



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
September 3, 2013

Council Meeting #16
September 3, 2013
Regular Session
City Hall
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Alderman Julie Bird, Ken Dye, John G. Bennett, Jr., Daniel Quail, Linda A. Ferguson, Carlos Ferrer, Katy J. Silliman, Thomas Michales

Staff Present: Director of Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Richard VanDonsel, Superintendent of the Department of Public Works Chris Bistocchi, Police Chief Frank Catalano, Fire Chief Charles Glover,

Mayor Brian Tobin called the sixteenth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:40 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Claude Truesdale

- Issues and concerns with student housing within the City of Cortland

Minutes of the August 20, 2013 meeting:

RESOLUTION #204 of 2013 – Resolution to approve the August 20, 2013 minutes as amended

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Changes

- Present
 - Add Alderman Thomas Michales
- Resolution #197 of 2013 – Resolution to accept the 2012 Financial Audit
 - Notes should read Mack Cook addressed questions submitted by Alderman Julie Bird regarding the 2012 Financial Audit

WARD REPORTS

Alderman Quail

- Dealing with some code violations within his ward
- Met with some college students about parking issues
- The demolition of the Wading Pool at Beaudry Park has left a large green space, wondering if anyone has any ideas of what to put in that area
- Need to have Public Safety Committee look at basketball court parking at Beaudry Park and the guard rails over perplexity creek

Alderman Ferrer

- Received an email regarding trash on Charles Street, spoke with DPW and Codes Department about this problem
- Meet with Nick Dovi and Public Safety to discuss lighting on Hickory Park Road

Alderman Ferguson

- Calls regarding the public hearing schedule for today
- No ward meeting last month or this month, but will have one next month
- School starts tomorrow, September 4, urged residents to watch out for kids while driving

Alderman Bird

- People still running through stop sign on Chestnut Street

Alderman Dye

- Received phone calls about a property on Sands Street

Alderman Silliman

- Visited residents affected by flooding, brought up some of the concerns of these residents
- Call from a downtown business owner opposing the Local Law for Pawn Shops and Second-hand Dealers; encouraged business owner to contact other Councilmen
- Complaint about a property on Lincoln Avenue regarding parking on the wrong side of the street
- Neighborhood watch meeting on September 18th at 6:30 P.M. at the Parkside Assembly on Homer Avenue
- Residents on the Hill have found it to be noisier than unusual since the college students have returned
- Cars on Pleasant Street have been driving the wrong direction
- Double yellow line on West Court Street makes it look a highway
- Ward 2 & 3 meeting last month

Alderman Michales

- Had calls regarding the Second-hand dealers law
- Concerns brought to him about the number of benches on Main Street
- Resident injured at corner of Greenbush and Port Watson while walking in the crosswalk
- Neighborhood party this past weekend was a success

Alderman Bennett

- Trouble on Pearl Street regarding the construction of the Student Life Center at SUNY Cortland
- Thanked Chief regarding the “No Parking” signs that were put up on Pearl Street and Tompkins Street
- Received a call regarding student housing within the city, commended the Code Enforcement Department on being able to respond quickly to calls they receive

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Next week there will be an announcement from the Mayor’s Office regarding Mayor City Energy Challenging where the Mayor of the City of Cortland will challenge the Mayor of another city to an energy conservation challenge
 - Program runs October 14 through November 18

DISCUSSION – Discussion of the Health Care Insurance Premium Rates

Mack Cook presented to the Council regarding the city’s health care insurance premium rates and answered questions brought up by the council.

RESOLUTION #205 of 2013 – Resolution for an exotic pet permit (2 Ferrets) for Tiphanie French

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Alderman Michales addressed questions from the council about how the process for approval is conducted.

RESOLUTION #206 of 2013 – Resolution for an exotic pet permit (4 chickens) for Elizabeth Burrichter

Motion By: Alderman Michales
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #207 of 2013 – Resolution to approve the lifting hiring freeze for the Water Department

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 6

Nays – 2

Alderman Bird, Ferrer

Chris Bistocchi discussed the need for lifting the hiring freeze to fill a vacant position caused by the resignation of an employee.

Mayor noted that the position would be filled from within the department and not someone new.

RESOLUTION #208 of 2013 – Resolution to promote an existing employee to fill the vacant Water Maintenance Supervisor in the Water Department

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 2 Alderman Bird, Ferrer

RESOLUTION #209 of 2013 – Resolution to appropriate to the DPW line A5110.540200 insurance money in the amount of \$2,160.48 to pay for truck repairs resulting from an accident

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #210 of 2013 – Resolution to appropriate monies in the amount of \$200.00 from the State of New York Department of Taxation and Finance, Division of Treasury to the following account: #A36205415000 – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES; for completion of the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #211 of 2013 – Resolution to allow the Mayor to enter into and sign an agreement with the State of New York Department of Transportation for the Safe Routes to School Project

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #212 of 2013 – Resolution to approve the sale of a one (1) retired police vehicle from the City of Cortland Police for the amount of \$4,795.00 and appropriate monies into the Operational Equipment account (**A3210.206.00**)

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

DISCUSSION – Discussion of information regarding an Open Meetings Law

Richard Van Donsel discussed the various components of an open meeting, what the requirements for holding meetings are and when public notice should be issued.

Executive Session – Collective Bargaining Agreements and discussion of a Memorandum of Agreement and Grievance issues and procedure

Motion to go into:

By: Alderman Bird
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Time in: 8:38 P.M.

Motion to come out of:

By: Alderman Bird
Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Time out: 9:12 P.M.

RESOLUTION #213 of 2013 – Resolution to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the CSEA and the City of Cortland regarding the Main Street clean up for a total of \$422.78

Motion By: Alderman Quail
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 1 Alderman Bird

Mayor Tobin discussed what the clean up was for and how the amount of money was calculated.

Adjournment

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: 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 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 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