



City Council Minutes July 2, 2002

The City of Cortland, New York

COUNCIL MEETING #11
July 2, 2002
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
City Hall
7:30PM

PRESENT: Mayor Mary E. Leonard
Alderman Faraoni, Tobin, Morey, Guido, Quail, Partigianoni, Testa and Hennessy

Staff present: City Clerk, William J. Wood, Corporation Counsel, Mark Suben, and Director of Administration & Finance, Andrew J. Damiano

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tara Wilhoit of 12 Parkwood Circle speaks regarding open excavation. She is asking that the Council consider perhaps requiring some sort of fencing other than mesh to protect children when a pool or foundation is being built.

MINUTES

Approve the amended Common Council minutes of June 18, 2002.

By: Alderman Faraoni
Seconded: Alderman Hennessy

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Bills

The Hickey, Sheehan & Gates bill is still the Merkur Case. Council Member Morey brings up an error in the heading of the City Clerk. She also asks about the hotel bill. Andy has this information.

Receive the bills of July 2002.

MAYORS' REPORT

The Mayor asks that if you call her to please leave your name and number. She has received a number of phone calls and she would like to get some clarification or call back and let you know what was done about the issue. There will be an Empire State Games flag raising for the City of Cortland on the 11th of July at 10:00 AM in front of City Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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There has been some discussion about the banners downtown. They are working closely with the Chamber of Commerce. There are some issues as to who should enter into the contracts for these, when this should take place, and if it's fair for us. The Mayor passes around some information regarding the City fire service rating and a copy of the memo Corp. Counsel sent.

Ward 1 – Alderman Faraoni

The doggy pot is being used and he hopes everyone continues to use it. He is hoping to put these in all the parks in the City.

Ward 2 – Alderman Tobin

He has had a couple of issues about exotic pets. He has had calls about various properties, drugs, etc. He would like to see a nuisance abatement law for the City of Cortland. The City of Syracuse and Rochester have this. This is a good tool and a positive step for the community.

Ward 3 – Alderman Morey

Alderman Morey feels there is a misconception regarding the Code Department. She has had a lot of calls regarding Code. She is satisfied that the Code Department is going out there. Code responds to every call. She feels there is some gap between Code serving a citation and it coming through the Court system. There is one house in her ward that has 13 violations and there has been no penalty imposed on them. She is going to send Corp. Counsel some examples of this. As far as the facilities study, she has received the information from Andy. It is exactly what she was looking for. The problem with NIMO and the trees on Pinecrest were discussed. She went for a tour up through Pinecrest. They are going to go through and clean that up. She has had calls regarding fluoride. The Water Board is at the preliminary stages of its study regarding fluoridation.

Ward 4 – Alderman Guido

Everything has been quiet. He has had one call on fluoridation. Corp. Counsel states he has not received a response from his letter regarding the scrap yard.

Ward 5 – Alderman Quail

He had his ward meeting. Chief Nichols attended and discussed speeding issues. He has asked if the Council would look into changing the speed limit on Sunnyfield and Kent Dr. to 25 mph. Chief Nichols did a really good job. There was discussion on the polling place. We are looking at the Youth Bureau. He attended the Water Board meeting. He has spoke to the Corp. Counsel regarding policy changes. Received a call from a hotel regarding another hotel moving into the area. The Holiday Inn states they are at 53% occupancy and if a new hotel comes in they will have to be more aggressive and start cutting costs. Rental signs are still of concern. He would like them to come down before the end of summer. Alderman Morey feels fluoridation is a policy change.

Ward 7 – Alderman Partigianoni

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He has received several calls regarding the fluoride issue. All the comments he has been getting are negative. Mike Preston took care of a problem on Hubbard St. He has several code issues he is also working on.

Ward 8 – Alderman Hennessy

The next 8th ward meeting will be July 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers at 7:00PM. Marilyn Brown is attending to discuss some of the things going on in the County to include an Administrator. She has received calls regarding work being done on Hyatt and Bartlett by the water department. They have done their part of the excavation work. From the sidewalk to the house, private contractors are doing that portion. There has been a significant lag in between when the water board is there and when the private contractors are there. In one case there has been an open hole for close to 6 weeks. This arrangement seems to be very unwieldy. She would like to have more discussions on this.

AGENDA

Consideration of a Resolution approving a Community Development Loan.

The Mayor states the loan committee met and be approved with the conditions included. If you have any questions, we will need to go into executive session.

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

Council agrees they will need to go into Executive Session.

On the motion of Alderman Partigianoni, seconded by Alderman Hennessy, voted and carried,

RESOLVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN.

On the motion of Alderman Hennessy, seconded by Alderman Guido, voted and carried,

RESOLVED TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

RESOLUTION #63 of 2002 – Approving the Community Development Loan of TC Cleaning.

RESOLUTION #64 of 2002 – Approving the Mayor's appointment of Steven B. Broyles, Ph. D. to the Water Board.

By: Alderman Faraoni
Seconded: Alderman Guido

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays - 0

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RESOLUTION #65 of 2002 – Approving the Mayor’s appointment of Gary David to the Department of Public Works Commission.

By: Alderman Guido
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Alderman Testa wants to have a ward meeting at the Grange. Alderman Morey would like to have one meeting a month at City Hall. The next meeting will be at Pomeroy Place. Andy recommends that once the budget process starts, the meetings are at City Hall as that is where the resources are. Andy explains the Office of Court Administration is receptive to help with the cost for the sound system. They also would like to incorporate their recording system into the sound system.

Adjournment

By: Alderman Testa
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

I, WILLIAM J. WOOD CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, NEW YORK DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, HELD ON THE 2nd DAY OF JULY 2002. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED.

WILLIAM J. WOOD – CITY CLERK
