



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
March 2, 2021

Council Meeting #5
March 2, 2021
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Councilperson Kat McCarthy, Bruce Tytler, John Bennett, Jackie Chapman, Troy Beckwith, Thomas Michales

Excused: Councilperson William Carpenter, Katy Silliman

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Friedman, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, Confidential Secretary Devon Rainbow

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the fifth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

No one was present to speak

Ward Reports:

Ward 1 – Reminder that it is icy out and please salt your sidewalks. There were some concerns with the school traffic on Wheeler Ave.

Ward 2 – No concerns, impressed with the results of the EO203

Ward 3 – Great job by the Fire Department with your quick response to the fire on Maple Ave.

Ward 4 – Still concerns with the actions of some students.

Ward 5 – Concerns with trash at a residence house.

Ward 7 - Quiet

Ward 8 – Thank you Fire Department and DPW for hard work

Mayor's Report:

Proclamation - American Red Cross month – March 2020

Moment of Silence for Fran Tokar, who was the Ex. Director of the Youth Bureau. Bob Spada, who was the Superintendent of Public Works.

Mayor Tobin asked to add Executive session at the end for contractual matters.

Resolution #46 of 2021 – Resolution to approve minutes from February 16, 2021 meeting.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
 Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #47 of 2021 – Resolution to authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cortland to sign and submit two Community Development Block Grant applications to the New York State Office of Community Renewal seeking funds for a Microenterprise Assistance Program and a Housing Rehabilitation Program, to authorize the Mayor to execute grant agreements with the funding source for either or both grants upon award to the City, and to undertake any other actions necessary to implement the Program or Programs.

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy
 Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #48 of 2021 – Resolution to Resolution to accept, recognize and appropriate the following donations to the Youth Bureau.

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Event/Project</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>
Todd & Michelle Funk	\$500.00	Youth Center	A-7310.5405
Total	\$500.00		

Thank You!

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
 Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #49 of 2021 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign a MOU with SUNY UPD.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
 Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #50 of 2021 – Resolution to adopt an updated Code Fee Schedule as attached starting July 1, 2021.

There was discussion that due to the hardships of the pandemic that some landlords are having, not start the fees until July 2021.

A motion was made by Councilperson Tytler to amend the Resolution to add the start date of July 1, 2021, Councilperson Michales seconded the motion. All were in favor of amending the resolution.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #51 of 2021 – Resolution authorizing the indefinite “loan” of the Gamewell Alerting Mechanism that is located at the Headquarters Fire Station to the CNY Living History Museum’s new Historic Fire Station display. This mechanism has not been used by the Fire Department in numerous years and will not be of use in the future.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #52 of 2021 – Resolution to transfer \$5,467.00 from Police Department Revenue Line A3120-44389 to Police Department Clothing Line A3120-540800, which represents Department of Justice Ballistic Vest Grant Reimbursement for 2020, which will be utilized to offset the cost of new ballistic vests in 2021.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #53 of 2021 – Resolution to recognize and appropriate \$2,504.80 in proceeds from scrap sales to Contento’s in the form of abandoned vehicles from the impound lot and brass from firearms training to be placed in the Firearms Training budget line A3126-541602 to help defray the unanticipated cost of sending 4 new hires to academy due to retirements and lateral transfers.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #54 of 2021 – Resolution to approve Anderson’s Market to host a benefit for Cortland City Police K9 Unit in the form of a BBQ on 04/17/21 proceeds to go to the K9 unit account line.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #55 of 2021 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze to hire an Accountant in the Finance Office to fulfill pending retirement of the Assistant Deputy of Finance. Salary not to exceed \$55,000 for starting pay.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #56 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the hiring of an Accountant affective April 1, 2021 at a salary not to exceed \$55,000 a year.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #57 of 2021 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze to an Account Clerk to fulfill vacancy in the Water Department due to retirement.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #58 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the hiring of an Account Clerk to be funded through the General Fund affective June 1, 2021 at a salary not to exceed \$29,153 a year.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #59 of 2021 – Resolution to retain the services of Bonadio & Company LLP to review of existing accounting systems and processes and rendered assistance in implementing necessary systems revisions at a cost not to exceed \$18,000.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #60 of 2021 – Resolution to retain the services to retaining the services of Inserio & Company, CPA, LLP to facilitate the transfer of responsibilities from the Deputy of Finance to the Comptroller and Director of Finance ensuring a continuation of functions during the transition. Assistance with the 2020 annual audit and submission of the 2021 Annual Update Document at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #61 of 2021 – Resolution to set the date, time, and place for a public hearing to solicited input on the community impact of the 2016 CDBG Infrastructure Grant that provided funding for replacement of the Clinton Avenue Water Main.

A date was set for March 16, 2021 at 7PM.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #62 of 2021 – Resolution to waive a relieved payment penalty of \$26.28 on a property inspection charge.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #15 – Discussion on the City’s plan on EO203.
The Mayor reviewed the 4 sections of the City’s plan to proceed based off of the outcome of the survey. Council will vote to adopt the plan at a later meeting.

Item #16 – Discussion on extending the Mayor’s term to 4 years.

There will be a public hearing at the next Council meeting. This would not take effect until 2023.

Item #17 – Discussion on extending the Councilperson’s term to 4 years.

There will be a public hearing at the next Council meeting. This would not take effect until 2023.

Item #18 – Covid-19 update

The City is still watching and taking violations serious.

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith

Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

A motion was made to exit out of Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith

Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Adjournment

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy

Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

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 2nd DAY IN MARCH 2021. 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