

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

*TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.*

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

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: ALDERMEN CRAWFORD, WITTE, ANDREANO, GONZALEZ, DOUGHERTY, SMITH, AND GEORGE. OTHERS: MAYOR WILLIAM AIELLO; LENS MARTIAL, CITY CLERK; NICHOLAS DICERBO, JR., CITY ATTORNEY; FRED SARADIN, CITY AUDITOR; BOB RING, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS; KERI KERPER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR; BOB BELL, FIRE CHIEF; JEFF ROWLEY, POLICE CHIEF, AND TIFFANY TAYLOR, MANAGERIAL CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY.

Alderman Crawford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all Aldermen were present.

1. PL #33-18: (Smith) To authorize the transfer of \$1,400 from General Fund Contingency to Capital Fund #185 for pruning or removal of a tree located at 130 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

Alderman Crawford explained that an alternative plan has been arranged for this situation.

A motion to postpone PL #33-18 indefinitely was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

2. PL #34-18: (Smith) To declare that no trees shall be planted in the public right of way or on City owned property without the prior consent of the Common Council.

Alderman Crawford stated that he feels this discussion will be better had when the City Forester is able make a presentation to the Council.

A motion to refer PL #34-18 to City Operations Committee was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. PL #39-18: (Aiello) To establish the Standard Work Days pursuant to New York State and Local Retirement System Regulation 315.4.

Mayor Aiello stated that the City periodically has to report to New York State Retirement hours that certain individuals are credited with. This is done almost every year and can be considered housekeeping.

A motion to approve PL #39-18 was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

4. PL #40-18: (Aiello) Budget 2018-2019.

Mayor Aiello stated that the budget process is complete, and it is on the Regular Meeting's agenda for adoption tonight.

Mayor Aiello explained that he has some good news. He has had several conversations today, and an anonymous individual has offered a \$30,000 donation to the City for the City to keep the City Historian and Bartlett House for another year. He encourages the Council to accept the donation.

Alderman Crawford stated that the Mayor and Department Heads had provided their requests for funding for the 2018-2019 budget, and then in turn took into consideration the Council member's requests. The budget stays within the 2% tax cap. He thanks everyone for their hard work through this endeavor.

Alderman Crawford explained that along with Mayor Aiello's good news, he would like to clear some misconceptions. The original budget had almost \$40,000 in line items for the City Historian and Bartlett House, while only \$15,000 was budgeted for demolition of unsafe buildings. Blight houses affect almost every neighborhood, and we can't attract new residents with a growing blight problem. The Council looked to find a way to increase demolition funds, while keeping the Bartlett House running.

He continued that this is a balanced budget, and it is very tight. The donation will allow for the City to attempt a transition moving forward. Because of budget restrictions, the house is only open two half days a week. He would like to allow for the opportunity for the house to be better utilized, and a different entity may allow that to happen.

Alderman Crawford stated that this was not about personalities, as the Council realizes how beneficial Mr. Deckman is to the City and the program. He hopes to show that the City and Council are continuing to root for the Bartlett House, while looking for a long term solution.

A motion to approve PL #40-18 was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

## 5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.