



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
October 2, 2018

Council Meeting #18
October 2, 2018
25 Court Street
7:06 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Katy Silliman, William Carpenter, and Troy Beckwith,
Thomas Michales, John C. Bennett

Excused: Alderman Michelle Mastropolo, 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.

Public Comments:

Tom Gobel- Tom brought up the 9/11 memorial saying that there should be an appreciation day or a proclamation or dinner of some sort to express the gratitude for the people who worked hard to put the memorial together. He also said that he believed that the fountain needed to come down.

Ann Doyle- Ann wanted to put in some money for SNAP. They put in a lot of work and if it weren't for them the city would be overrun with kittens. She believes we should give them more money and less money to the SPCA

Ward Reports:

Ward 2: People in the 2nd ward are pleased with the amendment of local law 300-11. There were two robberies late Friday night and Saturday morning on Clayton Ave and Prospect Terrace.

Ward 4: Things have been quite quiet in ward 4. Last Thursday John attended the budget and finance meeting for the Greater Tompkins Health Consortium. He mentioned that every time he has left a meeting, he has walked away very impressed and pleased.

Ward 5: Ward 5 has also been very quiet. Bill wanted to thank the Youth Bureau for installing the new slides at Beaudry Park. The mitigation system on Pendleton St. has been working well so far, there have been no complaints

Ward 7: The rodent issue seems to be under control. Troy had a few calls about the crosswalk markings on the Pomeroy St. intersection, so he called Nic Dovi and it is being handled. There were quite a few street lights out in the ward but Troy made calls to national grid, so the problem is taken care of.

Ward 8: There were a few calls received. One concern was parking overflow at corner of Pendleton and Port Watson, so Bob is checking it out and seeing how the parking is for any given time of day. Thomas

believes it will be an ongoing investigation until they get some answers. There are still calls being made regarding odors in the area, mostly East Ave. area. Thomas does not believe it is coming from a single source. Bruce says they're doing a dry run of their facility which will alleviate odors. Suit-Kote, the facility that is making the wood pellets off of Kellogg Rd, could also be the source of the odor. There were also some concern of rats that could be associated with the worm program. He tried to reassure these people that the program is to keep the worms well fed, not the rats.

Mayor's report:

- The pumpkin fest is this weekend, Saturday and Sunday. There will be food, games, and a lot of activities.
- The fire department has an open house on Saturday.
- SUNY Cortland is celebrating their 150th anniversary. People of the community are invited on Friday 6-8:30 for cake, music, and depending on when the sun sets, there will be fireworks after dusk on Graham Ave up the hill.
- Thank you to the emergency services that participated in the Emergency Services Softball Tournament fundraiser for the Special Olympics, there was a great turnout.
- Reading of the Conflict of Interest document for Mike Dexter and his participation in the tree planting.

Proclamations:

1. Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Linda Glover came in to give some facts and to speak about Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
2. Fire prevention week (October 7-13).

Resolution #232 of 2018 – Resolution to approve the Common Council minutes of September 18th.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #1 – Presentation on the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium.

Don was present to speak. He explained that what allowed them to get to that point is Article 47, a law that was created in 1993. Don said that the Department of Financial Services is monitoring them, which allows them to receive great benefit plans. He also thanked John for coming out to some meetings. There are 7 counties that make up the Consortium. There are 46 board members, and it is Don's job to keep them educated and updated. They are very fortunate to have such great partners. Even though their partnering businesses go up by double digits every year, the Consortium was able to keep them at a 3% increase, which is very low. Don explained that Medicare is the only insurance that is more efficient, and the reason behind that is that they do not have to buy a specific insurance that the Consortium has to buy.

Item #2 – Presentation on the Firefighter for a Day Camp.

This is the 4th year running the program, this year the goal was to have around 200 kids due to the popularity. 90 kids signed up for big kid day ages 7-14, and there was a goal to have 120 little kids, but it turned out to be 150 children, totaling in a number of participants larger than expected. Derek brought a breakdown of the days. There were about 30 volunteers needed per day. Derek expressed his gratitude for all of the support and help from community members.

Item #3 – Consideration of a Resolution to accept and approve the exotic pet permit for hens.

The owner of the hens is not yet prepared, as he is still going through the documents and process of getting the hens. The council has agreed to vote to table this application until the October 16, 2018 meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
 Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Resolution #233 of 2018 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an encroachment agreement to allow an existing fence to remain partially within the City right of way along Liberty Street A/K/A Summit Street in the City of Cortland.

Ric explained that this is a standard item, as Summit Street comes off of Madison and Route 281, but the part that is of concern at the moment is the part that comes off of Madison. There is a house with a Madison St. address with a fence that has been there for many years with an odd street line from however it was originally designed the home owners agreed that if the City allows them to keep the fence for the time being, should the fence ever come down, they won't place a new one in the same way, which Ric believes to be a fair trade off.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
 Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Resolution #234 of 2018 – 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>
Whole Heart Café	\$75.00	Porch Fest	A-7140.5405
Kate's Bakes	\$75.00	Porch Fest	A-7140.5405
Jamie Brown	\$2,257.00	COED Softball Tourney	J. Partigianoni Trust
Total	\$2,407.00		

Thank you.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
 Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Resolution #235 of 2018 – Resolution to re-appoint Devon Rainbow as the Records Management Officer at an annual stipend of \$520.00 for October 2018-October 2019.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Resolution #236 of 2018 – Resolution to amend Resolution 191-2018 which authorized the issuance of \$955,000 in bonds to fund the acquisition of two fire apparatus by reducing the authorization to \$780,000 to reflect cost containments and receipt of grant funds and authorized the republication of the Estoppel Notice to reflect the amendment.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #237 of 2018 – Resolution to accept the 2017 Financial Statement as audited by The Bonadio Group.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #4 – Presentation of the 2019 Mayor’s Water Fund Budget. (Mack Cook) Many people have reviewed the budget and placed the money how they want it. They are well capitalized to continue the replacement of waterlines.

Resolution #238 of 2018 – Resolution to accept the 2019 Mayor’s Water Fund Budget as presented to Common Council.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #5 – Presentation of the 2019 Mayor’s Waste Water Fund Budget. Bruce Adams was present to speak. The budget includes a 2% rate increase which has been discussed with the Mayor, as they believe it is more efficient to do small incremental increases. Bruce explained they are anticipating revenue from Chobani and Byrne Dairy’s Syracuse operations. The initial years cost for the generator maintenance are much higher than anticipated. Right now, they are bringing four to five loads a week, but the goal is to bring ten to fifteen loads a week.

Resolution #239 of 2018 – Resolution to accept the 2019 Mayor’s Waste Water Fund Budget as presented to Common Council.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #240 of 2018 – Resolution to accept the Mayor’s 2019 budget for the General Fund as presented to Common Council on September 18th, 2018.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

- Council discussed workshops and picked days suitable to have them. The chosen dates are October 15th at 6pm, October 22nd at 6pm, the Public hearing is November 20th at 7pm, and October 29th at 6pm there will be a discussion meeting.

Resolution #241 of 2018 – Resolution to authorize the preparation and release of an RFP for the replacement or reconstruction of the Well 3 pump.
For financing, the first \$25,000 will be covered by the grant.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #6 of 2018 – Discussion regarding properties with unpaid taxes and the City’s legal responsibility for making the County whole.

When there are properties not paid up in taxes, the City has been remitting what is due, in regards to taxes, to the other entities. When the money is not coming in, and the City owes the County, that situation puts the City into a deficit. The law requires that the City needs to make the schools whole, but there are other options to handle this. For the people who do not pay, the City is not making up the difference for the County.

Resolution #242 of 2018 – Resolution states and supports the Mayor directing the Administration and Finance Department for the City of Cortland to only remit to the County property tax money received. County property taxes not paid to the City, will not be paid forward, starting with the 2019 levied taxes.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

DRI – They are still planning a meeting with representatives and local developers.

Parker School Task Force – There is a meeting scheduled Thursday, October 4th at 6-7:30pm. The intention for the task force is to take numbers supplied by the school district in regards to expenditures and the property, to figure out how the property can be run outside of the school system.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
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 OF OCTOBER 2018. 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