

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
AUGUST 21, 2018**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the twenty-first day of August, 2018 at 6:30 o'clock P.M. in Council Chambers, Oneida Municipal Building, 109 N. Main Street, Oneida, NY.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Leo Matkze

PRESENT: Councilors Alan Cohen, Michael Bowe, James Coulthart, Helen Acker, James Chamberlain and Councilor Simchik

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Susan Pulverenti
City Engineer Eric Schuler
Comptroller Lee Ann Wells
Fire Chief Dennis Fields
Police Chief Paul Thompson
Supervisor John Reinhardt
Supervisor Joe Magliocca

**PUBLIC HEARING – AUTHORIZE A PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT
ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C**

RESOLUTION 18-171

Moved by Councilor Cohen
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing relating to authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-C be hereby opened at 6:33 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPEARANCES: None

Moved by Councilor Acker
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on the property tax levy be hereby closed at 6:33 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Oneida Rail Trail

Councilor Bowe asked if there were cost increases with widening Oneida Street and why the State can dictate how wide our City streets can be. A lengthy discussion ensued. Supervisor Magliocca said that this is a federally funded project, and they can dictate the width of the street. He said that the trees were being trimmed to create head space over the path. Supervisor Magliocca said that extra greenspace was added by the previous City Engineer for a future lighting project. Councilor Bowe said that the lanes do not need to be 15 feet wide; the Thruway lanes are only 12 feet wide. Supervisor Magliocca said that would have been a sizeable change-order to modify the plans, and Recreation Director Griff said that he hasn't had any change-orders to widen the streets, but he will look into it.

Councilor Bowe said that there is a difference between the original plan discussed by the Council last year, and the one the City Engineer recently provided and questioned again if this would result in additional costs. City Engineer Schuler said that any costs would be covered under the bid document that was opened in November, which is the design that he recently provided to the Council. He said that the costs may have been cheaper if the design of the street was slightly different. Supervisor Magliocca said that the NYSDOT has the final approval of any plans and that may be where the changes arose. Councilor Bowe said he wanted to be sure this was in the original budget with no additional costs.

In response to a question from the audience, the City Engineer said that any pipes/drainage systems are designed to current standards with whatever is common place, and the Mayor added that this is just like sidewalks, which now have to be ADA compliant.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

County Budget Hearings

Supervisor Reinhardt said that the County has scheduled the 2019 budget hearings with the Department Heads and County Treasurer for September 18th, 19th and 21st. He said that they are only at the setting-the-dates stage, but he will keep the Council posted as things move forward.

Delphi Falls Park

Supervisor Magliocca said that Delphi Falls Park is having a soft opening this weekend. He said that County personnel have been working on the park, and there is an ADA trail to the base of the falls. He said that this picturesque park is located on the western edge of Madison County in New Woodstock. Supervisor Magliocca said that the new park was made possible by a philanthropist’s \$750K donation to the County.

Moved by Councilor Cohen
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 7, 2018 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 17, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$1,150,405.70 as audited by the Voucher Committee is hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Acker
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that checks in the amount of \$12,072.21 (City Attorney) as audited by the Voucher Committee are hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Abstain: 1 (Bowe)

MOTION CARRIED

REAPPOINTMENTS – ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW AND SIGN REVIEW BOARD

RESOLUTION 18-172

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain
Seconded by Councilor Acker

RESOLVED, that the Mayor’s reappointment of Jane Mariani to the Assessment Board of Review for a five-year term be hereby approved, **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the Mayor’s reappointments of Michael Kaiser and Donald Thorna Sr. to the Sign Review Board for three-year terms be hereby approved.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

MONTHLY REPORTS

RESOLUTION 18-173

Moved by Councilor Acker

Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

RESOLVED, that monthly reports from the Chamberlain, City Clerk, City Engineer, Comptroller, Fire Department, Housing Codes Enforcement, Police Department and Recreation Department be hereby received and placed on file.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Councilor Chamberlain commented on the numbers in the Police Department's report, noting they were a lot higher than he would have thought. Councilor Cohen thanked the Police Chief for his work on the grants. The Chief said that the \$50K grant is a 100% grant, which means it doesn't require a percentage to be paid by the City.

HUMANA MEDICARE EMPLOYER PLAN RENEWAL

RESOLUTION 18-174

Moved by Councilor Cohen

Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Humana Medicare Employer Plan Renewal – Passive LPPO 079 066 with Custom Rx 214 effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Ayes:

Nays:

MOTION CARRIED

The Comptroller said that the Humana premiums for 2019 will drop \$26.74. This is an approximate 9.14% decrease in rates (2018-\$292.47 to 2019-\$265.73). Councilor Cohen said that he is very happy to see that the costs will be going down.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS – WATER SERVICE TRUCKS

RESOLUTION 18-175

Moved by Councilor Acker

Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

RESOLVED, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for two Water Department service trucks, as budgeted in the 2018 Budget.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor said that the Recreation Department has received a grant for \$25K for handicap swings at Allen Park.

The Mayor stated that the Water Sewer Due Process Hearings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Acker

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Susan Pulverenti, City Clerk