

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OCTOBER 2, 2018**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the second day of October, 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 Attorney Nadine Bell  
City Clerk Susan Pulverenti  
City Engineer Eric Schuler  
Comptroller Lee Ann Wells  
Fire Chief Dennis Fields  
Police Chief Paul Thompson  
Recreation Director Luke Griff  
Supervisor Joe Magliocca

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilor Acker thanked Charles Pritchard from the Oneida Dispatch for the newspaper article he wrote about how she was collecting 100 birthday cards for her father who was turning 100 years old. She said that after the Dispatch article, she was able to take 167 cards to her father, who was just overwhelmed with joy. Councilor Acker thanked everyone for making her father's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday very special.

Moved by Councilor Bowe  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the regular meeting of September 18, 2018 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

Moved by Councilor Simchik  
Seconded by Councilor Acker

**RESOLVED**, that Warrant No. 20, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$1,539,118.96 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**

Mayor Matkze said that the City has finished all the closings for the Buyout Program.

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

**RESOLVED**, that checks in the amount of \$4,917.50 (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**

**AMEND 2018 BUDGET AND APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT - TABLED**

**RESOLUTION 18-208**

Motioned by Councilor Bowe  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor has been meeting over the past two years with the City's various Codes Officers to implement certain procedures to strengthen the enforcement of the City and State codes in the City of Oneida, **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor approves the promotion of Robert Burnett from Housing Code Inspector to Codes Enforcement Officer, as he meets all the qualifications for said promotion, **now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2018 Budget be hereby amended to include creating a second Codes Enforcement Officer position at the CSEA Union Base Rate of \$28.87 per hour less 3% (promotion) for the first year, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, that a budget amendment in the amount of \$10,000 from 001.3620.0101 (Salaries-Safety Inspection) to 001.8664.0101 (Salaries-Code Enforcement) and \$3,500 from 001.0001.0912 (General Fund Balance) to 001.8664.0101 (Salaries-Code Enforcement) be hereby approved to fund said position, **and be it further**

**RESOLVED**, that this promotion shall be effective as of Monday, October 8, 2018.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0

**MOTION TABLED**

Councilor Bowe requested that this item be tabled to seek advice of Council in Executive Session. The original motion to open discussion was made by Councilor Coulthart and seconded by Councilor Acker.

**AMEND 2018 BUDGET – WATER SUPERINTENDENT**

**RESOLUTION 18-209**

Motioned by Councilor Coulthart  
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

**WHEREAS**, the Water Superintendent is planning to retire in January of 2019 after 28 years of service to the City of Oneida, **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Common Council members desire to be proactive by allowing a new Water Superintendent to work with the current Superintendent, prior to his retirement, to gain knowledge of the multiple facilities, operations and procedures of the City's Water Department and Water Treatment Plant, **now therefore be it**

**RESOLVED**, that the 2018 Budget be hereby amended to include creating a second Water Superintendent position at a salary to be determined after interviews by the City Engineer have taken place.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Comptroller said that the amount of funding needed has not been determined at this point.

**AGREEMENT FOR COURT CLEANING SERVICES AT THE JUSTICE CENTER**

**RESOLUTION 18-210**

Moved by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

**RESOLVED**, to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement by and between the New York State Unified Court System, Sixth Judicial District, Kilmer Building, 31 Lewis Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Binghamton, NY 13901 and the City of Oneida for cleaning services for the interior of the City of Oneida Justice Center, as well as minor and emergency repairs, and preventative building and property maintenance for said facility.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

**SPECIAL EVENTS APPLICATION**

**RESOLUTION 18-211**

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain  
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

**RESOLVED**, to approve the following Special Events application:

Event:	Jessica's Hero's Run/Walk
Sponsor:	Oneida Healthcare Foundation
Date:	October 20, 2018
Location:	5K Run/Walk on Various City Streets

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUDGET AMENDMENT AND TRANSFERS**

**RESOLUTION 18-212**

Moved by Councilor Simchik  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, to approve the following 2018 Budget Amendment/Transfers:

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
\$6,880.62	001.0022.2680 Insurance Recovery	001.3410.0102 Fire Overtime
<i>(To reallocate workers compensation reimbursement to overtime account)</i>		
\$697.50	001.0001.912 General Fund Balance	001.1430.0403 Civil Service Contracts
<i>(To pay for 2016-2017 exam fees)</i>		
\$1,100	001.0001.0912 General Fund Balance	001.1430.0101 Civil Service Salaries

*(To fund Civil Service salary for additional hours needed throughout the year)*

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

*216 East Elm Street*

Larry Bavo, E. Elm Street Oneida, said that he has complained about the code violations at the house next door to him for the past nine years and nothing gets done about it. He said he has met with the Mayor multiple times about this matter. The City Attorney said that she had recent communication with the Fire Marshall, and a new notice and report is being prepared for the Common Council to commence the unsafe proceedings against the property owner pursuant to Chapter 34 of the Code. The City Attorney added that the property owner or anyone with interest in the property is entitled to due process and the right to appear before the Council, and the Mayor added that is not an easy process. She said that only after that opportunity to appear before the Council can an order to declare the property a public nuisance be issued by the Council. The Fire Chief said that in 2017 the Codes changed; however, NYS decided to take out Chapter 1 of the International Code and create their own (the supplement). Chief Fields said when the original paperwork went out, the documents cited the wrong code. Therefore, to avoid an override of the judicial process, the paperwork had to be redone.

*Happy Birthday*

Councilor Bowe said that today is the City Clerk's birthday, and the Council wished her a happy birthday.

*Thank you to Police and Fire*

The Mayor said the City Engineer was very grateful for the help the Police Department provided with the paving and lining of the Higinbotham Parking lot.

Michele Farwell, Kallet Civic Center, thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their help and presence during the entire Makin Bacon Festival over the weekend at the Kallet Civic Center.

*Radar Speed Signs*

Patricia Thorpe, Oneida, said the City needs to purchase radar speed signs. She said that she was recently in New Hampshire where she saw many of these signs. She said that people slowed down and braked as soon as they saw their speeds register. The Mayor said that he already has them in the budget. He commented that Bruce Burke, Chairman of the Traffic Safety Board, was instrumental in this effort. In response to a question from Councilor Chamberlain, the Police Chief said the signs keep substantial data on the number of cars in 24 hour period, their miles per hour and maximum speeds, as well as, the times of day and days of the week. Chief Thompson said these signs will help with targeting problem times and areas.

*Refurbished Fire Truck*

The Fire Chief said, this past weekend, he went to Ohio to check on the fire truck that is being refurbished. He said they are on schedule, and the department will be staying within the budgeted amount.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RESOLUTION 18-213**

Motioned by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

**RESOLVED**, that the meeting is hereby adjourned to Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. to seek advice of Council and for a personnel issue.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PRESENT:** Mayor, Councilors, City Clerk, City Attorney, Comptroller, City Engineer

1. Council asked the City Attorney for advice.
2. Discussion relating to a personnel matter.

Motioned by Councilor Acker  
Seconded by Councilor Coulthart

**RESOLVED**, that Executive Session is hereby adjourned to the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Kallet Civic Center*

Kallet Civic Center Board members Patti Meakin, Michele Farwell, Bill Dustin and Morgan Harrington appeared before the Common Council to discuss the City taking over some of the responsibilities of the Kallet and the revamping their current lease. The Board passed out their recommendations, as well as, a Profit/Loss Budget overview from 2015 to 2018, a spreadsheet outlining the utilities bills, and a 2018 September to December projection sheet. The members briefly discussed a possible partnership with the City, their recommendations as to which entity would be responsible for what and Ms. Farwell explained her duties as the Executive Director. The Mayor said that he had asked for the Kallet's 990, but has not received it. The Director said that she would forward the information to the Mayor and Council. Councilor Bowe said that the Council needs time to absorb the information that was provided this evening.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Bowe

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

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Susan Pulverenti  
City Clerk