



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
March 6, 2012

Work Session

6:30 PM Reapportionment – Dan Dineen, County Planning

A City Reapportionment Committee was formed at the conclusion of the Work Session. Those included are Aldermen Ferguson, Bird, Michales and Mayor Tobin.

Council Meeting #5
March 6, 2012
Regular Session
City Hall
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Tobin, Aldermen Bird, Silliman, Dye, Bennett, Quail, Ferrer, Ferguson and Michales

Staff Present: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Deputy Director of Administration and Finance Lori Crompton, Corporation Counsel Kelly Colasurdo and City Clerk Judith Chamberlin

Mayor Tobin called the fifth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comment

No one was present to speak.

RESOLUTION #33 OF 2012 - Minutes – February 21, 2012

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays - 0

Bills were reviewed.

Ward Reports

Ward 4 – Alderman Bennett

Alderman Bennett announced that he would be having a Ward meeting on March 12 at the Barry School at 6:30 PM. Discussion will be regarding the proposed SUNY Life Center, parking on adjacent streets and possibly setting up a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Ward 8 – Alderman Michales

Alderman Michales attended the SUNY Life Center meeting last week. He noted that one of the items that came out of the meeting was the possibility of finding a site closer to a parking area.

Ward 1 – Alderman Bird

Alderman Bird reported that she had received a complaint about snow plowing. She asked that people be considerate and think before plowing snow into the street or onto other people's yards. She thanked Chief Catalano and Mack Cook for their help with that issue.

Ward 3 – Alderman Dye

Alderman Dye reported some issues with recycling problems. He contacted Casella and voiced his concerns and it will be addressed. There should be fewer broken recycling bins and if they are broken, Casella will replace them.

Ward 2 – Alderman Silliman

Alderman Silliman met with Alderman Michales and Thoma Development representatives to talk about grants that the City wants to pursue. She reported that there were twelve (12) people at the Ward meeting. She reported that Pat Reidy presented on the Water Works project to mitigate flooding. She noted that Legislator Ray Parker discussed the redistricting proposal as well as fracking. She reported that Corporation Counsel Colasurdo attended and was available for questions. She stated that she participated in the SUNY Cortland Life Center scoping meeting. She reported that nine (9) people spoke out and that there was still time for people to write or email comments before March 16 and the addresses were on the City website.

Ward 7 – Alderman Ferguson

Alderman Ferguson apologized to her Ward and the City for not being able to attend the last meeting due to illness. She has received complaints regarding a drug den in the neighborhood and also concerns regarding feral cats. She will be following up on both of those issues.

Ward 6 – Alderman Ferrer

Nothing to report at this time.

Ward 5 – Alderman Quail

Alderman Quail reported that he picked up some trash on South Main Street and he took pictures and gave them to the Code Office. He noted that there has been much discussion regarding the SUNY Life Center, but he noted that there were also opportunities that it could potentially present to the City. He noted problems with the Wickwire Pool, but that this facility would bring in a state of the aquatic center that possibly could be used by students and residents. He noted another opportunity was a walking trail. He further noted that there was also a business opportunity for a sports management program. He felt that this could help market Cortland. He noted that there were challenges with this project, but the Council needed to look at both the positives and the negatives.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Tobin reported that he also attended the SUNY scoping session and he reminded everyone that comments can be submitted until March 16. He thanked Mack Cook, Steven Rhea and the Environmental Advisory Committee with coming up with about one hundred and sixty (160) points of concern regarding this project.

Mayor Tobin testified at the Governor's Mandate Relief Council about local costs due to State mandates, predominately about Tier 6 and pension reform. He also attended the NYCOM Conference on February 27 in Albany. He met with other Mayors and elected officials about current issues being faced by many municipalities.

Mayor Tobin also had the opportunity to announce the winners of the Chillabration Chili cook-off. He also reported that the Downtown Business Partnership will be hosting a forum on March 27 at 8:00 AM at 9 Main Street. Topics of discussion to be presented will be current projects, issues and a vision for goals for Main Street. It was announced that thirty thousand (\$30,000) dollars was raised by the Polar Bear Plunge.

Proclamation Reading

Mayor Tobin read a proclamation for the American Cancer Society's May Day for Relay.

Mayor Tobin read a proclamation declaring March as American Red Cross Month.

PINK SHEET Sign Off

AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #34 OF 2012 – Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances §11-165 (A)(1) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

Mayor Tobin explained that these items were all related to changing the Code of Ordinances with regards to updating arterial signage. Alderman Michales noted that once these changes were made that this would enable local Law Enforcement to start ticketing vehicles along these corridors with regards to no parking and no standing. Mayor Tobin noted that there would still be places where parking would be permitted. Alderman Michales noted that some changes were on Pt. Watson where houses were once

residences, but now have become businesses. He expressed concerns regarding vehicles parking in front of some of these businesses along some of the designated areas and he was concerned for area businesses. Director of Administration and Finance Cook reported that the Council could come back and change some of these ordinances to allow two (2) hour parking in front of some specific businesses.

Alderman Michales expressed concerns about a specific no parking area which should be striped and he expressed concerns for the businesses in that area. He explained that people were parking in these so called striped areas and they were called fog lines and no parking was allowed in those areas. He noted that this affected every business along these corridors such as Envigorations, a dentist, a chiropractor, law offices and a restaurant on Pt. Watson Street and he asked Council members to check in their wards. He also expressed a concern regarding churches.

Alderman Dye noted that the new signage would make it much clearer as to where you could and couldn't park. Alderman Michales felt that businesses didn't realize what the Council would be approving this evening. Mayor Tobin recommended that specific areas of concern be brought before the Public Safety Commission and he would help concerned Council members work on that.

By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #35 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances §11-165 (B)(1)(a) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

Alderman Michales would like to see a review of regulated hours on some of these streets.

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #36 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances by adding to §11-165 (B)(1)(b) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

By: Alderman Bird
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #37 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances §11-166 (A)(1) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

Alderman Michales noted that some of these may want to be revisited to extend some time limits.

By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #38 OF 2012 - . Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances by removing a section of §11-165 (B)(1)(b) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #39 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances by amending a section of §11-165 (B)(1)(b) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #40 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to amend the City Code of Ordinances §11-168 (A)(2) et al, Highway Regulations and corresponding State arterial highway signage. (Mack Cook)

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Alderman Quail spoke with Tom Tobin, Public Safety, regarding Reynolds Avenue. Alderman Michales asked for the next date when the Public Safety Commission would be meeting. Tom Tobin stated that it would be in April. Alderman Silliman asked if additional signage was requested, would the Public Safety Commission work on that. Tom Tobin stated that they should contact him and he would put the items on the agenda.

RESOLUTION #41 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to approve the following actions relating to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life "Paint the Town Purple" festivities:

- A. Use of Yaman Park on Sunday, May 6, 2012.
- B. Permission for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life team to place purple ribbons on Main and Court Streets, Courthouse Park and the Water Works in recognition of "Paint the Town Purple" week April 30 through May 6, 2012.

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #42 OF 2012 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the early discharge of City second mortgage on property located at 39 East Court Street, purchased under City's CDBG Homeownership Program, to facilitate refinance of first mortgage and property improvements. (Thoma Development)

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #43 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Thoma Development Consultants contingent upon Corporation Counsel review of the contract to provide Administrative and Program Delivery services for the City's recently awarded Economic Development Community Development Block Grant for assistance to ALPLA (#285ED4510-11) based on Thoma's response to a Request for Proposals. (Mayor Tobin)

Mayor Tobin noted that Corporation Counsel has done a preliminary review and a more thorough review will be done before the contract is signed.

By: Alderman Michales
Seconded: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #44 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Thoma Development Consultants contingent upon Corporation Counsel review of the contract to provide administrative and program delivery services for

the City's recently awarded fiscal year 2011 Community Development Block Grant (#285HR146-11) for assistance to purchase and rehabilitate multi-family homes to expand opportunities to low income renters in the City based on Thoma's response to a Request for Proposals. (Mayor Tobin)

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #45 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to authorize the following actions to close out Fiscal year 2011 in the General Fund: (Lori Crompton)

- A. Authorizing several transfers between departments to close out accounts with either unexpended or overdrawn balances.
- B. Authorizing the reservation of Fund Balance requests from the Youth Bureau and DPW.
- C. Authorizing 2011 General Fund encumbrance requests from various Departments.

Mayor Tobin noted that this would allow the closing of the 2011 books.

By: Alderman Quail
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #46 OF 2012 - Consideration of a Resolution to approve the following budget modifications: (Lori Crompton)

- A. Recognize Fire Dept. DHS Grant funds of \$195,938 for the final payment on the Rescue/Pumper and appropriate as follows:

A4389 Federal Grant – Fire	\$195,938.00
A3410-20600 Fire – Tools, Op. Equip.	\$195,938.00
- B. Recognize Youth Bureau Donation for \$100.00 and appropriate as follows:

A2705 Youth Bureau Donations	\$100.00
A7550-40500 Celebrations	\$100.00

By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded: Alderman Bird

noted that police officers would be on hand to indicate detours when and if necessary. Mayor Tobin noted that commuters should use Clinton Street to avoid delays.

Executive Session:

Contractual Matters
Litigation

Motion to go into:

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Motion to come out of:

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #48 OF 2012 – Consideration of a Resolution to allow the Mayor to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding a retiree’s benefits.

By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded: Alderman Bennett

Absent: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #49 OF 2012 – Consideration of a Resolution to create a Sales Tax Negotiation Committee and to appoint the following members:

Mayor Tobin
Director of Administration and Finance Cook
Alderman Bennett
Alderman Quail

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays - 0

Adjournment

By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

I, JUDITH CHAMBERLIN, CITY CLERK OF 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 OF MARCH 2012. 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.

JUDITH CHAMBERLIN, CITY CLERK

MAYOR TOBIN