



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland May 19, 2015

Council Meeting #11

May 19, 2015

City Hall

7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Linda Ferguson, John Bennett, Carlos Ferrer, Clifton Dutcher, Thomas Michales, Katy Silliman and Julie Bird (arrived at 7:25pm)

Absent: Alderman Ken Dye

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Richard VanDonsel, Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Superintendent of Wastewater Plant Bruce Weber, Deputy Chief Bill Knickerbocker, City Clerk Ray Parker, and Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Shellie Blaisdell

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Derek Reynolds – Police vs. Fire Battle of the Badge Blood Drive held on today, May 19th, from 1:30-6:30 at the Senior Citizen High Rise, 42 Church Street to see who the bigger hero is-it was a close one with the Police Dept. beating out the Fire Dept. 26-24. Both departments donated their time and service and exceeded their expectations. Derek also gave an update on the “Fill the Boot” drive held on Saturday, May 20, 2015 raising \$5,392.54 saying thank you to the community for its support.

Proclamation – The Mayor read the National Aphasia Awareness Month Proclamation and three SUNY Speech Pathologist Students provided additional information to the Council for this important cause. (Kimberly Crispell, Colleen Hinrichs, Nicole Scalerg with their teacher Eileen Gilroy). The Mayor also read the Building Safety Month Proclamation and one for the Historical Society celebrating their 90th year anniversary.

Recognition – The Mayor recognizes over thirty years of public service by Vince Minnella who has been a videographer with the City of Cortland volunteering countless hours on behalf of the Common Council meetings.

Minutes of the May 5, 2015:

RESOLUTION #89 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the May 5, 2015 Common Council Minutes as amended.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Ward Reports:

Ward 8-Tom Michales – Pot holes have pretty much been taken care of. One big one was missed but the DPW has come back around to get it filled. In his ward, there was some garbage issues on Randall Street but it was addressed by the Code office.

Ward 2-Katy Silliman – Attended the vigil at Suggett Park for Amie Leland-well attended and some moving tributes by classmates. It was remarkable for the community support to come together for this family. Alderman Silliman asked for a moment of silence in honor of Amie Leland.

Ward 6-Carlos Ferrer – Just wanted to remind the community if you are out walking your dog to please bring a doggie bag along and clean up after your dogs.

Ward 7-Linda Ferguson – Requested a listing of all bonds and when they will end. Mack informed they are reported annually in the financial statements and would print one off for her.

Ward 5-Clif Dutcher – Reminder that today is school budget votes – please get out and vote!

Mayor Tobin wanted to remind everyone there will not be a June 2, 2015 Common Council meeting due to the June Dairy Parade so the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2015.

The Mayor has asked the board to consider a presentation not on the agenda to be given by Adam Megivern and Shannon Terwilliger on attractiveness of downtown, the board agrees to hear the presentation.

Item #1 – Presentation by Adam Megivern and Shannon Terwilliger regarding the attractiveness of downtown primarily with the issues of trash and recycling which included a PowerPoint presentation. They are looking at ways to keep downtown free of garbage and are looking at ways to create an opportunity for people to discuss the trash issues. The presentation showed pictures of the trash and garbage violations in the downtown area. They are proposing a Waste Management Plan and will get property owner input; they are looking at eliminating sidewalk delivery of newspapers, illuminate curbside pickup, improving street receptacles with locking lids, revising the dumpster codes and permit process with an emphasis on enforcement of littering (increase of fines). The downtown business owners are taking responsibility and this will be a collective effort on everyone's part. The Downtown Partnership will do what they can to increase awareness and providing resources to showcase downtown.

*Alderman Julie Bird arrived at 7:25pm.

Item #2 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve an exotic pet permit of 2 chickens to JoAnn Gillette at 34 Pomeroy Street. (Alderman Tom Michales)

This item is tabled until June 16, 2015 due to applicant not having the fence built yet. The contractor is delayed with the installation of the fence. At the request of members of the Council, Alderman Michales will include written neighborhood agreement as part of the inspection.

Resolution # 90 of 2015 – Consideration of a Resolution to accept the following donations to the Cortland Youth Bureau Budget/Trust Funds as indicated below:

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>
<i>Todd & Michelle Funk</i>	<i>\$500.00</i>	<i>Youth Center</i>	<i>A-7310.5405</i>
<i>Kellogg Auto Supply</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	<i>Wickwire Pool Trust Fund</i>	
Total Donations	\$600.00		

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
 Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #91 of 2015 – Resolution authorizing Mayor Brian Tobin to execute a grant agreement with the New York State Affordable Housing Corporation for a grant in the amount of \$280,000 awarded to the City for the purpose of home ownership assistance to income eligible first-time buyers in the City of Cortland subject to review and approval by City Corporation Counsel.

Linda Armstrong (Thoma Development) stated there are changes in the structure of this grant and Thoma will be starting to review the applications to ensure they meet these new requirements.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
 Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution # 92 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the Noise Permit application for Cortland Beer Company with outdoor speakers every Friday and Saturday during the months of May, June, July, and August from 6pm to 10pm.

The application was revised to include the month of September. Alderman Bird expressed concern of any conflicting events scheduled for the same dates such as the Main Street Music Series on Friday night. The activity is close in proximity and is concerned about the noise from both events. Chief Catalano stated it was the same as last year and there were no issues.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
 Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 1 (Alderman Bird)

Resolution # 93 of 2015 – Resolution to close Main Street from 5pm to 9pm starting at the corner of Main Street and Arthur Avenue to Huntington Street on June 2, 2015 for the June Dairy Parade. Closure of the first blocks of the side streets of Arthur Avenue, Madison Street, Jewett, Avenue, Maple Avenue and Lincoln Avenue as needed.

The Cornell Cooperative Extension is the contact for those interested in taking part in the parade.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution # 94 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with an agency to provide consultant services for the Zoning and Land Use Regulation Update and College Hill Neighborhood Plan.

Mayor Tobin stated Ingalls Planning and Design from Rochester, New York is the firm chosen for the project. They were the final selection after going through the RFP process with 7-8 applicants. After the committee reviewed, they interviewed with 4 of the applicants and all in the committee felt comfortable with Ingalls Planning and Design.

The City applied and received a \$112,000 grant with 20% match to revise the Code (College Hill, Suggestt Park) with NYSERDA-Cleaner, Greener program. It will address the walkability of the community encouraging appropriate growth and development in neighborhoods. It looks at specific areas in the City to include zoning and updating older codes.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution # 95 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the City to participate in the Government Efficiency Plan to be filed with New York State Comptroller’s Office.

In the effort to join the Governor’s request of having the municipalities maintain a below the 2% tax cap designed to control spending with “shared services” allowing for tax rebates over the next two years, the City of Cortland has become the Lead Agent with a submission to the State. With future efficiencies and partnering with the County, Mack Cook has worked hard to find the efficiencies in every town-pulling in those towns and villages to be part of this submission. It costs absolutely nothing and brings rewards to all municipalities wanting to sign with the City.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #8 – Discussion on the Sign Ordinance and possible changes. Alderman Tom Michales asks that we start with the real estate signs first. Realtors met with Attorney Dan Ellis to draft their proposal. The rental portion will be up for discussion at the conclusion of final proposal for real estate signs is accepted. There is a strong argument for 7 foot vs 6 foot. There is also a suggestion to add a second rider to the proposal. Dan Ellis will confirm. The next step would be to draft for review. Would like to propose a small group get together to discuss the rental portion-landlords, alderman, someone from the apartment owners association.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

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 19th DAY OF MAY, 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