



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
March 3, 2020

Council Meeting #5
March 3, 2020
25 Court Street
7:00 PM

Present: Aldermen Kat McCarthy, Katy Silliman, Bruce Tytler, William Carpenter, Troy Beckwith,
Thomas Michales

Excused: Alderman John Bennett, Jacki Chapman

Staff Present: Director of Administration & Finance Mack Cook, Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel,
City Clerk Raymond A. Parker, City Police Chief Catalano, Confidential Secretary
to the Mayor Devon Rainbow,

Public Hearing: Public Hearing on amendments to Zoning section 300.

Opened Public Hearing at 7:03pm

Steve Muka was present to speak specifically about the single lane driveway, that you could park 1 car behind the other. If you have a single family house you can do that but a two family house couldn't do that. Why would you want to have it be that way? It should be allowed in Residential.

Closed Public Hearing at 7:08pm

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the fifth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:08PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

Steve Muka spoke about the Corona Virus. This virus seems to harm the elderly. You can prepare your bodies by taking Vitamin C.

Hank Zaid spoke about item #7 which is trash and recycling. It has been very confusing and poor communication.

Tim Bennett, the owner of Cortland Voice, spoke regarding Chil-A-Bration which was a success. Taste of Downtown coming in a couple months. Seven Valley Health Coalition Wednesday at 7pm 2020 Cortland Counts Forum and is also being live streamed. Cayuga Health Lunch & Learn at YWCA monthly.

Proclamation 1:

Mayor Tobin read Proclamation declaring March as Red Cross Month.
Tom Sajak staff member from the Red Cross in Syracuse spoke thanking everyone for the proclamation.

Ward Report:

Ward 1 – Reminder that this week is glass collection week. There is a Ward 1, 2, and 3 meeting Wednesday at 6pm at TC3 Extension Center.

Ward 2 – Recycling has been an ongoing issue. A lot of community members on the email account Next Door Cortland. Trash is coming to surface due to snow melting.

Ward 3 – A request from a retired couple on Western end of Groton Ave are asking for a Crosswalk up by the City line so they don't have to walk so far on Groton Avenue. There have been some recycling concerns. The credit report had an excellent outcome! Maybe start pushing out information regarding Corona Virus.

Ward 6 – Call from Charles Street regarding garbage on lawns and the landlords need to remind tenants.

Ward 7 – Recycling concerns, street lights are being worked on, Tractor trailers parking on Elm Street near Hubbard St. for the KIK Corporation who put up the No Parking signs.

Ward 8 – The Chil-A-Bration ceremony was good. There have been recycling concerns however, getting less.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor asked to add capital funding discussion at the end of agenda along with executive session for Labor negotiations and contractual relations.

Resolution #66 of 2020 - Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 18, 2020 as presented.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Proclamation 2:

Mayor read the proclamation declaring St. Baldrick's Day on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at Red Jug Pub.

Resolution #67 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the special event application along with all other permits for Arts and Wine Festival on August 1, 2020 from 10AM-5PM in Courthouse Park.

Motioned by: Alderman Silliman
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0
Abstention – 1 (Alderman McCarthy)

Resolution #68 of 2020 – Resolution to waive the fees associated with the permits for the Arts & Wine Festival for August 1, 2020.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Silliman

Approved: Ayes – 5
Nays – 0
Abstention – 1 (Alderman McCarthy)

Resolution #69 of 2020 – Resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the SPCA.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Tytler

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #70 of 2020 – Resolution to declare as surplus, 2 vehicles currently at the Impound Lot, which have been declared abandoned and seized by Cortland City Police. The vehicles will be sold on Auctions International with the proceeds going towards new Police vehicles/Police equipment.

Motioned by: Alderman Michales
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Resolution #71 of 2020 – Resolution to Proceed with the inter-connecting the City of Cortland’s and the Town of Cortlandville’s Municipal Water Distribution Systems.

Whereas, the City of Cortland, (City) and the Town of Cortlandville, (Cortlandville) the water distribution systems, (system/s) share adjoining physical locations, and

Whereas, the Town’s system in operating near capacity, and

Whereas, the City’s system is operating below capacity, and

Whereas, it is more cost effective for the Town to purchase water from the City than to construct and operate a new pumping station, and

Whereas, it is in the interest of the City to have a contingent access to the Town’s system should unforeseen circumstance arise that limits the City’s ability to pump, treat, and distribute water to City users, and

Whereas, the Town shall bear the costs to construct an interconnecting system, and

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City of Cortland shall cooperate with the Town of Cortlandville with the process of drafting an inter-municipal agreement for the inter-connection of systems subject to final and mutual approval of the City’s Common Council and the Town’s Board of Trustees.

The City has the capacity to generate more water than what it is utilizing or selling and this will help Cortlandville.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Resolution #72 of 2020 – Resolution to spend \$5,000 from contingency on DRI branding/information.

The DRI will have 10 million dollars of which \$300,000 of that went to consultants, leaving approximately 9.7 million and about 4 million went to private projects and over 5 million going to public projects. There is a complete reconstruction of Main Street, conduit for high speed fiber optic cable, art portion and the pocket park. There is also a loan/grant fund in the amount of \$600,000 to help enhance and stimulate businesses in the downtown core. Those five major projects are going to be taking place and this is a good opportunity to make sure we are consistent in terms of getting information out to constituents. This is a onetime investment from the City of \$5,000, Convention & Visitors Bureau \$5,000, Chamber of Commerce \$5,000 and BCDIA \$5,000.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Item #7 – Discussion on the City’s trash and recycling.

An email was sent to Council regarding complaints. The change came because of County changes and City took the less expensive way. People have the option of opting out of the program. Private haulers need to follow the same guidelines as the City hauler. The City could draw up standards and talk about passing at least 1 local law that would make sure that we are consistent in terms of expectations of haulers in the City. If a private hauler is collecting trash in the City, they are collecting recyclables consistent with expectations of the City and of New York State. There is a possibility to have private haulers be required to license through the City. DPW is working to get flyers out by the end of March.

Item #8 – Discussion on Capital Funding.

Mack Cook stated that over the last six months a group of individuals have been working on twenty three active projects. There is a timeline of projects and funding of projects. Mack will do workshops with Council if desired to go into further detail.

Motion to enter into Executive Session – To discuss some labor negotiations and contractual negotiations with no action anticipated.

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
 Nays – 0

Motion to exit out of executive session -

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 6
Nays – 0

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman 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 3RD DAY IN MARCH 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