



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
May 7, 2019

Council Meeting #8
May 7, 2019
25 Court Street
7:00 PM

Present: Aldermen Kat McCarthy, Katy Silliman, Thomas Michales, Gary Thomas, Carlos Ferrer, Troy Beckwith, and John Bennett

Excused: Alderman William Carpenter

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:

Mayor Tobin called the eighth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:02 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

Gerry Ruggiero: Gerry commented on the R-1 law and suggested to repeal it.

Ann Doyle: Ann has a few different concerns. First, she explained that she has spoken with many people and they all feel ignored by the city. Ann said that a few nights ago she woke up because of a lot of shouting, so she went out and threatened to call the police and they threatened her. Ann called the police and the police never showed up. She also mentioned how sometimes, people's garbage is taken by someone other than DPW because DPW does not do it.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1: Madison and Douglas both have repairs going on.

Ward 2: It is pretty quiet, but when the weather warms up there is a lot of foot traffic and noise.

Ward 3: There has been a large amount of people complaining about gouges in their lawns from DPW plows. Gary will talk to Nic Dovi to see how to go further with the issue.

Ward 4: Quiet in the fourth.

Ward 6: There have been phone calls about lawn repairs and DPW is taking care of them. There are calls also about garbage in the lawn, and code is on it.

Ward 7: There is one issue with the sidewalk on Hellen St, but Bill Knickerbocker is taking care of it. Dexter park looks great.

Ward 8: There has been some minor flooding, a beaver dam was removed, and this is not the first time it has happened. There is also a disabled vehicle on Kellogg road that has been there for over a year, and code is taking care of it. Thank you for the fire dept. for taking care of a fire on E. Court street so quickly, and preventing it from getting worse. There is a deteriorating fence that is being addressed, and an RFP has gone

out to replace it. Trees are being planted, and dead ones have been removed. There are many more being planted than taken down.

Mayor's report: There was some concern and confusion about a fire at the Wastewater Treatment plant, but there was no fire, it was just normal procedure of burning off of gas. Some of the concerns about yards and plow damages, DPW does in fact do repairs. There is paving work going on several streets. The Mayor mentioned Sam Forcucci, a WW2 Vet, musician, teacher, and Mayor for the City. He was a leader, who was well respected by all. There was a moment of silence for Sam.

Resolution #100 of 2019 – Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 17, 2019.

Motioned by: Alderman Thomas
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Proclamations:

Boot drive day for muscular dystrophy: Since 1954, the IAFF has raised over \$558 million for the NBA, who is the leading health agency, providing scientific, medical, and emotional support for families who suffer from the disease. Travis Marshall spoke about this. He explained that they would be out for the boot drive from 7:30-2:30 on graduation day.

Building safety month: The Mayor read the proclamation, which included what the proclamation entails.

National Arson awareness week: The Mayor gave some statistics regarding arson and the dangers. May 6-12 will be dedicated to awareness of this issue.

Peace officer and police awareness week: May 15th is peace officer memorial day, and that week is national police week.

Resolution #101 of 2019 – Resolution to approve the special event application and all other necessary applications for the Dairy Parade on June 4, 2019

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #102 of 2019 – Resolution to waive the fees associated with the special event application for the Dairy Parade on June 4, 2019.

Motioned by: Alderman Thomas
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #103 of 2019 – Resolution to waive the open container ordinance for the Arts and Wine Festival on August 3, 2019.

Kat McCarthy is the Ex. Director for the Cultural Council of Cortland County, so she abstains from this item.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett

Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6

Nays – 0

Abstention – 1 (Alderman McCarthy)

Resolution #104 of 2019 – Resolution to approve Scott Harris as a commissioner for the Board of Assessment Review for a 3 year term.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith

Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #105 of 2019 – Resolution to approve a contract agreement with Hunt Engineers & Architects for consulting and design services (\$51,000.00) for the Wickwire Pool House Renovation project. Included in the attachment is the following:

1. March 2019 Request for Proposal for consulting services sent to over 20 NYS Firms
2. Hunt Architectural/Engineering Services Fee Proposal for the Wickwire Pool House Project
3. Hunt Architectural/Engineering power point presentation regarding the project.
4. Pending contract from Hunt- (Will forward to Ric for review as soon as I receive).

It is unknown what the total cost will be when the project is done. The goal is to begin after this summer's swim season. There will need to be an aggressive timeline for next summer.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett

Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #106 of 2019 – Resolution to declare a white 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe as surplus property to be sold on Auctions International, and for the proceeds to go towards new police vehicles.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman

Seconded by: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #107 of 2019 – Resolution authorizing the implementation and funding of a State “Marchiselli” Program-aid eligible transportation federal-aid project, to fully fund the local share of federal-and state-aid eligible and ineligible project costs and appropriating funds therefore, for the intersections of Groton Ave and Floral Ave, Pleasant St. and Homer Ave, and Floral Ave and Madison St.

Nic Dovi was present to give some explanations. He said that there was a lot of thought involved, and there are a lot of future plans, and this allows DPW to go all the way up Groton Ave, without using City money. This program is a state managed grant. The engineering is through CNS engineers.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #108 of 2019 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute the 2018 Professional Services contract for Downtown landscape maintenance in an amount of \$19,500 as provided for in the City's 2018 General Fund Budget.

Motioned by: Alderman Thomas
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #109 of 2019 – Resolution to approve Thoma Development Consultants' proposal to provide administrative and program delivery services for Community Development Block Grant #285ME178-18 (Microenterprise Assistance Grant) pursuant to a Request for Proposal (RFP) process and to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Thoma Development Consultants for said services; Execution of a contract will be contingent upon approval of the City's RFP process by the New York State Office of Community Renewal and review of the contract by City Corporation Counsel.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #110 of 2019 – Resolution to approve Thoma Development Consultants' proposal to provide administrative and program delivery services for Community Development Block Grant #285HR334-18 (Housing Rehabilitation Grant) pursuant to a Request for Proposal (RFP) process and to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Thoma Development Consultants for said services; Execution of a contract will be contingent upon approval of the City's RFP process by the New York State Office of Community Renewal and review of the contract by City Corporation Counsel.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #111 of 2019 – Resolution to approve Thoma Development Consultants' proposal to provide administrative and project delivery services for the NY Main Street Anchor Grant for 83-85 Main Street, Shares #20180070, pursuant to a Request for Proposal process for and to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with Thoma Development Consultants for said services contingent upon review of the contract by City Corporation Counsel.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #112 of 2019 – Resolution to appropriate from the Miscellaneous Revenue Fund the sum of \$20,000.00 to fund the City’s 2019 sidewalk program.

There was some money last year that went back into the account. This is approval of the \$20,000 for people who want assistance with their sidewalks repaired. This is the same process we have followed in the past years.

Motioned by: Alderman Thomas
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #113 of 2019 – Resolution to amend, upon the recommendation of the City’s Loan Committee, the Community Development loan to Crescent Commons, LLC by modifying the agreement so that the principal is to be due and payable in whole on June 1, 2025 which may be extended at the option of the City till June 1, 2030. Further, the outstanding balance of the loan shall accrued interest from the period commencing on June 1, 2019 and ending on June 1, 2025 at the annual rate of 2.5%. Further, should the City so extend the repayment of principal till June 1, 2030, the outstanding balance shall accrue interest at the rate of 60% of the prime interest rate annually as of June 1st of each succeeding year commencing on June 1, 2025.

If there are questions regarding finances, it is possible to enter into executive session.

Motion to enter into executive session:

Motioned by: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Motion to exit out of executive session:

Motioned by: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

This came from the City’s Loan Committee. It is to modify a loan to Crescent Commons LLC, pushing back the principal that is due on the loan, and the City has the option to push it back to 2030, and the money will still be paid with interest, just at a later date.

Item #14 – Discussion regarding disposition of 16 Harmon Street and **possible** Consideration to authorize Mayor to execute contract with John Bergeron (only Bid received) regarding the demolition of 16 Harmon Street.

The RFP is done, and council has designated 20, and the bid came back as \$22,000 to demo the property. The Mayor recommends to authorize and pass a resolution for that to be done.

Resolution #114 of 2019 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with John Burgeron in the amount of \$22,000 to demolish the property at 16 Harmon St.

Motioned by: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #15 – Update on DRI. There was a pre-bid meeting that was attended by over 30 different individuals that came from different firms from all over. There was a lot of interest, and the Mayor is confident that there would be a lot of bids.

Item #16 – Update on Parker School Task force. The task force has been working very hard to keep Parker from becoming a hole in the community. There is a community meeting on May 22nd at Parker, from 6:30-7:30 to propose to the community the ideas of the future. There will be presentations from CAPCO, YWCA, and Cortland Christian Academy. After this, it will come to council. This is very positive for everyone involved. All are invited to come and hear the details.

The process for repairing the roof at City Hall has begun. There is no big impact in terms of disruptions and parking.

Motion to adjourn:

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Thomas

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 7 DAY IN MAY 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