

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

September 22, 2016

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachele 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 September 8, 2016 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor O’Connell; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong
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 September 14, 2016 in the amount of \$ 486,807.58 and September 21, 2016 in the amount of \$ 111,478.53 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 Kretser
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 September 8-21, 2016
- Report from the Building Inspector’s office September 3-20, 2016
- Statement from the City Clerk’s Office of all monies received during the month August 2016 in the total amount of \$11,233.93
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for July 2016
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for August 2016
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on September 19, 2016

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 Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

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 September 16, 2016 in the amount of \$ 1,120,119.09 and September 23, 2016 in the amount of \$ 428,999.31 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 Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:

John Linney questioned current fund balance status, approval of council minutes, and new management position at DPW.

Kathy McCleary spoke about boy scouts concerns of city beach and fire hydrant testing.

Jerome Davis discussed use of bike paths, keeping clean. Biker courtesy, helmet use.

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. Whereas, the city beach has experienced unhealthy levels of E Coli and Enterococci leading to closures; and

Whereas, the City of Plattsburgh's Environmental Services and Recreation Departments have vigilantly and regularly overseen tests on numerous sites, and, though many variables are considered as contributors to the problem, the City has been unable to draw definitive conclusions about how to prevent these concentrations of pathogens; and

Whereas, Lake Champlain is a precious resource we share with our regional neighbors who have a mutual interest in its health and preservation;

Be it Therefore Resolved, that the City of Plattsburgh requests that Senators Schumer and Gillibrand of New York, Senators Leahy and Sanders of Vermont, the US Coast Guard, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation assist the city in its efforts to find long-term solutions for city beach pollution.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O’Connell

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly (Voted in the affirmative)

Councilors Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser (Voted in the negative)

Councilor O’Connell left the meeting for personal reasons after indicating that his absence during the vote would reflect his desire to vote “no”.

ACTION TAKEN: Defeated

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Plattsburgh High School to have its annual Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 11:00 am. The parade route would begin at Stafford Middle School continue up Rugar Street, then down Adirondack Lane onto Clifford Drive and finally down Angell Drive towards cafeteria.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the North Country Mustang Club to hold their Annual All Ford Show at the US Oval on Sunday, July 30, 2017. They request electricity, use of the City Trailer stage and tents will be erected. Certificate of Insurance and Dig safe permits will be required.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from June 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 in the total amount of \$6,152.09. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .62%.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to transfer \$53,700 within the Sewer Fund WPCP Budget from various line items containing a budget surplus to various line items to cover under-budgeted cost areas for chemicals, contract services, temporary payroll and parts and supplies.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves phase 3 of the North Country Food Co-op’s CFA Project, including exterior façade work and remaining interior renovations, be awarded to Handy Dan Dessurault for the total base amount of \$146,120 and \$153,520 total with alternates.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the execution of the agreement with Schnabel Engineering in the amount of \$28,370 for the Alternative

Analysis and Conceptual Design of Spillway Improvements at Mead Reservoir Dam. Funding is from Capital Project H8320.68.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a Police Department employee to attend “Southeastern Homicide Investigators Associations 2016 Annual conference” from October 9-14, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$1,724.25 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture fund.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves City Engineer Kevin Farrington to attend “North Country Stormwater Tradeshow & Conference” on October 20, 2016 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$375. The training will count toward mandatory continuing education credits as required by New York State for Professional Engineers.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: No

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O’Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves two Police Department employees to attend “New York Women in Law Enforcement 7th Annual Training Conference” from October 26-28, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$932.00 and will be expensed out of

the Asset Forfeiture fund.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Krester

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

Absent: Councilor O'Connell

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Mayor Calnon, the Common Council places a new title, Office Manager, on Range 6 of the Management Pay Scale.
2. Mayor Calnon hands down the provisional appointment of Kristy Duell to Office Manager in the Department of Public Works at range 6 step 9 at a salary of \$62,860 on the management salary schedule effective September 23, 2016.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Dale Dowdle inquiry about Airforce Rep to look at F111.

Mike Kelly inquiry about CDM Smith contract, sharing information gathered with councilors.

Rachelle Armstrong inquiry about Charter informational session updates and planning fund balance policy.

Mike Kelly, acknowledge Mike Brodi and Kevin Farrington for quick response addressing issue at intersection of Goff Ave and Steltzer.

Mayor Calnon asked if the Council implement rule 4 to entertain a resolution for item discussed in executive session dealing with real property settlement case.

By Councilor Kretser: Second by Councilor Dowdle

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O'Connell

Resolved: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council hereby approves the proposed settlement of the real property assessment case filed by CVPH for the years 2015 thru 2016 resulting in a refund of \$6173.68.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

Absent: Councilor O'Connell
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Mayor Calnon asked if Council implement rule 4 for proclamation.
By Councilor Armstrong; Second by Councilor Kelly
(All voted in the affirmative)

Mayor Calnon makes a proclamation recognizing the accomplishments of the Center for the Study of Canada and the Canadian Studies academic program at SUNY Plattsburgh on its fiftieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the origins of the Canadian Studies program at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh can be traced to a dedicated core of select faculty members interested in launching a Canada-focused program in 1966, today's Center for the Study of Canada is the leading Canadian Studies and Quebec Studies academic university initiative – public or private – in the United States. The Center and the Canadian Studies program focuses on building and maintaining public sector-private sector partnerships, promotes innovative educational and scientific research, and is committed to the advancement of student learning on Canada, and

WHEREAS, the center for the Study of Canada actively collaborates with a variety of public and private partners including the United States Department of Education, the United States Department of State, the Government of Canada, the Government of Quebec, Fulbright Canada, The Development Corporation, the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States, the American Council for Quebec Studies, and a wide range of colleges and universities in Canada and the United States, and

WHEREAS, notable examples of the success realized through partnerships includes being designated as only one of two university consortia recognized nationwide by the United States Department of Education as a National Resource Center on Canada; partnering with the United States Department of State to annually plan and deliver the Youth Ambassadors Program with Canada; partnering with Global Affairs Canada on the internationally acclaimed CONNECT program, which works to identify and mentor new American scholars – doctoral candidates and junior professors – committed to teaching and research on Canada in the United States; the establishment, in partnership with the Government of Quebec, of the Institute of Quebec Studies in 2005; and, hosting two successive five-year Distinguished Fulbright Research Chairs on Canada (2006-2010) and Quebec (2012-2016), and

WHEREAS, scholarship – i.e., the production and dissemination of meaningful, policy oriented work of value to both the public and private sector – is a distinguishing characteristic of today's Center. In the last five years alone, important articles, special editions of academic journals, and book volumes on Canada and Quebec have appeared with Oxford University Press (*Quebec Questions: Quebec Studies in the Twenty-First Century*, and *Canadian Foreign Policy in a Unipolar World*), the

American Review of Canadian Studies, Quebec Studies, the British Journal of Canadian Studies, International Journal, The Journal of Eastern Townships Studies, and Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, and

WHEREAS, the commitment to the advancement of undergraduate student learning on Canada at SUNY Plattsburgh is most fully reflected in the more than 30 faculty, librarian and staff associates who regularly offer courses, internships, independent studies, and mentoring for students. During the 2015-2016 academic year, for example, Canadian content undergraduate courses witnessed a *total enrollment of 2,102 students*. In 2014-2015, the minor and individualized study major in Canadian Studies was updated to incorporate and feature a much broader range of Canadian content courses from the School of Business & Economics. The Canadian Studies scholarship program at SUNY Plattsburgh is the largest and most well-funded such initiative at any college or university in the United States, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we, the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh do hereby recognize the accomplishments of the Center for the Study of Canada and the Canadian Studies academic program at SUNY Plattsburgh on its fiftieth anniversary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the city of Plattsburgh to be affixed.

Mayor Calnon announced public hearing to be scheduled for Friday September 30th at 4:00pm to hear public comment on the proposed demolition of the building formerly known as the “Highway Oil building” at 40 Bridge Street, and has since been abandoned.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Lonnie Fairchild made comment about placing agenda in a more timely fashion.
Kathy McCleary talked about Lake Champlain Initiative
Police Chief Desi Racicot thanked the Press Republican publicly about coverage of the heroine epidemic.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle
Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)
Absent: Council O’Connell
MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:32pm