



City Council Minutes
The City of Cortland
June 16, 2020

Council Meeting #14
June 16, 2020
Via Zoom
7:00 PM

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

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Ric VanDonsel, Director of Finance Mack Cook, Police Chief Catalano, Fire Chief Friedman, Interim Director of Code Enforcement Mike Tenkate, City Clerk Ray Parker, Superintendent of WWTP Bruce Adams, Director of Youth Bureau John McNerney

Regular Session:

Mayor Tobin called the fourteenth Common Council meeting of the year to order at 7:00PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments

Mayor's Report:

Mayor would like to add 2 items to the agenda. One is a discussion about odd/even parking in the Dexter Park parking lot. The 2nd item being Consideration of a Resolution to indicate the support of the Common Council regarding the Home Rule Request in preference to Senate Bill S8217 and Assembly Bill A10316 which specifically relates to the modification of roll out retirement plan status for a firefighter and pursuant to Article 9 of the State Constitution and Municipal Home Rule Law hereby request that New York state Legislature to enact such legislation.

Resolution #123 of 2020 – Resolution to approve minutes from June 2, 2020 meeting.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #124 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the Special event application for Relay for Life on September 26, 2020.

Being called the luminaries event to be held in conjunction with Corn Ducky Derby and Paint the Town Purple Event. A display of luminaria bags purchased in memory of honor of people who have been stricken

with cancer. The bags will be lit from 9pm-10pm and community members are invited to walk the pathway looking at the bags and supporting the people who are in the fight or have been in the fight of cancer.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #125 of 2020 – Resolution to approve a Microenterprise application for funds of \$21,800 under the City’s fiscal year 2018 Microenterprise Assistance Program pursuant to a recommendation by the City’s Loan Committee.

The Micro Recipient is Jessica Crawford dba Global Heart Healing and Massage.

Alderman McCarthy disclosed that her husband is a business partner in Main Street Farms, which does business with New York Hemp Oil. Her husband’s business partner is also an owner of New York Hemp Oil. Upon discussion and advice by Corporation Council VanDonsel, it was determined that there is no conflict of interest.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #126 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the RFP to Thoma Development for 2019 Income Property Program contingent on approval from OCR.

Thoma was the only respondent to RFP and we need approval from OCR.

Motioned by: Alderman Carpenter
Seconded by: Alderman Beckwith

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #127 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the RFP to Thoma Development for NY Hemp Oil Project.

Alderman McCarthy disclosed that her husband is a business partner in Main Street Farms, which does business with New York Hemp Oil. Her husband’s business partner is also an owner of New York Hemp Oil. Upon discussion and advice by Corporation Council VanDonsel, it was determined that there is no conflict of interest.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Chapman

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #128 of 2020 – Resolution to recognize and appropriate into the Fire Department donation account (Trust and Agency account, T44), an amount of \$1,266.00 from Cortland Produce Co Inc. (CP Cash and Carry).

Chief Friedman explained how they were selected for the donation and that they hope to use it for smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors for the city. Thank You!

Motioned by: Alderman Chapman
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #129 of 2020 – Resolution to approve the Cortland City Police to conduct the Seventh Annual Bicycle Sale on Friday June 26, 2020 from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM.

Motioned by: Alderman McCarthy
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #130 of 2020 – Resolution to Release an RFP to secure the services of a consultant to update the multi-governmental Tioughnioga River Waterfront Revitalization Program funded through a NYS Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Grant.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Resolution #131 of 2020 - Resolution to adopt Request for Proposal regarding 119 Pendleton Street property owned by the City.

Corporation Counsel stated that the City has had this property for many years. It was acquired in a tax foreclosure with a halfway agreement to get out from under it by the previous owner. City has tried to get rid of building and has had no luck in doing so. We do not want to put in the auction as we would have control over what the property would be used for so this way with a proposal, we have more control over how the property is used.

Motioned by: Alderman Chapman
Seconded by: Alderman Carpenter

Approved: Ayes – 8

Nays – 0

Item #9 – Discussion of CPD Annual Report

Chief Catalano stated he has hard copies of report for those who want one. The Mobile Crisis Unit deals with people in crisis on a regular basis. There is a complaint form available online for PD. We do have a Police Commission.

Item #10 – Discussion on next steps to support a conversation on diversity and inclusion.

Cortland is an accepting community. Executive order from Governor for PD. Meeting in July, Council wants in process proposed paint BLM on City Street. There were concerns regarding safety of road. Possibly put it on sidewalk. Tim Bennett spoke on this as a Cortland member not as Cortland Voice. He stated let's start the conversation. Possibly put up a banner over streets. Melissa Kiser stated a small gesture is big.

Resolution #132 of 2020 – Resolution to allow the City of Cortland to support BLM by painting BLM on City Street.

Motioned by: Alderman Tytler
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #11 – Discussion on opening Playground Equipment.

It is up to local municipalities. John McNerney with the Youth Bureau has been working on a plan. Playgrounds have been cleaned & disinfected. Signage with safety and guidelines have been put up. They will continue to clean on regular basis. There will be 3 staff members with 3 hours to clean. Bathrooms are not open. Possibly Phase 4 recommend 25 active people in the park. People must wear mask when not social distancing including kids.

Resolution #133 of 2020 – Resolution to open playground equipment

Motioned by: Alderman Beckwith
Seconded by: Alderman Bennett

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Item #12 – COVID19 and Repsonse.

County numbers staying good so far. Groups up to 25. Recreation activities some organized activities have been okayed. Plans have been submitted.

Item #13 – Odd/Even parking in Dexter Park parking lot.

City lot off Franklin Street. Corporation Counsel will look into local law. There will be a Public Hearing July 7th.

Resolution #134 of 2020 – Resolution to indicate the support of the Common Council regarding the Home Rule Request in preference to Senate Bill S8217 and Assembly Bill A10316 which specifically relates to the modification of roll out retirement plan status for a firefighter and pursuant to Article 9 of the State Constitution and Municipal Home Rule Law hereby request that New York state Legislature to enact such legislation.

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman Michales

Approved: Ayes – 8
Nays – 0

Public Comments:

Tim Bennett expressed his concerns regarding Black Lives Matter

Kristina F expressed her concerns regarding crisis situation with Black Lives Matter, who conducts the CPD report.

Melissa Kiser stated she supports the Police Department through all of this / work together.

Adjournment

Motioned by: Alderman Bennett
Seconded by: Alderman McCarthy

Approved: Ayes – 8
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 16TH DAY IN JUNE 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