



City Council **Minutes**  
The City of Cortland  
**May 4, 2021**

Council Meeting #9  
**May 4, 2021**  
Via Zoom  
7:00 PM

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

Excused: Councilperson John Bennett, 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

**Regular Session:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comments:**

Mike and Sharon Stevans – Expressed their concern for the condition of City sidewalks. It is unsafe for people to walk and maneuver wheelchairs. Everyone uses sidewalks and the funding should be used to fix the sidewalks.

Tom Horton – Wondering when the paint on the curbs is going to be removed and restored to normal. This was supposed to be done by end of April.

**Ward Reports:**

Ward 1 – DPW fixed a welcome to Cortland sign that was down, lots of feedback from constituents on ideas for state funding. Another Community Read on May 10.

Ward 2 – Many concerns with pain on the sidewalks, thank you for all the volunteers that helped clean up this past weekend.

Ward 3 – Thank you Chris for many years with the City, update from Nic at every meeting regarding the construction. Thank you for all the help with the cleaning up the streets this weekend. Possible presentation from the Code office on the process of how complaints are handled.

Ward 5 – The City is fortunate to have such beautiful trees. Many concerns with sidewalks and thank you for the cleanup.

Ward 7 – Concerns with the blue curbs.

Ward 8 – Thank you DPW for quick response on the water main that broke and was repaired.

**Mayor’s Report:**

Senator Charles Schumer came to visit and talked about the American Rescue Plan in regards to child care. This should help the child care centers move forward. Thank you to all the community volunteers that came to help walk around and clean up the neighborhoods. The basketball hoops are back up in the parks. Please continue to be safe. The City is in need of lifeguards. New sand has been placed at Yaman Beach. The sidewalk program has just opened up, contact Thoma Development for more info.

Executive Session at the end for labor agreement with action after.

Nic Dovi discussed what the residents can expect on Clinton Ave regarding the work that is being done as well as other street repairs that are getting started. They have started milling 9 streets that are on the list to be repaired. After milling, repairs will be made before paving. The Water department has also been replacing non-copper water lines.

**Resolution #108 of 2021** – Resolution to approve minutes from April 20, 2021 meeting.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #109 of 2021** – Resolution to approve the Dairy DAY parade permit for a “reverse parade”, street closures of South Main from Tompkins to Valley View from 4pm until 8pm.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #110 of 2021** – Resolution to approve the Dairy Day parade sound device permit application, and to waive the application fee.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #111 of 2021** – Resolution to cancel the first Council meeting in June 2021.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler  
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #112 of 2021** – Resolution to approve the Prayer in the Park Event on May 6, 2021 or a later date with approval from Police Chief and Mayor.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #113 of 2021** – Resolution to accept, recognize and appropriate the following donations to the Youth Bureau.

<b>Donation</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Event/Project</b>	<b>Budget Line</b>
Artelissa Eckstrom	\$100.00	Youth Center	A-7310.5405
Total	\$100.00		

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy  
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #114 of 2021** – Resolution to lift the hiring freeze to hire a Youth Services Specialist in the Cortland Youth Bureau to fill a vacancy due to a resignation.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #115 of 2021** – Resolution to recognize and appropriate proceeds from the April 17, 2021 K9 BBQ Fundraiser hosted by Anderson’s Farm Market, totaling \$4,195.00, to the Cortland City Police Department K9 Fund.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #116 of 2021** – Resolution to designate Mack Cook, Cheryl Doolittle and Laura Morak as the signatories on all accounts.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman

Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #117 of 2021** – Resolution to authorize the purchase of 45 sets of Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (Bunker Gear) from Fire- End Croker Corp. in the amount of \$191,243.00. This is compliant with NY State Bid Contract (PC67938) pricing.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith  
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #118 of 2021** – Resolution to transfer \$600,000 from the November 2019 Public Improvement BAN earmarked for the Wickwire Pool Locker Room project to the Fire Station Windows Project to provide operating capital for grant reimbursed costs (Mack Cook)

*Whereas; The City has received a grant commitment from the NYS Parks and Historic Preservation Office of \$421,586 towards the costs of the Wickwire Pool Locker Room Project, and*

*Whereas; the City had designated \$208,600 in Program Incomes towards the cost of the Wickwire Pool Locker Room Project, and*

*Whereas; the City has received a donation of \$10,000 for the Wickwire Locker Room Project, and*

*Whereas; the City budgeted in its Capital Fund \$1.2 million from the November 26, 2019 \$6,475,000 Bond Anticipation Note for operating capital to fund grant reimbursable design and construction costs incurred in the Wickwire Pool Locker Room project, and*

*Whereas; the Wickwire Pool Locker Room Project is substantially complete at estimated cost of \$851,500, and*

*Whereas; reimbursements requests have been tendered to NYS Parks and Historic Preservation Office and are awaiting processing, and*

*Whereas; the City has received grant commitment letters from the NYS parks and Historical Renovation Department in the sum of \$829,000 and*

*Whereas; the anticipated cost to the Fire Station Windows Replacement projects is \$706,800, and*

*Whereas; the Fire Station Window project has commenced, and*

*Whereas; operating capital is required to timely pay grant reimbursable costs,*

*Therefore; be it Resolved that the City shall transfer within its Capital Budget \$600,000 of the previously allocated \$1.2 million for the Wickwire Pool Locker Room project from the November 26, 2019 BAN to the Fire Station Window project to provide operating capital towards design, replacement and project management grant reimbursable costs.*

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Item #10** – Consideration of a Resolution to pass a Local Law amending Section 300-113 “Signs prohibited and exempted”.

*This item was removed from the agenda.*

**Resolution #119 of 2021** – Resolution to declare The City of Cortland Common Council as lead agency for SEQR - N. Greenbush and Washington Street Water Main replacement.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales  
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #120 of 2021** – Resolution authorizing the City of Cortland Common Council to amend the City of Cortland Clinton Ave project for the SEQR process.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #121 of 2021** – Resolution to supplement and amend previous bond resolution #83 (2016) and #175 (2019) to increase the aggregate amount authorized to bond \$4,550,000.00 to fund public purpose improvements at the water plant.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #122 of 2021** – Resolution to authorize the publication of the Estoppel notice of the City's intent to issue \$4,550,000.00 in bonds to fund the reconstruction of the water production and treatment facility at the City's Water Treatment Plant.

Motioned by: Councilperson Silliman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #123 of 2021** – Resolution to change the Job Title of the Administrative Aide in the Code office to Account Clerk Typist.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman  
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #124 of 2021** – Resolution to approve a budget transfer of \$2,189.69 from A3620 541500 to A3620 510000. This is to cover the Job Title change from Administrative Aid to Account Clerk Typist.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales  
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Item #17** – Discussion on a uniform press release policy for the City. (Mayor Tobin)  
Make clear and establishing a policy on how the City is contacting entities. A list of entities will be approved by the Mayor. There will be 2 list, 1 – local media for city residents, 2 – more regionally broadcasted.

**Item #18** – Discussion on parking on Hubbard St.  
A public hearing is planned for May 18, 2021. This was brought to the DPW board for consideration and they did not support this. They have requested more information and a more solid plan for the parking.

**Item #19** – Covid-19 update  
The governor has lowered the restrictions on social gatherings and seating capacity in businesses. The City is willing to work with local establishments to use outdoor seating.

**A motion was made to enter into Executive Session**

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith  
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**A motion was made to exit out of Executive Session**

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith  
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #125 of 2021** – Resolution to approve paying Nic Dovi an additional \$250.00 per week until a new Superintendent of Public Works is hired.

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy  
Seconded by: Councilperson Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0

**Resolution #126 of 2021** – Resolution to allow the Mayor to sign an MOA with CSEA to shift to summer hours from May 10, 2021 – August 31, 2021. Shifts will be 6AM-3PM (Mon-Thur), 6AM-10AM (Fri)

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith  
Seconded by: Councilperson Silliman

Approved:           Ayes – 6  
                              Nays – 0

**Adjournment**

Motioned by:       Councilperson McCarthy  
Seconded by:       Councilperson Silliman

Approved:           Ayes – 6  
                              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 4<sup>th</sup> DAY IN MAY 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.**

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**RAYMOND A. PARKER, CITY CLERK**

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**MAYOR BRIAN TOBIN**