



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
April 21, 2015

Council Meeting #10

April 21, 2015

City Hall

7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Alderman Julie Bird, Clif Dutcher, Tom Michales, John Bennett, Carlos Ferrer, Ken Dye, Katy Silliman, Linda Ferguson

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Superintendent of Dept. of Public Works Chris Bistocchi, City Clerk Ray Parker, Conf. Secretary Shellie Blaisdell

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Mike Dexter – announced that Friday, April 24, 2015 at 9:00 am, in the City Courthouse Park will read the Arbor Day proclamation and plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day. The Landscape and Design Commission will be planting 60 trees over the next 2-3 weeks. Tree stumps continue to be an issue, there is not enough money to remove the many stumps in the City. The issue was brought to the attention of Congressman Richard Hanna when he was in the City on Saturday to give certificate of recognition for being a 2014 Tree City USA member. Mike also wanted to mention that the tree vandals from last fall were prosecuted and had to pay nearly \$1,000 each (2 people) for their vandalism.

Derek Reynolds – Provided handouts to the Council on the Firefighter for a Day Camp being held this year on July 29 and 30, 2015. The day camp is expected to have 300 kids participate over the two day event. The State of NY is also providing a Fire Safety Trailer to the event. The Event is currently looking for sponsors to support the event.

Bill Duca – Is asking the Council to please do something this year about the lights in Dexter Park and the enforcement of the 10:30 “lights out” rule. The lights shine into his house. According to the Code – the lights are to be shut off at 10:30 pm-any ball game is supposed to stop. They Mayor indicated he would speak with the Youth Bureau Director, John McNerney and get to the bottom of it.

Proclamation: The Mayor read a proclamation for Arbor Day. Also mentioned the City of Cortland has been named a Tree City USA member for eight years.

Conflict of Interest: Wilma VanDee / City of Cortland Sidewalk Program – Wilma is an employee of the City of Cortland.

Conflict of Interest: Jim Reeners / City of Cortland Sidewalk Program – Jim is a member of the City of Cortland Planning Board.

Both have met the criteria of program.

Minutes of the April 7, 2015:

RESOLUTION #78 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the April 7, 2015 Common Council Minutes.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

At this time, the Mayor indicated the need for Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss contract negotiations and employee performance.

Item #1 – A presentation of an overview on the Department of Public Works summer work and timeline was given by Chris Bistocchi. Chris provided the Council with a handout – outlining the work to be done to include: pot hole repair work (catch basins), Yong Street water main, Central Ave water main, city paving, downtown parking, strip patch/paving, Noss Park, Waterworks property (building), Dry Creek. The Recycling Pilot program will be introduced and be done on a Friday (only). After the end of the summer, there are plans to take out Wickwire Pool and begin the playground renovations. For the fall there will be the leaf pickup.

Chris presented to the Council the need to purchase a paver for approximately \$19,000. This would be beneficial to the City since their only other option is to be at the mercy of the schedule of Suit-Kote. They currently have two bids and are working on a third one perhaps from Pennsylvania.

Resolution # 79 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract agreement with David Morse and April Harrington to operate the Yaman Park Concession Stand from May 23, 2015 until September 7, 2015.

John McNerney has approved this contract.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #80 of 2015 – Resolution to accept the following donations to the Cortland Youth Bureau Budget/Trust Funds as indicated below: (John McNerney)

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Event</u>
<i>Timothy Walsh</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>	<i>Jerry Walsh Trust Fund</i>
<i>Anne Munnelly</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	<i>Jerry Walsh Trust Fund</i>
<i>Cecilia Klein</i>	<i>\$300.00</i>	<i>Jerry Walsh Trust Fund</i>
<i>Barbara Ryan</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	<i>Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund</i>
Total Donations	\$1,500.00	

Motion By: Alderman Bird
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Resolution # 81 of 2015 – Resolution to appropriate proceeds in the amount of \$3,925.00 from the sale of one (1) retired marked police vehicle from the City of Cortland Police Department.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
 Nays – 0

Item # 5 – Continued discussion of the tentative changes to the Charter on the Noise Permit and the fee for commercial business:

Ric VanDonsel provided a draft for review. One concern raised is setting a submission deadline for Common Council approval of weekly events. It was determined to have language reflect applications would be due by the Wednesday prior to a Common Council meeting. This meets with other agenda item deadlines. All were in favor of the fee structure proposed. This reflects commercial business applications only.

Alderman Bird raised concern of the 10:00 time change, citing some residents may have to get up early in the morning for work and 10pm is a bit too late. The response is that most commercial applications for waivers would not be for events in residential areas and would primarily affect downtown.

Ric VanDonsel asked for a public hearing to be set for Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 6:50pm to hear comments on the proposed changes to the Noise Permit.

Item # 6 – Discussion on the Sign Ordinance and possible changes:

Alderman Michales feels the sign ordinance is vague with a lot of gray areas. He feels there needs to be attention to revision to be more definitive. Would like to have an outline of proposals for changes, reach out to Board of Realtors for input, review what we have and make

recommendations. Further discussion is requested and will be an agenda item for the May 5, 2015 meeting.

Executive Session – A motion was made by Alderman Ferrer to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and employee performance and was seconded by Alderman Bennett.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Executive Session – A motion was made by Alderman Ferrer to come out of Executive Session and was seconded by Alderman Bennett.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

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 APRIL, 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