



## City Council Minutes The City of Cortland May 3, 2016

Council Meeting #9  
**May 3, 2016**  
25 Court Street  
7:00 PM

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

Excused: Alderman Thomas Michales

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

### **REGULAR SESSION:**

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

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **Public Comments:**

Mecke Nagel from United Voice of Cortland discussed the SEQR process according to New York State law required to be done first before spending money on any feasibility studies. She feels the SEQR process will give better results than a feasibility study.

### **WARD REPORTS:**

**Ward 1**— Alderman Mastropolo brought to attention prison concerns, potholes in her ward that DPW is taking care of, and excess brush on Floral Ave. There were concerns from her constituents raised about the recent water report findings.

**Ward 2**— Alderman Silliman discussed her ward's concerns about noise and trash after spring fling. She thanked police for managing college neighborhoods during the weekend of spring fling, and keeping them quiet. There will be a ward meeting on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> to talk about a 3-part flood control plan, ward money, and a mini grant program.

**Ward 3**—Alderman Thomas thanked Chris Bistocchi and Nick Dovi for “beware of ducks” signs placed near Waterworks. He has contacted Code Enforcement about vacant homes, making sure safety is up to standard. Some code violations were found at the vacant home on Forest Ave.

**Ward 4**—Alderman Bennett reminded those present that SUNY Graduation is next Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and Tompkins Street will be very busy. After graduation the City will begin water main replacement on Warren St. After that is fixed, they will begin repaving some of the roads within the ward.

**Ward 5**—Alderman Carpenter thanked those who supported the Big Event, it was a success. There will be a ward meeting in late May.

**Ward 6**—Alderman Ferrer is addressing problems on Burn Street and Euclid Ave.

**Ward 7**—Alderman Megivern informed the public there will be a meeting at the Dexter Park Building on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm to discuss improving the park. There will be 2 proposals presented.

**Mayors Report:**

Mayor Tobin thanked Allison Garver for doing a great job coordinating the Big Event. There were 60 improved properties because of the efforts of the volunteers. There have been concerns with college renters and landlords, and he encouraged the public to reach out to Code Enforcement and even City Hall to help tenants.

**Proclamation:** Mayor Tobin read the proclamation declaring Arson Awareness Week to be May 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

**Proclamation:** Mayor Tobin read the proclamation declaring Peace Officer Memorial Day May 15<sup>th</sup>, and Police Week May 15<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>

**Proclamation:** Mayor Tobin read the proclamation declaring May 14<sup>th</sup> to be the MDA Boot Drive.

Drew Hill was present to inform that the boot drive would be at the inter-section of Tompkins and Broadway, where firefighters will be standing with boots to collect donations.

**Proclamation:** Mayor Tobin read the proclamation declaring May Mental Health Month.

Alexandra Huntington-Ofner was present to bring to the public’s attention that 1 in 4 people struggle with mental health and it is a very important problem to address. There are a few events coming up across the City and County to help raise awareness.

Jeanette Dippo was present to share the story of her daughter, who was very successful but struggled with depression. She is an advocate for suicide prevention and feels this proclamation is very important and a great thing to share with the community.

**RESOLUTION #103 of 2016** - Resolution to approve the April 19, 2016 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #104 of 2016** - Resolution to approve the Special Event Application for the event of March in May for Mental Health, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

Alexandra Huntington-Ofner was present to discuss the event, which will proceed with people walking on sidewalks between Beaudry Park and City Hall starting at 11:30 AM.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman  
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #105 of 2016** – Resolution to approve the street closing application for St Anthony’s Festival.

Peggy Dienhoffer stated it will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival this year.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #106 of 2016** – Resolution to approve the sound device permit for St Anthony’s Festival. There will be many bands at the festival.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman  
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes— 7  
Nays—0

**Resolution #107 of 2016** – Resolution to waive the fee for the sound device permit for St Anthony’s Festival.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #108 of 2016** – Resolution to approve the Amended Local Law on Fire Lanes.

It's up to the property owners to post extra signage to remind people not to park in the fire lane areas. These areas were marked out by the Code office.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution #109 of 2016** – Resolution determining that the property located at or about Central Avenue (tax map # 86-58-02-12.22) is no longer needed for municipal purposes, and Further, the City of Cortland, through it's Corporation Counsel is authorized to obtain an appraisal to determine the fair market value of said property.

Motion By: Alderman Carpenter

Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution #110 of 2016** – Resolution to approve the 2016 request for taxi inspection fees.

A more thorough inspection is required now and requires to go through an outside vendor.

Motion By: Alderman Carpenter

Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution #111 of 2016** – Resolution to accept the Donations appropriated to the CYB budget in honor of Jim Yaman. Thank you for the donations.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution #112 of 2016** — Resolution to permit alcoholic beverages at the Wickwire Pool donor and key contributors Grand Opening Celebration on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm – 7:00pm at Suggest Park.

There will be a private adult celebration on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 5-7 PM. This is for all the people who have donated to the project as well as City leadership. There will be beer, wine, and a champagne toast from a trustworthy vendor for the celebration. On Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 10AM- 12 PM there will be a community celebration of the opening of the pool and to celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. There will be lots of different things going on that day for kids and families. The goal is for the pool to be completely finished by the first week of June.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

**Resolution #113 of 2016** — Resolution to declare certain digester rehabilitation and associated work on emergency projects.

WHEREAS, the City of Cortland requires emergency work to rehabilitate the existing primary and secondary anaerobic digesters, located at the City of Cortland Wastewater Treatment Plant, 251 Port Watson Street, Cortland NY, 13045, and

WHEREAS, the emergency work is required to accommodate increased high strength waste volumes from Byrne Hollow Farms, rebuild the digesters as they are at the end of their useful service life, prevent fugitive emissions of biogas, and to utilize the biogas through electrical power generation, and

WHEREAS, the emergency work will be performed by eProcess Environmental for \$8,199,688 which will be financed through the existing CC-EQPT-14 contract, and

WHEREAS, eProcess will be required to follow all EFC requirements, including MWBE, as well as all requirements for municipal work, and

WHEREAS, the emergency work includes the following:

1. Rehabilitation to the Secondary Digester including:
  - a. Conversion to high-rate active digester
  - b. Replacement of floating cover with a gas holding membrane
  - c. Installation of draft tube mixers (2) and heating to make digester active
  - d. Installation of new insulation and siding
  - e. Repair of existing concrete
2. Rehabilitation to the Primary Digesters including:
  - a. Replacement of existing covers with stainless steel fixed covers
  - b. Installation of center mount draft tube mixers and gas safety equipment
  - c. Installation of new insulation and siding
  - d. Repair of existing concrete
3. Replacement of existing biogas piping and safety equipment

4. Retrofit of existing sludge thickener to high strength waste holding tank including the following:
  - a. Installation of new tank mixer
  - b. Installation of heat exchanger and pumps
  - c. Installation of high strength waste
5. Installation of biogas generator and gas conditioning equipment
6. Installation of a new concrete tank for spare/future use as additional digester volume is needed
7. Installation of an on-site hypochlorite generation system for disinfection

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland hereby authorizes the digester emergency work to progress.

Bruce Adams was present to explain the process and had pictures to share with the Council.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 7  
Nays – 0

**Item #11**— Discussion of the April 21, 2016 ruling of the Public Service Commission extending 'Community Choice Aggregation' to all City, Towns, and Villages in New York State.

Mack Cook was present to answer questions and describe the circumstances of the ruling. Now is the time to do neighborhood projects due to the availability of the grant. There should be cheaper energy through the CCA with locked in rates. There will be a half-hour Webinar on May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mack Cook has materials to register for it if any of the council members were interested.

**Resolution #114 of 2016**— Resolution to suspend the vacant building fees for property located at 19 Homer Ave.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett  
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes—7  
Nays—0

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer  
Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

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 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF MAY, 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.**

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**RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK**

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**MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN**