



## City Council Minutes The City of Cortland August 18, 2015

Council Meeting #16

**August 18, 2015**

City Hall

7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Linda Ferguson, John Bennett, Clifton Dutcher, Ken Dye, Tom Michales, Carlos Ferrer (Arrived at 6:48pm), Julie Bird (Arrived at 6:49pm)

Absent: Alderman Katy Silliman

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Richard VanDonsel, Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Glover, Superintendent of WWTP Bruce Adams, and Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Shellie Blaisdell

**6:45pm-PUBLIC HEARING:** To hear comments for the proposed parking lot assignment at 17-19 Court Street to include overnight, hourly and permit parking.

The Public Hearing was open at 6:47pm

The Mayor explained the parking lot at 17-19 Court Street, after new paving and stripping, will need assignment – 22 parking spots – odd/even overnight, 10 parking spaces behind the fire station – for City employees, 5 parking spaces – seasonal parking.

There was no one to speak at this public hearing.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:49pm.

### **REGULAR SESSION:**

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

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **Public Comments:**

Jo Schaffer – addressing issues concerning people in the community (older community members) with a lot of things happening with very little change. Most recently in the paper there was an article in the paper regarding a two-way Main Street –the street is not wide enough, would require a change from vertical parking to parallel parking-losing many parking spaces, crossing the street will be a greater issue. Also, there are no retail stores on Main Street – spending money

developing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors improves income for the landlords but doesn't help Main Street- money should be going to getting retail business in.

Annette Everett/Jesse Burns – From the Murray Center, wanted to publicly thank the Mayor's Office, Cortland Youth Bureau, and the Fire Department and all involved in the "Firefighter for a Day" event. About 15 people from Murray Center attended the event – it was phenomenal- it was a great way for them to connect with the community and show what the Murray Center can do. Although Jesse aged out, all involved found an activity for him to be a part of it.

Anita Parker – (Garfield Street) addressing an article in the Cortland Standard siting a possible downtown hotel deal – to City officials-why didn't the community know anything about this including her Alderman? Why is Main Street the only thing getting attention in the City? With ten businesses closed and 9 hotels in and surrounding the City, what is the need for a new hotel? The City's sewer system needs maintenance, the weather is causing destruction and the storm systems is outdated. There are valid realistic problems we have.

A moment of silence was given in honor of Guy Post and Elsie Frabrizio who passed recently, both were active in the community and will be greatly missed.

**Minutes of the August 4, 2015:**

**RESOLUTION #156 of 2015** – Resolution to approve the August 4, 2015 Common Council Minutes as with one correction.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0  
Abstain – 1 (Alderman Bird)

**Mayor Tobin** requested an additional item be added to the agenda as Item #10. Moving original #10 to #11.

They Mayor also wanted to mention the weekend event "Comeback Cortland" and the firefighter obstacle course was very much enjoyed by the community. The "Crown Fest" also appreciated the firefighter's involvement in their event.

**Resolution # 157 of 2015** – Resolution to provide up to \$5,500 in NYS Housing Program Income to "Access to Independence" to assist in the delivery of an Access to Home grant award pursuant to conditions to be stipulated in a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and ATI.

There are five properties in the City to go through the intake process, with the grant being very specific to Medicaid recipients. There are the same administrative fees with some of the funding coming from the grant with a cap on delivery services. The amount of work it takes is a lot more than what they can take from the grant so they look for other resources to provide for the special needs.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #158 of 2015** – Resolution to approve a short-term loan to Jacqueline Gillespie in the amount of up to \$25,000 for the purpose of starting up her business “Growth Spurt”, a Microenterprise Grant project approved by the City, pursuant to a recommendation by the City’s Loan Committee and at rates and terms as recommended by the Loan Committee.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

An Executive Session was asked for by Alderman Dutcher regarding Agenda Items #3, and #4. A Motion was made by Alderman Dutcher to go into Executive Session and seconded by Alderman Bird.

A motion was made by Alderman Dutcher to come out of Executive Session and seconded by Alderman Bird.

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution # 159 of 2015** – Resolution to approve funding for a Microenterprise project as recommended by the City’s Microenterprise Assistance Program (MAP) Review Committee per the attached Confidential Memorandum. Funding to be provided from the City’s Fiscal Year 2014 Community Development Block Grant.

Applicant is “Whole Heart Café” who will be expanding business in the deli for a hot foods section.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #160 of 2015** – 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>
<i>First Niagara Bank</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>	<i>2016 Spelling Bee</i>
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$355.00</b>	

Motion By: Alderman Bird  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferguson  
Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution # 161 of 2015** – Resolution to authorize the following actions in support of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Pumpkinfest.

- A. Permission to use the City’s portion of Courthouse Park from October 2, 2015 through October 5, 2015.
- B. Permission to place promotional signs at or near the City’s entrance signs.

Since this is the 20<sup>th</sup> year celebration, will the committee be doing anything special? Jim Dempsey, Co-Chairperson, hinted at there is possibly something being planned.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #162 of 2015** – Resolution to permit short-term, daytime parking for one mini tour bus not to exceed 27 feet length and 12,500 GVW on the City owned pavement on the south side of the tree line at 14 Main Street from September 1 through November 1, 2015.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher  
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #163 of 2015** – Resolution to appropriate \$20,000 received from the Rental Permit System Equipment Grant to the following General Fund Accounts in the designated amounts:

- \$12,536.68 to Account A1680540500 (Central Data Processing – Operating Equipment)
- \$5,895.79 to Account A1680541500 (Central Data Processing – Contractual)
- \$1,567.53 to Account A3620540301 (Codes Supply)

This is a grant – funds will going into accounts for upgrades.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #164 of 2015** – Resolution to appoint Shellie Blaisdell as the Records Management Officer effective September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 with an annual stipend of \$250.00.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #165 of 2015** – Resolution to accept a restricted gift of \$40,000 from an anonymous donor to be divided equally between the Fire Department and the Police Department and deposited into Trust and Agency Account.

With \$20,000 going to the Police Department with the Commission reviewing its designation. \$20,000 going to the Fire Department to purchase defibrillators – the funds cannot be used for anything else. The funds are deposited into the Trust & Agency account and cannot be used for general purpose. This is a very generous gift.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferguson

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #166 of 2015** – Resolution to appoint Jennifer A. Buggs as a Commissioner of Deeds for the Cortland County District Attorney’s office effective August 19, 2015 for a period of one year to expire August 18, 2016.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Set 2016 Budget Workshops as follows:** two presentations and a final discussion workshop –

September 3, 2015 at 6:00pm  
September 8, 2015 at 6:00pm  
September 17, 2015 at 6:30pm

These dates were agreeable to Common Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

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 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 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.**

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**RAY PARKER, CITY CLERK**

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**MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN**