



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland March 1, 2016

Council Meeting #5

March 1, 2016

City Hall

7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Michelle Mastropolo, Bill Carpenter, Carlos Ferrer, Adam Megivern, Thomas Michales, John Bennett, Gary Thomas, Katy Silliman (arrived late)

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Jeanette Dippo is a health professor at SUNY Cortland and is on the tobacco-free Use Prevention & Control board. Denormalization of tobacco use helps to reduce youth smoking initiation and encourages current tobacco users to quit. Tobacco-free is easy to enforce and better for health. Having designated spots sends a message that their health is not as important. Smoking in cars affects people as well. No one does anything great alone, and there is support out there.

Tom Gobel thanked Council for the success of Chill-a-Bration, said Cortland is turning more positive.

Steve Muka spoke on fluoridation, bringing up a quote in the Cortland Standard that suggested the Mayor was going to pursue a grant for fluoridation even though members spoke against it. He suggested a grant is a contract, which means it can only be authorized by Council's approval. He would like to see more interest in dental sealants rather than fluoridation and feels it would be cheaper.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1 – There have been a lot calls and emails on fluoridation and repaving on Belleview

Ward 3 – “Doggy doo” stations. Several constituents are interested in looking into this. He has done some research on it. He has not received any calls regarding fluoridation.

Ward 4 – Chill-a-Bration was a huge success, and has received many calls on fluoridation. Thank you to legal department for participation on house that was delinquent on taxes. He attended the Cortland Crush celebration. It’s a great program and gives athletes a chance to play and show off their skills.

Ward 5 – Thank you everyone involved with working on Fox Hollow issue. Dog park committee meets Sunday

Ward 6 – Calls and emails on fluoride. The ones in favor work in that profession.

Ward 7 – He attended a NYCOM meeting in Albany and met with Assembly representatives to discuss some issues of Cortland. There are going to be Ward meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month. A topic of discussion is a possible alternate truck route for the 7th ward.

Ward 8—Port Watson snow plowing, the snow is going on sidewalks and it’s hard for residents to shovel. There is an old van in the Ward, they are working on moving or fixing it. He has received some flooding calls and reassured it was a city wide issue due to all the rain in a short amount of time. Smoking in front of Crown Center Nursing Home is still an issue as people still litter their cigarette butts in the road. There have been complaints of people speeding in front of Randall School. Thank you to the City PD for catching them.

Mayor’s report – Would like to clear up that the fluoride grant was NOT applied for and this topic needs further discussion, potentially in late May or early June for an informative Educational Forum. The relay for Life kick-off and Leadership Cortland meetings were last week. Both of these groups are great and do great things for the community. The flooding on Sunnyfield Drive is being addressed. Last year there was The Big Event and over 400 students from the college volunteered to help residents throughout the city. It will happen again this year.

Mayor Tobin asked with Council’s permission, to add an executive session at the end of the meeting with potential action afterwards. All Council members approved.

RESOLUTION #49 of 2016 - Resolution to approve the February 16, 2016 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #1 - Presentation on St. Baldrick’s Day

Tom Terwilliger, co-owner of Red Jug Pub, stated that on Saturday March 12th there is going to be an event held at Red Jug Pub in honor of St Baldrick’s Day. Anyone is welcome to come show support and/or volunteer to shave their head to help raise money. \$25,000 dollars has already been raised by Red Jug to help the charity to support kids with cancer.

Proclamation – Mayor Tobin proclaimed March 12th “St. Baldrick’s Day” to help combat childhood cancer and recognized Tom Terwilliger for all his efforts to help raise money and awareness.

Resolution #50 of 2016 - Resolution to approve the request of the Cultural Council of Cortland County to use the Court House Park for the Cortland Arts & Wine Festival to be held on Saturday, August 6, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Wine tasting will be confined to a contained area within the appropriate premises.

Alderman Mastropolo thanked organizers of The Arts & Wine Festival for enhancing quality of life, boosting the economy, and enhancing culture in her ward.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #51 of 2016 - Resolution to waive the City’s Open Container Ordinance during the Annual Arts and Wine Festival within the designated area from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, August 6, 2016.

Motion By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #52 of 2016 - Resolution to provide Community Development Program Income in the amount of \$9,900 to Access to Independence of Cortland County to be used to facilitate the administration and program delivery of certain fiscal year 2013, 2014 and 2015 Access to Home funds awarded to ATI pursuant to the conditions outlined in a letter dated February 18, 2016 from ATI Executive Director Chad Underwood.

Motion By: Alderman Michales
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #53 of 2016 – Resolution to suspend the \$10,549.56 in third year Vacant Building Registry Fees owing on the property located at 18 Lincoln Avenue (Lexi Properties Building) a two family dwelling upon the condition that building is brought into complete Code compliance, Certificate of Occupancy and rental permit if required is issued no later than April, 16 2016, Common Council will consider a resolution to waive the \$10,549.56 in Vacant Building Registry Fees.

Motion by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes—7
Nays—0

Resolution #54 of 2016 - Resolution of a local law to amend parking regulations for an area near Madison and Halbert Streets.

Nick Dovi was available for discussion. DPW was approached from the Principal of Parker School for before and after school parking concerns. Halbert Street has had problems with plow trucks being able to maneuver due to the cars being parked down there. Alderman Mastropolo brought up issues with dropping off children at the school. The two options involved seasonal parking restriction or full-year parking restriction. It was decided to go with seasonal restrictions for now and see how it goes.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #55 of 2016 - Resolution to lift the hiring freeze to replace the Payroll Clerk titled position effective April 11, 2016 due to the impending retirement on May 6, 2016.

Motioned By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #56 of 2016 - Resolution to create the Civil Service titled position of Payroll Clerk Part time.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #57 of 2016 - Resolution to fill the position of Payroll Clerk, Part Time with Ms. Julie Maddren at 21 hours per week at on hourly rate of 23.07 in accordance with the SEIU contract

A brief discussion was done on setting a time frame for the position. It was decided it would be from May 6th to December 31st, 2016 to ease the transition.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #58 of 2016 – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze for Part time Clerk

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #11 – Consideration to set a date for a public hearing on Tobacco Free Zones on City property.

It was recommended that the City not establish a designated smoking area at the Fire Station, City Hall, Youth Bureau, and Armory. It is suggested to have a designated area at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and DPW. There is help available for workers that wish to quit smoking. The City can inform surrounding businesses and residents of what is proposed so they are aware and ready to act/respond as well. The date for the public hearing will be March 15th at 6:45 PM.

Mayor Tobin—Presented on Arbor Day Foundation. Cortland NY was named a 2015 Tree City USA in honor of its commitment to urban forest management, achieved by meeting program’s requirements of: a tree board, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. He would also like to recognize and thank Mike Dexter and the Landscape Committee for all they do.

A SEQR on a roof grant received from New York State to replace the roof of the Fire Station was done. Aldermen answered questions and declared no environmental impact.

A motion to go into executive session was made.

Alderman Katy Silliman arrived late.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

A motion to come out of executive session was made.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Mastropolo

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #59 of 2016 — Resolution to approve the writing of a professional contract with Cedarwood Engineering regarding the repair/maintenance of the air stripper, not to exceed \$15,000.

Motioned By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Alderman Mastropolo — encouraged everyone to join Donate for Life because New York State is the least-registered state in the country, even though they have the highest demand for donors.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
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 MARCH, 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