



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland December 1, 2015

Council Meeting #23

December 1, 2015

City Hall

7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Linda Ferguson, Clifton Dutcher, Julie Bird, Kathryn Silliman, Ken Dye, John Bennett, Thomas Michales

Excused: Alderman Carlos Ferrer

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Richard VanDonsel, Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief F. Michael Catalano, Fire Chief Charles Glover, Superintendent of WWTP Bruce Adams, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, and Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Devon Rainbow

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Karen Armstrong – Expressed her concern for the traffic lights on Elm St and Pomeroy. There is a bus stop and it makes visibility hard when they are stopped. She is concerned with community safety with the recent events in the City. After the holidays she will be working on a dog park.

Tony Pace – Expressed his concern on the traffic lights. He wonders why the City can't make the trucks use an alternate route on the east end of Cortland. They are too big to go down the city streets. They should travel on State roads.

Bobbie Lansdowne – Speaking on behalf of her neighbors regarding the removal of the traffic lights. They wonder why the study was done in August when school was not in session and the traffic is less that time of year? With the cars parked on the side of the road, it makes visibility hard in the 7th ward.

Ward Reports

John Bennett – Thank you to the City Police for what they did for Cortica weekend. It was a mild weekend except for the broken window he received at his house.

Thomas Michales – Thank you to all the agencies for all the continued drug busts within the City.

Katy Silliman – Thank you for all the help with Cortica. There has been a lot of talk regarding traffic lights that are out and traffic signs around the City that are missing that need to be replaced.

Ken Dye – There have been a couple trees removed, all is quiet.

Linda Ferguson – There has been a lot of talk regarding the traffic lights in ward 7.

Cliff Dutcher – All is quiet in ward 5.

Julie Bird – There has been some talk regarding the blue bag price increase.

Mayors Report

He attended the county waste committee meeting. They are talking about possible price increase for tipping fees. He would like to recognize Deputy Chief Paul Sandy for 30 years of service with The City of Cortland.

RESOLUTION #229 of 2015 – Minutes - Resolution to approve the November 17, 2015 Common Council Minutes as amended.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Proclamation – Mayor Tobin read the Employee Learning Week Proclamation for December 7-11 2015.

Item #1 – Discussion on getting books into little kids' hands via the Cortland library and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Vivian Bosch explained the Cortland library is participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program. She started this program in her home town in Tennessee. Parents can sign their kids up from age birth to 5 years old. They will receive one free book a month till age 5. Any child can be signed up as long as they reside in the 13045 area code. That's a total of about 60 books. It's no cost to families. Parents can sign up on line at Imaginationlibrary.com anytime. More than 1 child can be registered within the same family.

Resolution # 230 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the elimination of traffic signals at Greenbush and Central, and replace them with L.E.D. lit stop signs in all four directions.

It was questioned if we could purchase poles from the state that were used on 281 as they were only used for a short time. The idea is that people stop at stop signs and try to beat the light at traffic lights. There will be warning signs posted that a stop sign is ahead. It will be left on a 4 way flashing red for 1-2 months before stop signs go up.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher

Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

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

Resolution #231 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the elimination of traffic signals at Greenbush and Elm, and replace them with L.E.D. lit stop signs in all four directions.

Mayor Tobin shared a letter from a Sheriff Department employee. He was involved in a motor vehicle accident at this intersection. He feels it is a good idea to replace the lights with stop signs.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

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

Resolution #232 – Resolution to approve the elimination of traffic signals at Pomeroy and Elm, and replace them with L.E.D. lit stop signs in all four directions.

There is a concern at this intersection for the long stretch with no stop. There is a child center and apartments on this street.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Vote Fails: Ayes -1
Nays – 6 (Aldermen Bennett, Michales, Silliman, Dye, Ferguson, Bird)

Resolution #233 of 2015 – Resolution to re-appoint keyboard specialist, Marylou Pai as a Commissioner of Deeds.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution # 234 of 2015 – Resolution to standardize on a specific sludge pump for belt press feed for the wastewater treatment facility.

Bruce Adams explained that they have to replace the pumps. If the new pumps are standardized then they can get the pumps they need.

Motion By: Alderman Bird
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #235 of 2015 - Resolution to lift the hiring freeze for the Fire Department. Chief Glover explained that one of his senior fire fighters is retiring after 26 years.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #236 of 2015 – a Resolution to fill the vacant position of a firefighter effective January 1, 2016. Chief will have to choose from the Civil Service list.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #237 of 2015 – a Resolution to allow the Mayor to sign an MOU with the fire fighters for extending the bunker program through May 1, 2016.

Chief Glover shared a letter from the Professional Firefighters Association. There is concern that the grant program is running out and this is an expensive program. They did apply for a new grant but were denied.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #238 of 2015 – a Resolution to affirm that the contract dated May 26th, 2005 by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, SAC Number C302976 remains in true force and effect.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #239 of 2015 - Resolution to approve the extension of the contract dated May 26th, 2005 by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, SAC Number C302976 through December 31, 2015.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #240 of 2015 – Resolution to appoint Mack Cook, Director of Administration and Finance as the City’s authorized representative on the contract dated May 26th, 2005 as amended by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, and SAC Number C302976.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #241 of 2015 - Resolution to appropriate \$29,000 from the 2015 General Fund Contingency Account to advance the gross funds necessary for the remediation of Noss Park pursuant to the contract dated May 26th, 2005 by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, SAC Number C302976.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #242 of 2015 – a Resolution to direct that the reimbursement by NYDEC of the funds advanced by the City for the remediation of Noss Park pursuant to the contract dated May 26th, 2005 by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, SAC Number C302976 be allocated the General Fund contingency account upon receipt.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #243 of 2015 – Resolution wherein the City herein affirms that it shall fund its share of the costs of the scope of work of the contract by and between the City of Cortland and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for remediation of the Noss Industrial Park, Site Number E712011, SAC Number C302976. In an amount not to exceed \$29,000.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #244 of 2015 – Resolution subject to Corporate Council’s review to authorize the Mayor to contract with Suit-Kote, Inc., to pre-buy the City’s 2016 asphalt requirements at the NYSDOT Average Postal Prices for December 2015 prices in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #245 of 2015 – Resolution to authorize the issuance of a RFP for environmental consulting services to provide services as needed to the City and the Cortland County IDA in matters relating to the closure and decommissioning of the Apex Tool Company.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes - 7
Nays - 0

Resolution #246 of 2015 – Resolution to raise the price of medium and large blue bags. The new price will be \$2.20 for medium and \$3.25 for large.

DPW does still have some small Blue bags. If anyone wants to purchase them from DPW, they will sell them in increments of 10. Garbage can be reduced by recycling more. DPW pays the land fill directly that way they know how much is being taken each week.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Dutcher

Approved: Ayes - 5
Nays – 2 (Aldermen Dutcher/Ferguson)

Resolution #247 of 2015 – Resolution to approve the contract between The City of Cortland and Cortland Professional Fire Fighters Association for the year 2015-2017.

Motion By: Alderman Dutcher
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Bird

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

I, RAYMOND A. 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 1st DAY OF DECEMBER, 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.

RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK

MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN