

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 4, 2014**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the fourth day of February, 2014 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 Alden M. Smith

PRESENT: Councilors Michael Bowe, Erwin Smith, Helen Acker, James Chamberlain, and Thomas Simchik

ABSENT: Councilor Brahim Zogby

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Nadine Bell
City Clerk Susan Pulverenti
City Engineer Jon Rauscher
Civil Service Officer Peg Margo
Comptroller Linda Pease
Director of Parks and Recreation Lucas Griff
Director of Planning and Development Cassie Rose
Fire Chief Kevin Salerno
Police Chief David Meeker
Public Safety Commissioner Michael Kaiser
Water Superintendent Art Smolinski

**PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 17 OF THE
CITY CODE TITLED “ANIMALS” TO REGULATE THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS
WITHIN THE CITY OF ONEIDA**

RESOLUTION 14-34

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 17 of the City Code, titled “Animals” to regulate the keeping of animals within the City of Oneida be hereby OPENED at 6:34 p.m.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

APPEARANCES: None

The Mayor said this law contains specific language as to how many animals one can have in the inside district. A brief discussion ensued as to how many animals would be allowed.

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 17 be hereby CLOSED at 6:35 p.m.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENTATION

Greenhouse Gas Audit

City Engineer Jon Rauscher introduced Chris Carrick, Energy Program Manager for the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNYRPDB) and Amanda Supcheck, Planner, with the CNYRPDB. Mr. Carrick said the CNYRPDB provides assistance to municipalities with greenhouse gas inventories. In this process, baseline information on energy consumption is compiled and used to identify

goals for reducing emissions. This free opportunity is available to municipalities involved in the Climate Smart Communities Program, which helps communities reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save taxpayer dollars, and advance community goals for health and safety, economic vitality and energy dependence. New York State directs grant funding to those municipalities who show a commitment to greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate adaptation, and this would improve the City's chances for funding through NYSERDA. Mr. Carrick said they are working with SUNY ESF students in the Environmental and Energy Audit Course to do the research and develop an emissions inventory for the City of Oneida. Mr. Carrick reiterated that this is a free program.

Amanda Supcheck asked the SUNY ESF students to introduce themselves. Ms. Supcheck outlined the benefits of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Project, including fiscal and climate leadership. She stated some of the co-benefits include improvements in air quality and public health, economy stimulation, and creating green jobs, as well as regulatory preparedness. She said the college students have started the process of collecting data and will turn the data into emissions numbers. The analyzing will continue over the next couple of months, in an effort to reach the goal of having a community energy plan prepared by the end of April.

The City Engineer said some potential projects could be downtown street light upgrades, WWTP energy efficient upgrades, and lighting efficiency upgrades in City buildings. The Mayor gave his thanks for the thorough presentation and very positive undertaking. Councilor Bowe said he appreciates the students coming to the meeting and said he is interested to see where this will take us.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Chamberlain inquired about the Oneida Memorial Day Parade Committee's request at budget time to reinstate the funds donated by the City for the Memorial Day parade. The Mayor asked Councilor Smith to be the liaison with the Memorial Committee and to have them provide a request in writing for the Council to act upon.

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2014 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Acker
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 3, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$352,480.70 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 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

RESOLVED, that Check No. 50119 in the amount of \$58.94 (Oneida Office Supply) as audited by the Voucher Committee is hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Abstain: 1 (Acker)
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Bowe
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the special meeting January 28, 2014 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT – BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

RESOLUTION 14-35

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Bowe

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Charles R. Pendleton, 506 Broad Street, Oneida NY to the Board of Assessment Review be hereby approved.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

Councilor Smith stated that Mr. Pendleton will be an excellent asset to the City and commended the Mayor on the appointment.

CANVASS AND APPROVE BIDS FOR SENSUS LOW LEAD WATER METERS

RESOLUTION 14-36

Moved by Councilor Chamberlain
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the lowest bid meeting specifications for Low Lead Sensus Water Meters in the amount of \$19,642.20 is hereby awarded to Everett J. Prescott, 241 Farrell Rd., Geddes NY 13209.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

The Water Superintendent said the City has standardized on Sensus meters. The Water Department purchases enough meters to support the meter replacement program. The amount varies year to year, but on average they purchase 200 meters per year. All the meters that had lead in them were discarded at the end of last year. Superintendent Smolinski said there have been quite a few frozen meters this year, which were removed, rebuilt and reinstalled, and the property owner is invoiced for the costs involved.

BUDGET TRANSFER FOR CAPITAL PROJECT CLOSURE

RESOLUTION 14-37

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

RESOLVED, to approve the following budget transfers to close out the Water Shop Roof Replacement Capital Project:

<i>Amount</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
\$24,195.68	005.8300.0409 Water Shop Roof	005.9550.0900 Water Interfund Transfer

(To close out capital project and to transfer back to water fund)

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE SALE – TAX MAP NO. 30.55-1-68 CORNER SHERMAN AND N. LAKE ST.

RESOLUTION 14-38

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

WHEREAS, the City owned vacant lot SBL# 30.55-1-68 located on the corner of Sherman and N. Lake Street was declared to be “excess property” thereby eligible for sale to the adjoining property owners by Common Council Resolution 13-267 at the October 15, 2013 Common Council meeting, **and**

WHEREAS, a Purchase Offer from Lewis E. Joslyn Sr. 220 Sherman St., Oneida NY, the adjoining property owner, for said City owned parcel Tax Map No. 30.55-1-68 located on the corner of Sherman and N. Lake Street in the amount of \$1,000 plus filing fees and closing costs was received and placed on file at the January 7, 2014 Council meeting, **now therefore be it**

RESOLVED, that the City of Oneida Common Council hereby approves the sale of said City parcel #30.55-1-68 located on the corner of Sherman and N. Lake Street to the adjoining property owner Lewis E. Joslyn Sr. 220 Sherman St., Oneida NY 13421 in the amount of \$1,000.00 plus all closing costs and filing fees, **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the City Attorney is hereby authorized to prepare any and all documents relative to the sale of said property for execution by the Mayor.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET AMENDMENT

RESOLUTION 14-39

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Acker

RESOLVED, to approve the following budget amendment:

<i>Amount</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
\$7,811.60	001.0017.1589 (Equitable Sharing Revenue)	001.3120.0414 (Equitable Sharing Expense)
(Transfer of funds will come from police equitable sharing bank account, not general fund)		
<i>Amount</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
\$309,659.89	003.9710.0600 (Principal on Flood Debt)	003.0003.0599 (Fund Balance)
(Insurance Recoveries for WWTP Flood Claim)		

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES PLEDGE

RESOLUTION 14-40

Moved by Councilor Bowe
Seconded by Councilor Smith

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida (hereinafter "local government") believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments which is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; **and**

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife

populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; **and**

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; **and**

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; **and**

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come, **now therefore be it**

RESOLVED that City of Oneida, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate will:

- Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community
- Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action
- Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations
- Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations
- Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices
- Promote Climate Protection through Community Land Use Planning
- Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change
- Support a Green Innovation Economy
- Inform and Inspire the Public
- Commit to an Evolving Process

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

The Mayor said the adoption of the Climate Smart Communities Pledge will improve the City's ability to get grant funding from NYSRRDA through programs like Cleaner Greener Communities Program. NYSERDA gives extra consideration to projects located in Climate Smart Communities.

BRIDGES AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION 14-41

Moved by Councilor Bowe

Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign the annual agreement in the amount of \$2,048.00 with BRiDGES a/k/a Madison County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Inc. for the Employee Assistance Program.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

This is a Federal mandate.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION 14-42

Moved by Councilor Acker

Seconded by Councilor Smith

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor to sign a one-year Preventative Maintenance Agreement with Power Generation & Industrial Engines Inc., 8927 Tyler Rd., Bridgeport NY, in the amount of \$365.75, for preventative maintenance on a Dayton Generator/Fire, Serial #3197559 Model 4LM43.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS

RESOLUTION 14-43

Moved by Councilor Bowe
Seconded by Councilor Acker

RESOLVED, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for a new boiler at the Recreation Center.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

Councilor Smith said there may be a potential to save some money if the Recreation Center and Kallet boilers are bid together. There was brief discussion on the feasibility of installing a geo-thermal heating system and/or waiting for the Greenhouse Gas Audit report to make a decision. The Recreation Center has been relying on the back-up boiler, and the Kallet boiler has been limping along for quite some time. The Recreation Director said this is the first step, adding that he may not actually put this out for bid for a couple of months. The City Engineer and Recreation Director will work together on this.

NEW BUSINESS

Purchasing Policy

Councilor Chamberlain said the purchasing policy should be tightened up, as there are occasions when departments do not get a purchase order or spend more than what the purchase order allows for. The Mayor said he will send a memo to Department Heads.

City Flood Insurance

The Comptroller said the City will need to purchase flood insurance, which will cost \$18K per year from the General Fund, \$10K per year from the Sewer Fund and \$12K per year from the Water Fund. The City could lose FEMA aid should another flood occur and the City doesn't have insurance in place. City Engineer Jon Rauscher said he is working on the reimbursement submissions through FEMA. He explained that basically using the DPW, if there is \$100K in damages that the City is being reimbursed for through FEMA, should there be another flood and the City doesn't have flood insurance, FEMA would hold back the first \$100K in aid. He added he will confirm the process with FEMA. The Water Superintendent inquired if any consideration was being made to move these facilities out of the flood zone, noting that they were able to save much of the department's equipment, but if this flood had occurred at 3:00 a.m. almost nothing would have been salvaged. The Mayor said relocation is a consideration as well. The City Engineer said elevation certificates have to be completed for the insurance process, and once the FEMA submissions are complete, he will work on those. Engineer Rauscher said he is looking at the placing of a wall around the flood plain at the WWTP, as part of a \$1M hazard mitigation plan with New York State.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 14-44

Motioned by Councilor Acker
Seconded by Councilor Smith

RESOLVED, that the meeting is hereby adjourned to Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. for the purpose of discussing to the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)
MOTION CARRIED

PRESENT: Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Clerk, City Engineer, Water Superintendent

- Discussion was held relating to the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property.

Motioned by Councilor Acker
Seconded by Councilor Chamberlain

RESOLVED, that Executive Session is hereby adjourned to the regular meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Zogby)

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Smith

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Susan Pulverenti, City Clerk