



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
April 7, 2020

Council Meeting #7
April 7, 2020
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

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

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric Van Donsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Friedman, Interim Director of Code Enforcement Mike Tenkate, City Clerk Ray Parker, Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Devon Rainbow, Superintendent of WWTP Bruce Adams, Youth Bureau Director John McNerney

Regular Session:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

No one present to speak.

Ward Report:

Ward 1: Had concerns with playgrounds & kids playing on them. Seeing a lot of positivity within the community.

Ward 2: Quiet in the 2nd ward. We had some college students no social distancing and President Bitterbaum told them they could be expelled if they don't take the social distancing seriously. Masks are suggested for all. Glass collection is this week. Some people stated their water bills went up this week.

Ward 3: Concerns with the students and houses that are not social distancing. Corporate Counsel Ric VanDonsel is working with the Police Department on issuing tickets.

Ward 4: Quiet in the 4th ward.

Ward 5: Many people are spreading cheer in their windows and showing positivity within the community.

Ward 6: Pretty quiet in ward 6. Questions on the speed zone on route 13. Looking to move speed zone on Locust avenue to the bottom of the hill. Thank you Mack Cook for getting on the insurance matter.

Ward 7: All quiet for the most part. Would like to thank everyone who helped out with the situation on Elm Street.

Ward 8: Getting concerns regarding social distancing. Still receiving calls from the house on Hyatt Street.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor spoke about the incident on Elm Street. Thank you to the Police Departments for their response. Chief Catalano stated that they received a lot of support from the community and wanted to say thank you to everyone for everything. There was concerns with 9-1-1 not picking up or responding quickly enough. There were many calls coming in at the same time. Reminder that this is glass only this week.

Proclamation: April is Fair Housing month.

Mayor Tobin read the proclamation.

Resolution #83 of 2020 - Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 17, 2020 as presented.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #84 of 2020 – Resolution adopting the EAF part 1, 2 & 3 regarding the Groton avenue portion of the Gateway project.

City is lead agency. This is for the part of the Gateway project that will go through Main Street up Groton Avenue. This is a Type 1 action.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #85 of 2020 – Resolution to adopt a negative impact to the SEQR and City as Lead Agency.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #86 of 2020 – Resolution of amendment to the EAF regarding the Main Street DRI project to complete part 3 and indicate a Negative declaration.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter

Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #87 of 2020 – Resolution to Adopt the 2020 to 2024 Capital Project Plan.

The purpose of this is that it puts projects together and gets a plan for completion of the projects.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter

Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #88 of 2020 – Resolution Authorizing the issuance of \$25,777,953 in Serial Bonds to Finance the Cost of Water System, Sanitary Sewer System and Storm Sewer System Improvements.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett

Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #89 of 2020 – Resolution to Repeal a Bond Resolution of the City Of Cortland Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,983,000 Serial Bonds to Finance the Cost of the Reconstruction of Clinton Avenue Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Systems.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter

Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #90 of 2020 – Resolution to Repeal a Bond Resolution of the City Of Cortland Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,010,000 Serial Bonds to Finance the Cost of The Reconstruction of the Clinton Avenue Water Distribution System.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett

Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #91 of 2020 – Resolution to Authorize an Annual Special Assessment Fee Based upon Water Usage to Fund Debt Service in Indebtedness Incurred to Maintained and Improve the City's Water System.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett

Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #92 of 2020 – Resolution to authorize the publication of an Estoppel Notice that the City of Cortland has authorized the issuance of \$25,777,953 in Serial Bonds to Finance the Cost of Water System, Sanitary Sewer System and Storm Sewer System Improvements.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #10 – Discussion on the City’s plan for the Covid-19.

City Preparations – Department Heads are doing what they should. Duties have changed to protect employees. Have been talking with other departments within the County.

Governor Cuomo – He has stated the curve is flattening. Social distancing is working. There is a possible antibody to help determine more for testing.

County cases – There are 18 confirmed cases, 1 in the hospital. Beau Harbin stated the Public Health Director feels it is better and safer to keep numbers at county wide.

Social Distancing – The schools and nonessential businesses in New York State will remain closed through April 29th. Governor Cuomo stated there was a maximum fine of \$500 for people who are not adhering to the social distancing guidelines and raised the potential max of the fine to \$1,000. That is showing from the State level down how important this is. It is ok to have conversations with neighbors from a distance. People will be prosecuted in court when allowed with the fine of \$500 to \$1,000. We are working hard to maintain protocols.

Blue bag fees – If we waive the fees it will equal a \$20,000 loss/cost to the City.

Basketball hoops being chained up, some removed, orange fencing put up and caution tape to discourage groups of kids.

There is free meditation and mindfulness at Headspace.com. There are several organizations that are distributing meals such as United Way who is partnering with Seven Valley. The school is distributing food to the students.

You can contact Garry VanGorder & Bob Haight for help with businesses.

If you have questions regarding essential construction contact our Code Office at 607-753-1741.

Here is a list of resources:

A.V.V. Hotline 756-6363

You can call 211 or email btobin@cortland.org for help

Cortland business.com
Cortland County take out & delivery
Cleanup Cortland County
US & world covid-19 resource page on Facebook

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
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 7TH DAY IN APRIL 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