

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

February 25, 2016

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O’Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on February 11, 2016 and a Special Meeting held on February 18, 2016 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the weeks ending February 17, 2016 in the amount of \$ 358,029.45 and February 24, 2016 in the amount of \$ 189,713.29 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor O’Connell

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of February 11 - 24, 2016
- Report from the Building Inspector’s office February 22, 2016
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on February 16, 2016
- Report from City Engineer to Establish Traffic Zone Designation No. 958

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the weeks ending February 19, 2016 in the amount of \$ 326,498.73 and February 26, 2016 in the amount of \$ 1,675,888.79 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:

Peter expressed his opposition to letting the Market utilize Trinity Park all summer wants it left as a park. He suggested the group use Westelcom Park. He said businesses on Brinkerhoff are opposed because the group is not a commercial tax payer in the city.

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Plattsburgh Farmers and Crafters Market group to manage the Farmers Market for the 2016 market season from May 7 - October 8, 2016.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O’Connell
Discussion: Yes
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Apostles for Life to use 2 parking spaces in front of 66 Brinkerhoff Street, Friday, March 25, 2016 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am for a prayer vigil. Insurance Certificate provided.

By Councilor O’Connell; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion:

Councilor Armstrong made motion to amend resolution to:

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Apostles of Life be granted permission to hold a prayer vigil in two parking spaces on the south side

of Brinkerhoff Street opposite the Planned Parenthood clinic at 65 Brinkerhoff on March 25, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser (Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Kasper and Kretser voted in the affirmative. Councilors Dowdle and O’Connell voted in the negative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Resolution as amended above:

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Apostles of Life be granted permission to hold a prayer vigil in two parking spaces on the south side of Brinkerhoff Street opposite the Planned Parenthood clinic at 65 Brinkerhoff on March 25, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser (Councilors Armstrong, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper and Kretser voted in the affirmative. Councilor Kelly voted in the negative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Blake Frechette to hold the annual Race for Stace on Saturday May 7 at 9am on US Oval.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser (All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bid for New York Main Street Program (SHARS ID # 20150095, REDC CFA #53225) be awarded to Friends of the North Country.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser (All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council adopts new management scale for Police and Fire.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Fire Chief salary is set at \$97,636 according to newly adopted management pay scale for Police and Fire.

By Councilor O’Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the city Chamberlain to revise capital project H8320.77, Westbrook 1 & 2 Dam Improvement Construction to include \$200,000 of additional repair work to be completed currently.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

H. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Change order 1, 2 and 3 to Maintenance work on Westbrook Dams 1 and 2 in the total net amount of \$144,437.19.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

I. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Katie Imhoff to hold the Paws on Parade 5k on US Oval on April 2, 2016 to benefit the Elmore SPCA.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

Mayor removed item J from agenda because it is not necessary since the group is only using sidewalks.

J. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a "March for Bernie" on Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. The route will begin at ROTA Gallery (39 Bridge Street) travel up Bridge Street to Margaret Street left on Margaret Street to Broad Street up to SUNY Plattsburgh Angel Center and then travel same route back to ROTA Gallery.

K. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves accepting funds for EPF Grant for City of Plattsburgh Saranac Street Bridge Project.

RESOLVED: That James Calnon, as Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh, is hereby authorized and directed to accept funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000, and enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the City of Plattsburgh for the City Of Plattsburgh Saranac Street Bridge Project and, if appropriate, a conservation easement/preservation covenant to the deed of the assisted property.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

L. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council declares the month of March Brain Injury Awareness month. As such, the Council and Staff are urged to participate in the Blue Jeans for Brain Injury public awareness campaign by wearing Blue Jeans on March 23, 2016, taking a photo to post on the Brain Injury Awareness FB page and #BlueJeans4BI. Other ways to participate include making donations to the Brain Injury Advocacy Association of NYS, and encouraging NYS legislators to advocate for individuals with TBI and their caregivers on March 23rd.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

M. RESOLVED: On a request from Ross Saxton, a member of a coalition that supports a moratorium on transporting oil by train along Lake Champlain, the Common Council hereby authorizes the City’s name and appropriate signatures be attached to a letter to New York and Vermont Congresspersons and Senators asking for a moratorium.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kasper
Discussion: Yes
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

N. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration “Request from Greg Lee of Honor Flight to hold events in the Recreation Department Community Room on May 14, June 4, and June 18th from 6a-9a.”

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Honor Flight to hold events in the Recreation Department Community Room on May 14, June 4, and June 18th from 6a-9a.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion: Yes
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves WPCP Laboratory Technician to attend “Microbiology seminar” on March 7, 2016 in Fayetteville, NY at an estimated cost of \$599.08. Funding is from the WPCP training/education line item.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a Police Department employee to attend “the 2016 NYS Police Crimes against Children Seminar” on from May 9-13, 2016 in Albany, NY the total cost will not exceed \$755 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture fund.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

- 1. Request from Greg Lee of Honor Flight to hold events in the Recreation Department Community Room on May 14, June 4, and June 18th from 6a-9a. **(Move to agenda under “Other Items” Letter N)**

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Kasper said next week’s work session is a budget work session. We will be dealing with revenues and I invite any Department Heads that have any ideas about generation revenues to attend then as well.

Councilor Armstrong said she thanks again to the council for giving their blessing on the TPP Forum it was well attended. She will be scheduling a meeting with Elyse Stefanik and encourages her colleagues to join her.

Councilor Kelly said there will be a MLD Board meeting on March 10, 2016 immediately following the Council Meeting. There was an article in the Press Republican today that said the Council put on hold a development project. The Council can’t do that and I would appreciate it if the Press Republican could print a correction on that, Mr. Lotemplio.

Mayor Calnon said it was the headline it should have been the “Planning Board.”

Councilor Kelly said and I would like to commend Kevin Farrington for sort of leading the way on that storm water issue.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS:

John Middleton representing the Apostles for Life spoke about the vigil and using the parking spaces. He

stated that as far as he knows, and he has been to most of them if not all, the sidewalk has never been blocked. We are very careful not to block that sidewalk and we don't infringe in any way access to their facility. We appreciate your willingness to say we could have the spaces across the street, but, it is a problem because of crossing the street and there is often times another group over there, a group of hecklers, and sometimes are pretty loud. But that's not a problem our group is a prayer group and it usually lasts 35 to 45 minutes. It's a very sedate group and we are only interested in our prayer. We don't interact with other people. Thank the Council for your consideration. The Chief of Police is here and as far as I know not one of our group has ever been arrested [*Police Chief nodded in agreement with Mr. Middleton*] or has been a concern about blocking sidewalks or driveway.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:05pm