



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

Council Meeting #14
July 20, 2021
Via City Hall
7:00 PM

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

Excused: Councilperson Katy Silliman, John Bennett, Bill Carpenter

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Police Chief Sandy, City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, Confidential Secretary Devon Rainbow

Public Hearing to hear comments for the Fire Department Cost Recovery Program.

Mayor Tobin opened the public hearing at 7:08pm.

No one was present to speak.

Mayor Tobin closed the public hearing at 7:09pm.

Public Hearing to hear comments to close a portion of Alvena Ave.

Mayor Tobin opened the public hearing at 7:09pm.

Troy and Michelle Rodin was present to speak. They're at 26 Alvena Ave, and the setback would not allow them to use their driveway especially during snow conditions. Concerns with snow and plowing of snow.

Mayor Tobin closed the public hearing at 7:12pm.

Public Hearing to hear comments on rezoning a parcel on River St.

Mayor Tobin opened the public hearing at 7:12pm.

Lorraine Fox was present to speak. Concerns over traffic congestion happening at Coffee Mania.

Mayor Tobin closed the public hearing at 7:15pm.

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the fourteenth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:17 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

- Timothy Thompson- A special thank you to Mayor Tobin, Police Chief Sandy, and the whole city of Cortland, for the Juneteenth celebration and its success.

Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Tobin received a card with regards to the sewer lateral replacement program from a Cortland resident saying thank you for the opportunity.
- Last Friday, Jesse Abbott retired from the City of Cortland Police Department. Jesse Abbott's position as Community Oriented Policing Officer was established by a grant which helped improving safety and community relations.

Resolution #193 of 2021 – Resolution to approve minutes from July 6, 2021 meeting.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith

Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #1 – Update on infrastructure work in City.

Mike Alteri and Jeremy Glen from BCA Architects & Engineers speaks. Installation of sanitary sewer main and laterals, and installation of water main and service laterals complete. Remaining construction includes the bio retention basins, concrete sidewalks, and curb replacements. Plans to finish all major aspects of Clinton Ave project from Pomeroy intersection to the train tracks prior to November 2021. Completion of whole Clinton Ave project is expected to finish July/August 2021.

Resolution #194 of 2021 – Resolution to appoint Steven Broyles to the Wastewater Advisory Board for a 3 year term.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler

Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #195 of 2021 – Resolution to appoint Thomas Spandhuer to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 year term.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler

Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #196 of 2021 – Resolution to appoint Priscilla Mantey and Thomas Kraft to the Cortland Housing Authority, starting their terms August 1, 2021 for two years; through July 31, 2023.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #197 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the Cortland City Police Department to declare all remaining bicycles that were left after the annual sale as surplus.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #198 of 2021 – Resolution to approve the exotic pet permit for a baby Ball Python at 86 Clinton Ave.

One apartment owner deny to sign letter of consent form. Recommendation from Councilperson Michales was to deny exotic pet permit.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 0
Nays – 5

Item #7 – Consideration of a Resolution to approve the exotic pet permit for chickens at 16 Willow Ave.

A motion was made to table this item until August 3, 2021.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #199 of 2021 – Resolution to appoint Firefighter / CEO Roy Everett as the Interim Director of Code Enforcement.

Motioned by: Councilperson Michales
Seconded by: Councilperson Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #200 of 2021 – Resolution to appoint Nicole Bennett as Commissioner of Deeds for the City Of Cortland.

Motioned by: Councilperson Chapman
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #201 of 2021 – Resolution to name the City as “Lead Agency” for the Gateway Homer Ave. project.

Mayor Tobin spoke on Resolution. The project started in 2011. Project will benefit not just the city but two communities that lie slightly north of the city as well.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #202 of 2021 – Resolution to authorize the submission of Homer Avenue Infrastructure Upgrades Grant Applications.

Scott Burto spoke. Four different financial agencies. Grant applications will be similar to the Clinton Ave project.

Motioned by: Councilperson Beckwith
Seconded by: Councilperson McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Resolution #203 of 2021 – Resolution to authorize the submission of a Climate Smart Grant application for Homer Avenue Infrastructure Upgrades.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #13 – Discussion on LP tanks.

Serious hazards are a thought of the Councilmembers. Safety is a concern, and with the Gateway project trying to beautify Cortland, this might be ruined by Liquid Petroleum tanks above ground. Best bet at this is to find a new location for the LP tanks. Mayor Tobin recommended this item be up for comments during the Public Hearings for the next Common Council Meeting on August 3, 2021.

Resolution #204 of 2021 – Resolution to allow the hiring of an individual of Deputy Superintendent position at the DPW with the range of salary between \$60,000- \$72,000.

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Item #15 – Discussion on a Zone Change Request from R-2 to GB-2 for a 50 ft. X 53 ft. landlocked piece of property (Tax Map# 87.53-3-16.2) to the Northwest of the proposed Byrne Dairy project site on the Northwest corner of Port Watson Street and River Street in the City of Cortland.

Christian and Erin Brown was present to speak. Small parcel of land that is land locked. Both parcels were sold together. Two letter in support have been submitted. DOT has approved. Possible traffic study requested.

Item #16 – Discussion of protocols for Common Council meetings returning back to in-person meetings.

Mayor Tobin speaks on item. Everyone who is an attendee of the Common Council meeting is to be masked. Councilmembers provided proof of vaccination and that is why councilmembers opted out of wearing masks. Seating is marked and spaced out. Suggestions to continue protocols for in-person meeting for next Common Council meeting on August 3, 2021

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

A motion was made to exit out of Executive Session

Motioned by: Councilperson Tytler
Seconded by: Councilperson Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0

Adjournment

Motioned by: Councilperson McCarthy
Seconded by: Councilperson Michales

Approved: Ayes – 5
 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 6th DAY IN JULY 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