



City Council Minutes The City of Cortland

August 2, 2005

Council Meeting #14
August 2, 2005
Regular Business Meeting
City Hall
7:00 PM

Present: Alderman Faraoni, Terwilliger, Morey, Guido, Quail,
Feiszli, Partigianoni and Michales

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one was present

MINUTES of July 19, 2005

RESOLUTION #82 OF 2005 - Approve the minutes of July 19, 2005 as amended.

By: Alderman Partigianoni
Seconded: Alderman Guido

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

Bills were reviewed and received.

MAYOR'S REPORT

It's nice to be back, it's been a long eight (8) weeks. He thanked the Council, the Department Head, the staff, everyone that called, sent cards, visited and sent care packages. He is getting over his surgery, but it is still a healing process.

Ward 1 - Alderman Faraoni

He welcomed Mayor Gallagher back. He has had many calls in the past two weeks, but he has gotten the issues resolved, as far as he knows.

Ward 2 - Alderman Terwilliger

She was on vacation last week and she did receive a couple of phone calls and she will be returning those calls tomorrow morning. She also wanted to firm up the discussion for the work session on August 16 regarding residency requirements.

Ward 3 - Alderman Morey

She was also on vacation last week, but it's been quiet in her ward.

Ward 4 - Alderman Guido

Just a reminder that on August 10 at 6:30 PM there will be a meeting regarding the speeding and traffic issues on Broadway. He had one other phone call regarding street lights and he contacted Public Safety.

Ward 5 - Alderman Quail

It has not been quiet in his ward. South Main has been a real challenge and some neighbors have decided to take some action and get involved and it is appreciated. He thanked Chief Nichols for attending his ward meeting last week. Chief Nichols was very helpful in talking with the neighbors and helping them with their situations and they have come up with some creative options.

Ward 6 - Alderman Feiszli

There are a number of issues she received calls on. She is trying to get more information and will speak about them when she does. There will not be a ward meeting this month and will schedule one for next month.

Ward 7 - Alderman Partigianoni

It hasn't been quiet in his ward. Some of the issues that are being worked on will be discussed at a later time. He announced that Amelia's Restaurant, formerly known as Lido's, is now open. He received a report that the traffic lights that were updated to four way stop delay have improved traffic flow. The residents of Pomeroy Street feel there is an improvement. He is still getting complaints about an odor and as of yet, there is no answer. The DEC is working on that. He also wanted to announce that they will be recognizing outstanding yards and gardens with the help of the Landscape and Design Committee. The first to be mentioned is the Diescher's and there is another one at 5 Harmony Circle and another one on Pomeroy. It is not a competition, but a commendation certificate will be issued from the Landscape and Design Committee. Tomorrow night there will be an intergenerational foxtrot dance event at the Community Center. Thirty people are signed up for it. Perhaps people attending the 8th Ward meeting will want to check it out. The East End History session was so well liked that they are scheduling a Part II. Mary Ann Kane stopped about 1920 and Diane DelVecchio will be there August 21 at 4:00 PM. Her topic will be, Memories of Migration. Her field of research is immigration history and she has written one book and is currently working on another tracing the history of Italian immigrants. On August 24 the Police Department is going to have another fingerprinting session at the Community Center. There are two air conditioners now at the Community Center, but they are not installed as of yet.

Ward 8 - Alderman Michales

He thanked Chris Farkas and the City Clerk's Office for helping and organizing the exotic pet meeting that took place three (3) weeks ago. Since that meeting a six (6) foot boa was found in an abandoned apartment, not fed in three (3) weeks and it is currently in foster care. The boa was found by someone who went in to clean the apartment. There are charges pending against the former owner. This is one of the reasons he wanted to meet with the committee and he wants to put this topic on the agenda for the next meeting and recognize the animal committee as a City Committee. It was then acknowledged that the Committee was already recognized, but there would be more discussion regarding it. Alderman Michales wants to increase the size and scope of the committee. The new Walk/Don't Walk signs have been installed at the intersection of Kellogg Road and Port Watson Street. He wanted to thank everyone involved. They are not yet functional, but will be connected soon. His Ward meeting is scheduled for August 3 at 7:00 PM at the East End Community Center. On the agenda are City

and County issues. The Neighborhood Watch group walk through is scheduled for August 13 at 10:00 AM and they are meeting in front of the Eagles on Port Watson Street. A police officer will accompany this group as well as representatives from the Code Office. This walk through was successful last year.

The Mayor reminded everyone that this weekend is the Brockway Truck Show. A request was received from Shirley Randolph, President of the show regarding the closing of Main Street on Saturday, August 6, 2005, from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM from the Groton and Clinton Avenue intersection to the Port Watson and Tompkins Street intersection.

RESOLUTION #83 OF 2005 - Approve a resolution to close Main Street On Saturday, August 6, 2005, from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM from the Groton and Clinton Avenue intersection to the Port Watson and Tompkins Street intersection.

By: Alderman Morey
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

ITEM #1 - Cortland Regional Sports Council Presentation given by Machel Phelps and Joe Reagan. Joe Reagan thanked everyone for the opportunity to address the council. He gave some history of the Council, stating that SUNY President Biederbaum met with some people from the College to form a regional sports council to promote local, regional, national and international sporting and recreational events in Cortland County. Things went well and their goal was to build on the success of the 2002 Empire State Games. We were the smallest city to host that event and it was a big job well done. Tonight they are here to celebrate their success with the support of the Council, SUNY Cortland, the Chamber of Commerce, the Conventioneers Business Bureau and the Cortland County Legislature and many, many others. In just eight (8) months, from November until now, they have surpassed more than a million dollars in economic dollars brought into our region just from events they have participated in. He introduced some other members of the Council. On behalf of the Cortland Regional Sports Council, he thanked everyone and noted charter members, Tom Gallagher and Scott Steve. Michelle Phelps went over some of the events they have had an impact in in the past few months. There was the Snow Cross Race held last February. She thanked the City for their involvement and support for transporting snow into the CNY Power Sports area for the event.

The next big event was the NAAU basketball tournament. Thirty (30) teams from all across the United States, plus one from the Bahamas participated. They are coming back in March of next year, but they have asked about coming back this fall for another tournament. They were pleased with SUNY Cortland and the event. The next thing was the Lumberjack Invitational, which filled the McDonald Sports Complex stands. As a result of that success, they were able to bid on the 2006 North American Championships and we are going to host them provided we can find the sponsorship dollars to pay for them. During the month of June they had three (3) lacrosse events and the last event was the full league opening day. To their knowledge, it was the largest sporting event ever held in Cortland County, with over five thousand (5,000) people on the SUNY Cortland campus for that one (1) event. In the past week they have posted two (2) items, the Bon Ton Roulet welcome reception and set up with restaurants in the city a coupon discount program for them. Jrecks Subs, alone, had \$272 worth of coupons redeemed. This added to what was spent above and beyond that at this one location, shows it brought in quite a bit of business. Right now they are in the process of hosting the NYS 2005 Junior Baseball Championships. The final game takes place August 3. There is hope that they will return next year and the Council is putting together bids for that. She thought about the Softball Tournament that Alderman Partigianoni is involved in. There are twenty-seven (27) teams here with about fifteen (15) players on each team. They each brought one person with them and that one event, brought in about \$127,000 to this community. The way that is figured is taken from the NYS Department of Economic Development. One is with a lodging stay and one is without. It's specifically geared for Upstate New York. They keep track of tickets sold, hotel rooms sold; five (5) different things to estimate the economic impact. About 75% of their expenditures are for marketing and advertising and they are spent in the community. Only about 25% goes outside of the community. In eight (8) short months, they have surpassed their goal. They also made this presentation before the Cortland County Legislature. Information packets were distributed and the Council and City were thanked again.

RESOLUTION #84 OF 2005 - Approve a resolution to appoint Norma Gilbert and Donna Kelley to the Cortland Housing Authority Board of Directors as Tenant Representatives (elected by a vote of the tenants).

By: Alderman Guido
Seconded: Alderman Terwilliger

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #85 OF 2005 - Approve a resolution deleting Carol Sonnacchio as a signator on all City accounts and authorizing Lori Crompton as a new signator.

By: Alderman Partigianoni
Seconded: Alderman Quail

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #86 OF 2005 - Approve a resolution to make the following amendments to the 2005 General Fund Budget in order to accept two (2) grants awarded to the Police Department:

A. Electronic Ticket & Accident Report Project - increase Revenue Account No. A3391 by \$18,213 and appropriate \$18,213 to Account No. A3120.206 (Police Department Operating Equipment).

B. Homeland Security Grant - increase Revenue Account No. A3390 by \$30,000 and appropriate \$30,000 to Account No. 3120.206 (Police Department Operating Equipment).

By: Alderman Morey
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

RESOLUTION #87 OF 2005 - Approve a Resolution amending the Miscellaneous Revenue Budget by recognizing \$1,150 in revenue received from NIMO's 10,000 Trees program and appropriating said funds to the Landscape & Design Commission for conferences, training, planting and supplies.

By: Alderman Partigianoni
Seconded: Alderman Faraoni

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

Item #6 - Discussion regarding mailing the Council Agenda Packages on the Wednesdays preceding the Council meetings, instead of Thursdays. Alderman Morey would like to get the packet earlier. Department Heads are going to have trouble getting items ready for the packet a day earlier. There was discussion during last week's staff meeting with concerns that there would be a two (2) week delay if their items didn't make the earlier cutoff date. There was also discussion regarding agenda items that would be added after the agenda was provided to the public, not allowing the public to be notified of that item, unless they were watching the televised meeting. There was a feeling that a Thursday mailing was a good compromise. Alderman Feiszli expressed that the extra day would provide her with an opportunity to contact people or businesses that might not be open or available on a weekend. Mr. Damiano stated that he could mail out some of the supporting memos to the agenda, the ones he drafts, earlier, if that would help. There was a discussion regarding putting things in their folders for earlier review if they want to come in and check. It was agreed that this would be tried.

RESOLUTION #88 OF 2005 - A Resolution to approve the request submitted by Lori Crompton and Sherrie Massmann to attend the NYCOM Fall Training School.

Alderman Morey asked if both departments had funding to cover the expense of this training school and Mr. Damiano stated that there was enough and the cost will be split equally. A report summarizing the training is requested by the Council upon their return.

By: Alderman Terwilliger
Seconded: Alderman Partigianoni

Approved: Ayes - 8
Nays - 0

Adjournment

By: Alderman Guido
Seconded: Alderman Quail

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 TH COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF AUGUST 2005. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED.

JOHN O. REAGAN-CITY CLERK

MAYOR THOMAS GALLAGHER