

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

March 15, 2018

**5:30 P.M.**

**Started at 5:44 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Peter Ensel (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

**Absent:** None

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Thanked everyone for coming and indicated there was a good presentation by the Finance and Budget Committee and thanked all those who were able to comment on the Public Hearing that was held on one of the items on the Agenda today.

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**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on March 8, 2018 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, McFarlin, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending March 14, 2018 in the amount of \$ 535,977.54 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, McFarlin, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report from the Building Inspector's office for the week of March 5 – 9, 2018
- Minutes from the City Infrastructure Committee held on March 8, 2018
- Statement from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month February 2018 in the total amount of \$8,871.26

● **COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Kretser indicated he and Councilor Armstrong met with Taxi owners on their desire for rate increases working on recommendations, looking at Strategic Planning Software and working on Plattsburgh Farmers Market request.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Ensel gave summary of Infrastructure Committee minutes.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly indicated their committee meeting was held today gave summary of what they spoke about.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Dowdle no new updates, committee meeting next week.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor Armstrong indicated they have a need for 2 trustees for the board, gave some updates, commended Director Anne de la Chappelle for her good work on obtaining grants, etc.

**MLD - MLD Board President Councilor Ensel** nothing to report.

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

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

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**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending March 16, 2018 in the amount of **\$ 1,185,163.18** 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 Kelly

(All in Favor/opposed)

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

**Bonnie Gonyo**, Manager Plattsburgh Farmers Market appreciates everything Council is doing, last year they added 6 new vendors with unique items, were able to expand out to barriers and if Council decides to increase vendor area may have parking issues.

**Christian Balan** not city resident, works in city. Feels 18 months is too long for moratorium on commercial cryptocurrency mining operation, asked council to consider shorter time and doesn't think we should discourage companies from coming here and people from all over the world are watching this.

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**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**Motion to remove item 7A from the Table**

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

**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 2018 market season from May 12 - October 6, 2018. Signed Licenses agreement, fee and insurance proof is required.

Discussion:

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**B. ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW P-3 OF 2018**

**RESOLVED:** A local law adding §270-28-J under Chapter 270, Article V, Supplementary Regulations of the City Code of the City of Plattsburgh. A Local Law imposing a moratorium on commercial cryptocurrency mining operations in the City of Plattsburgh. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Mayor and filing with the New York Secretary of State. The entire text of which has been distributed to and read by the members of the Common Council, is hereby enacted without the reading thereof and a copy of said local law is made part of the minutes of this meeting.

**Motion to Waive the Reading and Move the Resolution:**

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

(All voted in the affirmative)

Discussion: Yes

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign an agreement with East Coast Watercross LLC and Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau to hold an event July 28 - 29, 2018.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

Discussion: None

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D.** The Council established Council/Department Liaison Committees during the Organizational Meeting held on January 4, 2018 which will be held each Thursday at 4:30pm in the Common Council Chambers prior to the Council Meetings. Subsequently, at the Council Meeting held on January 11, 2018 the Chair and members were assigned. Due to a vacancy on the Council and then appointment of new councilor it has become necessary to reassign the following:

**City Infrastructure Committee** – Chair: Councilor Ensel; Member: Councilor McFarlin

**MLD - MLD Board President:** Councilor McFarlin; Member: Councilor Ensel

**RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves amending 2018 Committee Chairs and second member as stated above.

**Motion to Waive the Reading and Move the Resolution:**

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

(All voted in the affirmative)

Discussion: None

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Hobie’s Restaurant located at 68 Margaret Street to use two parking spaces in front of their establishment on Thursday, March 22, 2018 for Dubb’s BBQ Food Truck parking. Certificate of Insurance, City Clerk vendor permit and vendor fee are required.

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None**

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**9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None**

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**10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:**

**Councilor Dowdle** asked if we are mandated to have a Board of Ethics and other questions about forming a Board of Ethics.

**Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller** indicates we are not mandated it is possible under our code and explained process.

**Mayor Read** indicated he had asked the Governance Committee to work on that.

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**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:**

**Doug Butdorf** asked about what the exact process for their vested interest is immediately, volunteered his services to participate in the process.

**Unidentified Speaker** spoke about Tesla, Crete roof, parking meters, wasted electricity with people leaving windows open.

**Mayor Read** asked large commercial cryptocurrency mining operation users if they would consider turning off operations for a period of time during large use months.

**Unidentified Speaker** indicated that option may be possible.

**Naomi** indicated she came to Plattsburgh a few years ago and asked what is being done to improve it.

**Peter Regnier** was appreciative of the explanation about how city power works and doesn't get connection between IBM and Bitcoin. Indicated his tenants complained because their electric bills increased.

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin  
**(Councilors Dowdle and Kretser excused themselves at 6:47pm)**

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, McFarlin  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:51 pm**