

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

*TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.*

## **COUNCIL CHAMBERS – OLEAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: ALDERMEN GONZALEZ, WITTE, ANDREANO, DOUGHERTY, CRAWFORD, AND SMITH. OTHERS: AL UTECHT, CITY CLERK; NICHOLAS DICERBO, JR., CITY ATTORNEY; FRED SARADIN, CITY AUDITOR; MARY GEORGE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR; BOB BELL, FIRE CHIEF; JEFF ROWLEY, POLICE CHIEF, AND TIFFANY TAYLOR, MANAGERIAL CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY.

Council President Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all Aldermen were present except Alderman George, who was excused.

1. PL #71-17: (Aiello) To amend Resolution #17-17 to authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the State and Municipalities Facilities Program Grant Agreement between the City of Olean and DASNY for funding the construction of a downtown farmers' market in the amount of \$600,000.00.

Ms. George stated that the Council had passed a Resolution in March to accept \$200,000 in funding from DASNY for the downtown farmers' market. They have increased our funding, so we need to pass a Resolution to reflect the higher amount.

Alderman Smith questioned if we have a diagram in place with plans for the market, or if we are still in the beginning of the process and obtaining funding. Ms. George replied stating that we are still at the beginning of the story, and we do not have a final plan in place. We are still looking for additional funding. Alderman Smith questioned what would happen if we decide not to move forward, and Ms. George replied that the project doesn't happen, and we don't take the DASNY funds.

Alderman Witte questioned, if the project is completed, who would manage and maintain the market. Ms. George replied that the OBDC has expressed interest in management of the market, and she has also been in discussion with the two local farmers' markets regarding the proposed project. The latest plan for the market is along Delaware Avenue off of North Union Street. Alderman Witte questioned who would be financially responsible if the structure is damaged, and Ms. George replied that the City will own the structure, so it will be the City's responsibility.

Alderman Dougherty questioned how much the project is estimated to cost, and Ms. George replied \$1.25 million. We have, at this time, \$1.02 million in funding. Alderman Witte questioned if there is a percentage match required from the City, and Ms. George replied that she is not aware of a public agency that would fund 100% of the project.

Alderman Crawford questioned the potential revenue stream for the project, and Ms. George replied that she really couldn't say what the potential revenue for the City would be. She stated that she can speak to the social and economic benefits of bringing the farmers' market to the downtown, which is why we are looking at the project.

Alderman Andreano questioned who decides the location, and Ms. George stated that several locations have been tossed around, and the Delaware Avenue location seems to be the best option at this time. She stated that there is potential for another location, which would require Council input and approval prior to the beginning of the construction phase of the project. At this time, we need to get paperwork into DASNY with a proposed location, but it can be changed as we see fit. She stated that the next PL on the agenda is a State Environmental Quality Review Act requirement, as the previous SEQR passed for the project was for a different potential location.

Alderman Gonzalez questioned if the idea is to have a permanent structure around the perimeter of Delaware Avenue, open year round where vendors could rent out space. Ms. George stated that this is correct, but that it will be open on Saturdays only. She stated that a private individual is completing a feasibility study, and when this is complete, concept plans will be available for the Council to view.

Alderman Gonzalez questioned if this will move the farmers' market from the mall parking lot, and Ms. George replied that Mayor Aiello has been in communication with both of the local farmers' markets, and that it seems promising that both may move to the new location.

Alderman Witte questioned if the County will be involved in the project, as most or all of the vendors that will utilize the market are from outside of the City. Ms. George stated that the County did provide \$200,000 for the project. Alderman Witte questioned if they would aid in staffing and upkeep of the structure, and Ms. George replied that this is something that can certainly be discussed. She stated that this is the beginning of the process, and there are a lot of unknowns and discussions still to be had at this point.

A motion to approve PL #71-17 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

2. PL #72-17: (Aiello) That the Common Council classifies the Downtown Olean Farmer's Market project an Unlisted Action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and determines that the Project has no significant impact on the environment.

Ms. George stated that a SEQR was previously completed, approved and signed, but that this was for the previous proposed location for the farmers' market. As the proposed location has changed, a new SEQR is required.

A motion to approve PL #72-17 was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

3. PL #73-17: (Aiello) To confirm the Mayoral appointment of members of the task force for empowering neighborhoods and encouraging proactive change as established by Resolution #31-17.

Alderman Andreano stated that she is thrilled that this is finally moving along. Some great people have come forward and volunteered to be a part of the task force, with a common goal of making Olean a better place.

A motion to approve PL #73-17 was made by Alderman Andreano, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

4. PL #74-14: (Aiello) To authorize the completion of an Eagle Scout Project for improvements on the Veterans Memorial on East Riverside Drive and South Union Streets.

Alderman Gonzalez stated that he had resent an email from Mayor Aiello with the design and plan for the project. He introduced Christopher Crino, who would like to complete these improvements as his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Crino stated that the plan is to enhance the Veterans Memorial located on East Riverside Drive. Right now, it is hard to take care of. He plans to use bricks that the City had previously dug up, and make a pentagon around the memorial without disturbing the benches or memorial. He may also add additional landscaping around the completed brick structure.

Alderman Smith asked if the brick that he is using from the City is historical brick, and Mr. Crino replied that it is. Alderman Gonzalez stated that it is great that we can repurpose something historical in this way.

Alderman Gonzalez continued in stating that Christopher is Mark Crino's son, and this is Mark Crino's fourth son to become an Eagle Scout. This is an incredible accomplishment.

A motion to approve PL #74-14 was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

## 5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.