



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
October 21, 2014

Council Meeting #20

October 21, 2014

Regular Session

City Hall

7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Alderman Bennett, Bird, Dye, Dutcher, Ferguson and Ferrer, Silliman, Michales

Staff Present: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Shellie Blaisdell, City Clerk Ray Parker

Public Hearing #1 – To hear comments on the proposed additions to *Chapter 107-Buildings-Vacant* of the Code for the City of Cortland.

- The Public Hearing opened at 6:45 pm. There was no one to speak at this public hearing.
- The Public Hearing closed at 6:49 pm.

Public Hearing #2 – To hear comments on the proposed amendment to the rental Permit Law and for discussion of a new nuisance ordinance for the City of Cortland.

- The Public Hearing opened at 6:50 pm.
1. **Steve Muka** – asked for clarification on the definition of public nuisance and where it fits. It doesn't specify anywhere how long a landlord has to respond-it doesn't give a landlord any time to respond to or correct the violation. It doesn't indicate a rating on the severity of the offense versus the penalty, or a point system. It names the property as the "defendant" not an individual, it gives the impression the property is being sued. It does not give any consideration to the number of units per property. There could be 10 units with one tenant being the offender and it would shut the whole property down.
- The Public Hearing closed at 6:59 pm.

REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Brian Tobin called the twentieth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments: There are no public comments for this meeting.

Minutes of the October 7, 2014 meeting:

RESOLUTION #216 of 2014 – Resolution to approve the October 7, 2014 Common Council Minutes.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Mayor Tobin read the following proclamations:

Proclamation – Extra Mile Day of November 1, 2014-please take notice to those who do go the extra mile and/or do something on Saturday, November 1, 2014 to “go the extra mile”.

Item #1 – Presentation – A presentation was given by Harry Bridger, Bridger Bike Company on an alternative recycling pick-up plan. After paying attention to composting, recycling he came up with a plan that would change the pace for the Cortland community. Harry Bridger “lives by bicycle” and owns and operates a full service bike shop where he also builds custom bicycles. His proposal is to own and operate a fleet of bicycles with small pull-behind trailers to collect the City’s recyclables and take them to the recycle center. There are more and more people biking and being more conscious about recycling.

Harry Bridger is proposing a pilot program for summer 2015. There are ten (10) people with bicycles very interested in this proposal. This proposal will be cheaper and environmentally friendlier. The current method of big trucks which idle and pollute the air, the big trucks do damage on the city roads as well.

Both Chris Bistocchi, Superintendent of Public Works and John Gale, with the current trash hauler (Casella) are behind this concept and support it. If the pilot works and the City favors this method, the current contract would be re-written in regards to recycling.

Item #2 – Presentation – A presentation by the City of Cortland Police Department and the Cortland County Sherriff Department on the Methamphetamine in our community was postponed until November 4, 2014 due to the unavailability of the Cortland County Sheriff Department Presenters.

Resolution #217 of 2014 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to amend the Chapter 107-Buildings, Vacant of the Code for the City of Cortland with the proposed additions.

There have been three public hearings for this proposed amendment.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Resolution #218 of 2014 – Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Cortland and the Downtown Business Partnership for maintenance of assets in the downtown business core.

The downtown and City landscaping areas have always been maintained by volunteers who are not always available when the areas need the attention. The proposal would provide direction from the design committee and to oversee a professional landscaper with the intent of making an attractive city. (There was a comment made that the city trash bins need replacement or repair).

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 2 (Alderman Ferguson, Bird)

Resolution #219 of 2014 – Resolution to adopt as the City’s 2015 Budgets, the proposed budgets for the General Fund; the Waste Water Fund; and the Water Fund with the following alterations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Alteration</u>	<u>Amount</u>
GF	Trash Collection Cost	A8160-541500	Increase	\$10,000
GF	DPW Admin Uniforms	A5010-540800	Decrease	\$10,000
GF	Volunteer Fire Dept.	A3410-542300	Increase	\$ 5,000
GF	Interop. Radio System	A3410-520602	Decrease	\$ 5,000
GF	Law- Telephone	A1420-520602	Increase	\$ 325
GF	Finance-Office Supplies	A1325-540300	Decrease	\$ 325
GF	Mayor Office Pers Ser	A1210-510000	Increase	\$ 250
GF	Mayor Office Prof Ser	A1210-541500	Decrease	\$ 250
GF	Police Professional Rent	A3120-541501	Increase	\$ 4,100
GF	Police Education	A3120-541608	Increase	\$ 3,000
GF	Police-Fuel	A3120-541100	Increase	\$ 5,000
GF	Interop. Radio System	A3120-520602	Decrease	\$12,100
				<u>\$ 0</u>
Net Affect upon Total Appropriations				

Some discussion regarding the Mayor’s Office / and the total salary – the numbers did not calculate. The adjustment will be corrected to the actual amount.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
 Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 2 (Alderman Ferguson, Bird)

Item #6 – Discussion and possible consideration of a resolution for approval and authorization for the Mayor to enter into Right of Way Agreements with the State of New York regarding City owned property near to the south of Glenn Street and which is adjacent to the Cortland Water Works property.

This is a very small parcel of land the State has asked for the City to sign over to allow for storm water to drain from Route 281. Chris Bistocchi explained his concerns raised with New York State Department of Transportation to include the salt/sodium levels that will have potential of filtering into the basin/well head as well as if there is any study done that would provide information on potential for flooding.

This item is tabled to a future date until additional details are provided from the NYSDOT.

Resolution #220 of 2014 – Resolution appropriate proceeds in the amount of \$1,082.00 from the sale of four *4(vehicles from the City of Cortland Police Impound Lot, which has been classified as abandoned in accordance to Section 12245 (3)(a) of the New York State Vehicle & Traffic Law.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #221 of 2014 – Resolution to re-designate fourteen (14) spaces currently designated “even” in the Groton Ave parking lot to “Downtown Resident Parking”.

Due to the growing residential population in and around Main Street – there is a need for additional parking. The money received by the Downtown Partnership goes to landscaping, economic development and administrative overhead costs.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 2 (Alderman Ferguson, Bird)

Resolution #222 of 2014 - Resolution to re-designate twelve (12) “No Overnight Parking” located parallel to Groton Ave. in the Groton Parking Lot to “Even 12:01 AM to 8:01 Am parking spaces.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 2 (Alderman Ferguson, Bird)

Resolution #223 of 2014 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with CCSPCA for continued services.

Having heard a presentation at the prior Common Council meeting (October 7, 2014)

Motion By: Alderman Silliman

Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

Resolution #224 of 2014 – Resolution to appoint Emily Discenza to the Zoning Board of Appeals Commission effective October 22, 2014.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer

Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer

Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

I, RAY 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 21st DAY OF OCTOBER 2014. 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.

RAY PARKER, CITY CLERK

MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN