

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Crawford, Vice Chairman Gonzalez, Alderman Witte, Alderman Barnard and Alderman Robinson. Others: Alderman Panus; Alderman Anastasia; Mayor William Aiello; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Work, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Crawford called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, June 1, 2021)

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 committee meeting was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

### 3. Unfinished Business

None

### 4. New Referrals for Consideration

#### a. Discussion Items

- i. Capital Fund # 203 – Franchot Park Entrance Project & Capital Fund # 204 – Inclusive Playground Equipment

Alderman Crawford explained that he wanted to get a discussion going, and that at the end of the last fiscal year \$50,000 was set aside each for Franchot Park and inclusive playground equipment. He explained that he thought maybe we could put some plans in place this year for implementation next year.

Mayor Aiello explained that he thinks that Mr. Ring already has some ideas for the Franchot Park Project. He explained that they will be changed because it was decided that we do not want the additional parking lot anymore, but we can see what Mr. Ring came up with and move forward. Alderman Gonzalez explained that the initial idea for the lot, in hindsight, was not what the neighborhood wanted or the street needs. He explained that we would like to see a more green type walkable entrance that is pedestrian and bike friendly. He explained that he would also like to see, moving forward, putting signage up in all of the parks like the Lincoln

Park signage to make them more uniform. Alderman Crawford explained that when he looked at signs for wayfinding, the idea is to keep them consistent so it doesn't look piecemealed together.

Alderman Crawford explained that he is curious to know if Franchot Park will have an in-house contribution. Mr. Ring explained that he thinks that it is a great philosophy to keep the work in house. He explained that it saves a lot of funding by having an engineering team design things. He explained that he and Ms. Kerper work closely together with consultants and make concepts for grant applications. He explained that we could use City forces to a certain extent. He explained that the boat launch is another project that has been delayed for some time. Next year is going to be busy but he thinks that it is somewhat of an open slate and smaller projects like these will be easy to fit in.

Mr. Ring explained that he has been working on West State Street and he will be asking to apply for a grant. The next thing in the plan to do in his free time is work on Forness Park and a master plan to apply for grant funding. He explained that this could end up being a 24-30 month process. He explained that smaller projects, like the installation of playground equipment, could be done in house, but we need to determine what to buy and where to go.

Mr. Ring explained that sometimes with playground companies, we are able to get them in to do some free consulting work and have them ensure that equipment is installed correctly.

Alderman Crawford explained that he is suggesting if we do not plan for the projects this year that we plan to complete them next season. Mr. Ring explained that he believes that it is feasible to complete these projects next year. HE explained that between now and then we should make a plan and order equipment in order to give his department time to look through manuals.

Alderman Witte explained that we should speak with Intandem regarding inclusive equipment, and Mayor Aiello explained that we have already started that conversation. He explained that Howard Cornwall from Directions in Independent Living is also assisting. There has been a committee put together, but they have not met yet.

## ii. Updates

Mayor Aiello explained that the City has been receiving inquiries about several properties that the City took possession of. He explained that he will put together a list for the Council to review. He explained that we may need to do an RFP for the properties. He explained that he has received several inquiries on the same properties. Alderman Crawford asked if these are the properties that the City received from the County. Mayor Aiello explained that we still have

several properties that the City took possession of from the County, and we need to take a hard look at them to determine what we want to do with the properties.

Mayor Aiello explained that he went to NYCOM last week and there was information presented on the stimulus money. He explained that the amount is based on the number of residents so the State is still figuring things out. He explained that we were informed that we need to put in for projects, and have prior approval to get reimbursed. He explained that according to NYCOM, though, we should get half of the \$1.47 million amount from the State. He explained that this was already delivered to the State and they were given 30 days to send it to the City, but they were given a 30 day extension to send it to municipalities.

Mayor Aiello explained that the State Treasury Department is trying to get all of the information together on what the money can be used for, but the Comptrollers' Office has all of the information already so they are hoping to work together to solve any problems that they are running into. He explained that we are trying to get more information on possibly using the stimulus money to update the City's website. He explained that ventilation improvements in congregate settings is also listed as appropriate use of the funds so ventilation may be able to be improved in the Municipal Building and Senior Center. He explained that as soon as NYCOM has the final information they will have a webinar that he will get out to everyone.

#### 5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

#### 6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.