



City Council Minutes August 3, 2004

The City of Cortland, New York

COUNCIL MEETING #14
August 3, 2004
Regular Business Meeting
City Hall
7:00PM

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Quail
Alderman Faraoni, Terwilliger, Morey, Guido, Feiszli and Michales

EXCUSED: Mayor Thomas Gallagher, Alderman Partigianoni

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

There was no one to speak.

MINUTES of July 20, 2004.

RESOLUTION #93 of 2004 – Approve the amended minutes of July 20, 2004.

By: Alderman Guido
Seconded: Alderman Morey

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

BILLS

Deputy Mayor Quail asks about the Coughlin & Gerhart bill. Corporation Counsel notes these are on going matters but should be coming to fruition.

WARD REPORTS

Ward 1 – Alderman Faraoni

He thanks all the City Departments because he has used them again this week. He notes we have great City Departments.

Ward 2 – Alderman Terwilliger

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She had a ward meeting that was very well attended. They discussed ward issues, including the trees. She is scheduling a walk through of her ward on August 10th at 6:30 at the Birch Building if anyone would like to join them.

Ward 3 – Alderman Morey

She is glad Alex's daughter is okay as she was an employee of the bank that recently was robbed. There is work going on on Ottercreek. The block party was a successful event. She wants to add the Hamlin St. block party to the agenda.

Ward 4 – Alderman Guido

All is quiet in the 4th ward.

Ward 5 – Alderman Quail

He had a good turnout for his ward report. Don Chambers discussed the status of the South Main St. project. Expectations are the utilities will start October of 2004 continuing through late summer of 2006. One of the issues is they will be digging up starting from Main St. The third annual 5th ward picnic is Sunday, September 12th from 1-3 at Beaudry Park. The rain date will be September 19th. Anyone interested in the neighborhood watch group should contact Tamara Wyant or himself. A meeting is scheduled in August with Sgt. Carpenter attending. He has noticed a number of political signs throughout the City. Constituents need to be reminded that political signs can only be placed on your lawn 45 days prior to an election. Apartment owners need to take down their rental signs. Those that don't comply are causing tax payers money and time therefore should be cited and an appropriate fine levied. Over the past week he has been in contact with a number of County Legislatures and Cortlandville Town Board members in regard to a neighbor playing loud music and firing off fireworks until 2:00am. He thanks Code for taking care of the junk cars in the neighborhood.

Ward 6 – Alderman Feiszli

She will have a ward meeting on Wednesday, August 18th at 6:00pm. The subject will be the aquifer. John Helgren will be speaking about the aquifer and its location. He is also going to talk about the problems and solutions of building on site. She believes it will be at City Hall. She attended the Government Evaluation Committee and discussions continued on downsizing the numbers of Legislatures, the pros and cons of making the Treasurers position appointed rather than elected and also downsizing the number of Alderman.

Ward 7 – Alderman Partigianoni

Excused.

Ward 8 – Alderman Michales

He welcomes Mike and Ann Schehr, owners of Maggie's Antique and Chocolate Shop. If you have a chance, please stop in to see them. They also have artwork from local artists on display. He thanks the Code Office for acting on a complaint on Court St. regarding indoor furniture found out doors. He discusses the train schedule. Monday morning at 8:00AM they tie up

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traffic on both ends for about 15 minutes. Director Damiano states we have no control over the trains. Alderman Michales notes it seems to be 8:00AM, Noon, and 5:00PM. Alderman Morey notes this could be a real problem depending on where we put the new fire station. He will be having a ward meeting on Thursday at 7:15PM at City Hall in the Mayor's Conference Room. The agenda will be the neighborhood watch program and neighborhood issues.

Deputy Mayor Quail thanks Andy for the financial reports.

AGENDA

RESOLUTION #94 of 2004 – Confirming the Mayor's appointment of Patricia Hansen and Vincent Minnella to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Alderman Feiszli had a few questions for Mayor Gallagher. She notes the volunteer Fire Commission had recommended three people and none of them were the Mayor's recommendation. She would like to consider accepting at least one of the people the Fire Commission recommended. Alderman Morey states this is the Mayor's recommendation.

By: Alderman Faraoni
Seconded: Alderman Terwilliger

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 2 (Terwilliger, Feiszli)

Discussion regarding the proposed tree ordinance.

By: Alderman Terwilliger
Seconded: Alderman Morey

Alderman Faraoni notes he has not seen the new draft. Corporation Counsel Knickerbocker notes he has not been available to meet but will be available next week. Alderman Faraoni would like to wait until the new draft is complete. A brief discussion ensues. Alderman Terwilliger comments her constituents have voiced their opinion that they don't want to see the government stepping on their rights. Alderman Guido notes his discussions have been such that if people don't want something on their property they shouldn't have to ask someone to take it off. The meeting regarding this issue will be on Wednesday, August 11th at 4:00PM.

RESOLUTION #95 of 2004 – Closure of Hamlin St. for a neighborhood picnic on August 7, between 3:00PM and 8:00PM. (Rain date August 14th).

By: Alderman Morey
Seconded: Alderman Terwilliger

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

RESOLUTION #96 of 2004 – That Thomas Gallagher, as Mayor of the City of Cortland is hereby authorized to file an application for 50% matching funds in an amount not to exceed \$3,500. and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with

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the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for such financial assistance to the City of Cortland for the Armory/City Parks Project.

By: Alderman Faraoni
Seconded: Alderman Guido

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RESOLVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.

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

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

Adjournment.

By: Alderman Terwilliger
Seconded: Alderman Guido

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 3rd DAY OF AUGUST, 2004. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED.

JOHN O. REAGAN – CITY CLERK

MAYOR THOMAS GALLAGHER