



CITY OF CORTLAND COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2023 | 6:00 PM

MINUTES

MEETING LOCATION

CITY HALL
25 COURT STREET
CORTLAND, NY 13045

STREAMING VIA ZOOM

MEETING ROOM ID:
923 566 4700
[ZOOM LINK](#)

MAYOR

SCOTT STEVE

COUNCIL MEMBERS

WAYNE SCHUTT
KATY SILLIMAN
MARY CLARE PENNELLO
PAT LANE
SETH THOMPSON
BILL CARPENTER
TROY BECKWITH
TOM MICHALES

CITY CLERK

ANDY JEWETT

CORPORATION COUNSEL

A.J. MELDRIM

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

LISA HENTY

CONTACT

ANDY JEWETT, CITY CLERK
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ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution No. 144 Amend the 2023 Adopted Budget by \$11,852 to Reflect Additional Revenues Received from Grants, Donations and Insurance Recovery
- Resolution No. 145 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for St. Mary's School 95th Anniversary Event on September 16, 2023
- Resolution No. 146 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for HOPE Foundation 5K Run on September 16, 2023
- Resolution No. 147 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for YMCA 5K Run on August 20, 2023
- Resolution No. 148 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for the Cortland Community Matters Fair on September 3, 2023
- Resolution No. 149 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on September 11, 2023
- Resolution No. 150 Authorize Agreement with C&S Engineers for Additional Engineering Services for the City of Cortland Storm Water Mitigation Study



CITY OF CORTLAND COMMON COUNCIL

AUGUST 15, 2023 | 6:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER | ROLL CALL

Mayor Steve called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., and the City Clerk called the roll. The following Common Council members were in attendance:

Wayne Schutt	First Ward Alderperson
Katy Silliman	Second Ward Alderperson
Mary Clare Pennello	Third Ward Alderperson
Patricia Lane	Fourth Ward Alderperson
Seth Thompson	Fifth Ward Alderperson
William Carpenter	Sixth Ward Alderperson
Troy Beckwith	Seventh Ward Alderperson
Thomas Michales	Eighth Ward Alderperson

Council Member Thompson was recorded present at 6:12 p.m. and prior to any votes being cast.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG | MOMENT OF REFLECTION

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR | PRESENTATIONS

Donald Chu was granted privilege of the floor. Mr. Chu inquired about projected costs of renovating the former Parker School building and how those costs were determined.

Police Chief Paul Sandy introduced new K-9 Officer Max and his handler Officer Alexander Perkins. The officers recently completed a six month training which included narcotic search and apprehension functions. The City Police Department now has two K-9 teams.

Vickie Mudy, a Child Care Specialist at the Child Development Council, was invited to make a presentation to the Council about availability of funding through the Cortland County Child Care Assistance Program for eligible families under 300% of the federal poverty level. Applications and information is available at www.mybenefits.ny.gov. Individuals looking for a child care provider may contact the Child Development Council at 607-753-0106.

The Environmental Advisory Committee submitted a memo to the Council reporting on the “No Mow May” initiative approved by the Council and administered through the Code Enforcement Division. Diane Chu met with the Code Enforcement Division to assess the initiative and provide recommendations for future years.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Steve provided updates on street construction projects and water-line work. He also thanked and complimented the Police Department for their response to several recent incidents.

WARD REPORTS

- Ward 1: Council Member Schutt said he appreciates the valuable input from constituents on the future use of the former Parker School building.
- Ward 2: Council Member Silliman apologized for her recent absence caused by cancelled flights. She thanked Mayor Steve and the Council for their response to concerns voiced by residents about the workforce housing proposal submitted by Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services (INHS) for Parker School, and noted that the advisory committee met the previous week and that she meet with INHS to discuss the concerns raised. Ms. Silliman also thanked Mayor Steve and the Police Department for their handling of physical threats made at Wickwire Pool.
- Ward 4: Council Member Lane said she attended a town and gown committee meeting and noted the dates that college students would be moving in. She attended a book event at the Cortland Free Library and noted people loitering. Mayor Steve commented that he met with the library director to work towards resolving the problem.
- Ward 5: Council Member Thompson thanked the Police Department for their response to an incident on Owego St.
- Ward 7: Council Member Beckwith thanked Mayor Steve and the Police Department for their response to the incidents at Wickwire Pool and said incidents like that will not be tolerated.
- Ward 8: Council Member Michales thanked the Police Department for their response to a person with a weapon. He met with contractors on the Randall Park renovation project and pickleball courts and attended a ribbon cutting event for the iSpice company that will begin operations on Central Ave.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the August 1, 2023 Council meeting were approved.

Motioned by: Council Member Beckwith

Seconded by: Council Member Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 144 Amend the 2023 Adopted Budget by \$11,852 to Reflect Additional Revenues Received from Grants, Donations and Insurance Recovery

RESOLVED, by the City of Cortland Common Council, that the 2023 budget be, and is hereby, amended in the amount of \$11,852 to reflect additional revenues received from grants, donations and insurance recovery as outlined in the table below.

Requesting Department	Description	Amount	Category		Action/Explanation
			Source	Fund	
Police Department	Insurance Recovery	\$1,762	Local Funds	General Fund	Appropriates a partial loss payment for a '16 Chevy Tahoe to A3120-42680 and Expenditure code A3120-540200 to offset the costs of repair.

Police Department	Grant Award	\$6,000	State Funds	General Fund	Appropriates a Traffic Safety Committee no-match grant in the amount of \$6,000 to be appropriated to A3120-510400 (Overtime) for the purpose of increased seat belt usage and the reduction of dangerous driving behaviors.
Youth Bureau	Donation	\$2,000	Local Funds	General Fund	Donation from the Kings Daughters Home for Children to support the Youth Center kitchen in the amount of \$2,000 and appropriated to A7310-540000.
Youth Bureau	Donation	\$1,000	Local Funds	General Fund	Donation from the Kings Daughters Home for Children in the amount \$1,000 to support Suggett Pavilion repairs to be appropriated to A7110-520600.
Youth Bureau	Donation	\$500	Local Funds	General Fund	\$500 donation from the Cortland Elks Lodge to support Youth Center trips, to be appropriated to A7550-540502.
Youth Bureau	Donation	\$590	Local Funds	Trust and Agency Fund	\$590 in donations made in memory of Bob Isaf for repairs or improvements in Suggett Park and appropriated to TE0-2090.

Motioned by: Council Member Schutt

Seconded by: Council Member Thompson

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 145 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for St. Mary’s School 95th Anniversary Event on September 16, 2023

RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby approve for issuance by the City Clerk a Special Event Permit and a Sound Device Permit without fee for the St. Mary’s School 95th Anniversary to be held in Yaman Park from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on September 16, 2023.

Motioned by: Council Member Pennello

Seconded by: Council Member Schutt

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 146 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for HOPE Foundation 5K Run on September 16, 2023

RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby approve for issuance by the City Clerk a Special Event Permit and a Sound Device Permit without fee for the HOPE Foundation 5K Run to be held in Suggett Park and its neighboring vicinity from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on September 16, 2023; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that, if weather necessitates, said permits shall be granted for the same times and location on September 23, 2023.

Motioned by: Council Member Carpenter

Seconded by: Council Member Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 147 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for YMCA 5K Run on August 20, 2023

RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby approve for issuance by the City Clerk a Special Event Permit for the YMCA 5K Run to be held in Suggett Park and the neighboring vicinity from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on August 20, 2023.

Motioned by: Council Member Schutt

Seconded by: Council Member Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 148 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for the Cortland Community Matters Fair on September 3, 2023

RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby approve for issuance by the City Clerk a Special Event Permit and a Sound Device Permit without fee for the Cortland Community Matters Fair to be held at Suggett Park from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 3, 2023; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that approval of said event is contingent on the event organizer submitting the required certificate of insurance and information relating to a request for street closure.

The resolution was amended to add the final resolved statement and approved as amended.

Motioned by: Council Member Lane

Seconded by: Council Member Thompson

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 149 Approve Special Event and Sound Device Permit for the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on September 11, 2023

RESOLVED, that the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby approve for issuance by the City Clerk a Special Event Permit and a Sound Device Permit without fee for the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony to be held at Courthouse Park from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on September 11, 2023.

Motioned by: Council Member Schutt

Seconded by: Council Member Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Beckwith, Michales]
Nays – 0

Resolution No. 150 Authorize Agreement with C&S Engineers for Additional Engineering Services for the City of Cortland Storm Water Mitigation Study

RESOLVED, the City of Cortland Common Council does hereby authorize Mayor Steve or his designee to execute an agreement with C&S Engineers for a scope of work that includes data collection, storm water evaluation services and survey reviews with recommended upgrades to the Kellogg Rd., Dawn Dr. and Hickory Park Rd. areas, at a cost of \$19,450 for the services as outlined.

Motioned by: Council Member Carpenter

Seconded by: Council Member Michales

Approved: Ayes – 7 [Schutt, Silliman, Pennello, Lane, Thompson, Carpenter, Michales]
Nays – 1 [Beckwith]

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion Item No. 1 Parker School Ad Hoc Planning Committee

Mayor Steve provided information about the planning committee which held its first meeting the previous week. Committee discussion notes will be posted at www.cortland.org/505/Parker-School-2023

After hearing the concerns expressed by residents about the proposal to develop workforce housing, Mayor Steve recommended that the Parker School Ad Hoc Planning Committee expand membership to include neighborhood residents and convene for the purpose of seeking additional proposals and options for future use of the building by developing and issuing a new request for proposals (RFP).

The ad hoc planning committee consists of the following people:

Troy Beckwith | Council Member - 7th Ward
Donna Curtain | Jewett Ave. resident
Billie Jean Goff | Halbert St. resident
Christine Gregory | School board & original Parker task force member
Pat Lane | Council Member - 4th Ward
Brendan McGovern | Planning Commission member
Mary Clare Pennello | Council Member - 3rd Ward
Katy Silliman | Council Member - 2nd Ward
Scott Steve | Mayor
Julie Ray | ZBA member
Tony Testa | Halbert St. resident

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Council Member Silliman, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.