

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2019  
CITY OF PLATTSBURGH COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MINUTES  
4:30PM**

**Roll Call:** Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read

**Others Present:** Councilor Moore, Councilor Armstrong [*participated via Skype*], Councilor McFarlin arrived after roll call at 4:36pm.

**Absent:** Councilor Kelly

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**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Rebecca King**, 19 Monty Street spoke about the renewal of the James Burgess contract and her concerns about lack of reporting the results of this program and feels Council should be sure he is held to that requirement for taxpayers and citizens to review.

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**2. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSSION WITH COUNCILORS:**

1. Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for December 2018

2. Discussion of abandoned or Zombie properties.

**Councilor Gibbs** asked **Building Inspector Joe McMahon** for an approximate number. He doesn't know that we have any "Zombie" properties in the City. He estimates approximately 15 to 20 unoccupied properties.

[further discussion ensued]

3. Discussion of SUNY student/city coalition

**Councilor Gibbs** mentioned concerns about a video of a recent disturbance distributed to Councilors by Councilor Moore who received from a constituent. Councilor Ensel volunteered to contact SUNY Student Affairs to set up meeting.

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**3. AGENDA ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM DEPARTMENTS TO BE APPROVED BY COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:**

1. Request from Councilor McFarlin:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority and provisions of Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York and the statutory powers vested in the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh (“Common Council”) to regulate and control land use and to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, pursuant to Local Law P-3 of 2018, which was adopted on March 15, 2018, the Common Council declared an eighteen (18) month moratorium on all applications or proceedings for applications, for the issuance of approvals or permits for the commercial cryptocurrency mining operations in the City of Plattsburgh (“City”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Local Law P-3 of 2018, the aforementioned moratorium may be terminated earlier than eighteen (18) months if the Common Council determines by resolution that the purpose of the local law have been fulfilled;

WHEREAS, the City formed a cryptocurrency zoning committee to study the matter; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2018, the New York State Public Service Commission adopted an Order Approving Tariff Amendments with Modifications (“Rider-A”) impacting High Density Load Customers to mitigate/minimize any utility surcharges experienced by residential customers as a result of incremental purchase power costs; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, 2018, the Common Council adopted Local Law P-6 of 2018, which established zoning regulations, fire suppression requirements, heat controls, noise limits, and nuisance abatement provisions for commercial cryptocurrency mining operations in the City.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council determines that the purpose of the Commercial Cryptocurrency Mining Operation Moratorium established by Local Law P-3 of 2018 have been fulfilled and the Moratorium is hereby terminated, effective the date this resolution is approved.

2. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter to continue the contract with James Burgess as the Nuisance Animal Control Officer for 2019 for the same total cost as in 2018 of \$25,000.

Discussion wording amended to:

Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter to extend the 2018 contract with James Burgess as the Nuisance Animal Control Officer for 3 months with the same terms as 2018 and direct Police Chief to issue Request for Proposals for 2019 Nuisance Animal Control officer.

3. Request that the Common Council determines that the “WPCP Upgrades” CWSRF Project No. C5-5502-01-00 is a Type II Action under SEQR and no further action is required.
4. Request that the Common Council authorizes the retention of GAR Associates, LLC to perform certain real estate appraisal services for the assessment litigation involving Georgia Pacific v. City of Plattsburgh, per the terms as set forth in their engagement proposal, dated June 27, 2018, which was sent to the City’s special counsel.

5. Request from Building Inspector Joe McMahon for himself, Housing Inspector Kyle Burdo and Municipal Code Inspector James Welch to attend the 24th Annual Northern Adirondack Continuing Education Conference promoting the Code Officials Role as a First Preventer” in Lake Placid, New York from March 3-7, 2019 at a cost not to exceed \$915. This codes education conference provides mandatory training hours to retain Code Enforcement Certification.
  
6. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter for two Police Department employees to attend “Homeland Security Initial Response to Active Shooters Training” from January 28-29, 2019 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$276 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund. The registration and the lodging will be paid for by the Department of Homeland Security.

**Councilor Ensel** indicated he will contact SUNY Student Affairs to set up meeting with Councilor Moore and Police Chief Ritter, did Mayor Read want to be included. **Mayor Read** indicated no that was not necessary.

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs  
 (RC) Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read  
 (All voted in the affirmative)

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**4. OLD BUSINESS: None**

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**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Councilor Gibbs indicated** Clinton County Treasurer Kim Davis is here to give information about Land Banks and invited her to the podium to do so.

[further discussion ensued]

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Motion to Adjourn by Mayor Read; Seconded by Councilor Ensel  
 (RC) Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read  
 (All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:15 pm**