

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
JUNE 5, 2018**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the fifth day of June, 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 Matzke

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

ABSENT: Councilor Thomas Simchik

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Nadine Bell  
City Clerk Susan Pulverenti  
City Engineer Eric Schuler  
Fire Chief Dennis Fields  
Police Chief Paul Thompson

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Cast of the OHS Spring Musical Footloose*

Councilor Helen Acker introduced the cast of the OHS Spring Musical "Footloose" who performed the portion of the musical where "Ren McCormick" promotes to the Board what the bible says about dancing to get a current law abolished. The student's performance received a standing ovation.

After the performance, the Mayor said that he would love to grab the student's enthusiasm and put it into the whole City. Councilor Acker said that we've got a lot of talent here in our City. Mayor Matzke presented Director Brett Bogardus and the cast with an Award of Excellence for winning the Syracuse High School Theatre Awards for Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical – Medium School; Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role – Emmanuel Esparza; and Outstanding Production Number – "Let's hear it for the Boy". Director Brett Bogardus thanked the Mayor and Council stating that this meant a lot to them.

*Mayor's Announcements*

The Mayor congratulated the Water Department on winning the Madison County Drinking Water Taste Test. He said that as the winner, the Water Department will represent Madison County at the Regional Water Taste Test to be held late in August.

The Mayor welcomed Dennis Fields to his first Council meeting in the capacity of Fire Chief.

The Mayor said that the Farmer's Market opened today at the Cottage Lawn. It will be held each Tuesday from 3pm to 7pm at the Madison County Historical Society. He said that the Center City Market will be open again this Thursday at Higinbotham Park, adding that the concert this week is a Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band and will play from 6pm to 8pm. The Mayor encouraged our City residents to attend both of these events.

Mayor Matzke said that downtown was approved for the National Historic District. He said that this will open up many grant opportunities for the downtown property owners. He said that he would like to bring downtown back to what it was years ago, as other cities have done citing Skaneateles and others.

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the regular meeting of May 15, 2018 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent 1 (Simchik)

**MOTION CARRIED**

Moved by Councilor Cohen  
Seconded by Councilor Acker

**RESOLVED**, that Warrant No. 12, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$552,596.39 as audited by the Voucher Committee is hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

**RESOLVED**, that checks in the amount of \$2,818.75 (City Attorney) as audited by the Voucher Committee are hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 4  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 1 (Bowe)  
Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADOPT LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2018 TO AMEND CHAPTER 73 TITLED “HEALTH AND SANITATION” OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA CODE**

**RESOLUTION 18-123**

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain  
Seconded by Councilor Acker

**RESOLVED**, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, State of New York, pursuant to the Authority vested in it by law does hereby ordain and enact, Local Law No. 3 of 2018, which amends Chapter 73 titled “Health and Sanitation” as follows:

**Section 1.** So that the title of Section 73-5 of the Oneida City Code is hereby amended to read, in its entirety, as “Designated nuisances.”

**Section 2.** So that Section 73-5(B) of the Oneida City Code is hereby deleted in its entirety.

**Section 3.** So that a new Article III shall be added to Chapter 73, which shall be titled “Brush, Grass and Weeds,” and shall read, in its entirety, as follows:

**ARTICLE III  
Brush, Grass and Weeds**

**§ 73-7 Growth and maintenance restrictions.**

It shall be unlawful for any owner, lessee or occupant or any agent, servant, representative or employee of any owner, lessee or occupant having control over any lot or land adjoining land on which is situated a dwelling house or building to permit or maintain on any such lot or land any growth of weeds, grass, brush or other rank vegetation to a height higher than eight (8) inches, on the average, on such portion of the lot or land, including the public right-of-way, that is bounded by the street or highway abutting the property on the front and the front line of the dwelling house or building, including, as well, any side lawn or lawns abutting upon any lot upon which is situated a dwelling house or building, and to a depth at least equal to fifty feet beyond the rear line of the dwelling house or building or to the rear property line, whichever is lesser. All such grass, brush, weeds, or other rank vegetation shall be maintained and kept uniformly in height so as not to detract or devalue adjoining properties. It shall also be unlawful for any such person or persons to cause, suffer or allow poison ivy, ragweed, Canada thistle or other poisonous plant or plants detrimental to health to grow on any such lot or land in such manner that any part of such ivy, ragweed, Canada thistle or other poisonous or harmful weed shall extend upon, overhang or border any public place or allow to seed or allow pollen or other poisonous particles or emanations therefrom to be carried through the air into any public place.

**§ 73-8 Duty of owner, lessee or occupant.**

It shall be the duty of any owner, lessee or occupant of any lot or land to cut and remove or cause to be cut and removed all such weeds, grass, brush or other rank, poisonous or harmful vegetation as often as may be necessary to comply with the provisions of § 73-7.

**§ 73-9 Exceptions.**

The provisions of §§ 73-7 and 73-8, insofar as they relate to cutting weeds, grass, brush and rank vegetation from lots or lands, shall not apply to any lots or lands which are under cultivation in a good manner from which crops are regularly harvested for actual use.

**§ 73-10 Notice to correct violations; failure to comply.**

**A.**

If the provisions of the foregoing sections are not complied with, a Code Enforcement Official for the City of Oneida, which may include the Codes Enforcement Officer, Community Service Officer, and/or Housing Inspector, shall serve written notice upon the owner to comply with the provisions of this Article. Such written notice shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, or personal service upon the owner, as set forth in the last filed tax roll.

**B.**

If the person upon whom the notice is served fails, neglects or refuses to cut and remove or to cause to be cut and removed such weeds, grass, brush or vegetation within five (5) days after receipt of such notice or if such notice was served by posting upon the premises, then, within five (5) days after such posting upon the premises, the aforementioned Code Enforcement Official shall cause such weeds, grass, brush or other vegetation on such lot or land to be cut and removed without need of Council resolution, and the actual cost of such cutting and removal, plus 50% for administrative expenses, shall be presented to the City Chamberlain; said costs shall thereupon become a lien upon the property on which such weeds, grass, brush and other vegetation were located and shall be added to become a part of the taxes next to be assessed and levied upon such lot or land, shall bear interest at the same rate as taxes and shall be collected and enforced by the same City official and in the same manner as taxes. In no event shall the special assessment levied under this section be less than \$100.00.

**§ 73-11 Storage of compost.**

Any and all properties, tracts or parcels having or maintaining any type of material used or kept as or for the purpose of composting, must be contained or stored in compliance with applicable setback requirements and must be contained and kept in a manner as not to spread, leak or scatter from such containment. Contents used for this purpose may not contain sticks, brush, wood, animal feces or other material not meant for normal composting and in a manner which is not unsightly, does not emit any noxious odor, and which does not detract or devalue adjoining properties. Such containment or storage may not exceed five feet (5') by ten feet (10') and shall not exceed a height of four feet (4').

**§ 73-12 Multiple violations.**

Once the notice has been sent to the property owner in accordance with § 73-10(A) and the City has removed the weeds, grass, brush or other vegetation in accordance with § 73-10(B), then no further notice is required in the same calendar year before the City removes said weeds, grass, brush or vegetation. The City will be entitled to perform said removal once the property is in violation of § 73-7 again. Each separate removal will become an additional lien on the property in accordance with § 73-10(B). The notice required in § 73-10(A) shall recite that no further notice will be given for subsequent violations in the same calendar year.

**§ 73-13 Penalties for offenses.**

Any person who shall neglect to cut and remove weeds, grass, brush or other vegetation as directed in this Article or who shall fail, neglect or refuse to comply with the provisions of any notice herein provided or who shall violate any of the provisions of this Article or who shall resist or obstruct the Common Council as officers of the City of Oneida or its/their employees or designees in the cutting and removal of weeds, grass, brush and other vegetation shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250.00. These penalties shall be in addition to the special assessment imposed under § 73-10(B).

**Section 4.** This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

- Councilor Alan Cohen – Yes
- Councilor Michael Bowe – Yes
- Councilor James Coulthart – Yes
- Councilor Helen Acker – Yes
- Councilor James Chamberlain – Yes
- Councilor Thomas Simchik – Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mayor Matzke complimented Councilor Chamberlain on all the work he did to bring this code change to

fruition. Councilor Chamberlain said that he had a lot of help from the committee. He said that this is a great addition to our codes, but noted that he is concerned with the City being able to keep up with all the mowing in the flats. The Mayor asked the Council members to please let the Kathy Erdo in the Fire Department know of any properties that are unmowed in their Wards. Councilor Acker said the City has to set the example with maintaining our own properties. The Mayor said under this law the initial letter will be sent out, and moving forward, we will not have to continually send letters if it happens again.

Councilor Bowe asked about the sidewalk area in the outside district heading to Walmart and questioned who would be responsible for mowing the grass and plowing the sidewalk. A brief discussion ensued. Councilor Bowe said that the Arterial Maintenance Agreement goes from Prospect Street Bridge to Upper Lenox. He said that the grass is two feet high on either side of the new sidewalk, and the City shouldn't be left with this, as it is a State highway. He suggested that something needs to be negotiated in some form or another. Councilor Bowe asked why, when the State has been working on Lenox Avenue for two years, is the City replacing sidewalks in front of Sroka's and over to the Post Office. The City Engineer said that sidewalk, as well as a couple of others, are being done to maintain walkability downtown. He said at one time through that corridor there were sidewalks, they were just paved over. Councilor Bowe questioned if there was any assessments for improvements, as they are the abutting property owners. The City Engineer said he looked at maps of the area, which showed the City owned that sidewalk corridor. He noted that they are making it a little more business friendly for those merchants near the Post Office by backing up the sidewalk a bit, so their customers are not parking on top of the sidewalks.

### **ADVERTISE FOR BIDS**

#### **RESOLUTION 18-124**

Moved by Councilor Bowe  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for Capital Project 18-13 WWTP Vehicle Replacement Program.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### **CANVASS AND APPROVE BIDS FOR FEMA DEMOLITIONS AND ASBESTOS ABATEMENT**

#### **RESOLUTION 18-125**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, that the lowest bid meeting specifications for the FEMA Buildings Demolition & Asbestos Abatement received from All Around Excavating in the amount of \$559,650.00 be hereby approved, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, that the Planning Director is hereby authorized to proceed with the FEMA Building Demolitions & Asbestos Abatements, and further authorize the Mayor to sign any and all documents related to said bid and authorize the Planning Director to expend funds up to the amount of \$559,650.00.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Acker said that there are 29 homes set to be demolished in the second round. She said that the same company who did the first round is the low bidder for the second round. She said that there are two homes leftover from the first round that will be demolished first, as they had a lot of asbestos and the debris has to be transported to a separate landfill. Councilor Acker said that demolitions should be starting the end of this week. She said that hopefully all the remaining properties will be closed on and demolished by the end of the year.

**APPROVE BID FOR CAPITAL PROJECT 18-5, AUTHORIZE THE POLICE CHIEF TO PROCEED WITH CAPITAL PROJECT 18-5, APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLES, IN AND FOR THE CITY OF ONEIDA, MADISON COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$113,264, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$113,264 BONDS OF SAID CITY TO PAY THE COST THEREOF**

## RESOLUTION 18-126

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain  
Seconded by Councilor Acker

**RESOLVED**, that the the bid from Genesee Valley, 1675 Interstate Drive, Avon NY 14414 for Capital Project 18-5 Marked Police Vehicles be hereby approved; **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, that the Police Chief is hereby authorized to proceed with Capital Project 18-5 Marked Police Vehicles, and the Mayor is authorized to sign any and all documents relating to said bid, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED** by the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the total voting strength of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, as follows:

**Section 1.** The purchase of police vehicles, in and for the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, is hereby authorized at a maximum estimated cost of \$113,264.

**Section 2.** The plan for the financing of such maximum estimated cost is by the issuance of \$113,264 bonds of said City hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

**Section 3.** It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is three years, pursuant to subdivision 77 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

**Section 4.** The faith and credit of said City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. To the extent not paid from other sources, there shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said City, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

**Section 5.** Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

**Section 6.** All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer of such City. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

**Section 7.** The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

1. Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
2. The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
3. Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

**Section 8.** This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-

term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

**Section 9.** This resolution, which takes effect immediately upon the final passage thereof, shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said City for such purpose, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Councilor Alan Cohen – Yes  
Councilor Michael Bowe – Yes  
Councilor James Coulthart – Yes  
Councilor Helen Acker – Yes  
Councilor James Chamberlain – Yes  
Councilor Thomas Simchik – Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

In respond to a question, Chief Thompson said that the old police vehicles are salvageable and could be used by other departments.

**KALLET CIVIC CENTER TRANSFORMER REPLACEMENT AGREEMENT**

**RESOLUTION 18-127**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Kallet Civic Center Transformer Replacement Agreement with Honeywell International, 20 Wildbriar Road, Rochester, NY 14623.

Ayes: 4  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

City Engineer Schuler said that this was not part of the original agreement. This piece goes along with it and was budgeted for.

**CELLULAR TELEPHONE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY**

**RESOLUTION 18-128**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

**RESOLVED**, that the Employee Acknowledgements of Receipt and Understanding of the Cellular Telephone Administrative Policy from Fire Chief Dennis Fields be hereby received and placed on file, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, that the Telephone Request Form from Fire Chief Dennis Fields, pursuant to the City of Oneida Cellular Telephone Policy adopted June 15, 2010, Resolution 10-153 and reaffirmed on May 17, 2016, be hereby approved.

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Coulthart said that he would like an analysis of the cell phone costs.

**BUDGET TRANSFER & AMENDMENT**

**RESOLUTION 18-129**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, to approve the following budget transfer and budget amendment:

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
\$25,000.00	001.0001.0912	121.5110.0400

	General Fund Balance	LED Street Lighting Design
	<i>(To allocate funds for the LED Street Lighting Design for a downtown survey)</i>	
\$47,729.92	001.9901.0903	001.3410.0103
	Employee Benefit Reserve Fund	Fire Retirement
	<i>(To allocate funds for the payout of accrued benefits from the reserve account)</i>	

Ayes: 5  
 Nays: 0  
 Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

The Mayor said that one transfer is for a survey of the downtown area. The Mayor said the entire LED project will cost approximately \$1.6M, adding that the money saved will make the BAN payment.

**EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESERVE FUND**

**RESOLUTION 18-130**

Moved by Councilor Cohen  
 Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**WHEREAS**, at the Common Council at the December 19, 2017 Common Council meeting approved Resolution 17-345, which established an Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund to pay for any accrued employee benefit due to an employee upon retirement or termination of the employee’s service, **and**

**WHEREAS**, per said Resolution 17-345 any expenditures from the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund must be authorized by the Common Council pursuant to Section 6-p of General Municipal Law, **now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED**, that the Comptroller is hereby authorized to expend funds in the amount of \$47,729.92 from the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund for the accrued employee benefits due to the retiring Fire Chief.

Ayes: 5  
 Nays: 0  
 Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**RESOLUTION 18-131**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
 Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Professional Services Agreement with Wendel WD Architecture, Engineering, Surveying & Landscape Architecture, P.C., Centerpointe Corporate Park, 375 Essjay Road, Suite 200, Williamsville, NY 14221 for Topographic and Right-of-Way Surveys along Madison Street, James Street, Vanderbilt Avenue, Main Street, Phelps Street and Farrier Avenue in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Ayes: 5  
 Nays: 0  
 Absent: 1 (Simchik)  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO AMEND CHAPTER 180 VEHICLES & TRAFFIC RELATING TO ALL NIGHT PARKING**

**RESOLUTION 18-132**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
 Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

**RESOLVED**, that a proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 180-Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Section 180-21 All-night parking, D. Specific Locations, be hereby received and placed on file, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, to schedule a Public Hearing on said proposed Ordinance Amendment for June 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, 109 N. Main Street, Oneida.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Simchik)

**MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Bowe noted that the date for parking to end will be October 15 rather than October 31, and the City Clerk said this will give the Police Department a two-week leeway period to remind residents that all night parking has ended, before they start issuing parking tickets. Councilor Acker questioned if side-to-side parking should be considered. Councilor Chamberlain said that we should try this and see how it works, noting that it can be changed if the need arises.

**Chapter 180. Vehicles and Traffic**  
**Article II. Stopping, Standing and Parking**  
**§ 180-21. All-night parking.**

[Amended 9-20-1983; 8-20-1996 by Ord. No. 96-09]

- A. It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to park said vehicle on any street or public parking lot or field for a period of time longer than 30 minutes between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. of any day from November 1 to April 14.
- B. Any vehicle found in violation of this section may be towed away, and the expense thereof shall become a lien upon said vehicle.
- C. (Reserved)[1]  
*[1] Editor's Note: Former Subsection C, providing penalties for violations of Subsection A, as amended, was repealed 6-18-2004 by Ord. No. 04-01.*

- D. Specific locations.  
[Amended 12-6-2000]

- 1) Anything in this section to the contrary notwithstanding, overnight parking shall be permitted **on curbed and** uncurbed streets in the City during the period from April 15 to **October 15** ~~October 31~~, inclusive, **with the exception of Main Street between Washington Avenue and Furnace Avenue** and ~~overnight parking shall be permitted on curbed streets in the City on Friday and Saturday nights~~, in areas where parking is legally permitted, ~~during the period from April 15 to October 15, inclusive~~, and in the City-owned parking lot located at the northwest corner of Lenox Avenue and Cedar Street, the Kallet Parking Lot and the Higinbotham Parking Lot, to wit:

[Amended 7-20-2010 by Ord. No. 10-03]

[Amended 7-20-2010 by Ord. No. 10-03]

- (a) City-owned parking lot located at the northwest corner of Lenox Avenue and Cedar Street (entire lot).

- (b) (Reserved)[2]

*[2] Editor's Note: Former Subsection D(1)(b), regarding the Lincoln Bank Parking Lot, was repealed 6-1-2010 by Ord. No. 10-02.*

- (c) Kallet Parking Lot (back-to-back angular parking lanes only):

[1] Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, south lane.

[2] Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, north lane.

- (2) For purposes of this section, any block on a street that is only partially curbed shall be deemed to be an "uncurbed" street for that particular block.

- (3) All-night parking will be allowed year-round on an alternating schedule:  
[Added 3-18-2008 by Ord. No. 08-02]

- (a) North side of Freight House Alley:

[1] Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

- (b) Higinbotham Parking Lot:

[Added 6-1-2010 by Ord. No. 10-02]

[1] Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, west two lanes.

[2] Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, east two lanes.

(c) South side of Oneida Street between Main Street and Williams Street:

[1] Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

E. Any vehicle found in violation of this section may be towed away at the expense of the owner thereof, and the expense shall become a lien upon said vehicle.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Phillips Street*

John Peters of Phillips Street inquired if his street was to be repaved, as it is extremely bad with many areas where there is no blacktop; it's just dirt and stones. The City Engineer said that Phillips Street is on the list to be done this year. An unidentified resident of Phillips Street said that there are two abandoned houses near Phillips and Boston Streets, which the bank own that are in complete disarray and asked what can be done. The Mayor said that we are working on a vacant building policy that will have more teeth in it than the current policy we have in place. The Mayor said that it is sometimes frustrating for public entities trying to move forward, as there are many rules and regulations that the City must follow that a private homeowner does not have to do. Councilor Bowe said that more funding was put in the budget this year for street maintenance, and Councilor Acker said that additional funding for sidewalks was added as well.

#### *Miscellaneous Items*

Councilor Coulthart requested that the Parks & Rec Department clean the restrooms at Higinbotham Park before the City Center Market each week. He questioned Police Chief Thompson about police presence at the event, and the Police Chief said that they are watching attendance and will send bicycle patrol/officers over should the need arise.

Councilor Coulthart said that he has some questions with the feral cats in Oneida, and the Mayor said to contact him.

In response to a question, Fire Chief Fields said that the potential buyer of 409 Genesee Street is currently still negotiating his contact, remarking that he received an email from him yesterday. Chief Fields said that the potential buyer has requested that the City send a letter stating that they accept the Structural Engineers report for that building. The Chief said that he suggested to the potential buyer that he should reach out to the City Attorney, and the City Attorney said she has not heard from him yet. Chief Fields said that he is working towards a new Assistant Fire Marshall, however, as there are contractual issues, it will take some time.

Councilor Acker gave kudos to the Police Department on the recent drug bust.

#### *Bicycle Rodeo – MDA Boot Drive*

Police Chief Paul Thompson said that they will be having the Bike Rodeo this Saturday morning at Vet's Field from 9am to 11am in conjunction with the Recreation Department. He said that the rodeo was cancelled the last time due to the bad weather, and he is hoping for sunshine this weekend.

Fire Chief Dennis Fields said that his Department is holding the MDA Boot Drive this Saturday from 9am to 3pm in the Walmart parking lot.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Acker

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA, NEW YORK

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Susan Pulverenti, City Clerk