



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland October 4, 2016

Council Meeting #18
October 4, 2016
25 Court Street
6:45 PM

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

Excused: Alderman Gary Thomas

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

Public Hearing:

Alderman Bennett opened the Public Hearing on abandoning the shared driveway agreement on the corner of River St. and Elm St. in the City of Cortland at 6:45PM.

Ric VanDonsel explained that this was a piece of property that the City inherited when we took over the house. We need to abandon the joint driveway agreement so that they can have a clear sale. This is a piece of land that we don't use or need for the park. The land owner is giving the City a donation for the easement.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:50PM

REGULAR SESSION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Public Comments:

John Morton – He is the owner of the Gable Inn on Port Watson St. He would like to speak on behalf of the tenants at Gable Inn. The recent Sound Device Permit that was granted to Woodman's Pub is causing sleeping issues. The sound travels through the alley way and bounces off the buildings causing windows to rattle at night. This happens with the music from Stone Lounge as well. The tenants believe they deserve a level of quiet and peace at night.

Tom Gobel – Has noticed that a lot of the student houses have improved the outside and looks good. He has concerns regarding the bus stop areas being a mess from the homeless staying there.

Ward Reports:

Ward 1 – There is concern regarding the noise from the dry creek project. The 281 construction is a State project and they do not plan on doing any landscaping till next year. The Franziska Racker Center put on a breakfast that was well attended and a very special award was given to Carolynn Davis.

Ward 2 – There was a letter received concerning North Main St being torn up by NYSEG after it was just redone by the City not long ago. Many sidewalks need some repair in the City. There is also a concern regarding food trucks in the City and hurting other businesses. A reminder to try and keep the noise down in the late evening hours as you are walking the streets.

Ward 4 – The safe routes to school construction has started up and should be done in 5-6 weeks. There has been some complaints on the new student life center. There is an odor coming from the grease trap not being maintained as it should. The University has been notified and they are working on a solution. There is currently nothing on our City charter regarding food trucks. Aldermen Bennett and Megivern are working on drafting one.

Ward 5 – A big thank you to the City PD for the fast response and arrest on Owego St. There is \$5,000 going to Beaudry Park for some renovations.

Ward 6 – There are concerns with street lights and the train coming through late nights/early mornings. They are working with DPW to resolve the lights and waiting on a call regarding the train.

Ward 7 – Thank you for all the work done on the new park. It's looking great! This was the 21st year for the Pumpkin Fest and it was very successful. Lots of students from the college volunteered to help out. Ward meeting is tomorrow at the Community Center with no special guest speakers.

Ward 8 – There were complaints about a homeless guy living in the bus stop. The Cortland Police Dept. was called along with County Dispatch. The guy was removed but relocated. There are complaints regarding the new paving on Randall St. There are low curbs now because the road is a couple inches higher.

Mayors Report: Pumpkin Fest was well attended and a great time for everyone. A summary of the budget for 2017 was given out to Council. This is the first stage to the budget. The final approval has to be done by the end of December.

Proclamation:

Mayor Tobin read the Proclamation – Fire Prevention Week (October 9 - 15)

- Chief Glover explained that they are doing lots of activities with the schools this month. It is very important to check your smoke detectors in your homes. They need to be replaced every 10 years.

Mayor Tobin read the Proclamation – Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)

- Director Linda Glover stated that there were 388 people in the last couple years that needed assistance due to domestic violence, and close to 200 people this year already have needed help. The community can help by making donations to the YWCA. October 20th is “Go Purple Day”.

RESOLUTION #237 of 2016 - Resolution to approve the September 20, 2016 Common Council Minutes as presented.

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #238 of 2016 – Resolution to accept, recognize, and appropriate the following donations.

Donation	Amount	Event/Project	Budget Line
Porchfest	\$593.00	Porchfest Collection	A-7550.5405
Laurie Hogan	\$1,750.00	Softball Tournament	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund
Gators, LLC	\$200.00	Softball Tournament	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund
Gators, LLC	\$150.00	Softball Tournament	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund
JP Brown	\$150.00	Softball Tournament	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund
Woodman’s Pub, LLC	\$150.00	Softball Tournament	Jim Partigianoni Trust Fund
Total Donations	\$2,993.00		

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
 Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

Approved: Ayes – 7
 Nays – 0

Resolution #239 of 2016 – Resolution to appropriate Fund Balance to A3010-5405-00. An Insurance recovery of \$13,100.00 was received in Dec. 2015 for a repair not made until April of 2016.

Nic Dovi explained that last year there was an accident on the corner of Clinton Ave and Main St. where a large truck hit the traffic light. The light has been repaired.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett

Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #3 – Consideration of a Resolution to decommission the City operated pull-box notification system by January 1, 2017 and declare salvageable equipment surplus.

There is a cost and liability issue that needs to be addressed. It was discussed among Council and Chief Glover that there has not been any communication with the entities on the system. No one has reached out to the City to have discussion on abandoning the system. There may be more harm done by just pulling the boxes without reaching out to the entities first. It was decided that Corporation Counsel will draft a letter with the Chief to send out to the entities to please respond back to the City.

Motioned By: Alderman Bennett
Seconded By: Alderman Megivern

Alderman Megivern withdrew his motion
Alderman Bennett withdrew his motion

Item #4 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the Exotic Pet Permit for the breeding of a Khao Manee, which is a rare cat breed.

Candace Coville would like to start a business of breeding a rare cat. It was suggested that she look into NYS agricultural laws regarding animal breeding. There are requirements and inspections that have to be done.

Motioned By: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded By: Alderman Silliman

Alderman Silliman withdrew her motion
Alderman Carpenter withdrew his motion

Mayor Tobin wanted to remind Council members to look at some possible days and times to meet for workshops on the budget. These dates are going to be discussed at the next meeting.

Alderman Bennett will not be at the next couple meetings due to having surgery.

Salesmen are out going door to door without permits. They need to have a permit from the Clerk's Office and it needs to be on them.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion By: Alderman Silliman
Seconded By: Alderman Ferrer

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 4th DAY OF OCTOBER, 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