Submission of a Community Development Block Grant application to NYS Office of Community Renewal by City on behalf of NY Hemp Oil.

Opened Public Hearing at 7:03pm. No one present to speak. Closed Public Hearing at 7:04pm.

**Regular Session:**

Mayor Tobin called the second Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:04PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comments:**

Tim Bennett was present to speak. Tim Bennett has been a member of the City since 2003. He also stated that he hopes to have Chill – a - Bration held on February 29, 2020.

**Resolution #25 of 2020** - Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 7, 2020 as presented.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #26 of 2020** – Resolution to approve the special event application along with other required applications for Porchfest on Sunday, August 16, 2020 from 11AM -6PM.

Molly Reagan Andrejko was present to speak and stated it is the same as past years. Porchfest contact email is [porchfestcortland@gmail.com](mailto:porchfestcortland@gmail.com).

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy  
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #27 of 2020** – Resolution to waive the \$250 amplified music fee for the special event Porchfest on Sunday August 16, 2020.

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy  
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #28 of 2020** – Resolution authorizing the City of Cortland to submit a grant to NYS Office of Community Renewal on behalf of New York Hemp Oil in an amount not to exceed \$750,000; authorizing the Mayor of the City of to sign said application on behalf of the City; and upon approval of said request, authorizing the Mayor of the City to enter into and execute a grant agreement with the State for such financial assistance awarded to the City of Cortland.

Alderman Kat McCarthy disclosed the relationship between her partner/Main Street Farms and the Hemp company.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #29 of 2020** – Resolution to Amend the City’s 2020 General Fund Budget to Adjust for a 2019 Police Vehicle purchased in 2020.

**Whereas**, the City’s Adopted 2020 Budget was prepared to accommodate a department request to purchase in September 2019 a police vehicle from funds to be appropriated for in the 2020 Budget, and

**Whereas**, to accommodate the request the City provided for a reimbursement of the 2019 General Fund from the 2020 Budget, and

**Whereas**, the police vehicle was not purchased in 2019 and is now being purchase in 2020.

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the 2020 Budget is amended as following:

Increase Account Number A3120-340100	Police Department Vehicles	\$47,000.00
Decrease Account Number A9950-590000	Fund Transfers	(\$47,000.00)
	Net Effect on 2020 General Fund Budget	\$0.00

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
 Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #30 of 2020** – Resolution to Amend 2020 General Fund Budget to Accommodate Replacement of Police Department In-Vehicle Cameras.

Increase A3010-549500	Police Department Equipment Account	\$6,000.00
Decrease A1680-540500	IT Computer Replacement Program	(\$2,000.00)
Decrease A1325-541600	Finance Department Cont. Education	( \$500.00)
Decrease A1325-541500	Finance Department Professional Fees	(\$ 1,500.00)
Decrease A3120-540300	Police Department Office Supplies	( \$500.00)
Decrease A3120-540301	Police Department Office Equipment	( \$500.00)
Decrease A3120-540800	Police Department Safety Equipment	( \$500.00)
Decrease A3120-541608	Police Department Cont. Education	( \$500.00)
Net Effect on 2020 Budget		-\$00.00-

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
 Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #31 of 2020** – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract to update Charter and Code Book with E-CODES (\$ 5170.00-\$5785.00).

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
 Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Item #7** – Discussion of and setting date for a public hearing to amend City Code 107 (Vacant Building).

The Local Law has been drafted. Suggested to review at the next meeting which is February 4 @ 7pm.

**Resolution #32 of 2020** – Resolution to prepare Request for Proposal regarding auctioneer for 2019 “In Rem Foreclosure” auction to be held early summer 2020.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
 Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #33 of 2020** – Resolution granting NYSDOT authority for the relocation and adjustment to the City of Cortland’s 8 inch NPS water main and appurtenances for the reconstruction of I-81 over the

abandoned Lehigh Valley Railroad in the City of Cortland-BIN 1031381 and BIN 1031383 under Project Identification Number PIN 3501.61.

Superintendent Chris Bistocchi was present and stated it is located at the 2 bridges by Yaman Park. NYS DOT is attempting to remove all bridges that don't have roads under them and put in box culverts. Project is to start this spring. There is zero cost to the City.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
 Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #34 of 2020** – Resolution to adjust the City’s enforcement of snow removal from sidewalks.

Captain Tenkate spoke regarding the policy. There were concerns regarding the 24 hour notice as that may not be enough time for people to get the sidewalk shoveled. The current code is not effective and need to hold people in compliance.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler  
 Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #35 of 2020** – Resolution to accept, recognize and appropriate the following donations to the Youth Bureau.

<b><u>Donation</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Event/Project</u></b>	<b><u>Budget Line</u></b>
Todd & Michelle Funk	\$500.00	Youth Center Kitchen	A-7330.5400
Cortland Community Foundation	\$300.00	Parks & Rec program	A-7140.5405
Beverly Ellefson	\$200.00	Parks	A-7140.5405
SUNY Cortland Panhellenic	\$1,889.00	Park Improvements	A-7140.5405
Total	\$2,889.00		

Thank you!

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett  
 Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #36 of 2020** – Resolution to establish a timeline for environmental review of Parker School.

- 1/21/2020—ESTABLISH LEAD AGENCY
- 1/21/2020---DETERMINE SIGNIFICANCE
- 1/22/2020---PREPARE AND PUBLISH DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT
- 2/18/2020---PUBLIC HEARING ON DEIS

2/20/2020---LAST DAY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

3/1-3/6/2020—PREPARE AND FILE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

This SEQR review only evaluates whether or not the action taken, that is the offer to buy the building, has a negative environmental impact.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler  
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #37 of 2020** – Resolution to establish the City as Lead Agency for the environmental review of the purchase of Parker School.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #38 of 2020** – Resolution to determine significance of environmental impact of the purchase of Parker School.

Reviewed SEQR questions and there was no environmental impact.

Motioned by: Alderman Chapman  
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Motion to enter into executive session** – For litigation and there will be action

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Motion to exit out of executive session**

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #39 of 2020** – Resolution to Amend the City’s Adopted General Fund Budget as follows:

Decrease	A3620-540100	Code Department Vehicle Acquisition	(\$32,110.00)
Decease	A3410-541500	Fire Department Professional Services	(\$ 5,000.00)
Decrease	A3410-541600	Fire Department Travel and Education	(\$ 2,500.00)
Decrease	A1325-541000	Finance Department Education	(\$ 490, 00)
Increase	A1429-541000	Law Department Professional Services	\$40,000.00
Net Effect on Budget			\$0.00

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
 Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Resolution #40 of 2020** – Resolution to Support the New York Conference of Mayor’s 2020 Legislative Program.

**Whereas**, the City of Cortland and its sister cities, towns and villages have worked diligently to control property taxes, utility rates, and fees while maintaining fundamental services, and

**Whereas**, the City of Cortland and its sister cities, towns, and villages now require an increase in funding from the State of New York in order to be able to continue providing vital local services to all New York State citizens and residents, and

**Whereas**, the City of Cortland and its sister cities, towns and villages require the tools and commitment from the State of New York to continue breaking down the barriers to efficiency and community revitalization for the betterment of all New York State citizens and residents.

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the Common Council of the City of Cortland joins with its sister cities, towns and villages to support the enactment of measures that;

- increases unrestricted State Aid to local governments
- establishes an annual State funding stream available to local governments to address water and sewer infrastructure needs
- expand highway funding
- amend the newly enacted Criminal Justice Reforms
- Limit the application and costs of the Prevailing Wage Mandate.

Mayor Tobin read each of the bullet points and Council Members agreed to them all.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman  
 Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7  
 Nays – 0

**Item #17** – Discussion to make Otter Creek Place intersection at Groton Avenue “DO NOT ENTER” from Groton Avenue.

Concerns with homeowners and there are safety concerns. This started with what would be the impact on Groton Ave. This street was never wide enough for 2 lanes and there is no traffic light and there is a one lane road sign hidden by the Groton Avenue sign.

There needs to be a Do Not Enter sign from Groton Avenue. Suggested to have a sign put up to let people know about the change in the law once it is voted on. There will be a Public Hearing at the next meeting held on February 4<sup>th</sup> and a vote would take place then.

**Alderman Tytler** suggested they draft an additional letter to Senate & State Legislature regarding the Bail Reform.

**Adjournment**

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy

Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**I, RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK FOR THE CITY OF CORTLAND, NEW YORK, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, HELD ON THE 21ST DAY IN JANUARY 2020. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED FOR HIS CONCURRENCE IN ADOPTION OR REJECTION BY VETO POWER.**

---

**RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK**

---

**MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN**