



City Council Minutes

The City of Cortland

March 19, 2013

Council Meeting #6

March 19, 2013

Regular Session

City Hall

7:00 PM

Present: Deputy Mayor Ken Dye, Aldermen Julie Bird, Kathryn Silliman, John Bennett, Dan Quail, Linda Ferguson, Carlos Ferrer

Absent: Mayor Brian Tobin, Alderman Tom Michales

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Kelly Colasurdo, Paralegal Kelly Laux and City Clerk Judith Chamberlin

Staff Absent: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook

Deputy Mayor Dye called the sixth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dep. Mayor Dye stated that the past several days have been busy negotiating with Sustainable Cortland trying to find a suitable spot for the Community Garden. The Council recognized that Suggett Park was not acceptable to several people, so the garden will be located at the Armory on Wheeler Avenue for a year and then research the possibilities of using Suggett Park. He asked if people who had signed up to speak either in favor of or against the Garden in Suggett Park would still like to comment, to which they answered yes.

Public Comments

Several area residents spoke in support of having the Community Garden in Suggett Park including Thomas Fritz, Sr., Sharon Stevans, Anne Doyle, 8 year old Seth Bergman, 7 year old Joseph Sherman and Nick Kline from Parker School, who also brought 23 letters written by the children mostly in support of the Garden.

Some residents voiced concerns and expressed their opposition to the Garden as well.

MINUTES

RESOLUTION #40 of 2013 – Resolution to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2013 Meeting.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

BILLS:

Mack Cook is attending an IDA meeting tonight so any questions on the bills will need to wait until tomorrow.

Mayor's Report

Ward 5 Report

Alderman Quail asked to speak since he was absent at the last Common Council meeting. The new Beaudry Park building will be presented to the neighborhood on this Saturday at 9 AM and all are welcome to attend. This park is one of the City's greatest assets, in existence since 1950 and the new building will serve several programs.

Neighborhood Watch for the 5th Ward will meet Thursday at 6:30 at Daily Grind South.

Dep. Mayor Dye noted that following that presentation on Saturday will be the annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00.

PROCLAMATION:

WHEREAS, March is American Red Cross Month - a special time to recognize and thank our heroes – those who volunteer, donate blood, take life-saving courses or provide financial donations to support an organization whose mission is to help those in need. We would like to remember those who help all of us here in Cortland County by giving their time to help their neighbor, and thank our heroes – our volunteers, blood donors, class takers and financial supporters who help us assist those in need.

WHEREAS, In Cortland County, the Red Cross works tirelessly through its 3 employees and 15 volunteers to help when disaster strikes, when someone needs life-saving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand. It provides 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans and their families, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety, and first aid.

WHEREAS, Across the country, the American Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters a year. It provides some 400,000 services to military members, veterans and civilians, collects and distributes about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply and trains more than seven million people in first aid, water safety and other life-saving skills every year. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission. Despite these challenging economic times, the American Red Cross continues to offer help and comfort to those in need.

THEREFORE, I, Brian Tobin, Mayor of Cortland, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Cortland and NY, do hereby proclaim March 2013 as American Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

American Red Cross Month

The American Red Cross has touched many lives in Cortland County and the South Central New York Region, as well as across the country and around the world.

During American Red Cross Month, we thank those who contribute to the mission of the Red Cross, whether through time, money or blood, and we invite others to support the Red Cross in helping people in need down the street, across the country and around the world.

Pink Sign off Sheet

He asked Council to approve moving Agenda Item #12 to Item #1.

AGENDA:

RESOLUTION #41 OF 2013 – Resolution to provide a suitably sized area on the property owned by the City at the Armory to be used as a Community Garden, which shall be open to the entire community, operated and maintained by City residents, and supported by Sustainable Cortland.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #42 OF 2013 - Resolution to accept the proposal by Thoma Consultants for Program Delivery and Administrative Services in conjunction with CDBG Grant # 285HR136-12. (Richard Cunningham)

Mr. Cunningham noted that two RFP's were received and Thoma Development was the best choice.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #43 OF 2013 – Resolution to approve the reappointment of Commissioners of Deeds as follows:

- Richard Baker
- Colleen Hull
- Mathew Small
- Billy Williams
- Herbert Barnhart
- Budd Rigg
- Joyce Smith
- Heather Euson
- Jennifer Buggs

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #44 OF 2013 – Resolution to allow the Mayor to re-appoint the list of people to various Boards and Commissions (Mayor Tobin)

Public Works Commission: William Doughty
 Joe Reagan
 Stephen Pearsall

Ethics Committee: Amy Buggs

Planning Commission: Rafael Felix
 Troy Beckwith

Waste Water Commission: Sally Horak

Public Safety Commission: Abby Withers

Water Advisory Board: Patricia Hansen

Zoning Board of Appeals: Phyllis McGinley
 Stephen Brown

Youth Bureau Advisory Board: Eduard Kossmann (New appt.)

Motion By: Alderman Ferguson
 Seconded By: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Item #4 – Discussion regarding real estate property tax exemption for new construction and major rehabilitation of mixed use properties in the Downtown Core District (Richard Cunningham)

To speak was Richard Cunningham to explain that a new law recently adopted by New York State supporting Downtown revitalization suggests a tax exemption for businesses that begin making major improvements in a City's core area before 2015. The property would be exempt for the first 12 years, and then the exemption would be reduced by 20% each year after that.

Dep. Mayor Dye suggested in light of the Mayor and Mack Cook's absence, this item be tabled and put on the April 2, 2013 agenda for consideration.

RESOLUTION #45 OF 2013 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute the Labor Agreement between the Cortland Police Benevolent Association and the City of Cortland for the period commencing January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015. (Mayor Tobin)

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #46 OF 2013 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute the labor agreement between the Cortland Professional Firefighters Association and the City of Cortland for the period commencing January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014. (Mayor Tobin)

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #47 OF 2013 – Resolution to allow the Mayor to close Pomeroy Street between Elm Street and Central Avenue to thru traffic on Sunday, June 9, 2013 from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM for the St. Anthony's Festival. (Mayor Tobin)

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #48 OF 2013 – Resolution to allow the Mayor to close Main Street from Groton Avenue to Tompkins Street on May 19, 2013 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM for the Central New York Mustang and Ford Club's 30th Year of Cruise Night. (Mayor Tobin)

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #49 OF 2013 – Resolution to waive the \$250.00 fee and Sound Device Permit for the Cruise Night sponsored by the Central NY Mustang & Ford Club. (Mayor Tobin)

Motion By: Alderman Quail
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #50 OF 2013 – Resolution to accept and recognize the following donations from local businesses and individuals to the Wickwire Pool Trust Fund as follows:

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Brian Tobin	\$100.00
Sandra Ripic	\$300.00
Barbara Ryan	\$100.00
Matthew J. Dentes, DDS	\$100.00
Don & Linda Armstrong	\$100.00
Anthony & Nicole Stevens	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Total	<u>\$750.00</u>

Motion By: Alderman Quail
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #51 OF 2013 – Resolution to accept and recognize the First Niagara Bank donation of \$1,000.00 to sponsor the Youth Bureau’s 2013 Spelling Bee (Account #7550-405) – (John McNerney)

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays - 0

Adjournment:

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 6

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 19th DAY OF MARCH, 2013. 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 BRIAN TOBIN