



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

Council Meeting #15
July 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 (7:40pm)

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Deputy Police Chief Paul Sandy, Fire Chief Friedman, Interim Director of Code Enforcement Mike Tenkate, City Clerk Ray Parker

Regular Session:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing - Public Hearing on odd/even parking at Dexter Park Parking Lot

No one was present to speak
Closed Public Hearing at 7:05pm.

Public Comments

Shaneyya Simmkjaer is a senior at SUNY Cortland and spoke about the backlash from the BLM painting. She explained why the movement was so important.

Dr. Nagel wanted to thank Shaneya. This was a sign that Cortland can come together. Community gatherings bring us all together.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1 – Quiet in the 1st Ward.

Ward 2 – Quiet in the 2nd ward. People are wearing masks. Thank you.

Ward 3 – Thank You Katy, DPW, & Code with handling a few things in Ward 3. COVID numbers are going up. Reminder to keep on distancing.

Ward 4 – Quiet. Wanted to thank everyone involved with the BLM painting.

Ward 6 – There are Raccoons on Charles Street and PD has been helping resolve the issue. Working on the speed zone on Route 13.

Ward 7 – Quiet in the 7th Ward.

Ward 8 – Thank you for everyone involved in the painting of BLM. Dominos donated pizza to the event. Thank you to the Police Chief and Deputy Police Chief for monitoring traffic on Church Street. A tree from property owned by the railroad fell on someone’s fence.

Mayor’s Report:

BLM was painted last week at the intersection of Main Street and Court Street. Thank you to community members and artist who helped with the painting. The Mayor engaged in listening and learning about BLM. We look forward to a community that judge’s base on character.

Proclamation: Recognition of Pam Barden who had been with the Police Records Department for 38 years.

Thank you for your service!

Resolution #135 of 2020 – Resolution to approve minutes from June 10, 2020 special meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #136 of 2020 – Resolution to approve minutes from June 16, 2020 meeting.

Alderman McCarthy asked that there be revisions to the wording on #125 & 127 regarding the disclosures she shared.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #1 – Discussion on registration for the Census for the City.

Everyone in the City, even students should/need to register.

Resolution #137 of 2020 – Resolution designating the Community Development Block Grant Environmental Certifying Officer.

WHEREAS, the City of Cortland was awarded a Community Development Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the New York State Office of Community Renewal, as administered by the State of New York;

WHEREAS, the City of Cortland is required to designate an environmental certifying officer for the purpose of signing required environmental documents pertaining to this CDBG award; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Cortland be hereby designated as the City’s environmental certifying officer for grant program 285HR362-19 for the purpose of signing correspondence and other required documents and forms.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #138 of 2020 – Resolution to transfer \$8,477.00 dollars from General Fund Contingency Account to Building and Grounds Equipment Repair Account (1620-540700) to fund the cost of a repairing and replacing garage door at Armory.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #139 of 2020 Resolution to recognize and appropriate \$1959.66 from fees received for reimbursement of sidewalk shoveling from account A3620-42701 to A3620-541505 contractual services.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #140 of 2020 – Resolution to recognize and appropriate \$19,680.16 for reimbursement of decontamination shelter rental and buyout, since the decontamination shelter has been declared surplus, from Guthrie Cortland Medical Center to A3410-542002 Special Operations Equipment.

Hospital rented equipment from City for drive thru testing and now they want to purchase due to long COVID pandemic.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Amendment to add that the property was declared surplus to resolution.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #141 of 2020 – Resolution to Recognize and appropriate \$810.00 in funds from 2020 bicycle sales. \$405.00 to be allocated to the City of Cortland Community Police Officer account and \$405.00 to be allocated to the Cortland City Police K9 account.

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy

Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #142 of 2020 - Resolution to indicate the support of the Common Council regarding the Home Rule Request in preference to Senate Bill and Assembly Bill which specifically relates to the exemption from article 4 of the General City Law allowing the City to eliminate the Plumbing Commission and replace it with a Plumbing Inspector.

Currently the inspector is Mike Tenkate by default.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #143 of 2020 – Resolution to re-appoint Paul Quinlan to the Cortland Housing Authority Board for a 5 year term.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #9 – Discussion on forming a Committee to improve neighbor relations.

It's our responsibility to know what's going on with our constituents. We have an opportunity to enhance, involve and engage our constituents. Alderman Silliman volunteered to be on the committee, Alderman McCarthy, Alderman Chapman and Alderman Tytler would also like to be on the committee.

Mayor Tobin stated he would like to ask Council to consider appointing Alderman Silliman, Alderman McCarthy, Alderman Chapman and Alderman Tytler to head up Cortland Forward to engage community members.

Resolution #144 of 2020 – Resolution to form an Advisory Committee to the City Council to tentatively be named Cortland Forward with the goal of improving neighbor relations and working on inclusion, equity and anti-racism.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #10 – Discussion on odd/even parking at Dexter Park Parking Lot.

Alderman Beckwith stated there were some concerns regarding extra parking. Would like to designate 9-10 spots on SE side facing Railroad tracks for possible overnight parking.

Alderman Silliman asked if this is happening in any of our other parks. This is not in any other parks. No permits needed.

Public Hearing on July 21st and vote.

Item #11 – Discussion on the Mayor’s response to the Governors Executive order #203.

Every municipality that has a Police Department, have to draft a resolution or Local Law for potential changes. Council will speak to constituents. What do we want our Law Enforcement Agency to look like? There was a survey done through Police Department in 2014. Possibly going County wide. Suggested that they have a panel that would have 8-10 people making up a forum from PD.

Item #12 – COVID19 and Response

There was a question regarding face to face meetings and when they will happen. It was suggested that this be revisited in August because numbers are up. A board/commission member has expressed a concern to meet in person.

Reminder to the public that yes playgrounds are open and being sanitized 2-3 times a day. The splash pad is open and is being monitored. The bathrooms are still closed.

Proclamation: Recognize Mark Baranello for serving on the Plumbing Board for 30 years.

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

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 JULY 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