



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland February 17, 2015

Council Meeting #5

February 17, 2015

Special Session

City Hall

7:00 pm

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

Absent: Alderman Silliman, Ferguson, Dye

Staff Present: Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Fire Chief Glover, Police Chief Catalano, Conf. Secretary to the Mayor, Shellie Blaisdell, Superintendent of Wastewater Department Bruce Adams, Superintendent of Public Works Chris Bistocchi

Public Hearing: To hear comments for proposed Charter changes regarding the position of Zoning Officer.

The public hearing opened at 6:55pm, there was no one present to speak and closed at 6:56pm.

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments: There is no one to speak for public comments.

Minutes of the February 3, 2015 and February 9, 2015 meetings: Corrections to the February 3, 2015 meeting include staff present changes, there are no changes to the February 9, 2015 minutes.

RESOLUTION #40 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the February 3, 2015 Common Council Minutes with amendment.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer

Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

Resolution # 41 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the February 9, 2015 Common Council Minutes.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

PRESENTATION – a presentation was given by Garrett Smith, a SUNY Cortland student who is an intern for the Fire Department. He provided an overview of the work he has completed with the GIS software and its value to the Fire Department. He explained there are very few schools (east coast) who offer GIS as a major. SUNY Cortland has all the resources to support the program and the opportunities available to all departments for the City are endless. It is the same system used last summer for the DPW and it all ties together.

RESOLUTION #42 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor of the City of Cortland to sign and file an application for CDBG funds from the New York State Office of Community Renewal under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000; and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a grant agreement with the State for such financial assistance.

This is similar to the 2012 application-for single family owner occupied, low to moderate income.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer

Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

Resolution # 43 of 2015 – Resolution to retain the services of Thoma Development to administer the \$200,000 2014 Microenterprise Assistance Program for a total fee of \$30,000 payable from proceeds of the grant.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 5

Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #44 of 2015 – Resolution to retain the services of Thoma Development to administer the \$600,000 2014 Infrastructure Grant for flood mitigation for a total fee of \$15,000 payable from proceeds of the grant.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution # 45 of 2015 – Resolution to adopt Local Law #14, changes to the Zoning description to modify a part-time Zoning Officer effective February 18, 2015.

The budget accommodates for the full-time position, it is an appointment to be made by the Mayor and approved by Common Council.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #46 of 2015 – Resolution to provisionally appoint Robert Rhea, current employee to the full-time position of Zoning Officer.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution # 47 of 2015 – Resolution to appoint Robert Rhea to the Community Rating System Administrator for the Flood Plain Administration.

The appointment is a step taken to meet requirements that allow for reduction of flood insurance for homeowners.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #48 of 2015 – Resolution to enter into a lease agreement with Madison, Cortland County ARC for use of a portion of the Armory Building at Wheeler Avenue in the City of Cortland, New York.

This is a lease renewal.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Discussion on the issue of garbage and recycle pickup in the City of Cortland.

John Gale was present representing Casella to answer questions and concerns from the board. Alderman Michales stated there are several concerns – beginning with the lack of communication on the day the service was delayed due to weather. Members of the Common Council and residents were mistreated when trying to get information from Casella. There was a clear lack of customer service. Alderman Ferrer expressed concern – he received many phone calls of complaint after the article ran in the paper about the delay. Chris Bistocchi stated he has received 200+ calls in regards to the overall poor service residents are receiving from Casella. In years past, the number of complaints were very few.

Common Council requested Casella come up with a plan to put into place when weather delays service so it is not so reactive. Also, presence from Casella is requested on March 10, 2015 when the Public Safety/Department of Public Works has a meeting.

John Gale will take the concerns back to Casella for discussion and review.

Resolution # 49 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with UCS (Unified Court System) for Court Cleaning and Minor Repairs Contract Renewal and Budget (Appendix B) (Contract No. C300313) for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

The courts pay rent for square footage of space on the third floor and pay for portions of cleaning and repair in the building. This is the contract that allows them to pay their portion.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #50 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the following donations to the Cortland Youth Bureau Budget/Trust Funds as indicated below:

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<i>Cortland Breakfast Rotary (Election Day Pancake Breakfast)</i>	<i>\$1,121.91</i>
<i>Diane S. Chu</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>
<i>Total Donations</i>	<i>\$1,371.91</i>

Motion By: Alderman Bird
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 5
 Nays – 0

Item #13 – Consideration of a Resolution to form a committee to make recommendations regarding City facilities and future usage.

Mayor Tobin explained he would like to put an adhoc committee together to take a look at the City’s long-term planning and the needs of all the facilities. (City Hall, DPW, Fire Stations, Youth Bureau, Armory) The needs of all the departments, renovations, repairs, improvements, and how to best utilize the space. Funding will be part of the discussion.

Carlos Ferrer and Clifton Dutcher have volunteered to be on the committee.

This item was tabled until March 3, 2015 for further discussion and development.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 5
 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 17th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015. 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