

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
March 2, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce Presiding

Present: Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant
Council Member Robert O. Kimball
Council Member Douglas E. Osborne, Jr.
Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen
Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce

Also Present: Eric F. Wagenaar, City Manager
Joseph V. Frateschi, Harrison Beach Murtha, City Attorney

City staff present: Erica Anderson, Thomas Compo, Aaron Harvil, Geoff Urda, James Scordo, Michael Lumbis

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Accepting Bid for Lift Stations Systems and Controls Upgrade Koester Associates Inc.
- Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing the Display of the Presidential Flag at City Hall
- Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing the Display of the Pride Flag at City Hall
- Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing the Display of the Turning Point USA Flag at City Hall
- Resolution No. 5 - Appointing Kimberly A. Wood to Part-Time City Court Judge for the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 6 - Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Watertown and CNY Fair Housing to Administer a Fair Housing Education and Enforcement Program
- Resolution No. 7 - Finding That Removing VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment
- Resolution No. 8 - Supporting Increased Aid to Municipalities and Strengthening New York's State-Local Partnership
- Old Business – Resolution - Accepting Proposal for Hydroelectric Plant - Consultation Services - Gomez and Sullivan Engineers, D.P.C.
- Old Business – Ordinance - Removing VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map
- Staff Report - PGA HOPE Program

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and Mayor Pierce asked that it be in remembrance of Tim Kelly, who recently passed away.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 17, 2026 was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Robert O. Kimball, seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Kyle Zimmerman, 328 Butterfield Avenue, spoke about a proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, which is requesting a zone change with the Planning Commission. He spoke in opposition, expressing concerns about the effect it would have on the neighborhood, the infrastructure and school in the area.

Warren Allen, State Street, spoke in support of the City's current Flag Policy.

Meg King, 327 Butterfield Avenue, spoke against the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue and expressed concern over the increase in traffic and the current condition of streets in that neighborhood.

Robert Sawyer, 205 West Iroquois Avenue, expressed opposition to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue and noted that he has already expressed safety concerns over an intersection on Sherman Street and cars speeding.

Steve Tiernan, 327 Butterfield Avenue, stated he was opposed to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue due to concerns with the current issues of water and flooding in the area during heavy rain fall.

Madelyn McGuire, South Hamilton Street, expressed opposition to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, stating her parents live in this area. She discussed her thoughts that possible transient individuals might live in these apartments and it may affect property values.

Stewart Perkins, 347 Thompson Boulevard, expressed his opinion that the golf course should be sold to help with the City's budget gap. He also advised Council to review their responsibilities as elected officials and focus on those priorities.

Greg Maneeley, 1324 Richards Drive, expressed concern with the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, stressing the infrastructure cannot handle the added housing. He also discussed concerns with increased traffic and strain on the City's resources, such as Police, Fire and EMS services.

Ken Scott, 239 Barben Avenue, said that he enjoys the swamp/wetland area in his backyard, stating it is beautiful, and he thinks single-family houses would be more appropriate versus the apartments included in the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue.

Adam Ruppe, 316 Butterfield Avenue, spoke in opposition to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, expressing concern with the effect on the quiet neighborhood and infrastructure.

C.J. Jackson, Cosgrove Street, spoke in opposition to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue and the effect on the neighborhood.

Jim Fanning, 276 Thompson Boulevard, stated he used to live on Cosgrove Street and expressed his concerns for the effect the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue would have on the neighborhood.

T.K. King, 1333 Richards Drive, spoke in opposition to the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, especially with the condition of the roads and sewer system in that area. He also suggested ways for the City to increase revenue, such as selling the golf course and increasing use of the arena.

Jayme Casler, Cosgrove Street, spoke against the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue, addressing safety concerns for the children that play in the streets because it is a quiet neighborhood.

Frank Battista, 201 Palmer Street, suggested repealing the current flag policy, stating the issue of flags is a large distraction around budget time. He also expressed his concerns with the potential for a significant tax increase in the upcoming budget proposal.

Avery (no last name given), Butterfield Avenue, spoke about the proposed housing development project on Butterfield Avenue and expressed his concern for the safety of the neighborhood, young children and the elderly.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:15 p.m. Mayor Pierce asked the City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2026-2030 Consolidated Plan and 2026 Annual Action Plan.

Mayor Pierce declared the hearing open at 7:15 p.m.

No one spoke.

Mayor Pierce declared the hearing closed at 7:16 p.m.

At 7:16 p.m. Mayor Pierce asked the City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning removing VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map.

Mayor Pierce declared the hearing open at 7:16 p.m.

No one spoke.

Mayor Pierce declared the hearing closed at 7:17 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Accepting Bid for Lift Stations Systems and Controls Upgrade Koester Associates Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

WHEREAS the City desires to retain a contractor to supply all labor, materials, and equipment to perform the necessary upgrades to the Gaffney Drive, Vanduzee Street, and Barben-Green Drive Lift Stations Systems and Controls, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received one (1) sealed bid for the Lift Stations Systems and Controls Upgrade, and

WHEREAS on January 29, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup reviewed the bids received with the Water Superintendent and Chief Operator and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the lowest responsive responsible bid submitted by Koester Associates, Inc.,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the total base bid received from Koester Associates, In. in the amount of \$192,645.00, and

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

Seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing the Display of the Presidential Flag at City Hall

Introduced by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown has adopted a Flag Policy, effective February 3, 2025, to govern the display of flags on City property, and

WHEREAS, the City has received a request to display the Presidential Flag in recognition of President Donald J. Trump's Birthday, and

WHEREAS, June 14th is nationally recognized as Flag Day, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Flag Policy, the City Council may authorize the temporary display of commemorative flags on the flagpole in front of City Hall, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to approve the request and authorize the display of the Presidential Flag for a period of 24 hours,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the display of the Presidential Flag in front of City Hall for 24 hours, commencing on June 14, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, or their designee, is directed to ensure compliance with the City's Flag Policy and coordinate the proper display of the flag.

Seconded by Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Kimball explained why he would not be supporting Resolution No. 2 and No.4 because they promote a political ideology.

Council Member Garrabrant said that Council should not be in the business of picking and choosing what is appropriate and further explained why he would be voting no to these requests.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and defeated with all voting nay.

Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing the Display of the Pride Flag at City Hall

Introduced by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown has adopted a Flag Policy, effective February 3, 2025, to govern the display of flags on City property, and

WHEREAS, the City has received a request to display the Pride Flag in recognition of Pride Month, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Flag Policy, the City Council may authorize the temporary display of commemorative flags on the flagpole in front of City Hall, and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the recognition of Pride Month as a time to celebrate diversity, promote inclusivity, and affirm the rights and dignity of the LGBTQ+ community, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to approve the request and authorize the display of the Pride Flag for a period of 24 hours,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the display of the Pride Flag in front of City Hall for 24 hours, commencing on June 20, 2026, in recognition of Pride Month, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, or their designee, is directed to ensure compliance with the City's Flag Policy and coordinate the proper display of the flag.

Seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and was defeated with all voting nay, except Council Member Robert O. Kimball and Council Member Douglas E. Osborne, Jr. voting yea.

Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing the Display of the Turning Point USA Flag at City Hall

Introduced by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown has adopted a Flag Policy, effective February 3, 2025, to govern the display of flags on City property, and

WHEREAS, the City has received a request to display the Turning Point USA Flag, and

WHEREAS, Turning Point USA was founded on June 5, 2012, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Flag Policy, the City Council may authorize the temporary display of commemorative flags on the flagpole in front of City Hall, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to approve the request and authorize the display of the Turning Point USA Flag for a period of 24 hours,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the display of the Turning Point USA Flag in front of City Hall for 24 hours, commencing on June 5, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, or their designee, is directed to ensure compliance with the City's Flag Policy and coordinate the proper display of the flag.

Secinded by Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant and was defeated with all voting nay.

Resolution No. 5 - Appointing Kimberly A. Wood to Part-Time City Court Judge for the City of Watertown

Introduced by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen

WHEREAS the Mayor of the City of Watertown is empowered by the laws of the State of New York to appoint to the office of Part-Time City Court Judge for the City of Watertown, subject to the consent of City Council, and

WHEREAS a vacancy occurred on January 1, 2026, and

WHEREAS the Mayor, Sarah V.C. Pierce, appoints Kimberly A. Wood, Watertown, New York, to the position of Part-Time City Court Judge,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby confirms the appointment of Kimberly A. Wood, Watertown, New York, to the position of Part-Time City Court Judge effective immediately for a six (6) year term ending December 31, 2031.

Secinded by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Pierce provided a summary of the selection process and qualifications required for this position. She said that after meeting with applicants and checking references, she chose Ms. Wood for the appointment of Part-Time City Court Judge, and she hoped Council would support her choice.

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 Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Watertown and CNY Fair Housing to Administer a Fair Housing Education and Enforcement Program

Introduced by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

WHEREAS the City of Watertown, as a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement funding under the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, has certified that it will affirmatively further Fair Housing, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to work with CNY Fair Housing to provide professional services to educate tenants and housing providers within the City of Watertown regarding their respective Fair Housing rights and responsibilities, and

WHEREAS CNY Fair Housing is a qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Agency, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to refer any Fair Housing complaints received by the City to CNY Fair Housing for further investigation, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has allocated CDBG funding in its Program Year 2024 and 2025 Annual Action Plans for Fair Housing Education projects that it intends to execute as a single agreement, and

WHEREAS CNY Fair Housing has prepared a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the MOU with CNY Fair Housing to establish and administer a Fair Housing education and enforcement program, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City agrees to pay CNY Fair Housing a not-to-exceed sum of \$10,000 for actual expenses incurred, based on hours worked during the contract period, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby authorizes and directs the City Manager to execute the MOU on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 7 - Finding That Removing VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment

Introduced by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has before it an Ordinance to remove VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map, and

WHEREAS the Zone Change is intended to facilitate the sale of a portion of a City-owned parcel to an adjacent property owner and a subsequent parking lot expansion on the conveyed land, and

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

WHEREAS the adoption of the proposed Ordinance and future Subdivision Approval, property sale and site development collectively constitute such an “Action,” and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the proposed Ordinance is an “Unlisted Action” as that term is defined by 6NYCRR Section 617.2 (al), and

WHEREAS the City Council must consider the “Whole Action” pursuant to SEQRA, which includes the environmental impacts of the Zone Change and the proposed subsequent development, and all associated approvals, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown Planning Commission is an Involved Agency for SEQRA review as that term is defined in 6NYCRR Section 617.2 (t), because it is the body with the authority to grant Subdivision Approval and Site Plan Approval, and

WHEREAS the Planning Commission adopted a motion at its February 3, 2026 meeting acknowledging that the City Council is the most appropriate body to act as Lead Agency pursuant to SEQRA, and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the proposed Zone Change will have a significant impact on the environment, Planning Staff has prepared Part 1 of a Short Environmental Assessment Form, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that:

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and comparing the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact is known and the adoption of the Zone Change and future site development will not have a significant impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute Part 3 of the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Garrabrant recused himself from voting due to his employer being involved in this project and he left Council Chambers.

Council considered Part II of the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea, except for Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant abstaining

Council Member Garrabrant returned to Council Chambers.

Resolution No. 8 - Supporting Increased Aid to Municipalities and Strengthening New York's State-Local Partnership

Introduced by Council Member Robert O. Kimball

WHEREAS Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years, and

WHEREAS these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York's strength begins in its cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services, infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve, and

WHEREAS local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living, and

WHEREAS NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State, testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted aid and a strengthened state-local partnership, and

WHEREAS the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Watertown applauds Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to strengthening New York's cities and villages, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Watertown urges the New York State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted state budget, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Watertown calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure long-term fiscal stability for New York's local governments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State Legislature representing the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Pierce explained her reasons for bringing this resolution forward as a sign of support for the Governor’s proposal.

Council Member Kimball said the AIM funding amount has been the same for many years, so an increase is long overdue. He also noted that in the last few years the State has created temporary assistance funding without changing the AIM funding amount. He commented that many municipalities in the State are having financial difficulties and said this is a good first step as an official communication from Council.

Council Member Shoen noted that Jefferson County brings in a lot of sales tax for the State, and he wished more of that funding would come back to the area. He discussed his concern that the lack of funding is a flaw on the State’s part and said better State representatives for this area need to be elected.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution - Accepting Proposal for Hydroelectric Plant - Consultation Services - Gomez and Sullivan Engineers, D.P.C. *(Introduced on February 17, 2026; tabled; appears in its entirety in the 2026 Minutes Book on page 4-6 of the 2/17/2026 minutes).*

Motion was made by Council Member Robert O. Kimball to remove the foregoing resolution from the table. Motion was seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

In response to Council Member Garrabrant’s question, Mr. Wagenaar explained the fee structure for this proposal, and he outlined the priorities within it as increasing energy production, studying the FERC relicensing process and looking at revenue sources during the transition of the National Grid contract expiration.

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

Ordinance - Removing VL Main Street West, VL-8, VL-6, VL-4, 476, 470, 444 and a 0.75-acre section of 424 Vanduzee Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 1-19-103.000, 1-19-104.000, 1-18-105.000, 1-18-101.001, 1-18-104.000, 1-18-103.000, 1-18-103.001 and a section of Parcel Number 1-18-102.000, from the Waterfront Overlay District on the approved Zoning Map. *(Introduced on February 17, 2026; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety in the 2026 Minutes Book on page 9-10 of the 2/17/2026 minutes).*

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Garrabrant recused himself from voting due to his employer being involved in this project and he left Council Chambers.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and carried with all voting yea, except for Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant abstaining

Council Member Garrabrant returned to Council Chambers.

STAFF REPORTS

PGA HOPE Program

Mayor Pierce provided an overview of this program which introduces and teaches the game of golf to veterans and active-duty military personnel.

Council Member Garrabrant said Council should consider pursuing this because it is for a worthy cause and will promote the golf course.

Mr. Wagenaar provided Council with more information on the program, stating it will have three phases with minimum impact on the course or loss of revenue.

Mayor Pierce indicated that this may be good to participate with.

Council Member Kimball agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

Flag Policy

Council Member Garrabrant advised that he planned to propose a resolution reverting back to the prior flag policy that only allowed for the flying of the United States flag, New York State flag and the City flag. He asked that staff hold all future flag requests until the resolution is considered. He also stressed that the City has more important issues to discuss and deal with other than flag requests and he listed topics that need focus.

Privilege of the Floor - Proposed Butterfield Development Project

Council Member Garrabrant acknowledged that Council's awareness of this project is the same as the information that has been released publicly. He assured the public that this project is still in the beginning stages and under development.

Mr. Wagenaar confirmed that this is in the beginning phase of the project and that the project will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at its meeting tomorrow. He explained that a funding component of the project will come from a grant with the County and it will be used for infrastructure work that was already included in the City budget.

Council Member Kimball thanked everyone who spoke at the Privilege of the Floor, noting that the voice of the public was not in favor of the project. He advised that he personally did a walkthrough of the neighborhood over the weekend and he has listened to the residents' concerns, so he suggested a possible traffic study be done. He also acknowledged there are concerns with the western outfall trunk sewer (WOTS) in that area, but noted this is a way to get money to possibly fix this portion of the WOTS.

Council Member Osborne thanked everyone for expressing their concerns and noted that he lives in this neighborhood as well and has personally dealt with the flooding issues. He said he is glad to hear more about working towards fixing the infrastructure in this area, but the housing development will change

the composition of the neighborhood. Noting the project is in the early stages, he said there are a lot of questions that need answering.

Refuse Service

Council Member Osborne mentioned that he has heard from residents having difficulty with the recent changes to the refuse service and he suggested making modifications to this ordinance, so that the City does not lose customers.

Mullin Street Parling Concern

Council Member Osborne said he has been contacted about concerns with parking on the street on Mullin Street.

Flag Policy (continued)

Council Member Osborne echoed the sentiments of Council Member Garrabrant and said he is in favor of only flying the three flags.

Mullin Street Parling Concern (continued)

Council Member Shoen stated that the concern seems to be near the intersection of Mullin Street and Holcomb Street by the apartment building that has no parking. He said the street is narrow and parking on the street causes congestion. He suggested contacting the property manager, who is responsible for ensuring the tenants do not have vehicles.

Flag Policy (continued)

Council Member Shoen said the flag issue could be divisive and when the policy was changed his stance was to always vote no on every request in order to not open the City to liability.

Privilege of the Floor - Proposed Butterfield Development Project (continued)

Council Member Shoen mentioned someone asked about the potential for this project to receive a PILOT, and he said that he does not support PILOTs. He said he appreciates people voicing their concerns, but he also appreciates a developer putting forth a development project within the City.

Department Head Speaking at Privilege of the Floor

Council Member Shoen mentioned a recent meeting, in which the head of a department spoke to Council at Privilege of the Floor about City business. He said he felt this was inappropriate and that the message should have been relayed to Council through other channels and/or through the City Manager.

Tupper Lake BrewSki

Council Member Shoen spoke of a recent event held in Tupper Lake which draws many tourists in from other areas and creates a great deal of revenue. He suggested the City consider doing a similar type of event.

Mayor Pierce mentioned that she has also attended the Tupper Lake event and suggested that it could be done in conjunction with Snowtown events.

Privilege of the Floor - Proposed Butterfield Development Project (continued)

Mayor Pierce thanked the members of the public that spoke about the proposed housing project on Butterfield Avenue. She said there are still a lot of questions which Council does not have all the

answers to. She also said there are two sides to this issue that need to be considered – concerns from the residents in that neighborhood and a developer who wants to add to the City’s tax base. Stating she understands the residents’ concerns, she noted that she hopes they can reach some middle ground.

Flag Policy (continued)

Regarding the Flag Policy discussion, Mayor Pierce said her position has never changed and she agrees with bringing a resolution forward to change the policy back to what it was. She also pointed out that there are other ways to recognize these organizations within the community besides raising a flag in front of City Hall.

Motion was made by Council Member Robert O. Kimball to move into Executive Session to discuss the following:

- **The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property when publicity would affect the value thereof.**
- **To discuss proposed, pending or current litigation.**
- **To discuss the employment history of a particular individual or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.**

Motion was seconded by Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Council moved into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:17 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 9:17 p.m. by motion of Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen, seconded by Council Member Robert O. Kimball and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Ann M. Saunders
City Clerk