

Journal of Proceedings

OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLEAN, N.Y.

October 10, 2017

**COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS
STATE OF NEW YORK**

A Regular Meeting of the Olean Common Council of the City of Olean was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 6:40 p.m.

PRESENT: *Aldermen Gonzalez, Witte, Andreano, Dougherty, Crawford, Smith, and George*

ABSENT: *None*

OFFICIALS: *Mayor William Aiello; Al Utecht, City Clerk; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Keri Kerper, Community Development Program Coordinator; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Bob Bell, Fire Chief, Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.*

At this time a prayer was given by Pastor Stephen A. Patrick from Mt. Zion Christian Assembly, followed by a salute to the flag.

**READING, CORRECTING & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE
PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING**

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2017 meeting was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & UNFINISHED COUNCIL BUSINESS

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Special Proclamation for Manufacturing Day, October 13, 2017

Special Proclamation for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

None

CITY OFFICIAL REPORTS

None

PROPOSED LEGISLATION AND REFERRALS

PL #85-17: (Aiello) To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Rural Revitalization Corporation for Professional Housing Consulting Services in connection with the Olean Homeownership Assistance Program. Referred to Committee of the Whole Tuesday, October 10, 2017 by Council President.

PL #86-17: (Aiello) To authorize National Grid to add four (4) City-owned “energy-only” streetlights to the City’s existing service classification No. 3 streetlight bill, Account No. 08938-79108, to utilize City-owned poles located at the Oak Hill Park entrance along North 4th Street. Referred to Committee of the Whole Tuesday, October 10, 2017 by Council President.

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PL #88-17: (Gonzalez) To amend the City of Olean Code of Ordinances Chapter 24, Section 24-134, to install "No Parking or Standing" signs on a portion of York Street. Referred to Committee of the Whole Tuesday, October 24, 2017 by Council President.

PUBLIC COMMENT/INPUT

Alderman Andreano thanked Mayor Aiello for recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month. She stated that each of us knows someone who had or has cancer, and cancer doesn't discriminate. She wants those who are fighting, as well as survivors, to know that we are thinking of them.

Rick Snyder of King Street invited the Mayor and Council to the 200th anniversary celebration of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the Founder and Prophet of the Baha'i Faith, on Friday, October 20th at 7:30 p.m. located at the JCC Cutco Theater. He stated that Baha'i around the world will be having a celebration at the same time.

Barbara Langenhan of 106 Woodview stated that she is here to represent her neighborhood in regards to the proposed subdivision requested by Mr. Biscaro. She stated that the subdivision has certain covenants that need to be followed, and the neighbors do not want to see the lots divided up. She wants to ensure that environmental studies have been completed, and she doesn't want to see the homes in the area devalued.

Alderman Gonzalez stated that the entire Council has received numerous emails on this topic, and he wants people to know that they are being heard, even if the Council has not had a chance yet to respond.

Steve McClain of 1 Inwood Drive stated that the covenants require homes to be owner occupied single family homes, 1700 square feet or larger, not 1200 square foot rentals on a cement slab. The proposed homes would be valued at less than the average value of homes currently in the neighborhood. He presented comparison photos of a home in the neighborhood and a home the Biscaro's built in a similar development in a different City. He stated that this is not the right neighborhood for this.

John Schumacher of 100 Inwood Drive stated that he had previously emailed the Aldermen regarding this issue. He stated that the resubdivision would change the entire complexion of the neighborhood. He signed a covenant to be able to build in the neighborhood, and he believes that everyone should follow the same covenant. He stated that there are needs for this type of rental, but not in this neighborhood. He also fears that it will not be open for seniors alone, but for other less than desirable tenants.

Tahir Chaudhry of 304 Woodview stated that he has the newest house in this subdivision, and he is the 2nd or 3rd highest taxpayer in the City of Olean. His neighborhood has beautiful homes, and the neighbors have worked hard to make it what it is. When he built, Kinley (the owner of the subdivision at the time) assured him that there would only be higher value homes. He doesn't see his taxes going down if these new homes are built, only his home value going down when he tries to sell. He stated that we need to attract more professionals to the area to build higher value homes.

Jera Dynda of 206 and 208 Inwood Drive stated that she lives in a very nice neighborhood, and she does not want to see the values of homes go down. If the plans go through, the building will be phased over several years, and a large chunk of her children's lives will involve living in a constant construction zone.

Gordon Baldwin of 414 Prospect Avenue stated that we don't need a development

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like this in the area. People can't afford \$1,200 rent. We have enough rentals in the City that we need to go after and work on.

Kevin Bartholomew of 737 Bishop Street stated that he recently saw an article in the paper about a proposed demolition of the City Garage, and he questions if any plans are in place to rebuild. He also does not believe that the farmers' market in Lincoln Park is a good idea, as he feels that it will take away the character of the park. Finally, he understands the concerns of residents near the proposed subdivision, but he does feel that there are people that can afford the rent and who can benefit from the included shoveling, moving, and raking.

George Lapennis of 653 Garden Avenue stated that he has tried to figure out how the Council operates, but he cannot understand when the meetings are, or the language used in agendas and minutes. He also stated that he feels that the City is not enforcing "No Parking" on a portion of East State Street, and a law regarding record keeping related to the purchase of ammunition.

FINANCE / BILLS

None

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #83-17

PL #85-17

By Alderman Witte, Seconded by Alderman Dougherty

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RURAL REVITALIZATION CORPORATION FOR PROFESSIONAL HOUSING CONSULTING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE OLEAN HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Olean's Homeownership Assistance Program (OHAP), as funded, in part, through a grant from the New York State Homes and Community Renewal HOME Local Program, requires individuals and households to partake in a Housing Counseling Program prior to the purchase of a home with the aid of OHAP funding; and

WHEREAS, a proposal for program administration, technical services, and marketing was received from the Rural Revitalization Corporation; and

WHEREAS, said proposal was reviewed by appropriate City officials, who recommend the approval of said agreement;

RESOLVED, that the Common Council authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Rural Revitalization Corporation for Professional Housing Counseling Services related to marketing, technical services, and program administration in connection with the Olean Homeownership Assistance Program.

RESOLVED, that this Resolution is effective immediately.

ROLL CALL, AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #84-17

PL #86-17

By Alderman Dougherty, Seconded by Alderman Crawford

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TO AUTHORIZE THE ADDITION OF FOUR (4) ENERGY-ONLY STREETLIGHTS AT THE OAK HILL PARK ENTRANCE ON NORTH 4TH STREET

RESOLVED, that the Common Council, on behalf of the City of Olean, authorizes National Grid to add four (4) City-owned “energy-only” streetlights to the City’s existing Service Classification No. 3 streetlight bill, Account No. 08938-79108. The City-owned “energy-only” streetlights utilizing City-owned poles are located at the Oak Hill Park entrance on North 4th Street.

RESOLVED, that this Resolution is effective immediately.

ROLL CALL, AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment, Alderman Smith stated that City Council meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. He also stated that he disagrees that agendas and minutes are written in a way that can’t be understood; he feels that they are written in pretty plain English. He stated that the Council is very hard working and thoughtful.

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Alexander Utecht, City Clerk

Mayor William J. Aiello

Paul Gonzalez, Council President

I hereby approve the foregoing minutes

Dated: ____/____/____

***STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS
CITY OF OLEAN***

I, Alexander Utecht, City Clerk of the City of Olean, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes of the Common Council of the City of Olean is the true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Alexander Utecht, City Clerk