

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tuesday, June 19, 2018 – 5:35 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Gonzalez, Vice Chairman Andreano, Alderman Witte, Alderman Crawford (via Skype), and Alderman Smith. Others: Alderman Dougherty; Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Bell, Director of Public Works; Sue Cooper, City Forester; Bob Bell, Fire Chief; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings (Tuesday, May 15, 2018)

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2018 meeting was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

None

4. New Referrals for Consideration

- a. PL #60-18: (Aiello) To authorize the City Auditor to bond for the Washington Street Project.

Mr. Ring stated that a bond resolution is required in order to apply for the grant for Washington Street. He stated that he would like to apply for the Community Development Block Grant in a maximum amount of \$750,000, and he is currently working with a consultant engineer on the application. He explained that if the grant is not awarded to the City, then the City would not take the funding from the bond.

Mr. Ring continued that Washington Street is a priority water line project. The City had originally planned to contribute \$200,000 from the water fund each year for the next several years to fund the project, but could substantially lower the cost to the City, as well as speed up the project, if the grant is awarded. The grant would also essentially allow the street to be redone as a complete street project.

Mr. Ring explained that the grant application is due at the end of July, and the City would find out in December whether or not we are awarded the grant. We are using the \$200,000

contribution from the water fund to purchase materials for the project, so the project will continue either way.

Alderman Crawford asked if the scope of the project will be scaled back if the City is not awarded the funding, and Mr. Ring confirmed that it would be.

Alderman Witte stated that this would be great for the neighborhood. Alderman Crawford stated that the neighborhood in the area is slowly eroding, and he is not opposed to trying to tap into State funding to try and turn the neighborhood around. Alderman Witte stated that she hears all the time how horrible that portion of the street is.

Alderman Crawford asked how soon the project could begin if the funding is awarded. Mr. Ring replied that this type of grant requires a lot of legwork to be done up front, so the project could begin with the 2019 construction season if the City receives the grant.

Mayor Aiello stated that this project could fit in well with the potential Oak Hill Park Project that is waiting for a decision for DRI funding.

A motion to approve PL #60-18 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to City Attorney for Resolution.

- b. PL #61-18: (Aiello) To authorize the Mayor to submit a grant application to the New York State Office of Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant Program for the Washington Street Project.

A motion to approve PL #61-18 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to City Attorney for Resolution.

- c. Discussion – 102 Whitney Avenue

Mayor Aiello stated that he is meeting tomorrow with Larry Austin, the owner of a property on North Union Street. He had previously sold the property on a land contract, and has since taken the building back. They are meeting to discuss the future of the building. The City was contacted by a realtor who has a developer interested in purchasing the Whitney Avenue property in conjunction with Mr. Austin's building, with the intent of using the property to solve parking issues at the building. He will come back to the Council at a later time with more information after his discussion with Mr. Austin.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

A motion to approve committee reports was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.