



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland January 19, 2016

Council Meeting #2
January 19, 2016
City Hall
7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Michelle Mastropolo, Katy Silliman, Bill Carpenter, Carlos Ferrer, Adam Megivern, Thomas Michales

Excused: Aldermen John Bennett, Gary Thomas

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Richard VanDonsel, Director of Administration and Finance Mack Cook, 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 second Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Tom Gobel – Council members are doing an excellent job.

Elsie Ferro – Expressed her concern regarding funding for The Cortland Voice. On his website it says he is free and independent yet he asked for donations and federal funding. There are many comments made by the public on the website that are in favor of democrats. She is concerned about people being put out of a job at the Cortland Standard.

Karen Armstrong – Wanted to say welcome to the new members. She is excited to be involved in the making of the Dog Park. She has a lot of ideas to share. She reads The Cortland Voice.

RESOLUTION #16 of 2016 – Minutes - Resolution to approve the January 5, 2016 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #1 of – Resolution to approve a contract agreement and funding for the Cortland Regional Sports Council.

The agreement will run January 1, 2016- December 31, 2016 for the amount of 12,500.00

Machell Phelps was present to give an overview of the program. It has been in existence since 2004. They do not make money off the sports programs. They took over the Empire State Games in 2011 and it is one of their biggest events. They also run State Championships for Girls High School Lacrosse and Soccer. The state now issues a 3 year contract for these events. They do a lot of their purchasing in the Downtown area rather than out of town when possible.

Alderman Thomas Michales was wondering about the possibility of Senior Games.

Alderman Katy Silliman appreciates the information that was given because she was unaware of all the events. Maybe they can find something for the February break when kids are out of school.

Alderman Carlos Ferrer works with Michell on the Fireman Olympic Games

Alderman Michelle Mastropolo would like to see some use of the new pool at Suggett Park.

Resolution #17 of 2016 – Resolution to accept and appropriate the following donations. (John McNerney)

Donation	Amount	Event/Project	Budget Line
Yaman Foundation	\$5,530.00	Yaman Park Improvements	A-7110.5206
C. Ashley & Beverly Ellefson	\$150.00	Youth Center	A-7310.5405
SUNY @ Cortland Interfraternity Council	\$56.40	Youth Center	A-7550.5405
Kappa Sigma & Theta Chi Fraternity	\$98.00	Youth Center	A-7550.5405
Josephine Suarez	\$25.00	Youth Center	A-7550.5405
Total Donations	\$6,359.40		

Trust Fund Donation	Amount	Event/Project	Trust Fund Acc.
Grace & Holy Spirit Church	\$500.00	Jim Partigianoni Scholarship fund	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund

Thank you to all that donated!

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #18 of 2016 – Resolution to appoint Annette Huskins of Thoma Development Consultants as the City's Fair Housing Officer to carry out the activities of the City's Fair Housing Plan and deal with complaints related to the issue of Fair Housing in the City.

WHEREAS, the City of Cortland is committed to the provision of equal access and equal housing opportunities for all its residents, and

WHEREAS, discrimination in the sale, rental or financing of dwellings on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or familial status is prohibited by the federal Fair Housing Law of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act and the Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988, and

WHEREAS, the City of Cortland has undertaken activities to farther Fair Housing in the City for many years and wishes to continue to further Fair Housing in the City and,

WHEREAS, The City of Cortland has been operating pursuant to a Fair Housing Plan, which included the appointment of Ann Hotchkin of Thoma Development Consultants as the City's Fair Housing Officer(FHO), and

WHEREAS, Ann Hotchkin is no longer able to act as the City's Fair Housing Officer,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Cortland does hereby designate Annette Huskins, Program Manager for Thoma Development Consultants, as Fair Housing Officer for the City of Cortland to carry out the activities of the City's Fair Housing Plan and to address complaints related to the issue of Fair Housing in the City if they fall under the purview of federal law.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #19 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the purchase of (1)1995 HME/SAULSBURY aerial ladder truck from the City of Ithaca for the amount of \$10,000, from funds that have been encumbered from the sale of surplus equipment in 2015.

Chief Glover explained that they have had a backup Aerial in case the main one breaks down. The current back up is in poor shape and needs a lot of repairs that will cost \$50,000-\$60,000. Currently, the main Aerial was getting warranty work done and The Fire Department borrowed one from the Ithaca Fire Department. They are interested in selling the truck. Chief Glover has had

his mechanic look at the Truck from Ithaca and it is in good shape. He does not foresee any major repairs that will need to be done to it.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #20 of 2016 – Resolution to lift hiring freeze to fill the position of Water Department Distribution Maintenance Worker.

Chris Bistocchi explained that they had a retirement in June 2015 of an employee of 25 years. They did include it in the budget for this year. The employee that retired was making \$24.00 per hr., the new hire will make \$18.78 per hr. They tried to do the work without filling the position but they need to maintain 9 positions to keep things in order.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #21 of 2016 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze for an internal promotion for the title of Supervisor II at the DPW.

Nick Dovi explained that over the last 10 years the DPW has taken on more work. With the department going in so many directions so often, some things fall through the crack. This is a management position but when needed, the person will help do the job duties. This is going to follow Civil Service regulations and CSEA contract.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #7 – Consideration to set a date for a public hearing on the need to adjust the parking regulations in the area of Madison Street/Halbert Street.

DPW was contacted by the Principal at Parker Elementary. He has concerns for the safety of the students when coming to school and when going home. With cars being parked too close to the corner, it makes it hard to see around them. Nick is going to see if the Principal can send a letter home to the parents regarding the meeting. The Public Hearing is set to be on February 16, 2016 at 6:45PM before the Council meeting.

Resolution #22 of 2016 – Resolution to allocate money from the recent sale of surplus equipment for the purchase of a web-based solution to help us better manage our projects, calls and maintenance items that come up daily.

Nick Dovi explained that this is to help keep track of maintenance items, work and have access to GIS maps. They found a Mobile 311 app that the County Buildings and Grounds uses and the Cortland Hospital as well. Suny Cortland would host the GIS maps on their server and DPW can access them through Suny. The cost is just over \$10,000. DPW currently has 3 tablets that they can use with this.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #23 of 2016 – Resolution to designate Lori Crompton and Julie Maddren as the signators on all accounts.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #24 of 2016 – Resolution to designate *The Cortland Standard*, *The Shopper*, and *The Cortland Area Tribune* as the official newspapers of the City of Cortland.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #25 of 2016 – Resolution to designate the following bank depositories for City funds.

1. NBT Bank
2. J.P. Morgan Chase Bank N.A.
3. M&T Bank
4. Tompkins Trust Company

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #26 of 2016 – Resolution to designate Joyce Nadge as Registrar for the City Clerk’s office for a 2 year term (January 2016 - December 31, 2017).

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #27 of 2016 - Resolution to appoint Connie Compagni as Subregistrar for the City Clerk’s Office for a 2 year term (January 2016 - December 31, 2017).

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #28 of 2016 - Resolution to approve the formation of an ad-hoc committee to explore the viability of a dog park in the community.

Mayor Tobin explained that there has been a huge interest in the dog park. He is looking for some people that want to volunteer to be on the committee. Adam Megivern, Katy Silliman, and Michelle Mastropolo all offered to be on this committee. The committee will report back to the Common Council. They will not make decisions on the dog park, but would report to Council and then Council can vote and make the decisions.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #29 of 2016 – Resolution to approve re-appointments of various Commissions.

A motion to go into executive session was made.

Motion By: Alderman Mastropolo
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

A motion to come out of executive session was made.

Motion By: Alderman Mastropolo

Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Mayor Tobin explained that each Commission/Board would be voted on separately.

ZBA – 3 Year Term

Phyllis McGinley

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Youth Bureau – 3 Year Term

Thomas Steele

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Environmental Advisory - 2 Year Term

Anna Bennett

Frank Kelly

Donna Lieberman

Judd Olshan

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Plumbing Board

Mark Baranello – 1 Year Term

James Romer – 3 Year Term

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Planning Commission – 3 Year Term

Troy Beckwith

Jim Wavle (New Appointment)

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #30 of 2016 - Resolution to abolish the Civil Service job title of Paralegal from the Law department.

Ric VanDonsel explained that Tracy Smith has been his assistant both here at the City and in his other office for many years. As more things are being kept in house, the job description is more of a Management Confidential position rather than a Civil Service position. Tracy is a Paralegal and has been helping out in other departments. There will be no Charter change.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #31 of 2016 - Resolution to create the position of Management Confidential Secretary to the Corporation Counsel.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #32 of 2016 - Resolution to temporarily lift the hiring freeze in order to fill the position of Management Confidential Secretary to the Corporation Counsel.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #33 of 2016 - Resolution to authorize the appointment of Tracy Smith to the position of Management Confidential Secretary to the Corporation Counsel with no change in pay rate.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Mayor Tobin – Please shovel sidewalks to help those that need to walk for transportation. If you get plowed in from the plows going down the streets and need help getting shoveled out, call or email Mayor Tobin at his office. There is a fraternity that is willing to help come shovel you out. Within a day they will come and shovel the wet slushy snow. Email- btobin@cortland.org Phone # 753-0872. There is also a meeting/presentation this Thursday at 5PM at the Armory on the Otter Creek Culvert.

Carlos Ferrer (Ward 6) – The fire department received a grant to install fire detectors for anyone 65years or older. If anyone needs one, give them a call and they will come to your house and install them. The fire detectors are the new ones with a 10 year life span on the battery.

Adam Megivern (Ward 7) – Thank you Deputy Chief Sandy for a recent investigation. There will be a joint ward and legislative district 6 public meeting on February 3 at 7PM at 9 Main Street, Cortland. It is on the City web page and Ward 7 Facebook page. March 12, 2016 is the Saint Baldrick’s event at the Red Jug Pub at 2PM. Anyone that would like to shave head, mustache, or beard come down and help support finding a cure for childhood cancer.

Michelle Mastropolo (Ward 1) – There is a Ward 1 meeting at the Hospital Community Room on Wednesday February 3 at 6:30PM. The CEO will be presenting as well on future plans of the hospital. Wards 2, 3, and 6 might be interested in going as well.

Thomas Michales (Ward 8) – Ward 5 and Ward 8 have a combined meeting on Thursday, February 4 7PM – 9Pm. The Mayor will be speaking along with some others. The plan is to discuss the \$5,000 awarded to each ward.

Bill Carpenter (Ward 5) – There is a neighborhood watch meeting this Thursday at 6:30PM at Beaudry Park. This past week he has met with Bruce Adams and John McNerney on future plans.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6
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 19th DAY OF JANUARY, 2016. 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