



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
March 19, 2019

Council Meeting #5
March 19, 2019
25 Court Street
7:00 PM

Present: Aldermen Kat McCarthy, Katy Silliman, Thomas Michales, William Carpenter, Troy Beckwith, and John Bennett

Excused: Alderman, Gary Thomas, Carlos Ferrer

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

Regular Session:

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

Public hearing for the parking on Tompkins St.

Jo Shaffer- Jo explained that this is her neighborhood and she does not understand why it is being declared a no parking zone. She has an issues with the cars that are parked right up to the curb and give no walking space. She thinks that by declaring a no parking zone, cars will park further back and will cover the pedestrian walking spots.

The public hearing was closed at 7:04 pm.

Public hearing regarding the abolishing of city code chapter 258.

Thomas Keegan- Thomas expressed his support and gratitude for the abolition of this chapter.

Jo Shaffer- Jo wanted to know if there was something that would be implemented in the place of this chapter, and she asked that it not be removed until there is something figured out to replace it.

The public hearing was closed at 7:08 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

Tom Gobel- Tom expressed his concerns with the mayor's swim meet and the dispute between Virginia and North Carolina.

Mayor's report:

Sgt. Detective Dan Edwards has been here for 30 years. Chief Catalano spoke and said some kind things about Dan's hard work and congratulated him.

Proclamation:

April is Fair housing month.

Resolution #57 of 2019 – Resolution to approve and accept the minutes as amended from the March 5, 2019 Common Council meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #58 of 2019 – Resolution to declare a black, 2012 Chevrolet Sonic as surplus property to be sold on Auctions International.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #59 of 2019 – Resolution to appropriate proceeds from the auction of the 2012 Chevrolet Sonic to A3120.206.00.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #60 of 2019 – Resolution to commit CDBG Program Income for the installation of handicapped curb cuts at various locations in the City. It is going to be a time consuming and costly project. The mayor has put together an RFP for this. It is about \$40,000 which gets around 32 of the 88 accessible crosswalks. Once things get finalized, there will be a prioritizing list.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #61 of 2019 – Resolution to encumber the balance of the remaining \$10,791.67 in 2018 NYS CHIP's Allocated Funding to the 2019 DPW Administration Consolidated Highway Aid account (A5110-541500) to fund 2019 NYS CHIPS eligible construction projects.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #62 of 2019 – Resolution to transfer \$37,000 from the General Fund Contingency Account (A1990-540000) to the DPW-Administration Professional Fees account (A5110-541500) to fund the remaining costs of completing the Madison St Bridge project (PIN # 3756.13).

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #63 of 2019 – Resolution to transfer via an Interfund Transfer \$969,157.61 to the Capital Fund from the Sewer Equipment Repair & Replacement Savings account (ER&R) and appropriate said transfer to the Capital Project Fund Sewer Equipment Capital Outlay account (H8197-520601) to fund the remaining costs of the Wastewater facility major upgrade project.

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #64 of 2019 – Resolution to approve the local law for a no parking zone on Tompkins St.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #65 of 2019 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze for the Fire Department.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #66 of 2019 – Resolution to hire a new Fire Fighter.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #67 of 2019 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a lease agreement with Madison Cortland ARC for office space at the Armory on Wheeler Ave.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #68 of 2019 – Resolution to waive the \$10,000 in accrued Code Enforcement Receivable and interest thereon for vacant building penalties on property owned by NYC REO LLC, at 26 Cleveland St., (Tax ID 087-37-01-19.00000) to sell said property to a responsible owner to facilitate the process of returning the property to productive use.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Some council members had concerns regarding finances.

Carpenter and Silliman rescinded their motions, and decided to table this item for the April 2nd meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 1 (Alderman Bennett)

Resolution #69 of 2019 – Resolution to waive the \$15,000 in accrued Code Enforcement Receivable and interest thereon for vacant building penalties on property owned by Apex Tool at 43-45-47 Cleveland St, (Tax ID 87.37-02-06.000) to facilitate the transfer of said property to a responsible owner to facilitate the process of returning the property to productive use.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #70 of 2019 – Resolution to waive the \$20,000 in accrued Code Enforcement Receivable and interest thereon for vacant building penalties on property owned by Daniel Mullins at 203 Tompkins St, (Tax ID 096-24-01-21.00000) to facilitate the transfer of said property to a responsible owner to facilitate the process of returning the property to productive use.

Alderman Bennett stated that the property that Daniel Blood has done an excellent job with the property he purchased. He said that Daniel Blood believes that he can do just as good of a job with the vacant property. Daniel Blood was present to speak. He currently has a contract with Mr. Mullins to buy the property. Since the time that he had taken the mortgage on the property, he had paid all the taxes that includes 2019 taxes, along with all the fees, insurance for the property, and any costs necessary. He explained that Mr. Mullins will have no proceeds from the property. He wanted to clarify to Council that there are no code violations. He explained that the only violation was that Mr. Mullins did not fill out a registration form in 2016, but the requirements were met. Alderwoman Silliman explained that she would like this item to be tabled, to hear from Deputy Chief Knickerbocker. Alderwoman Silliman explained that her issue is with Mr. Mullins, not Mr. Blood. A Council Member said he'd like to see a breakdown of the money. Mr. Blood explained that each year, the amount would double, then triple, etc. Alderman Bennett reminded council about last year's similar agenda item on 2 Pearl St. that was \$15,000 and did not need nearly as much work as this property that Mr. Blood is willing to take on.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #71 of 2019 – Resolution to accept a \$350,000 Affordable Home Ownership Development Program Grant AHC (Grant ID 3Q110) administered by NYS Homes and Community Renewal to fund a portion of the cost of to acquire, improve, rehabilitate or construct 10 single family homes.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #72 of 2019 – Resolution to adopt the City Fee Schedule. This item has been present many times, and it is now to approve of the changes. Once it is approved, it will be put on the website.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #16 – DRI update- RFP's are being put together for City projects to engage architectural and engineering work.

Item #17 – Task Force update- There is an upcoming meeting.

Item #18 – Monthly Budget update- The first round of salt has happened, and the second round is coming soon.

Motion to adjourn:

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

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 19 DAY IN MARCH 2019. 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