



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
August 18, 2020

Council Meeting #18
August 18, 2020
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Brian Tobin, Aldermen Kat McCarthy, Bruce Tytler, William Carpenter, Thomas Michales, Jacki Chapman, John Bennett

Excused: Alderman Katy Silliman, Troy Beckwith

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Deputy Police Chief Paul Sandy, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Friedman, Interim Director of Code Enforcement Mike Tenkate, City Clerk Ray Parker, Confidential Secretary Devon Rainbow

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the eighteenth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:02PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for former Police Chief Cinquanti.

Public Comments

No one was signed up for comments

Mayor's Report:

Nothing to report

Resolution #163 of 2020 – Resolution to approve minutes from August 4, 2020 meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Chapman

Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Item #1 – Fred Pierce to discuss SUNY Cortland Plans regarding reopening.

Fred Pierce stated that this is the weekend that some students start moving in and it will be going on all week. Students who are not obeying the rules and regulations placed by the college could get suspended.

NYS rates of infection are low. The Student Life Center will be open. Report incidences to the college online regarding students not obeying regulations. Have 64 beds for quarantine.

Item #2 – Presentation on the City of Cortland Enlarged School District preparation and plans for opening.

Bob Edwards, Superintendent has asked families for feedback regarding in person versus remote learning. Went through buildings, classes and spaces. They found that they can fit all that requested in the classrooms. They are working on safety protocols and have accepted a revised school calendar. School starts for all students on Monday, September 14th. On September 25, October 9, and October 30 are remote learning days for all kids. Masks are required in buildings and buses. More kids will be walking and getting dropped off to school due to the limitations with seating on buses. There is a strong need for crossing guards. Schools will have protective equipment for children that do not have or need it. Also will provide meals to students and they will eat in classrooms. As far as sports there is no fall sports at the time.

Resolution #164 of 2020 – Resolution to approve additional outdoor space for businesses through October 31.

Had a request from Red Jug for this.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #165 of 2020 – Resolution to approve additional outdoor space for the Tasting Room and NY Bagel limited to the 2 parking spaces on Main Street directly in front of their businesses, contingent upon review by Cortland City Police and Fire.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #166 of 2020 – Resolution to retain the services of Thoma Development to provide consulting and grant administration services pertaining to the \$900,000 Homer Plaza Restore NY grant at a cost not exceed \$5000.

Alderman Kat McCarthy disclosed that she is on the Planning Committee for Cortland ReUse. Some people may have noticed in the paper that Cortland Re-Use has been in conversation with the Yaman's about potentially, future occupation of some space in there. As per her conversation with Corporation Counsel this shouldn't be a conflict of interest for this.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #167 of 2020 – Resolution to authorize the Cortland City Police to enter into a contract with iTouch Biometrics for a new Live Scan system for \$20,570.00, which has a \$10,000.00 DCJS reimbursement grant attached, which must be approved and signed prior to January 2021, or face the potential of a doubling of cost due to pending sale of the company.

It is a Digital way to process criminals. Currently the City Police belong to HUB, which is in Broome County, which helps with the sharing and verifying a defendant’s information and Identity through a statewide base.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #168 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the Special Event application for the Annual 9/11 Ceremony, street closure, amplified sound.

Masks will be required. Will also be doing a live stream.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #169 of 2020 – Resolution to approve Street closure for the touching up of the Black Lives Matter logo.

Tim Bennett a community member and owner of Fun Flicks indoor/outdoor movie and owner/publisher of Cortland Voice but it speaking today as a community member. This request is being considered because someone vandalized it and the weather affected the drying process.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Item #8 – Discussion on Political Signs

Allow up to 2 signs and they need to be removed within 30 days of election. No signs in the Right Of Way (sidewalk and green space to curb).

Item #9 – Discussion on paintings.

The Mayor received information from applicants from the Back the Blue group. There is strong support from community. Paperwork was recently dropped off at City Hall and the Mayor is reviewing it. There are some questions to be discussed with the applicants which are location and date & time. Applicants want to do it on a weekend but Mayor Tobin would rather have them do it early in the week. Council went through the proposed list with the Mayor. Will vote on the proposed policy at the next meeting.

Will vote on painting sidewalks/curbs at next meeting as well.

Item #10 – COVID19 and Response

Doing some adjustments to the 2nd floor and looking to open 2nd floor of City Hall.

Resolution #170 of 2020 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Chamber Commerce to continue the hanging of banners on light poles on Main Street.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Public Comments:

Stephen Shoemaker spoke regarding the budget and asked that they please do not defund the Police Department if it ever came to that.

Mayor Tobin wanted to speak about two items.

City Budget – Mayor Tobin encourages community members to reach out to elected officers.

When we call upon people for Public Comments that people turn video on and state their names.

Please remember that we need to be careful with what we do or say and how others are impacted.

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

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 18TH DAY IN AUGUST 2020. 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