

At 5:01pm: Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss beginning negotiation with Fire Department Union and Retirees litigation

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

ADJOURNED: 5:29 pm

Mayor Read stated no decisions or actions were taken during Executive Session.

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

February 2, 2017

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

(RC)

Present: Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Peter Ensel (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 January 26, 2017 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, 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 week ending February 1, 2017 in the amount of **\$ 567,087.69** 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 Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

(All in Favor/opposed)

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report from the Building Inspector’s office January 23- 27, 2017

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 Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, 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 week ending February 3, 2017 in the amount of \$ 733,144.99 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 Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

(All in Favor/opposed)

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from October 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015 in the total amount of \$2,677.02. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .26%.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, 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

proposal from B&L for “Akey Landfill Post Closure Monitoring” be approved for a total lump sum of \$33,000 and that the Mayor be authorized to execute this agreement.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: Yes

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Change Order no. 1 to Margaret Street Pump Station Reconstruction decreasing the final contract cost by \$21,331.31. This project is funded by Capital Project H8130.59

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, 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 the façade Rehabilitation Program Loan application submitted by The North Country Cooperative Corporation for the total amount of \$15,000. The façade loan will be used for the removal and replacement of the main floor windows of the NCFC building located at 25 Bridge St, Plattsburgh.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. WHEREAS, the City of Plattsburgh applied to the RESTORE NY grant program for funding for the demolition of the former Highway Oil Building located at 40 Bridge St, Plattsburgh, NY;

Motion to waive the reading and move the resolution:

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

WHEREAS, the State has awarded the City of Plattsburgh (“Grantee”) a RESTORE NY grant for the above referenced project in the amount of \$54,000 (the “Grant”).

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Plattsburgh Common Council duly convened does hereby:

RESOLVE, that the City of Plattsburgh hereby approves the above-subject project, and it is here by further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests on behalf of the City of Plattsburgh or approval of the Project and the Municipality’s first instance funding of project costs.

Discussion: None

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, 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 Mayor is authorized to sign contract with Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc for Pumper Fire Truck for a price of \$594,339. Funding is available through Capital Project 2017 Public Service Equipment.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

(RC) Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Councilor Becky Kasper for the Common Council to approve a contract with Animal Rescue and Welfare Services (ARWS) for feral cat control/rescue/adoption efforts in the City of Plattsburgh, in the amount of \$1,500. Funds for this contract shall be drawn from the Animal Control 4430 line, contract with Elmore ASPCA/Eagle’s Nest Veterinary Clinic. ARWS will provide an account of expenditures at year’s end, as well as a report of the conditions of the feral cat population in the City.

Councilor Kasper spoke about this item. [further discussion by council ensued]

10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:

Councilor Kelly received a call from a Monty Street resident about abandoned property at 20 Monty Street owned by a bank. Tree needs to be trimmed. [discussion ensued about this concern by council and City Engineer]

Councilor Ensel was contacted by a resident concerned about traffic light corner of Beekman/Broad Street. [discussion ensued about this concern by council and City Engineer, Manager MLD]. Councilor Kasper and Ensel will talk about further.

Councilor Kelly will hold Budget Session after regular meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2017.

Mayor Read thanked the public, we're in the process for finding members for our Planning, Zoning and Library Boards, some of you volunteered to be members of various boards. It's an ongoing thing if anyone is interested please feel free. Strategic Planning committee started this week and they will be looking for additional members as they develop. Still meeting with Retirees Task force. Reminder to come to final public meeting for DRI (Downtown Revitalization Initiative) on February 11th in City Hall. Will also have something to report on the NYSEG reclamation project progress of it on our river. Asked the committee that looked at snow removal and sidewalks last year to reconstitute and have some discussions. We've been lucky this year but could be hit with a big snow storm at any time.

Councilor Armstrong spoke about the snow removal committee and the need for better communication with the public and elevating the sense of citizen responsibility, better enforcement.

Councilor Dowdle asked when there is a complaint about a sidewalk. Is it called in to Building Inspector's office or Police Department?

Mayor Read briefly explained the procedure. [further discussion ensued with involved Department Heads and Council]

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:

Jesse Feiler spoke about Saranac River trail and gave updates from the Friends of Saranac River Trail committee.

Rebecca King 19 Monty Street also one of the owners of Eagles Nest Veterinary Hospital. Spoke of feral cats and she applauds people who are trying to fix the problem in the city. She spoke of her concerns and the pit falls of the Trap Release Neuter program for feral cat population. The jury is still out in the veterinary community about if the program works or not. The programs that do work are very closely regulated and contained and there are public health issues to consider for humans. Suggests the Council get more information about the pitfalls and how these programs work before they make a decision.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Ensel
(RC) Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Ensel, Kasper, Kretser
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:26 pm