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

November 26, 2019 **5:30 P.M.** 

#### MINUTES

#### Pledge of Allegiance

(RC)

Present:

Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Elizabeth Gibbs

(W3), Peter Ensel (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

Absent:

None

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MAYOR'S COMMENTS: mentioned significant items on the agenda and a lot of people put a lot of work in to them, a lot of staff time and imagination, including Justyn from the Recreation Center, Planner Malana Tamer and Chamberlain Richard Marks. Voting on budget tonight all of the Council has worked on with Councilor Kelly spear heading. As well as, City Attorney, Building Inspector and couple of councilors have been spear heading some efforts with livable community's which will probably come up later tonight. Thanked everyone for all of the hard work. We will also be hearing from Tim Palmer and Councilor Armstrong on Sustainability Task Force efforts.

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#### 1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

**RESOLVED**: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on November 21, 2019 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(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 November 27, 2019 in the amount of \$84,042.78 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 Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

#### 3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from the Building Inspector's office for the week of November 20-26, 2019

- Reports from the Police Department dated November 25, 2019
- Minutes from the Finance & Budget Committee meeting held on November 21, 2019
- Report from City Planner to Establish Traffic Zone Designation No. 967
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for October 2019

#### • COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

[meeting reports provided during work session]

Governance, Strategy, and City Operations- Chair Councilor Armstrong mentioned Watervliet Green Procurement policy she has sent Council to review.

City Infrastructure – Chair Councilor Moore thought Protection Avenue looks really good. Councilor Gibbs remarked she has never seen that alley looking that good and then connecting to Marion with the mural.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly mentioned with a lot of hard work from Mayor, Councilors and Departments we are going to pass budget tonight.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs met tonight, last Public Safety Committee for year, asked Council for review of report from Police Department and see what they may want to include next year.

Plattsburgh Public Library - Chair Councilor Ensel indicated Board Meeting is tonight.

MLD - MLD Board President Councilor McFarlin indicated no updates.

**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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

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#### 5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

**RESOLVED**: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending November 29, 2019 in the amount of \$1,396,740.86 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 Moore; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

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# 6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Steve Krieg 8 Mason Drive spoke about Recreation Complex, feels recreation facilities should provide recreation for city residents and doesn't feel marina is used by city residents.

Tim Palmer, North Country NY Chapter Citizens' Climate Lobby submitted statement which is made part of the minutes of this meeting

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#### 7. OTHER ITEMS:

**A.** WHEREAS, the City of Plattsburgh received an American Battlefield Protection Program Grant to prepare an Archeological Assessment of six (6) key historical Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites; and

WHEREAS, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has developed a comprehensive research document that will serve as the foundation for a coordinated strategic preservation blueprint and heritage tourism plan for the greater Plattsburgh region; and

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Plattsburgh Common Council duly convened does hereby:

RESOLVE, that the City of Plattsburgh accepts the final Archeological assessment as a complete and final document; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council supports on-going efforts to explore and further develop a plan to preserve and highlight our regions rich history.

#### Motion to waive reading and move Resolution

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolution)

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted Follow up Action: None

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**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a resolution in support of the energy innovation and carbon dividend act of 2019 (h.r. 763). The entire text of which has been distributed to the members of the Common Council and will be made part of the minutes of this meeting.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Discussion: Yes

Councilor Armstrong read and submitted statement which is made part of the minutes of this meeting.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to adjust the 2019 Water and Sewer Budgets for \$11,000 and \$30,000, respectively, for appropriations transfers to provide for water and sewer contract office labor and sewer repairs.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN**: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign a Consulting agreement with Heather Silver for the Police Department from December 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020. The total cost will be as follows: December 1, 2019 thru February 28, 2020 - \$250 per week; March 1, 2020 thru May 31, 2020 - \$75 per week for limited on call availability.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN**: Adopted Follow up Action: None

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**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the following rate structure be implemented immediately for all Crete Center fees:

#### PROPOSED CRETE CENTER TURF FIELD RATES

ITEM	CURRENT	PROPOSED
	RATE	RATE
FULL FIELD SOCCER COMPETITIVE TEAM	\$675	\$975
REGISTRATION (SEASON)		140
FULL FIELD SOCCER RECREATIONAL TEAM	\$625	\$875
REGISTRATION (SEASON)		
HALF FIELD SOCCER TEAM REGISTRATION (SEASON)	\$475	\$700

ADULT FOOTBALL TEAM REGISTRATION (SEASON)	\$450	\$700
HALF FIELD RENTAL PER HOUR	\$35	\$65
FULL FIELD RENTAL PER HOUR	\$70	\$100
CITY INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION (SEASON)	\$45	\$75
NON-CITY INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION (SEASON)	\$50	\$90

### PROPOSED CRETE CENTER EVENT RATES

ITEM	CURRENT	PROPOSED RATE
	RATE	
EVENT DAY(S) RATE	\$1,500 PER DAY	\$1,500 PER DAY
NON-EVENT DAY(S) CITY LABOR	\$70 PER PERSON PER HOUR	\$100 PER PERSON PER
RATE FOR SETUP / TAKEDOWN		HOUR
EVENT FLOOR – PUT DOWN	\$875 CHARGE	\$1,000 CHARGE
CHARGE		
EVENT FLOOR – TAKEUP CHARGE	\$875 CHARGE	\$1,000 CHARGE
USE OF EVENT FLOOR –	\$250 PER ACTUAL EVENT DAY	\$500 PER ACTUAL
SURCHARGE RATE		EVENT DAY
CITY STAGE USE	\$10 PER SECTION	\$10 PER SECTION
CITY TABLES USE	\$2 PER TABLE	\$2 PER TABLE
CITY CHAIRS USE	\$0.50 PER CHAIR	\$0.50 PER CHAIR
ELECTRIC/WATER	NO CHARGE	NO CHARGE
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	FEES AT DISCRETION OF CD	SAME
	DIRECTOR	

### Motion to waive reading and move Resolution

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolution)

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted Follow up Action: None

F. Motion to adopt the Common Council proposed 2020 Budget, last revised on November 26, 2019.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted
Follow up Action: None

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G. A RESOLUTION MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND FOR LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT AND THE US OVAL PARKING DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020.

#### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH:

That the respective amounts set forth hereinafter, constituting the Annual Budget of the City of Plattsburgh for the fiscal year 2020, the pages of which are hereby made a part of this resolution, aggregating the sum of Fifty-nine Million, Six Hundred Sixteen Thousand, One Hundred Sixty-six and 24/100 (\$59,616,166.24) Dollars for the General, Sewer, Park & Recreation Complex, Library, Municipal Parking Lot, US Oval Parking District, Water, Debt Service and Municipal Lighting Funds, are hereby appropriated, in the respective amounts shown for the separate appropriation accounts of each departmental budget, for the several departments of the Municipal Government, and as much of each of such appropriation accounts as may be necessary is hereby authorized to be expended by the several departments from their respective appropriations.

That the amounts hereinafter set forth in the above-mentioned budget document as estimated revenues of the several funds, to the extent of such respective estimates, are hereby appropriated towards the above described authorized expenditures.

That the amounts indicated hereinafter representing unencumbered surplus and/or cash balances at the close of the 2019 fiscal year, in the several funds are hereby appropriated within the respective funds towards the above described authorized expenditures.

That the sum of Seventy-one Thousand, Five Hundred Ten and 00/100 (\$71,510.00) Dollars is hereby levied and assessed on the Special Benefit and Assessment District on the taxable real property for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020, according to the valuations placed upon the Special Benefit and Assessment District, approved and filed for such purpose; and the proceeds of such levy and assessment, to the extent fixed above, are hereby appropriated to the Special Assessment District Fund.

That for the purpose of such levy and assessment, the rates appearing hereinafter as part of the Annual Budget Document are hereby established and declared on each square foot of building area appearing on the above mentioned assessment roll.

That the sum of Thirteen Thousand, Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$13,500.00) Dollars is hereby levied and assessed on the US Oval Parking District on the benefited real property lots located within said District for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2020, according to the US Oval Parking District Benefit Allocation Schedule dated December 8th, 2015, approved and filed for such purpose as part of the Annual Budget Document; and the proceeds of such levy and assessment, to the extent fixed above, are hereby appropriated to the US Oval Parking District Special Assessment Fund.

That current revenue receipts from sources other than those hereinafter set forth as sources of estimated revenues, and receipts in excess of the revenue estimates from the several sources hereinafter set forth, shall be deposited to the General Fund, or to the other funds of the General Account, as the source of

revenue may determine and shall be credited to the respective revenue accounts; and that receipts of the Municipal Lighting Department shall be deposited to the Municipal Lighting Department Fund.

## Motion to waive reading and move Resolution

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolution)

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative) **ACTION TAKEN**: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

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**H. INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW P-6 OF 2019:** A local law adding Section 144-18 "Rental Permits" to Chapter 144 "Building Code Administration and Enforcement" to the City Code of the City of Plattsburgh.

By Councilor Ensel

Public Hearing Date set by Mayor: Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 pm, Council Chambers, 41 City Hall Place, Plattsburgh, NY 12901

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8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

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# 9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from the City Chamberlain to consider the comparison of the four respondent proposals to the City's Banking Services RFP to choose a bank to provide services for the City from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS: None

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11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:

**Tim Palmer, North Country NY Chapter Citizens' Climate Lobby** indicated that because of their emphasis on bipartisanship it is particularly notable that Council voted unanimously for HR 763. Thanked Council for all future and present generations.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Ensel Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore (All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:55 pm** 

# Public Remarks by Tim Palmer re: Plattsburgh Common Council Resolution to endorse the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act/HR 763

Plattsburgh City Council Meeting 26 November 2019

My name is Tim Palmer, and I would first like to thank the Council Members for taking the time to address the climate crisis by considering endorsement of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763.

I speak as a Group Leader and Congressional Liaison on behalf of Citizen's Climate Lobby and as a parent on behalf of all the children and grandchildren represented in this room.

Addressing this crisis must be done on every level, from the daily decisions made by individuals to the policies of nations, and coalitions of nations. This Act addresses the issue at every level by including the environmental cost of burning carbon fuels in their price. Revenues are collected where fossil fuels enter the economy, at the mine, wellhead and port, and are all are returned as a monthly dividend, in equal shares, to every resident of the United States. The dividend provides those in the lower 2/3 of the economic spectrum with more money from the dividend than the additional costs they incur due to the increase in the price of fuels. A border adjustment encourages other nations to do the same while protecting the competitiveness of American companies.

This Act, as written, will reduce emissions by 40% by 2030 and 90% by 2050.

My wife and I have actually met on Capitol Hill with dozens of Senators, Representatives and their staffs to lobby for this bill. At the present time, the legislation has 70 cosponsors, but only one Republican.

We believe that addressing climate concerns effectively, and for the long term, requires bipartisan support. With that goal in mind, our chapter first met with

Elise Stefanik's Legislative Director in June 2015. Since then, we have met with our Congresswoman many times, and she has responded by growing from resistance to actually adopting public leadership on climate for her Party in the House. On 8 of November, she continued this trend by cosponsoring the BEST Act, which supports development of storage capacity and upgrading of the electrical grid to better accommodate renewable sources of energy.

The growing bipartisan divide in DC makes it critical for elected leaders on Capitol Hill to know that they have constituent support for the climate action embodied in HR 763. One way to do this is for elected representatives at the local level to make that clear by endorsing this legislation.

I believe you represent about 20,000 people and I hope that you will send this important message of support for putting a price on carbon to our elected representatives in Washington!

Thank you

Congressional Liaison and Group Leader

Citizens' Climate Lobby, NY North Country Chapter

# November 25, 2019

REMARKS by Councilor Armstrong requesting that City of Plattsburgh Common Council OF PLATTSBURGH adopt a resolution RESOLUTION to support HR 763 Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019

This evening, the Common Council will adopt its 2020 budget, approving expenditures for services that will promote the health, well-being, and safety of our residents. With this vote, we both build and maintain our city so that future generations can survive and prosper. As councilors, though many of our decisions deal with current local circumstances, we must also be mindful of how our future is impacted by federal and state policies and laws.

For this reason, Earth Day, 2015, the the Plattsburgh Common Council joined with boards of 7 Clinton County municipalities urging federal agencies to upgrade safety standards for the oil train tankers that wind throughout the North Country. The council was responding to the alarming number of oil train accidents across the country and Canada. Though jurisdiction over the oil tanker safety rules did not lie with any of these municipalities, city and town boards knew that in order to protect their citizens, they needed to voice their grave concerns. These and similar actions nationwide led to safety improvements designed to prevent accidents in the transport of crude-oil-by rail.

After Earth Day, 2019, because they recognized that the Climate Crisis threatens our collective future—a future in which all life on earth is inextricably intertwined— the Plattsburgh Common Council took another crucial step to protect its citizens. By becoming NYS Climate Smart Community, the city made a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in city operations.

As further acknowledgement of the Climate Emergency we face, this evening I ask that Council join with the Town of Plattsburgh and other

municipalities across the nation to support federal legislation that will put our nation on track to reduce fossil fuel consumption and transition to renewable energy sources.

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) is a vital step in mitigating the serious impacts driven by greenhouse gases created by the burning of fossil fuels. It would provide a steadily increasing fee or tax on fossil fuels at their point of entry into the economy. This makes use of free market mechanisms to promote the transition to greater energy conservation and renewable sources of energy. Since the cost of fossil fuels will go up, all revenue generated by the fee or tax would be rebated to all United States residents in equal shares. This will not only neutralize the impact of rising energy prices, it will also generate many new clean energy jobs.

In a September op-ed for the Tucson Sentinel, Raymond Pierrehumbert, a lead author of the 2018 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report wrote, "With regard to the <u>climate crisis</u>, yes, it's time to panic." It is our duty to confront our fear about this existential threat. Because bold action is needed to respond to this planetary emergency, I urge my council to pass this resolution in support of H.R. 763. By doing so, we continue to act according to our established tradition of advocacy for a sustainable future

# RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT OF 2019 (H.R. 763)

WHEREAS, The Common Council of the City is Plattsburgh is committed to protecting City residents from the adverse economic and health effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and the connection between human activity, especially the combustion of fossil fuels that create greenhouse gases, and warming of the planet; and

WHEREAS, climate disruption due to global warming—including destabilized weather patterns, extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and other serious impacts—threatens both the built environment and the ecosystems we depend on to sustain human existence; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with extreme weather events and destabilized weather patterns are burdening businesses, taxpayers, municipal budgets, and families; and

WHEREAS, the Northeast is already experiencing warming temperatures, heavier downpours and increased precipitation<sup>1, 2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, increasing and unpredictable temperatures and rainfall are threatening our region's trout, salmon, and other fisheries; maple sugaring operations, the winter sports and tourism industries, and agriculture<sup>3</sup>; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/38116/20190225/adirondack-scientists-document-climate-change-impacts-on-wildlife-human-health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Palmer, Tim, "Climate Change Is Happening in New York's 21<sup>st</sup> District" @ https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwuX 2YrtFByYXQ4MGVpdUtRRVk/view

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> According to the National Climate Assessment, bud break for fruit trees is likely to be too early in one of three years, leading to frost damage and productivity loss. https://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2019/03/how-will-

WHEREAS, warmer, wetter weather will continue to foster increasing populations of ticks and mosquitoes, sustaining the dramatic rise in the prevalence of Lyme disease, and an increased risk of St. Louis, La Crosse and Eastern equine encephalitis, West Nile Virus, Zika Virus and other arthropod borne diseases; <sup>4,5,6</sup> and

WHEREAS, increased rainfall, heavier downpours, and more powerful storms are already threatening *private property*, City, *County and State* roadways, culverts, the electrical grid and other critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, these impacts will create more health risks due to increased runoff which will adversely affect waste management and water treatment facilities, and

WHEREAS there is predicted to be hundreds of excess deaths per year in the Northeast region caused by extreme heat by 2050,<sup>8,9</sup>

WHEREAS, pollution in our atmosphere due to burning fossil fuels increases the rate of asthma and the number of premature deaths in our region<sup>10</sup>; and

springtime/?utm\_source=News+from+Yale+Climate+Connections+%28Daily%29&utm\_campaign=bd94cebeac-EMAIL\_CAMPAIGN\_2017\_07\_31\_COPY\_01&utm\_medium=email&utm\_term=0\_31a3024b9b-bd94cebeac-19304777; https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/chapter/7/

global-warming-change-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Beard, CB,et al, (2016): Ch. 5: Vectorborne Diseases. U.S. Global Change Research Program @ <a href="https://health2016.globalchange.gov/vectorborne-diseases">https://health2016.globalchange.gov/vectorborne-diseases</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Githeko, Andrew et al; "Climate change and vector-born diseases: a regional analysis," Bulletin of the World Health Organization (2000) pp. 1141-1142 <a href="https://www.who.int/bulletin/archives/78(9)1136.pdf">https://www.who.int/bulletin/archives/78(9)1136.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Palmer, T., "Warming welcomes parasites and diseases" @ <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M9IOA-wDSwL8BR8KmhjXArBXX">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M9IOA-wDSwL8BR8KmhjXArBXX</a> YKk2vd/view

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> National Climate Assessment referenced by CNN @ <a href="https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/27/health/climate-change-impact-by-region/index.html">https://www.cnn.com/2018/11/27/health/climate-change-impact-by-region/index.html</a>

<sup>8</sup> Op. cit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Palmer, T. "The Great Global Heat Wave" @ <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M9IOA-wDSwL8BR8KmhjXArBXX">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M9IOA-wDSwL8BR8KmhjXArBXX</a> YKk2vd/view

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://climatenexus.org/climate-issues/health/the-localized-health-impacts-of-fossil-fuels/

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has the responsibility to act swiftly and effectively on the issue of climate change; and

WHEREAS, destabilized weather patterns, extreme weather events and other serious impacts are driven by greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels, and a major shift away from such carbon fuels is a cornerstone to any meaningful response;<sup>11</sup>, <sup>12</sup>and

WHEREAS, a steadily increasing fee or tax on fossil fuels at the point of their entry into the economy (the well, mine, or point of importation) would be a straightforward way to make effective use of free market mechanisms to promote the transition to greater energy conservation and renewable sources of energy <sup>13</sup>; and

WHEREAS, a rebate of all of the revenue generated by the fee to all United States Residents, in equal shares, would mitigate the impact of rising energy prices for all households and generate many new clean energy jobs, while potentially improving the overall economy<sup>14</sup>;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh calls on our representatives in the United States Congress to address climate change by adopting as one important measure, among others, the Economic Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA; H.R. 763) as the foundation for sound, effective, National Policy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "Carbon tax needed to cut fossil fuel consumption: Will we ever stop using fossil fuels? Not without a carbon tax, suggests a study." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 24 February 2016. <a href="https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/02/160224151006.htm">www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/02/160224151006.htm</a>.

<sup>1. &</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Thomas Covert, Michael Greenstone, Christopher R. Knittel. **Will We Ever Stop Using Fossil Fuels?**†. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2016; 30 (1): 117 DOI: 10.1257/jep.30.1.117

https://www.alternet.org/2019/03/opportunity-costs-heres-how-to-make-carbon-taxing-become-a-positive-sum-game/#.XIhh6PWdmao.facebook

<sup>14</sup> https://citizensclimatelobby.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/REMI-carbon-tax-report-62141.pdf

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore (All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** 

Adopted

ABSENT:

None

#### **CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY**

December 2, 2019

I, Sylvia Parrotte, City Clerk of the City of Plattsburgh, do hereby certify that the preceding resolution was adopted at the Regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh held on November 26, 2019 and is incorporated in the original minutes of said meeting, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

Sylvia Parrotte, City Clerk