



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland July 19, 2016

Council Meeting #13
July 19, 2016
25 Court Street
7:00 PM

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

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, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, and Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Devon Rainbow

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

Tom Gobel – Wants to give his condolences to all the police officers and the families of those that were killed.

Mayors Report – There are a number of U.S. service men/women that are volunteering for the Healthy Cortland event. Local residents, at zero cost, can receive a number of services. They are set up at Homer Intermediate School. He wants to congratulate the City of Oswego for getting the DRI grant. Everyone that was involved for the City of Cortland applying, did a great job and worked very hard.

RESOLUTION #168 of 2016 - Resolution to approve the July 5, 2016 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Alderman Mastropolo wanted to comment on the Local Law regarding property maintenance from last meeting because she was not present. The funds run out quickly and are hard to obtain. You cannot get blood from a stone, and she would have voted against it.

Mayor Tobin asked for Councils permission to move Items #15 and #16 to items #2 and #3. Also to have an executive session at the end of the meeting for labor negotiations with no action after. Council Approved.

Item #1 – Presentation on Community Choice Aggregation Implementation Plan.

MEGA (Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance) was established in 1998 and provides energy services for more than 275 municipalities in upstate New York. This goes out for bid to companies and then awarded through the government. Municipalities can then piggyback off of that contract. Competitive bidding has saved taxpayers millions of dollars. People pay for the supply and delivery. The delivery still comes from National Grid, this company only affects the supply. There is a requirement of 60 days of educating the community before starting the process. Residents have 30 days to opt out and 3 billing cycles. 93% of the residents in Illinois participated in the program and are happy. For any questions or concerns email Louise Gava at lgava@megaenergy.org

Resolution #169 of 2016 - Resolution to accept the bid from McNeil Development to purchase tax map parcel 86.58-02-12.220 for \$76,000.00.

The process started out with having the piece of land appraised and then it was bided out.

Motion By: Alderman Carpenter
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #170 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to transfer tax map parcel 86.58-02-12.220 for \$76,000.00.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #171 of 2016 – Resolution to accept, recognize and appropriate the following donations.

Donation	Amount	Event/Project	Budget Line
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McNeil Development Co.	\$100.00	Porch Fest	A-7550.5405
McNeil Development Co.	\$2,000.00	Wickwire Pool	Wickwire Pool Trust Fund
Diane and Donald Chu	\$200.00	Wickwire Pool	Wickwire Pool Trust Fund
Total Donations	\$2,300.00		

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes— 7
 Nays— 0

Resolution #172 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize submission of an Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) application in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the Wickwire Pool Bathhouse.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #173 of 2016 – Resolution to appropriate \$5,680.00 proceeds from the sale of (1) retired marked police vehicle from City Police Department to Account A3120.206.00 for the purchase of new police vehicles for 2016 & 2017.

Motioned By: Alderman Carpenter
 Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #174 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the Cortland City Police to install additional cameras on Main Street as part of the continuing proactive efforts to deter criminal activity and apprehend perpetrators, making Main Street a viable area for new and existing businesses, residential housing, and citizen patronage. The proposal will authorize the installation of 15 cameras, the cost in the fall not to exceed \$50,000 funded through the Police Departments 2016 budget. Cameras to be placed between William Street and Orchard Street, including Central Avenue, with half being installed this fall and the remaining half being installed in the spring of 2017, based upon the mapped locations provided to the Council as engineered by Tyco Integrated Systems.

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #175 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the City of Cortland as representative for Clinton Ave. Streetscape Storm water GIGP Project No. 1293.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #176 of 2016 – Resolution to accept a grant in the amount of \$2 million dollars-no match- to fund the construction of the methane gas to electricity conversion component of the Waste Water Plant upgrade project awarded by NYSERDA under Project Opportunity Notice 2828 (PON) and authorize the Mayor to execute contractual documents pertaining to the grant.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman

Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #177 of 2016 — Resolution to authorize submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Infrastructure application in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 for the Clinton Avenue Water Main Replacement project.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #178 of 2016 — Resolution to authorize submission of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Microenterprise application in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #179 of 2016 – a Resolution to authorize submission of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Application in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the Tioughnioga River Pedestrian Bridge.

The bridge will go behind the Hampton Inn with a plan of a possible dog park.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #180 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the Submission of a Climate Smart Communities Grant in the Amount of Two Million Dollars.

Whereas, the City has adopted a Climate Action Plan wherein the City is committed to decreasing vehicle trips and reducing greenhouse gas emissions,

Whereas, the City has formulated a City-wide pedestrian/bicyclist plan that supports the goals of Climate Action Plan and puts forth plans for the construction of on-road and off-road facilities to support non-motorized forms of transportation and connects activity centers such as businesses, schools, libraries, shopping areas, recreation areas, and neighborhoods and provides a critical link in a continuous transportation system that connects to such destinations,

Whereas, the City has created the Walkable Watershed Plan that supports the construction of infrastructure-related projects that provide safe routes for non-drivers to and through the commercial, recreational and neighborhoods in the vicinity of the West Branch of the Tioughnioga River,

Whereas, the City has developed conceptual plans for the Clinton Avenue Gateway Project which incorporates designated pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists that provides a critical connection to the City’s various activities centers,

Whereas, the State has established the Climate Smart Communities Grant Program for the design, engineering and construction of projects that significantly reduce greenhouse emissions and support the State’s role as an international leader in reducing greenhouse emissions.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Common Council of the City of Cortland hereby authorizes the filling of a Climate Smart Community Grant in the amount of two million dollars for the construction of pedestrian and bicyclist pathways that support the goals and objectives of the City-Wide Pedestrian and Bicyclist Plan; the Walkable Watershed Plan; and the Clinton Avenue Gateway Project; and provides critical links in the City’s transportation system inter-connecting vital activities centers and neighborhoods.

The pathway would go from Route 81 to downtown. There is a bike plan in the works to get around other areas of the City.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #181 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the City to apply for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Climate Smart Communities Grant to fund a Pilot Food Waste Vermicomposting Project.

Whereas, the State has established the Climate Smart Communities Grant Program for the design, engineering and construction of projects that significantly reduce greenhouse emissions and support the State's role as an international leader in reducing greenhouse emissions.

Whereas, the City has adopted a Climate Action Plan wherein the City is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions,

Whereas, the Climate Communities Grant Program will consider implementation funding for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing food waste and increasing the volume of food scraps diverted to local composting facilities with an emphasis on assessment of potential costs/savings of organic recycling and assessment of organics facilities that accept food scraps that lead to implementation of measures necessary to establish municipal yard waste composting facilities that can accept food scraps,

Whereas, SUNY-Cortland has expressed interest in partnering with the City to establish a pilot program that can accept food scraps from SUNY-Cortland student cafeteria,

Whereas, the City can apply for a \$200,000 grant and match the required 50% by providing use of 4 acres of now vacant City owned land,

Whereas, the proposed pilot food waste vermicomposting facility would utilize yard waste currently processed and stored the City's DPW therefore lessening the City's cost to dispose of such materials,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Common Council of the City of Cortland hereby authorizes the filing of a Climate Smart Community Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the construction of a pilot food waste vermicomposting facility.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Resolution #182 of 2016 – Resolution to adopt the New York State Climate Smart Community's pledge.

Whereas, the City of Cortland (hereinafter "local government") believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning fossil fuels; and WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

Whereas, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

Whereas, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

Whereas, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

It is Hereby Resolved that City of Cortland, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

1. Pledge to be a Climate Smart Community.
2. Set goals, inventory emissions, plan for climate action.
3. Decrease community energy use.
4. Increase community use of renewable energy.
5. Realize benefits of recycling and other climate-smart solid waste management practices.
6. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through use of climate-smart land-use tools.
7. Enhance community resilience and prepare for the effects of climate change.
8. Support development of a green innovation economy.
9. Inform and inspire the public.
10. Commit to an evolving process of climate action.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #183 of 2016 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a retainer agreement with Fisher Associates, Syracuse NY for a feasibility study for the conversion of the current downtown Main Street to a two way street at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. (CFA project 53073 ESD SPFS)

This study is being done because of the change in traffic patterns within the City. There were meetings held with a few of the downtown business owners that feel this is a good idea to look into. The company got to know the community before submitting their bid. They will be engaging the community with the study.

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 2 (Aldermen Ferrer, Thomas)

Resolution #184 of 2016 – Resolution to declare the City of Cortland lead agency for the Wickwire Pool House Rehabilitation project.

Motion By: Alderman Thomas
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #185 of 2016 – Resolution to declare the project as Type II in accordance with SEQR 617.5.

The footprint is the same as what is there currently.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #19 – Discussion to set a date for a public hearing on amending the Local Law on Rental Permit. To add the requirement to attach a sign to the house.

Alderman Silliman has proposed an oval shaped sign that will be available in one size and font. The first line will have the name of the property manager followed by the next line with their contact phone number. The third line will have the registered permit number and the forth can have a website, logo or additional information if needed. The Code office feels this will be helpful for them. The proposal is that the City would pay for the blank sign that would come out of the renters' permit money, and the owner would pay for the engraving. This would be for all rental properties. A public hearing date was set for August 16, 2016 at 6:30 PM.

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

EXIT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Thomas

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Ferrer
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

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 19th DAY OF JULY, 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