



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
February 20, 2018

Council Meeting #4
February 20, 2018
25 Court Street
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Michelle Mastropolo, Gary Thomas, John Bennett, Carlos Ferrer, Troy Beckwith, and Thomas Michales

Excused: Aldermen Katy Silliman and Bill Carpenter

Staff Present: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Superintendent of Wastewater Bruce Adams, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker and Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Devon Rainbow

REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Brian Tobin called the fourth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:03 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Hearing:

Mayor Tobin opened the Public Hearing to amend Chapter 20 of the City's Code "Energize NY Benefit Financing Program" at 7:05 PM.

No one was present to speak.

Mayor Tobin closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 PM.

Mayor Tobin opened the Public Hearing on a proposed local law enacting a local law authorizing the creation of a Community Choice Aggregation Program, and adopting certain provisions to facilitate Program implementation at 7:06 PM.

No one was present to speak.

Mayor Tobin closed the Public Hearing at 7:07 PM.

Public Comments:

Anne Doyle – Spoke about the possibility of closing Parker or Virgil elementary School. The school board needs help and more people should speak up and voice concerns. The City is going to be spending a lot of time and money revitalizing downtown to bring more people into the City.

Dan Tagliete – He is in the 7th Ward and feels something needs to be done on Pomeroy. Nothing has been done in 40 years and traffic flies down that street. He is in favor of putting a 4-way stop at the intersection Pomeroy St. and Central Ave.

Tim Armstrong – He was born and raised in Cortland and currently owns a bakery on Elm St by the intersection of Elm and Pomeroy. He feels that the 2-way stop currently on Central and Pomeroy intersection is very dangerous. He is in favor of changing it to a 4-way stop. However, the intersection at Elm and Pomeroy is fine. He is against changing the light out for a 4-way stop. He feels it will back traffic up due to the heavy traffic flow. It will interfere with the houses on that street that will need to get out of their driveway.

Linda Grisel – She is a 20 year employee at the Pomeroy daycare. Her room window faces Pomeroy and the children watch traffic all day. The traffic goes very fast and it is unsafe for the children when they go out for walks. She wishes to see a 4-way stop at both intersections.

Resolution #33 of 2018 - Resolution to approve the February 6, 2018 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #34 of 2018 – Resolution adopting Local Law to Improve and Strengthen the Sustainable Energy Loan Program.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #35 of 2018 – Resolution adopting Local Law to add a section to the General Law of the City of Cortland, authorizing the creation of a Community Choice Aggregation Program, and adopting certain provisions to facilitate Program implementation.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #36 of 2018 – Resolution adopting Community Choice Aggregation Program Education and Outreach Plan and Customer Opt-out Letter.

The City will continue to educate the public regarding the company and what is expected. If someone wants to Opt-out of the program they will have to submit an Opt-out Letter.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #37 of 2018 – Resolution to appoint Nic Dovi as the certifying officer on the Clinton Avenue Gateway Project.

There are multiple phases to this project and around 8 companies that will be involved. The City would like to have a point person to keep track of everything. The State has expectations and Nic can make sure they are followed.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #38 of 2018 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Smartwatt Energy, Inc. for the provision of energy saving facility improvements.

There is a guaranteed savings with this company. If there is no savings within the projected time, the company will pay the difference.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #6 – Discussion on the traffic signals at the intersections of Pomeroy St. /Central Ave. and Pomeroy St. /Elm St.

A study was done in 2015 on 5 intersections of the City that included accident reports. The study suggested a 4-way stop at both intersections on Pomeroy St with LED stop signs. It will slow traffic down because people will not be racing to beat the “Yellow Light”. DPW can look into painting cross walks at the intersections. The LED stop signs have been a success on Greenbush St and there has been very little maintenance involved.

Item #7 – Discussion on 911 memorial.

This process was started a year ago and the committee has investigated many possible locations throughout the City to place a sculpture for the 911 memorial. Currently the Courthouse Park is the proposed location. Tino Ferro has been contacted to be the sculptor and Mike McKinney has volunteered his concrete services for the project. A bunch of material has been collected from the 9/11 event. It’s going to be used for 2 towers and a pentagon shaped bottom. This is to represent all 3 locations that were hit and affected on that day. There will be a fundraiser through Bricks-R-Us to help pay for the project. People can purchase a brick from the company and have something etched on the brick. The bricks will be included in the memorial site. The project is projected to be done for September 11, 2018.

Item #8 – Discussion of ad-hoc committees.

Mayor Tobin will contact Council members and discuss dates and times to discuss the Ad-hoc Committees regarding sidewalks and personnel.

Item #9 – DRI update.

The last meeting was Thursday February 15. The Local Planning Committee endorsed the slate in its entirety to go to the State. The proposed final projects will go to the State and from there be reviewed by many different departments. The Governor will then give his final approval of what will be cut and what will be funded. Mayor Tobin asked for Council to endorse the projects that will be put forth.

Resolution #39 of 2018 – Resolution for the City Common Council to endorse the slate of projects that will be going forward to the State.

Motion By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Alderman Bennett asked to add an agenda item.

Resolution #40 of 2018 – Resolution to rescind Resolution #21 of 2018 to lift the hiring freeze to fill the Firefighter vacancy resulting from a promotion to start January 26, 2018.

Motioned By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Mayor Tobin wanted to congratulate Jim Zelsnack on his recent promotion to Fire Captain.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 6
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 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018. 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