



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
October 6, 2020

Council Meeting #21
October 6, 2020
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

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

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Friedman, Confidential Secretary Devon Rainbow, City Clerk Ray Parker

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the twenty-first Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:03PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing - Public hearing for the City of Cortland's Fiscal Year 2018 Microenterprise Community Development Block Grant #285ME178-18 opened at 7 PM.

No one present to speak

Mayor Tobin closed the Public Hearing at 7:08 PM.

Public Hearing - Public hearing for the City of Cortland's Fiscal Year 2018 Microenterprise Community Development Block Grant #285HR33418 opened at 7:08 PM.

No one present to speak

Mayor Tobin closed the Public Hearing at 7:09 PM.

Public Comments

Niki Watkins – asking Council for help with issues with her neighbor at 120 N Main St. She has reached out to many City Departments but is getting little to no support since November 2018.

William Diescher – Concerns with the Mayor creating more division within the City rather than stopping it.

Peter Salton – Is Niki Watkins Attorney and would like a response from the City to help resolve the issues/complaints she has submitted.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1 – Yard waste starts on the second week of October.

Ward 2 – Is aware of the issues on N Main and has been in contact with Police and Code department. There is concern with the SUNY numbers increasing and now they are going to remote learning.

Ward 3 – Thank you to the Code Office and DPW for help with an issue. There are lots of calls regarding the SUNY and County numbers increasing with Covid-19.

Ward 4 – Quiet

Ward 5 – Concerns with all the litter around the City.

Ward 6 – Complaints regarding the condition of Clinton Ave.

Ward 7 – Yard waste collection is approaching. Please do not put it in the road but on the curb.

Ward 8 – There have been a few vehicle brake-ins.

Mayor's Report:

The City has a law limiting the number of political signs on your property. You are allowed 2 signs and they cannot be in the right of way. There was a meeting to discuss the concerns with the future of the senior center. The City has ranked very well with our parks. The proposed budgets will be put to Council by the next meeting. There has been an increase in Opioid deaths with in the City and there will be an event to give out kits of Narcan to people to potentially help save someone's life. Seven Valley Health Coalition was awarded a grant for local food producers.

Proclamations:

Mayor Tobin read the proclamations for: Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October)
- Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10, 2020)

Resolution #194 of 2020 – Resolution to approve minutes from September 15, 2020 meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #1 – Presentation on the Crisis Intervention Team.

Lt. Guerrero explained that the team was originally formed in 2012. Over the years they have grown and undergone more training that has helped them decrease the number of time spent on calls, injury on calls, admissions to the hospital, and jail time. There is an average of about 320 calls a year. 94% of the City Officers are trained. The team is made up of many different departments throughout the County and they meet monthly to update on what's been happening. The team helps get people help or resources they need to better their situation.

Item #2 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the Street Closure Application for Saturday, October 31 from 4PM-9PM for trick-or- treating.

Melissa Kiser explained that this is to help the children to be able to go out and maintain social distancing a little easier without having to worry about traffic.

Several safety concerns were brought up by Council and it was decided to table the item until the next meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded by: Alderman Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 3 (Michales, Beckwith, Carpenter)

Resolution #195 of 2020 – Resolution to accept, recognize and appropriate the following donations to the Youth Bureau.

Donation	Amount	Event/Project	Budget Line
Seven Valley Crossfit	\$500.00	Youth Center Activities	A-7310.5405
Kings Daughters	\$500.00	Youth Center Activities	A-7310.5405
Cortland Women’s Softball	\$950.00	Jim Partigianoni Scholarship Fund	Trust \$ Agency Fund
Total	\$1,950.00		

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Resolution #196 of 2020 – Resolution to acknowledge and recognize a \$500.00 donation to the Cortland City Police K9 Fund to assist with Dental work on K9 Lummel from John Brown.

Motioned by: Alderman Michales
 Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Resolution #197 of 2020 – Resolution to acknowledge and recognize \$656.29 in donations to the Cortland City Deer Fund to assist with habitat improvement and health of the captive white tail herd, made through generous donations of bottles and cans from the public.

Motioned by: Alderman Chapman
 Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Resolution #198 of 2020 – Resolution to acknowledge and recognize certain vehicles at the Cortland City Police Impound lot as abandoned and of no use to the Cortland City Police, allowing they be sold for either scrap or Auctioned off to public, via Auctions international, and utilizing the funds to offset the maintenance issues with the Cortland City Police fleet.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #199 of 2020 – Resolution to acknowledge and recognize a \$6,000.00 grant to the Cortland City Police Department from Cortland Area Communities that Care for the express purpose of hiring overtime officers to perform special details for the enforcement of incidents pertaining to alcohol and narcotic abuse, thereby moving the funds from the revenue line to the Overtime line 5104.00 in the Cortland City Police Budget.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #200 of 2020 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Town of Homer for Assessor services.

The term of the contract is set by NYS.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #201 of 2020 – Resolution to amend the 2020 General Fund Budget to provide \$13,607.00 in NYS CHIPS Revenue (A5010 43501) and appropriate same amount to NYS CHIPS expenditures (A5110 541500).

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #10 – Discussion regarding making the Charter and Administrative Code gender neutral, and set date for public hearing on Local law. (Ric VanDonsel)

A date was set for October 20, 2020.

Item #11 – Environmental Review of replacing Water lines on North Greenbush and Washington. (Ric VanDonsel)

Council agreed to be the lead agency and went through the questions to determine there would be negative environmental impact.

Item #12 – Update on Cortland Forward Committee.
The Community read starts Columbus Day.

Item #13 – COVID19 and Response
SUNY has moved to remote learning and has set restrictions on the students. If anyone notice people not abiding by the regulations set, please call and report it.

Item #14 – Discussion on Narcan Distribution.
This helps save the lives of individuals that have overdosed on Opioids. There will be a community event to distribute kits to those that may want or need them. They will help train people how to use it and what to do if it is needed.

Resolution #202 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the Special Event Application for The Chapel’s Pumpkin Giveaway on October 10, 2020 from 11AM – 1PM in Courthouse Park.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #16 – Discussion on Halloween Festivities.
We need to keep the City safe. Maybe do festivities earlier in the afternoon while it is still daylight, wear gloves to hand out candy/treats, and everyone must wear a mask while maintaining social distancing. This discussion will continue next meeting.

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

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 6TH DAY IN OCTOBER 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