



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
November 18, 2014

Council Meeting #22
November 18, 2014
Regular Session
City Hall
7:00 PM

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

Absent: Alderman Bennett

Staff Present: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Police Chief Catalano, Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Shellie Blaisdell, City Clerk Ray Parker

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Tom Gobel – Expressed comments on how well Cortaca weekend went and is in support of the project at the BT Jones building hoping it brings more to downtown.

Derek Reynolds – Reported on a chimney fire at 43 Kellogg Road which was called in due to a smoke detector alarm. The smoke detector was provided to homeowner from a grant. Derek wanted to express this was a life-saving grant. Fire preventions safety grant in 2012 installed by the Cortland fire dept.

Minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting:

RESOLUTION #231 of 2014 – Resolution to approve the November 18, 2014 Common Council Minutes.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Proclamation – Mayor Tobin proclaimed Employee Learning Week December 1-5, 2014.

Proclamation – Mayor Tobin proclaimed Small Business Saturday in the City of Cortland on Saturday, November 29, 2014. Alderman Julie Bird also commented that the annual City of Cortland, tree lighting event will be held on Small Business Saturday at 5pm in front of City Hall.

Item #1 – Discussion – Frank Kelly, Amanda Barber and Val VanGorder along with Alderman Katy Silliman and Alderman Clif Dutcher presented the Flooding Task Force restructuring and recommendations about the FEMA Community Rating System and implementation.

Having the City comply with the requirements of the FEMA Community Rating System will provide homeowners in the flood zone reductions in their flood insurance. With the ongoing process, the City receives points – the more points received the better benefit to the City of Cortland and residents.

With the additional requirements it looks to add responsibility to the zoning officer as a full-time position. This will be an ongoing process. When the task force first looked at initially to evaluate and address the flooding in Cortland, they found a real opportunity for the City.

RESOLUTION #232 of 2014 – Resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into Right of Way Agreements with New York State regarding City owned property near to the south of Glenn Street and which is adjacent to the Cortland Water Works property.

Chris Bistocchi provided information from the NYS DOT answering specific questions regarding both flood concerns and sodium levels. The DOT does not see a concern of additional flooding concerns with the right-of-way and does not feel the aquifer is at risk with the majority of the salt going into Otter Creek and the flow will carry it downstream.

Chris Bistocchi expressed he still has concern about both of these issues along with a concern about heavy metals as well and recommends not granting the resolution forcing eminent domain.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Vote Fails: Ayes – 0
Nays – 7

Resolution #233 of 2014 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze to fill a vacant police officer position.

Chief Catalano is requesting to fill a position left vacant as of September by the transfer of an officer to another law enforcement agency.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #234 of 2014 – Resolution to appropriate \$32,000 of the proceeds from the sale of properties at the October 2014 tax sale towards the funding required for construction of an expanded impound lot.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #235 of 2014 – Resolution to fill the vacant position in the Youth Bureau Office due to retirement under the title of Account Clerk at an annual salary of \$22,594.00.

John McNerney stated he actually brought the information of this vacant building several months ago as his plan for the resignations and retirement in his department. He also has another resignation in March that he may not replace due to the efficiency of the computer software program Recdesk. With the changes to the department he is saving the City almost \$43,000.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #236 of 2014 – Resolution to approve the following donations to the Cortland Youth Bureau:

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<i>CNY Mustangs & All Ford Club</i>	<i>Wickwire Pool Fund</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>
Total Donations:		\$500.00

Motion By: Alderman Bird
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #237 of 2014 – Resolution to award Bid for the General Construction portion of the SBR upgrade as part of the reconstruction and expansion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant to M.A. Bongiovanni Inc. of Syracuse, NY for a sum not to exceed \$237,000.

Bruce Adams indicated the bids came in 10% below expectations. With the work being performed in house it has a valuable cost savings to the City.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #238 of 2014 – Resolution to award Bid for the Electrical portion of the SBR upgrade as part of the reconstruction and expansion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant to Diekow Electric, Inc. of Marathon, NY for a sum not to exceed \$119,850.

This portion involves installation of the replacement SCADA system which monitors and controls plant processes.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #239 of 2014 – Resolution to adopt the following three-tier fund structure in the Water Fund:

Tier 1: **ASSIGNED BUDGETED OPERATING RESERVE** funded so that it is continuously equal to seventeen percent (17%) of the Water Fund’s budgeted operating expenditures and transfers for the succeeding year for the purpose to providing the Water Fund with a source of last resort for working capital in the face of epic natural catastrophes or unprecedented economic upheaval. This reserve is established by Council Resolution and its use, modification, or dissolution is governed by Resolution.

Tier 2: **ASSIGNED RESERVE FOR NATURAL DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES** funded so that it is continuously equal to three percent (3 %) of the Water Fund’s budgeted total revenues for the succeeding year for the purpose of maintaining a prudent level of financial resources readily available to counter the effects of natural disasters and emergencies. This reserve is established by Council Resolution and its use, modification, or dissolution is governed by Resolution.

Tier 3: **ASSIGNED RESERVE FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES** funded annually from the Water Fund’s Net Change in Fund Balance after any required transfer to the:

- Assigned Budgeted Operating Reserve
- Assigned Reserve for Natural Disasters and Emergencies

For the purpose of replacing and/or acquiring equipment, infrastructure and vehicles directly use in the rendering water services. This reserve is established by Council Resolution and its use, modification, or dissolution is governed by Resolution.

Presenting a three-tier structure of surplus from 2013 carryover of funds to set aside for catastrophic repairs or events.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer

Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #240 of 2014 – Resolution to adopt the following (this is a set and should be considered as a group):

- A. Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the encumbrance within the Capital Fund 100 percent of the Federal and State eligible costs for a transportation federal aid bridge project in the amount of \$173,100 to fund final design work.
- B. Consideration of a Resolution to appropriate \$1,383.68 in the Capital Fund previously appropriated by Resolution for the Administrative Costs of issuing the City’s 2009 Bond towards the City’s twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) match obligation for the \$173,100 in final design work of the above transportation federal aid bridge project.

- C. Consideration of a Resolution to appropriate \$45.96 in the Capital Fund previously appropriated by Resolution for the cost of the Morningside Street Water Main towards the City’s twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) match obligation for the \$173,100 in final design work of the above transportation federal aid bridge project.

- D. Consideration of a Resolution to appropriate \$13,369.95 in the Capital Fund previously appropriated by Resolution for Buildings and Grounds towards the City’s twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) match obligation for the \$173,100 in final design work of the above transportation federal aid bridge project.

- E. Consideration of a Resolution to appropriate \$6,837.91 of the \$36,125.18 previously appropriated in the Capital Fund by Resolution for the Law Department towards the City’s twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) match obligation for the \$173,100 in final design work of the above transportation federal aid bridge project.

The funds are residuals from bond funds of unspent proceeds to be repurposed.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Dye

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #241 of 2014 – Resolution to establish a time, date, and place to hear public comment on a proposed local law authorizing the City to apply for membership in the “energize NY Finance Program administered and funded by the NYS Energy Improvement Corporation.

In order to be part of the program, the City needs to have an “A” rating. The City of Cortland has an “A+” rating. This project has no cost to the City and will be used as another tool to try to cover distance of what is worth and developed. It gives a source of money for residential lending.

A public hearing will be set to be held on December 2, 2014 at 6:40 pm in the Council Chambers before the regular meeting.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 7
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 18th DAY OF NOVEMBER 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