



## City Council Minutes January 20, 2004

The City of Cortland, New York

**COUNCIL MEETING #2**  
**January 20, 2004**  
**Regular Business Meeting**  
**City Hall**  
**7:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Thomas Gallagher  
Alderman Faraoni, Terwilliger, Morey, Guido, Quail, Partigianoni, Feiszli, and Michales

Staff present: Director of Admin. & Finance Andrew Damiano. Corporation Counsel Lawrence Knickerbocker, City Clerk, John O. Reagan.

Mayor Gallagher calls the Common Council meeting to order at 7:00PM.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one to speak.

MINUTES of the January 6, 2004 meeting.

**RESOLUTION #11** of 2004 – Approve the minutes of January 6, 2004.

By: Alderman Faraoni  
Seconded: Alderman Terwilliger

Approved: Ayes – 8  
Nays – 0

### BILLS

Alderman Guido questions the Law bills. This is for updates to McKinney's statutes.

Bills are reviewed and received.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor lets everyone know January 21<sup>st</sup> the Fire Department will be holding their annual dinner. This is the 150th anniversary of the Cortland Fire Department.

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David Mitchell, son of Dean and Lynn Mitchell won a bronze metal in the US National Figure Skating Championship. This Sat. and Sun. there is going to be a snow cross event at CNY Power Sports in Polkville. The races start at 10:00AM. Basil Anagnost passed away. Basil was recognized in 1997 for his service to the community.

Andy Damiano and the Mayor have been meeting with the legislature and he welcomes Scott Steve tonight. They have been moving along in a positive direction. He attended the information forum at the career work center to discuss violence in the work place. He met with Thoma Development to gather information on Block Grant programs. They are going to supply us with everything they are working on. They are also going to give us an overview of everything they have done for us over the past 10 years.

He met with Barbara Lifton last week. He is looking for her support for lifting some of the financial burdens on the City and to help us out with our Fire Department program. Mayor Gallagher has been appointed to the BDC/IDA board. There are a lot of things going on with that board. The BDC was named the 2003 Business Administration Financial Services Advocate of the year. They also received the excellence in economic development award. He attended the CBN Meeting at Marietta Corp. The guest was Senator Schumer. He gave an overview of several issues state and nationwide. He also discussed the Fire Department. His office will be contacting him this week. He has met with the staff and members of various boards and commissions this week.

Scott Steve has put together a group consisting of City, County, Town, and Village residents. There is a meeting on January 29, 2004, at approx. 7:30PM. The Mayor asks Alderman Morey if she can attend as he is unable to do so.

## WARD REPORTS

Ward 1 –Alderman Faraoni

He welcomes Corp. Counsel Knickerbocker and Clerk Reagan. Everything is going well in the first ward. People that are plowing driveways are plowing across the road. This is against the law. Please clean up the mess you make.

Ward 2 – Alderman Terwilliger

She has had four phone calls about crows in the Halbert Street area. She has a ward meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> at the YWCA at 7:00PM. Her home phone number is 758-8289. Please try to keep your sidewalk clean. She has had a request for a stop sign at the intersection of Grace St. and Maple. There is not one there now.

Ward 3 – Alderman Morey

She had a ward meeting last Tuesday night. The Mayor and Carol Tytler, Legislature of the third ward were in attendance. There were several residents that spoke primarily relating to James Street and the parking and snowplowing. She thanks Amy Simerell of the YWCA. She welcomes Clerk Regan and Corp. Counsel Knickerbocker. She has had several calls about the snow on Main Street. It has been taken care of by the DPW.

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Ward 4 – Alderman Guido

Things are quiet in the 4<sup>th</sup> ward.

Ward 5 – Alderman Quail

He has a ward meeting next Thursday at the Moose Lodge at 6:30pm. The Mayor will be attending and we will be talking about City issues.

Ward 6 – Alderman Feiszli

Alderman Feiszli has been contacted about school buses having to back up on Washington St. in the winter when cars are parked on both sides of the street. Washington is a narrow street that currently allows parking on both sides. In the winter it is even narrower. The Cortland City School transportation supervisor said this has been a problem for years. She has contacted Public Safety and asked if they could restrict parking in the winter on one side of the street during school hours. If there are any residents that feel this would propose a problem for them please call.

There was a house fire on Miller Street on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Chief Barron said the fire was caused from a short in the wiring on the third floor that was buried in blown in insulation. The fire was put out but there is extensive water and smoke damage. She has spoke to the owner who may possibly need assistance from the community.

Her first ward meeting will be February 25, at 7:00PM at 27 North Church St. She has heard some concerns about the crosswalk on Homer Ave. in front of the hospital. Many motorists are not slowing down or stopping. She congratulates Dan Quail on his appointment as Deputy Mayor and she respects Mayor Gallagher and his effort to make this a bi-partisan Council and hope that we will all follow his lead concerning future decisions made by the Council over the next two years.

Ward 7 – Alderman Partigianoni

Everything is quiet in his ward.

Ward 8 - Alderman Michales

He received a call regarding a garage that operates in the 8<sup>th</sup> ward which operates under a special permit that allows him to store 8 vehicles on his property at one time. There are about 12 vehicles now. This needs to be revisited. We have a new sports bar in the 8<sup>th</sup> ward. It is operated by Bud Diescher, Jr. It is called Tailgaters and has excellent chicken and potato wedges. He will have a ward meeting this Thurs. January 22 at 7:00PM at City Hall. He will be discussing ward issues, City issues, and the possibility of initiating a Neighborhood Watch program. Alderman Michales recognizes John Michael Koltz on his achievement of Eagle Scout. This is an honor and one that demonstrates the dedication and perseverance that John has shown in achieving his goals. John's dedication and hard work made it possible for the community to share in a bird sanctuary located at Suggett Park. John is a fine example for the youth in the City of Cortland. He is active in sports and music in High School and maintains

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excellent grades and is involved in the community. He congratulates John and his parents for an excellent job in raising their son.

## AGENDA

Mayor Gallagher reads a letter from Scott Steve explaining Item No. 1 which was tabled on January 6, 2004.

“In accordance with Cortland County Local Law No. 2 of 1972 section 204, vacancies; it is the responsibility of the Common Council to fill this vacancy. The local law requires that the vacancy be filled within 30 days. The next session of the County Legislature is Wed. January 28<sup>th</sup>. If you could notify me (Mr. Steve) before then as to who will fill the vacancy it would be most helpful and appreciated”.

Motion was made by Alderman Morey, seconded by Alderman Faraoni, voted and carried, to put Item No. 1 on the table for discussion.

Alderman Morey notes Tamara Wyant holds a degree in human services, criminal justice, she is a real estate broker, she is a foster parent and she feels she will be an excellent candidate to work with.

Motion made by Alderman Morey, seconded by Alderman Guido to nominate and confirm Tamara Wyant to fill the vacant 5<sup>th</sup> District County Legislative Seat.

Approved: Ayes – 5  
Nays – 3 (Terwilliger, Partigianoni, Feiszli)

Motion made by Alderman Partigianoni, seconded by Alderman Feiszli to nominate and confirm Ron VanDee to fill the vacant 5<sup>th</sup> District County Legislative Seat.

Denied: Ayes – 3  
Nays – 5 (Faraoni, Morey, Guido, Quail, and Michales).

**RESOLUTION #12** of 2004 – To nominate and confirm Tamara Wyant to fill the vacant 5<sup>th</sup> District County Legislative Seat.

By: Alderman Morey  
Seconded: Alderman Guido

Approved: Ayes – 5  
Nays – 3 (Terwilliger, Partigianoni, Feiszli)

**RESOLUTION #13** of 2004 – Approve the appointment of Penny D. Hawks as a Commissioner of Deeds.

By: Alderman Morey  
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes – 8

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Nays – 0

**RESOLUTION #14** of 2004 – Approve the request by the City Clerk to attend the 2004 NYCOM Winter Legislative meeting with the Mayor.

By: Alderman Guido  
Seconded: Alderman Terwilliger

Approved: Ayes – 8  
Nays – 0

Alderman Faraoni feels that as long as it is under \$100.00 it should be up to the discretion of the Department Head.

**RESOLUTION #15** of 2004 – All travel and training expenses in excess of \$100.00 for all departments except the Mayor's Office, the Fire Department, and the Police Department requires the authorization of the Common Council prior to incurring the expense.

By: Alderman Faraoni  
Seconded: Alderman Partigianoni

Approved: Ayes – 8  
Nays – 0

There will be a work session for February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00PM in the Mayor's Conference Room with regard to board appointments and commissions.

On the motion of Alderman Morey, seconded by Alderman Quail, voted and carried,

**RESOLVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER.**

On the motion of Alderman Morey, seconded by Alderman Faraoni, voted and carried,

**RESOLVED TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AND INTO THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING.**

**Adjournment.**

By: Alderman Quail  
Seconded: Alderman Guido

Approved: Ayes – 8  
Nays – 0

**I, JOHN O. REAGAN, CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, NEW YORK DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, HELD ON THE 20th DAY OF**

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**JANUARY, 2004. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED.**

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**JOHN O. REAGAN – CITY CLERK**

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**MAYOR THOMAS GALLAGHER**