



City Council **Minutes**
The City of Cortland
April 20, 2021

Council Meeting #8
April 20, 2021
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Councilperson Kat McCarthy, Katy Silliman, Bruce Tytler, John Bennett, Jackie Chapman, Troy Beckwith, Thomas Michales

Excused: Councilperson William Carpenter

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Sandy, Fire Chief Friedman, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, Confidential Secretary Devon Rainbow

Public Hearing 1: Public Hearing on adopting a Local Law Named “The Plumbing Code” to be placed in the code at a new Article 214.

Public Hearing was opened at 7:02pm. No one was present to speak.

Public Hearing was closed at 7:04pm.

Public Hearing 2: Public Hearing on amending Section 300-113 “Signs prohibited and exempted”

Public Hearing opened at 7:04pm. No one was present to speak.

Public Hearing closed at 7:06pm.

Public Hearing 3: Public Hearing on the sale of property located at 79 River St.

Public Hearing opened at 7:06pm. No one was present to speak.

Public Hearing closed at 7:08pm

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the eighth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:10 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

No one present to speak.

Mayor's Report:

The Mayor asked to move a couple items up on the agenda and add a couple extra items to the end of the agenda. The Mayor asked for an executive session for litigation, labor negotiations at the end with possible action.

The Mayor read the Proclamation for stand against racism.

Nic Dovi discussed what the residents can expect on Clinton Ave regarding the work that is being done. The NYS DOT has been involved in a lot of the decision making for safety concerns with traffic flow.

Resolution #89 of 2021 – Resolution to approve minutes from April 6, 2021 meeting.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #90 of 2021 – Resolution to approve a request on behalf of the Cortland Elks Lodge to use of the Pocket Park for June 14th, 2021 from 5PM-8PM. They would like to collaborate with Family Counseling Services and Liberty Resources for a Narcan Training and Voter Registration event.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #2 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the special event application for “The Rebound Ruck” from 11AM – 4PM on April 24, 2021. (Joshua Trimm)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

Item #3 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the special event application for “Cortland Arts Connect Festival” on Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 8AM – 6PM.

Council needed more information regarding the setup of the event and COVID plan.

A motion was made to table this item until May 4, 2021 but reserve the date.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #91 of 2021 – Resolution to approve the appointment of Caleb Wright to the CYB Advisory Board.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman

Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #5 – Discussion on the Dairy Parade

The idea is that the floats would be stationary on both sides of South Main St. People would walk down one side of the sidewalk and up on the opposite side, while cars could drive down the street. Volunteers would be stationed throughout the event to make sure people were social distancing and moving along. The proposed date is June 1st, 2021.

Item #6 – Discussion on Community Clean up

The event will take place the first weekend in May. The Mayor will meet a group of volunteers that would like to participate on the corner of Main St. and Court St. on Saturday, May 1 from 9AM – 11PM to hand out bags and gloves. Bruce Tytler will meet volunteers on Sunday, May 2 from 12PM – 2PM.

Resolution #92 of 2021 – Resolution to demonstrate support of an equitable Cortland by promoting the Cortland County YWCA’s “Stand Against Racism” week, April 19-24, 2021.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #93 of 2021 – Resolution to recognize and appropriate funding reimbursement from FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (EMW-2019-FG-00172) in the amount of \$32,380.95 for the federal cost share of the installation of the fire alarm system at the headquarters fire station into the fire department budget line A3410-540200.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #94 of 2021 – Resolution to recognize and appropriate in the year 2020, \$54,906.01 received from NYSDEC in connection to the Food Reuse & Recycle grant. \$45,567.35 to budget line G8110-541500 to reimburse Seven Valley Health Coalition and \$9,338.66 G8110-510000 to reimburse Wastewater staff expenses.

Gabrielle DiDomenico explained that there has been a great response to this. More and more volunteers are stepping up to help get food out to the community and gather foods to be stored. They are partnering with Cortland Library, YWCA, Main St Farms, and Homer Ave Plaza to help get materials out to people and store food. More information on how to get composting bins will be posted on their website.

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy

Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #95 of 2021 – Resolution to approve the buyout of the 5 year lease with Enterprise Fleet for 3 2017 Chevrolet SUVs, currently used as unmarked police vehicles. The buyout is approximately \$21,889.45 and the funds will come from the 2021 budget line for new police vehicles. (A3120-520600).

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #96 of 2021 – Resolution to approve entering into a new 5 year lease with Enterprise Fleet for 3 2021 Chevrolet SUVs to use as unmarked police vehicles. The annual cost will be \$17,000.00.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #97 of 2021 – Resolution to approve a local law section 214 of a plumbing code of the City of Cortland.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #98 of 2021 – Resolution to eliminate chapter 5-20 of the charter of the City of Cortland.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #99 of 2021 – Resolution to approve the lawn mowing, sidewalk shoveling and garbage pickup bid and authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Matt Taylor.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

A motion was made to exit out of Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #100 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the mayor to sign an agreement with Ric VanDonsel, Corporation Counsel, memorializing compensation and benefits.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #101 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the mayor to sign an agreement with Mack Cook, Director of Administration and Finance, memorializing compensation and benefits.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #102 of 2021 – Resolution to negotiate a 1 year extension with Absolutely Clean for cleaning services at City Hall.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #103 of 2021 – Resolution to Project Pin # 395070 (attached).

RESOLUTION # (2021) - Authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid eligible costs, of a transportation federal-aid locally-administered project, and appropriating funds, therefore.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #18 – Discussion of preferred street/infrastructure project applications in the 2021 Consolidated Funding Application (CFR) round.

It is suggested to apply this to Homer Ave. This is another major street into and out of the City and will make it more appealing. The next step would be to work on Groton Ave. Homer and Cortlandville are both on board to help with this.

Resolution #104 of 2021 – Resolution to adopt the City of Cortland’s Public Employer Health Emergency Plan.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #105 of 2021 – Resolution to approve the recommendation of Jeff Smith to the Board of Assessment Review.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Item #22 – Discussion regarding the \$1,000,000 the City will be receiving from the federal government this year and next.

Some ideas that were expressed were Dog Park, Sidewalk replacements, assistance to middle income home owners for minor improvements to their homes.

Item #23 – Discussion regarding the search process for the position of Superintendent of Public Works. It has been past practice that the board would make a recommendation of 3 individuals based off of the Civil Service list to the Mayor. There would then be an interview process and input from the general public.

Item #24 – Covid-19 update
Encouraging people to get vaccinated. Please remember to still mask up and social distance as the weather gets nicer.

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session

Contract, labor negotiations, litigation

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

A motion was made to exit out of Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #106 of 2021 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a MOU with the CSEA Union.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Resolution #107 of 2021 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to extend the current agreement with PWOA through December 31, 2021.

Motioned by: Councilperson Bennett
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

Adjournment

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy
Seconded by: Councilperson Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 7
Nays – 0

I, RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK FOR THE CITY OF CORTLAND, NEW YORK, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT SAID RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORTLAND, HELD ON THE 20th DAY IN APRIL 2021. I FURTHER CERTIFY THE FOREGOING RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED TO THE MAYOR IN THE TIME REQUIRED FOR HIS CONCURRENCE IN ADOPTION OR REJECTION BY VETO POWER.

RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK

MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN