



City Council Minutes July 6, 2004

The City of Cortland, New York

COUNCIL MEETING #12

July 6, 2004

Regular Business Meeting

City Hall

7:00PM

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

EXCUSED: Alderman Michales

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES of June 15, 2004.

Changes by Alderman Morey and Terwilliger were noted.

RESOLUTION #80 of 2004 – Approve the amended minutes of June 15, 2004.

By: Alderman Partigianoni

Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

BILLS

Bills are received.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor welcomes the Wastewater Treatment people here tonight.

- Met with Cortland Transit (Sandy Perry) and Councilperson Susan Feiszli to discuss alternate solution to buses turning around in Yaman Park. Currently, bus turns around 24 times daily. They will use smaller bus and continue turning around, or discontinue coming down Kennedy Parkway.

July 6, 2004

- Attended Future Leaders dinner at Cortland Country Club. The Cortland BDC IDA honored the valedictorians and salutatorians from each high school in the county.
- Attended Leadership Cortland graduation at Tinelli's. Each of the three groups made presentations on their individual projects. One of the projects was the Adopt-A-Park Program by different companies in Cortland. This program has now graduated over 100 business people.
- Participated in the Relay for Life at SUNY Cortland. Congratulations to the teams and participants for raising over \$100,000 to support the American Cancer Society. One group of approximately 16 people, the Walkie Talkies, raised nearly \$21,000.
- Attended the inaugural meeting of the Cortland Regional Sports Council, a collaborative effort between SUNY Cortland and the greater Cortland Community. It is a non-profit organization that will provide leadership, guidance and expertise in promoting the Cortland region as a venue for regional, national and international sporting and recreational events.
- Guest speaker at the GED graduation held at Cortland High School.
- Met with Judy Riley, executive vice principal of CHS, and Chief Baron to discuss grant proposal for emergency preparedness program grant for city wide schools.
- There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new residence hall at SUNY Cortland July 13th.
- Dedication of Barry School field in honor of Dave Guido – Wednesday, July 7th at 5:00 p.m.

WARD REPORTS

Ward 1 – Alderman Faraoni

He thanks the Wastewater Treatment employees for attending. Some of the questions we had have been answered.

Ward 2 – Alderman Terwilliger

We are planning a ward/neighborhood meeting later on this month to be held at the Birch Building. She will be notifying the public as soon as a time and date are secured.

Ward 3 – Alderman Morey

She is still seeing a lot of truck traffic down Groton Ave. She will be making another appointment with Chief Nichols or hold a ward report on what we can do. She asks if we can contact Cortlandville so that a temporary sign can be constructed further back so that they can turn around before they get into the City. Andy asks that she contact Public Safety. She will be sending a notice out to the Glenn St. residents to schedule a meeting. She toured the Wastewater Treatment Facility. It was an excellent tour and very educational. She comments

July 6, 2004

that although it is in a residential neighborhood you would never know. She asks to take Item No. 4 off the agenda and move it to the next meetings agenda.

Ward 4 – Alderman Guido

He toured the Wastewater Treatment Plant with Rosann. He was very impressed. The Relay for Life was a success. He didn't have any complaints from anyone in the neighborhood. Thanks Mike Preston for the "no parking" signs that were put up on Warren St. and getting on NIMO to fix a couple of the street lights. He was contacted by Tom Hartnett about trying to get an extra bus stop on Pearl St. There are several children that will be taking the bus to the Junior High next year. He also thanks all the individuals who were responsible for having the filed at Barry School dedicated to his father. It is very much appreciated.

Ward 5 – Alderman Quail

Thanks Rosann for reading his ward report last week. North Carolina was great. Code has taken care of several code issues. There has been a trying one on Winter St. With regard to rental property signs, are we prepared to enforce that. He has been attending the Wastewater meetings. The last meeting was a show and tell on their operational checklist. It is very high-tech.

Ward 6 – Alderman Feiszli

She and Mayor met with Cortland Transit to discuss their buses. The City is concerned about the excessive use and the damage along that area. Once we found out they turn around every half hour, smaller buses might be able to be used. She attended the monthly CCIC meeting. This is a dedicated group of individuals who are responsible, amongst other things, for putting the lights up on the trees, the plants downtown and maintaining them. She met with Jim Sponaugle for a tour of the Armory. The work that has been done is amazing. She had an informational ward meeting at the Armory last month. The guest speakers were Bonnie Heath, Exec. Dir. of the local Red Cross, Mike Mushkowski, NY Guard, and Lowell Alexander, who is the Regional Project Coordinator for the Homeland Security. The topic of the meeting was disaster preparedness whether manmade or natural. She handed out some flyers to the Alderman. She will not have a ward meeting next month. She had a call from a constituent that was told he could not recycle shredded paper. She is looking into that.

Ward 7 – Alderman Partigianoni

He has had a few calls with regard to Crandall St. He is trying to set up a meeting to discuss these issues. The Water Dept. will be digging up Crandall St. to install some laterals about the first week in August. It was originally scheduled to be repaved but it won't happen this year. The residents are also stating people are speeding down the side streets. He received two calls on Hubbard St. with regard to trees. Mike Dexter said the trees are improving. As the softball commissioner for Cortland-Tompkins County, they are very proud of Alicia Chase who made the Central NY first team. She was one of the all time great softball players at Cortland High School. She holds a record there that will probably be there for awhile.

Ward 8 – Alderman Michales

July 6, 2004

Alderman Michales is excused but Alderman Guido reads his report. He attended the after hours Downtown Business Assoc. meeting that Chris and Amy at the Trophy Shop put on. He received some calls concerning the poor condition of the tennis courts in the parks. John McNerney told them that the money has not been set aside for the upkeep in about five years. He asked John to do whatever it takes to get these back up to speed. He received calls about low branches. He has started a process to locate these people. It is the homeowner's responsibility. His next ward meeting is in the works. The lights on the pillars at the water works were down because they were malfunctioning but they are to be replaced.

The Mayor notes as far as the street lights are concerned, he spoke to NIMO and they are going to start this week to repair or replace them. There will also be a work session on July 20, 2004 at 5:30 to discuss the tree ordinance. The CCIC will be renegotiating their contract with the parking permit fee program.

AGENDA

Item No. 1 - Consideration of two resolutions establishing salaries and benefits for the Wastewater Treatment Department employees.

By: Alderman Partigianoni
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Alderman Feiszli would like to separate the motion into two parts. Alderman Quail retracts his second.

RESOLUTION #81 of 2004 – Consideration of a resolution establishing salaries and benefits for Wastewater Treatment Employees as proposed by the Director of Administration for all employees with the exception of the Chief Operator.

By: Alderman Feiszli
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Alderman Partigianoni notes he is not in favor of separating the two as the Chief Operator is taking a \$30,000. pay cut. Alderman Morey feels the rates established are union rates already established in the City for comparable positions.

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #82 of 2004 – Consideration of a resolution establishing a salary and benefits for the Chief Operator, Harvey Davis, as proposed by the Director of Administration in his recent report.

By: Alderman Guido
Seconded: Alderman Morey

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 1 (Feiszli)

July 6, 2004

Alderman Terwilliger thanks the employees for their years of dedication and their cooperation and also Director Damiano for the fine presentation. Alderman Quail comments there is a great deal of technical knowledge involved. Having continuity in the City is something we really need. Alderman Morey notes there are 10 individuals and the majority have been here a lot of years. There is some real dedication by these people to this community, the County, and the City.

RESOLUTION #83 of 2004 – Authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Village of Freeville for the operation of their wastewater treatment plant.

By: Alderman Morey
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #84 of 2004 – Authorize budget transfers for the 2004 Wastewater Treatment Fund.

Director Damiano notes most of the money was appropriated to the contract line. We need to disperse it to all of the other lines.

By: Alderman Partigianoni
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays - 0

Adjournment.

By: Alderman Faraoni
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes – 7
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 6th DAY OF JULY, 2004. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED.

JOHN O. REAGAN – CITY CLERK

MAYOR THOMAS GALLAGHER