

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
March 15, 2021  
7:00 p.m.**

**Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding**

**Present:** Council Member Sarah V. Compo  
Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson  
Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero  
Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith

**Also Present:** Kenneth A. Mix, City Manager  
Robert J. Slye, City Attorney

**City staff present:** James Mills, Michael Lumbis

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Approving Employment Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Ann Marie Saunders, City Clerk
- Resolution No. 2 - Reappointment to the Transportation Commission – Kyle Meehan
- Resolution No. 3 - Reappointment to the Transportation Commission – Dawn Mills
- Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into and Execute the Contract with the Housing Trust Fund Corporation for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Public Art Project
- Resolution No. 5 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 5,000 Square-Foot Restaurant Building and a 1,233 Square-Foot Order Point Canopy at 1290 Arsenal Street, Parcel Number 8-53-108.100
- Resolution No. 6 - Approving the Contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Streetscape Design Project
- Resolution No. 7 - Approving Bureau of Code Enforcement Positions and Re-adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget
- Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Bid for CDBG Tilden Street-Starbuck Avenue Sidewalk Repair Project
- Resolution No. 9 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Slack Chemical
- Resolution No. 10 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Amrex Chemical
- Resolution No. 11 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Chemical Distributors
- Resolution No. 12 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Univar Solutions USA
- Resolution No. 13 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Kemira Water Solutions
- Resolution No. 14 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Thatcher Company
- Resolution No. 15 - Rejecting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Resolution No. 16 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Kemira Water Solutions
- Resolution No. 17 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Slack Chemical

- Resolution No. 18 - Authorizing Sale of 328 Keyes Avenue To Paul Springer
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and 2021 Annual Action Plan
- Adjourn Meeting to March 29, 2021

**Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk**

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and Mayor Smith asked that it be in remembrance of the following individuals: Mary Elizabeth Easton Flynn, longtime resident of the northside, former County Board of Supervisor and great aunt to Council Member Henry-Wilkinson and Council Member Compo; and Watertown Firefighter Peyton Morse, who passed away after suffering from a medical emergency during a training exercise at the New York State Fire Academy.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 1, 2021 and work session of March 8, 2021, was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

No communications.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

**Jonathan Phillips**, 735 Mill Street, commended Mayor Smith for his decision, at last week's work session, to track where the people who use the pool live in order to determine which pool should stay open. He also spoke of the traffic on lower Arsenal Street and the delays that it causes the bus system and safety issues of the crosswalks. He urged Council to return the traffic pattern back to the way it was prior to the road diet.

**Bart Bonner**, Watertown Center, spoke in opposition to the formation of a Business Improvement District (BID), stating the proposed area is too large and some properties on the outer edge of it will not fully benefit. He indicated that he has surveyed many properties within the proposed district and listed many major property owners, as well as the amount they would owe, that were against the proposal. He also said he believes most of the money raised from the BID will go to administrative salaries and he encouraged Council to consider not implementing it.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution No. 1 - Approving Employment Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Ann Marie Saunders, City Clerk**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the Charter of the City of Watertown details the Power and Duties of the Watertown City Council, and

WHEREAS in accordance with §20, Paragraph 7, the Council has a duty to enter into a contract with an appointed City Clerk for a period of time, which may, by reason of its duration, bind a future Council to its terms. However, in no event shall any Council enter into any one contract with an appointed City Clerk for a period exceeding two years,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Employment Agreement between the City of Watertown and Ann Marie Saunders, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Employment Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Members offered words of appreciation for the work done by the City Clerk.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 2 - Reappointment to the Transportation Commission – Kyle Meehan**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

RESOLVED that the following individual is reappointed to the Transportation Commission for a three-year term, such term expiring on April 1, 2024:

Kyle Meehan  
1020 Sherman Street  
Watertown, NY 13601

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 3 - Reappointment to the Transportation Commission – Dawn Mills**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

RESOLVED that the following individual is reappointed to the Transportation Commission for a three-year term, such term expiring on April 1, 2024:

Dawn Mills  
P.O. Box 179  
Brownville, NY 13615

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into and Execute the Contract with the Housing Trust Fund Corporation for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Public Art Project**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City of Watertown was awarded \$155,000 in grant funding from the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation for a Downtown Public Art Project as part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative award, and

WHEREAS the funding will be used to partner with a local arts organization or artist(s) to conceptualize and develop a cohesive group of public art installations which will highlight the beauty of Downtown Watertown, and

WHEREAS the art installation will be on display within the DRI target area to enhance the aesthetic quality and attract visitors to the area, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown must enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Agreement with the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation for the Downtown Public Art Project, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement and to act on behalf of the City Council in all further matters related to the financial assistance for this project.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 5 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 5,000 Square-Foot Restaurant Building and a 1,233 Square-Foot Order Point Canopy at 1290 Arsenal Street, Parcel Number 8-53-108.100**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS Clint Mattson of Chick-fil-A, Inc. has submitted an application for Site Plan Approval for the construction of a 5,000 square-foot (SF) restaurant building and a 1,233.6 SF order-point canopy at 1290 Arsenal Street, Parcel Number 8-53-108.100, and

WHEREAS the Jefferson County Planning Board reviewed the application at its January 26, 2021 meeting, pursuant to Section 239-m of New York State General Municipal Law, and adopted a motion that the project does not have any significant County-wide or intermunicipal issues and is of local concern only, and

WHEREAS the Planning Board of the City of Watertown reviewed the site plan at its meetings held on February 2, 2021 and March 2, 2021 and voted to recommend that the City Council of the City of Watertown approve the site plan with the following conditions:

1. The applicant shall install mountable curbing at the north access gap to Starbucks' dedicated drive aisle, as depicted on the updated versions of Sheets C-2.0 and VP-1.0, as submitted to the City Planning and Community Development Department on March 1, 2021.
2. The applicant shall widen the access gap at the south end of Starbucks' dedicated drive aisle and implement one-way southbound traffic on the shared drive aisle as

depicted on the updated versions of Sheets C-2.0 and VP-1.0, as submitted to the City Planning and Community Development Department on March 1, 2021.

3. The applicant must commission an asbestos survey prior to issuance of a Demolition Permit and perform subsequent abatement prior to demolition if the survey reveals the presence of asbestos.
4. The applicant must obtain the following permits, minimally, prior to applicable demolition and construction: Demolition Permit, Building Permit, Sign Permit, Sanitary Sewer Connection Permit, and a Water Supply Permit.

And,

WHEREAS the Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Watertown reviewed an Area Variance request at its February 17, 2021 meeting to reduce the setback requirement from 50 feet to 31.8 feet on the western side of the parcel and voted to grant the Area Variance, and

WHEREAS the City Council must evaluate all proposed actions submitted for its consideration in light of the State Environmental Review Act (SEQRA), and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and

WHEREAS approving the Site Plan for the proposed restaurant building and order-point canopy would constitute such an “Action,” and

WHEREAS the Area Variance granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals, is closely related enough to the Site Plan to be part of the “Whole Action,” and the City Council, as Lead Agency, must consider all environmental actions related to the Whole Action to avoid Segmenting the SEQRA Review, and

WHEREAS the City Council has reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form, responding to each of the questions contained in Part 2, and has determined that the project, as submitted, is an Unlisted Action and will not have a significant impact on the environment, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown declares that the proposed construction and site plan constitute an Unlisted Action for the purposes of SEQRA and hereby determines that the project, as proposed, will not have a significant impact on the environment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is an express condition of this Site Plan Approval that the applicant provide the City Engineer with a copy of any change in stamped plans forming the basis for this approval at the same time such plans are provided to the contractor. If plans are not provided as required by this condition of site plan approval, the City Code Enforcement Officer shall direct that work on the project site shall immediately cease until such time as the City Engineer is provided with the revised stamped plans. Additionally, any change in the approved plan, which, in the opinion of the City Engineer, would require Amended Site Plan Approval, will result in immediate cessation of the affected portion of the project work until such time as the amended site plan is approved. The City Code Enforcement Officer is directed to periodically review on-site plans to determine whether the City Engineer has been provided with plans as required by this approval, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that Site Plan Approval is hereby granted to Clint Mattson of Chick-fil-A, Inc. for the construction of a 5,000 square-foot (SF) restaurant building and a 1,233.6 SF order-point canopy at 1290 Arsenal Street, Parcel Number 8-53-108.100, as depicted on the site plan submitted to the City Planning and Community Development Department on February 22, 2021, contingent upon the applicant meeting the conditions listed above.  
**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council considered Part 2 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

Council Member Ruggiero disclosed that she is a member of the County Planning Board, but she abstained from voting on this went it was in front of that Board because she knew it would be coming before Council.

Mayor Smith questioned the requirement to obtain an asbestos survey prior to issuance of a demolition permit because this is a fairly new building and should not have asbestos in it.

Planning and Community Development Director Michael Lumbis advised that NYS Building Code requires that an asbestos survey must be done on all properties prior to any demolition. He also indicated that some current building materials still contain asbestos.

Robert Osterhoudt, P.E. of Bohler Engineering, informed Council that the developers are fine with getting an asbestos survey and confirmed that it is requirement under the NYS code.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 6 - Approving the Contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Streetscape Design Project**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City of Watertown received \$1,500,000 in grant funding for a Downtown Streetscape Project and \$100,000 for enhancements to the Governor Roswell P. Flower Monument as part of the \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) award, and

WHEREAS the project will include streetscape enhancements along Court Street, the 200 Block of Franklin Street, the 200 Block of Coffeen Street and around the Governor Roswell P. Flower Monument to make the public realm more inviting to pedestrians and strengthen the downtown business environment, and

WHEREAS to begin the design phase of the project, the City's Purchasing and Planning Departments issued a Request for Proposals for the design work on November 13, 2020 and received fourteen (14) proposals on December 18, 2020, and

WHEREAS a proposal review committee consisting of staff from the City's Planning, Engineering and Purchasing Departments reviewed each of the firm's proposals for quality and

completeness and evaluated them based on their understanding of the project, schedule, cost effectiveness, qualifications of the firm and their experience in completing similar projects, and

WHEREAS four of the firms received invitations to give a presentation on their proposal, and the review committee determined that Barton & Loguidice of Watertown, was the most qualified, has the proven ability and competitive pricing to complete the design work, and

WHEREAS a contract has been developed for the project between the City and Barton & Loguidice for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby approves the contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for the Downtown Streetscape Design Project, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, for an amount not to exceed \$205,500, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

**Seconded by Council Member Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson commented that it was nice to see the DRI projects coming together.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 7 - Approving Bureau of Code Enforcement Positions and Re-adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the original Fiscal Year 2020-21 City of Watertown Budget for the Bureau of Code Enforcement included funding for the positions of Code Enforcement Supervisor, Senior Code Enforcement Officer and Building Safety Inspector, and

WHEREAS the original budget authorized the elimination of the Building Safety Inspector and subsequent creation of a Code Enforcement Officer position upon the retirement of the Building Safety Inspector, and

WHEREAS the Building Safety Inspector retired in January and the Supervisor of Code Enforcement retired in February, and

WHEREAS on September 8, 2020 City Council authorized hiring two additional Code Enforcement Officers which, at that time, would have brought the total Bureau of Code Enforcement to two positions over the original budget of three full-time enforcement staff to allow for sufficient time for training and education for the two new Code Enforcement Officers before the pending retirements occurred, and

WHEREAS the City was successful in only filling one of the two Code Enforcement Officer positions which is creating a back-log of work, and

WHEREAS it is requested of City Council to authorize the use of a temporary employee to assist in the completing the necessary work of the department, and

WHEREAS the Senior Code Enforcement Officer has been promoted to fill the retired Code Enforcement Supervisor position, and

WHEREAS it is recommended that City Council eliminate the Senior Code Enforcement position and replace it with a Code Enforcement Officer, and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget to eliminate the Senior Code Enforcement Officer and add a second Code Enforcement Officer position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget to transfer funding from the Code Enforcement wages line item to the Code Enforcement temporary line item to allow for the hiring of a temporary employee to assist the department, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the following adjustments be included in the re-adopted General Fund Budget:

|                |                              |                  |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>GENERAL</u> |                              |                  |
| <u>FUND</u>    |                              |                  |
| A.3620.0130    | Code Enforcement - Wages     | (\$ 10,000)      |
| A.3620.0140    | Code Enforcement – Temporary | <u>\$ 10,000</u> |
|                | Total                        | <u>\$ _____</u>  |

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith explained the readoption of the budget was due to recent staffing changes, but the result is net zero.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Bid for CDBG Tilden Street-Starbuck Avenue Sidewalk Repair Project**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for CDBG Tilden St-Starbuck Ave Sidewalk Repair Project, as per City specifications, and

WHEREAS bid invitations were also issued to (49) contractors with five (5) sealed bids submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Friday, March 5, 2021, at 11:00 a.m., the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department reviewed the bids received with City Engineering, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid submitted by Concrete Slipform, Inc. in the amount of \$148,420, and

WHEREAS the City is financing this project using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement funding, and

WHEREAS to avoid committing a choice-limiting action prior to the completion of an environmental review for a CDBG-funded project, the City cannot enter into a binding agreement with a contractor until after receiving a Release of Funds for the project from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid of Concrete Slipform Inc. in the amount of \$148,420 for CDBG Tilden St-Starbuck Ave Sidewalk Repair Project as the lowest qualified bidder meeting our specifications, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon receipt of a Release of Funds from HUD and not before receiving said Release of Funds, the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign all contracts associated with implementing the award to Concrete Slipform Inc.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith noted the bid came in \$100,000 under budget and wondered if the extra funds could be put towards historic lighting or more sidewalks.

Mr. Lumbis explained the original plan was to do more blocks of Tilden Street, but the engineering estimates came in higher than expected so they downsized the district. He said that since the bid came in under budget, staff has considered rolling the extra funds into the Grant Street Sidewalk project and adding the last block of Tilden Street into that project since Tilden Street intersects with Grant Street.

Mayor Smith reiterated that it would be nice to see historic lighting in that area as well.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 9 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Slack Chemical**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City's Water Treatment Plant, for the City's 2021-2022 fiscal year's requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid from Slack Chemical as detailed below:

| Chemical        | Vendor Name    | 2021-2022  |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|
|                 |                | Unit Price |
| Liquid Chlorine | Slack Chemical | \$1,479.26 |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid submitted by Slack Chemical as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Liquid Chlorine for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 10 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Amrex Chemical**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid from Amrex Chemical as detailed below:

| Chemical                  | UOM | Vendor Name    | 2021-2022  |
|---------------------------|-----|----------------|------------|
|                           |     |                | Unit Price |
| Copper Sulfate            | Ton | Amrex Chemical | \$4,400.00 |
| Aluminum Sulfate          | Ton | Amrex Chemical | \$254.00   |
| Powdered Activated Carbon | Ton | Amrex Chemical | \$1,920.00 |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid submitted by Amrex Chemical as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Copper Sulfate, Aluminum Sulfate, and Powdered Activated Carbon for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 11 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Chemical Distributors**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bids from Chemical Distributors as detailed below:

| Chemical        | UOM | Vendor Name           | 2021-2022  |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------------|------------|
|                 |     |                       | Unit Price |
| Sodium Silicate | Ton | Chemical Distributors | \$348.00   |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bids submitted by Chemical Distributors as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Sodium Silicate for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 12 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Univar Solutions USA**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid from Univar Solutions USA as detailed below:

| Chemical |  | 2021-2022 |
|----------|--|-----------|
|          |  |           |

|                     | Vendor Name          | Unit Price |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Hydrofluosilic Acid | Univar Solutions USA | \$649.78   |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid submitted by Univar Solutions USA as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Hydrofluosilic Acid for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Secoded by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 13 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Kemira Water Solutions**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid from Kemira Water Solutions as detailed below:

| Chemical              | UOM | Vendor Name            | 2021-2022  |
|-----------------------|-----|------------------------|------------|
|                       |     |                        | Unit Price |
| Polyaluminum Chloride | Ton | Kemira Water Solutions | \$369.00   |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid submitted by Kemira Water Solutions as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Polyaluminum Chloride for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Secoded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 14 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Water Treatment Plant, Thatcher Company**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to twenty-six (26) prospective bidders with a total of twenty (20) bids received by ten (10) bidders, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bids received with Chief Plant Operator Aaron Harvill of the Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bids from Thatcher Company as detailed below:

| Chemical | UOM | Vendor Name      | 2021-2022  |
|----------|-----|------------------|------------|
|          |     |                  | Unit Price |
| Soda Ash | Ton | Thatcher Company | \$379.517  |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bids submitted by Thatcher Company as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Soda Ash for use at the City’s Water Treatment Plant.

**Secinded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 15 - Rejecting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of process and disinfection chemicals for use at the City’s Waste Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were issued to five (5) prospective bidders with a total of one (1) bid received, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:15 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bid received was publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing reviewed the bid received with the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council reject the bid received,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown reject the bid received for Process Chemicals – Dry Polymer - WWTP, per City specifications, in order for the bid to be re-bid at a later date.

**Secinded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 16 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Kemira Water Solutions**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of process and disinfection chemicals for use at the City’s Waste Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were also issued to five (5) prospective bidders with a total of two (2) bids received, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Dale Morrow reviewed the bids received with the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bids from Kemira Water Solutions as detailed below:

| Description                 | Company                | 2021-2022       |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
|                             |                        | Unit Price      |
| Ferric Chloride 305 Dry Ton | Kemira Water Solutions | <b>\$780.00</b> |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bids submitted by Kemira Water Solutions as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Ferric Chloride 305 Dry Ton for use at the City’s Waste Water Treatment Plant.

**Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 17 - Accepting Bid for Chemicals at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Slack Chemical**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for the purchase of chemicals for use at the City’s Waste Water Treatment Plant, for the City’s 2021-2022 fiscal year’s requirements, and

WHEREAS invitations to bid were also issued to five (5) prospective bidders with a total of five (5) bids received, and

WHEREAS on March 4, 2021, at 11:45 a.m. in the City Purchasing Department, the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Dale Morrow reviewed the bids received with the Waste Water Treatment Plant, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bids from Slack Chemical Company, Inc., as detailed below:

| Description | Company | 2021-2022  |
|-------------|---------|------------|
|             |         | Unit Price |

|                                     |                          |                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Sodium Hypochlorite - Gallons       | Slack Chemical Co., Inc. | <b>\$0.9973</b> |
| Sodium Bisulfite Solution - Gallons | Slack Chemical Co., Inc. | <b>\$1.598</b>  |
|                                     |                          |                 |

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bids submitted by Slack Chemical Company, Inc., as detailed above, being the lowest qualifying bidder meeting City specifications, for the purchase of Sodium Hypochlorite and Sodium Bisulfite Solution for use at the City's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

**Secoded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 18 - Authorizing Sale of 328 Keyes Avenue To Paul Springer**

**Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson**

WHEREAS there has heretofore been bid in by the City of Watertown at a tax sale a certain lot of land known as 328 Keyes Avenue, approximately 66' x 133' in size, and also known and designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 11-07-220.000, and

WHEREAS title to said land has since been retained by the City of Watertown on July 14, 2020 as acquired at said tax sale, which title was retained by reason of the failure of anyone to redeem the same, and

WHEREAS said real property has never been assigned by the Council for a public use, and

WHEREAS the former owner of the property, Paul Springer, filed for protection under Chapter 13 of the United States Bankruptcy Law on September 29, 2020, and

WHEREAS the former property owner's attorney has filed an adversary proceeding in bankruptcy court to void the preferential transfer of the debtor's residence, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to resolve the Adversary Proceeding with the former property owner, Paul Springer, pursuant to a Stipulation and Order Settling the Adversary Proceeding to be filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of New York, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 23, Subdivision (b) of the General City Law, Section 247 of the Charter of the City of Watertown as amended by Local Law No. 1, 1985, adopted December 3, 1984, effective January 17, 1985, and the ordinance, Municipal Code, Chapter 16 adopted by the Council on June 6, 1977, that the City transfer ownership of 328 Keyes Avenue, parcel No. 11-07-220.000, to Paul Springer, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith be and he hereby is authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver a Quit Claim Deed of said real property to Paul Springer in care of Mark Swimelar, Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee.

**Secoded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith asked if the individual filed bankruptcy after the property went to auction.

Attorney Slye explained the process noting the court ruled that what was being taken is worth more than what was owed. Noting that Attorney Christina Stone did the work on this case, not him, he said the legal advice was for the City to transfer title back to the property owner, Paul Springer. It was confirmed that the City would receive payments for the back taxes from the trustee. In response to Mayor Smith's question of whether this would apply to other individuals who lost their property to back taxes, Attorney Slye stated that it would only apply if the individual applied for bankruptcy protection.

City Comptroller James Mills informed Council that he has already received a couple of payments totaling approximately \$2,000 towards the back taxes. He confirmed that approximately \$13,000 was owed and clarified that if there was a default on the payments, the title would revert back to the City.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and 2021 Annual Action Plan**

Mr. Lumbis summarized the staff memo listing the proposed goals for the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, noting the changes that were made based on Council's requests. He reviewed the proposed Program Year 2021 Projects listed on the last page, which totaled \$930,085. He explained that staff was recently notified by HUD of this amount to be allocated to the City and that it is approximately \$10,000 higher than last year. He further explained that if Council approves, staff will finalize the plan and bring it back to Council for final approval.

### **Adjourn Meeting to March 29, 2021**

A report was available for Council to review. After the executive session it was decided to adjourn this meeting until Tuesday, March 23 at 5:00 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Monument to Victims of Covid-19**

Council Member Compo informed Council that she was approached by Allison Gorham about creating a permanent monument for the local victims of Covid-19. She advised that Ms. Gorham is willing to do the fundraising for it and coordinate the project.

Council agreed to allow Ms. Gorham to proceed.

### **Council Seat Vacancy**

Council Member Compo asked if anyone had any other suggestions or ideas for filling the vacant Council seat.

Council Member Ruggiero indicated that she had someone contact her about it.

Mayor Smith stated that he had suggested some names to all of Council, but no one has asked him to contact any of these individuals to see if they are interested.

### **American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding**

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson mentioned the funding that was recently awarded to the City in response to Covid-19 and asked if staff has been notified of what will qualify as eligible expenses. He suggested applying it to promoting tourism.

City Manager Mix advised that there are no definitive guidelines issued yet. In regard to tourism, he said the City may be able to give assistance to a tourism business that was negatively impacted by Covid-19.

Mayor Smith indicated that he has spoken to Senator Schumer's Office and they are listening to the concerns of communities prior to finalizing the guidelines.

### **Firefighter Peyton Morse**

Mentioning the funeral procession for Firefighter Peyton Morse, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson stated that he was at City Hall and stood with staff to represent the City as the procession drove by.

Council Member Ruggiero commented that she participated with the Smithville Fire Department on the Michael Road Route 81 overpass. She noted that there were several pictures of people on Route 81 overpasses showing their respect as the procession went by and she offered her condolences to the family.

### **Irish Flag Raising**

Council Member Ruggiero announced that the Irish Flag will be raised in front of City Hall on Wednesday, March 17 at 10:00 a.m. and she encouraged people to attend.

### **Hydro Committee**

Council Member Ruggiero asked if there was an update on the Hydro Committee and when they would be meeting.

Mayor Smith replied that former Mayor Butler, Committee Chair, plans to schedule a meeting soon.

### **CARES Funding**

Mayor Smith asked if there was an update on the implementation of an economic development program.

Mr. Lumbis stated he has spoken to Auburn and Rochester which have developed similar programs with this funding and obtained several ideas. He indicated that staff has been busy finalizing the CDBG Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan, but now that is almost completed, they can start working on this again.

**Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to move into Executive Session to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation and to discuss collective bargaining.**

**Motion was seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

Council moved into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

Council reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 8:48 p.m. until Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. by motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

*Ann M. Saunders*  
City Clerk