

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

February 1, 2018

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

(RC)

Present: Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Peter Ensel (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: None

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Spoke about Governor Cuomo's announcement for Underwood community.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on January 25, 2018 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Ensel
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending January 31, 2018 in the amount of \$ 452,200.33 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report from the Building Inspector's office for the week of January 22-26, 2018
- Minutes from Public Safety Committee held on January 25, 2018
- **COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Governance, Strategy, and City Operations- Chair Councilor Kretser: Productive meeting, City Clerk, IT, Community Development, Promotions and Special Events, Councilor Kretser gave overview of DRI, spoke about Taxi rates increases invite all taxi companies for a discussion.

City Infrastructure – Chair Councilor Kasper: we just had a thorough conversation in our work session about city investment in Phase 2 & Phase 3 of Saranac River Trail. Although we cannot predict the outcomes and the variables that can impact all of that she has confidence in the people on the Infrastructure committee and if anybody can do it they can.

Finance and Budget – Chair Councilor Kelly: Next meeting in a couple of weeks, hope to have 2017 Final Budget numbers plugged in to 5 year plan.

Public Safety – Chair Councilor Dowdle: First meeting was last Thursday with Fire Chief, Police Chief and Building Inspector. Topic started with budget concerns and then ended with recent incidents of fires and Underwood Avenue situation.

Mayor Read added that Building Inspector Joe McMahon has been incredibly busy with the Underwood Avenue situation working hard nights and weekends attending the work shop and thanked him for that.

Plattsburgh Public Library – Chair Councilor Armstrong: Meeting cancelled will be meeting the last week in February with Library Director.

MLD - MLD Board President Councilor Ensel: Meeting in 2 weeks following Council meeting.

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and any written reports are placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending February 2, 2018 in the amount of \$ 280,787.55 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Jesse Feiler, President Friends of Saranac River Trail spoke about Item 7A and his concerns with turning down grants.

Carol Klepper thinks city is short sided wants to see development; 15 Couch Street is burned out building that is still there.

Unidentified Speaker spoke about events in March, budgeted for or paid for by sponsors, spoke about sidewalk snow removal, Saranac Street bridge project.

Unidentified Speaker spoke about sidewalk snow removal, Saranac Street bridge project.

Nancy Allen spoke about sidewalk snow removal and it is always a problem.

7. OTHER ITEMS:

Motion to remove 7A from the Table.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Motion to waive reading and move the resolution

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves accepting funds for EPF Grant for City of Plattsburgh Saranac Street Bridge Project.

RESOLVED: That Colin Read, as Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh, is hereby authorized and directed to accept funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, and enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the City of Plattsburgh for the City Of Plattsburgh Saranac Street Bridge Project and, if appropriate, a conservation easement/preservation covenant to the deed of the assisted property.

Discussion: Yes

Motion to Table:

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Tabled

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the 3rd Annual Discover Plattsburgh Irish Festival to be held on March 10, 2018. The festival will use a portion of the Durkee Street Parking Lot beginning Thursday, March 8, 2018. The request is to utilize rows directly in front of Farmers Market Building. Alcohol will be served, and is permitted by the Council per Section 129-4 of the Code, and accordingly, NYS Liquor Authority permit compliance and documentation is required.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion: Yes

Councilor Ensel asked Sandra Geddes if any cost to City for this event.

Promotions and Special Events Coordinator Sandra Geddes said no cost to city paid for by sponsors.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Adirondack Coast Events and Fleet Feet to hold the Shamrock Shuffle 5k which will start and finish at Durkee Street on March 17 with race beneficiary to be Foundation of CVPH.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kretser
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign a contract and related documents with Forte Payment Systems, Inc to provide payment processing and related services including but not limited to Automated Clearing House, Credit and Debit Card for processing payments or fees collected in the City Clerk's office.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the four written policies and standards for appeal, as authorized by Chapter 233, Article V, Sections 233.36(E) and (F); and Sections 233.37(C) and (D), respectively. The entire texts of which has been distributed to and read by the member of the Common Council, are hereby enacted without the reading there of and a copy of said four written policies and standards for appeal are made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. THE MAYOR HANDS DOWN THE APPOINTMENT OF PATRICK MCFARLIN TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR A FIVE YEAR TERM TO BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 2, 2018 AND EXPIRING FEBRUARY 3, 2023.

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None

10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:

Councilor Ensel indicated that Plattsburgh Little League needs certificate of insurance for Lights. Chamberlain Richard Marks asked him to send him the information and he will send. Also we occasionally approve contracts as a board and if there is a contract who would be signing if Mayor has conflict of interest.

Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller indicates if the Mayor has a conflict of interest then that would be considered a vacancy and the Mayor Pro Tem would sign he can review the Charter.

Mayor Read indicated typically he wouldn't vote, but, we should always be mindful of the particular boards we are on. I know Council Kretser consistently recuses himself when there is going to be a conflict.

Councilor Ensel asked if we have any more information on a possible Ethics Board and include external members of the community.

Mayor Read indicated Councilor Kasper thought it was a good idea and he endorsed it as well he recommended possibly through the Governance, Strategy and City Operations committee to form some kind of Ethics Board.

Councilor Armstrong indicated they had discussed it informally and it certainly can be brought up.

Councilor Dowdle asked about \$5,000 expense to take down tree at 22 Club Road and asked if it was city property. **Chamberlain Marks** said it was. He said there are cars parked horizontally in front of the apartments in that area and thought they may be on city property and there was a large motor home parked in the recreation center parking lot.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:

Ryan Demerse/Deb Yokum representing North Country Co-op spoke about Durkee Street parking concerns and the DRI proposal submitted petition not supporting Durkee Street DRI development project.

Adam Kritzer spoke about a program he runs called “Plattsburgh Art Detectives” and uses North Country Co-op Community room and he doesn’t support Durkee Street DRI development project.

Unidentified Speaker asked Council to think about spending on this year budget.

Jeremiah Ward represents the “Strong Towns Plattsburgh” movement **doesn’t** support Durkee Street DRI development project,

Unidentified Speaker spoke about Saranac River Trail project asked that city review phases, funds and study Durkee street parking

Danielle Erb spoke about DRI development concerns and doesn’t support Durkee Street DRI development project,

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:59pm