

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
June 21, 2021  
7:00 p.m.**

**Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding**

**Present:** Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce  
Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson  
Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero  
Council Member Leonard G. Spaziani  
Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith

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

**City staff present:** James Mills, Michael Lumbis, Patrick Keenan, Michael Delaney, Scott Weller, Brian Phelps

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Approving Usage Agreement, Italian American Civic Association
- Resolution No. 2 - Approving Intermunicipal Agreement to Collect School Taxes
- Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing Naming of Tennis Courts at John C. Thompson Park as Donald E. Osborn Courts
- Resolution No. 4 - Accepting Bid for DPW Street Sweeper, Joe Johnson Equipment LLC
- Resolution No. 5 - Authorizing Supplemental #2 Agreement With New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT), Construction and C/I, Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization & Coordination, Contract D036492, PIN 780720
- Resolution No. 6 - Accepting Bid for Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination Project (NYSDOT PIN: 780720) - Power & Construction Group, Inc.
- Resolution No. 7 - Adopting an Amendment to the City of Watertown's Community Development Block Grant 2020 Annual Action Plan
- Resolution No. 8 - Revising Designated Depositories of City Funds for 2021
- Resolution No. 9 - Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Watertown and The Watertown Local Development Corporation for the City's Small Business Emergency Relief Program
- Resolution No. 10 - Adopting Management Pay Plan - Effective July 1, 2021
- Reduction of fees for Jefferson County Fair
- Creation of a Project Review Committee for the DRI Public Art Project
- Application to National Grid's Urban Center/Commercial District Revitalization Program for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Streetscape Project
- Sales Tax Revenue – May 2021
- Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – May 2021
- Supplemental Information for Resolution No. 7 – Adopting an Amendment to the City of Watertown's Community Development Block Grant 2020 Annual Action Plan

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

Meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 7, 2021, and work session of June 14, 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**

A letter was received from Katherine Doe Johnson, 156 Barben Avenue, expressing her concerns about the four-way stop sign at the intersection of Barben Avenue and Sherman Street and suggesting the City install neon lights around the signs.

A letter was received from the Jefferson County Board of Elections, 175 Arsenal Street reminding Council of a letter sent by them on January 30, 2020, asking Council to consider amending the Watertown Nonpartisan Primaries and Elections Act.

**Above communications were placed on file in the office of the City Clerk.**

A notice of claim was received Erie Insurance Co on behalf of MaryAnn Burker, seeking reimbursement for damages caused by a water main break on 290 Barben Avenue on May 15, 2021.

A claim was received from Stephen J. Soluri, 872 Emmett Street, seeking reimbursement for damages due to a sewer backup in the basement of his property located at 414 Seward Street in February of 2021.

**Above claims have been referred to the Board of Audit.**

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

**Carrie Monica**, read from a prepared statement (not on file in the City Clerk's Office) regarding her religious beliefs and spoke of her concerns of injustices.

**Kyle Peetfield**, 133 TenEyck Street, spoke to Council regarding cars speeding on the side streets from Sherman Street to Washington Street and asked that speed limit signs be installed or the electronic sign telling people how fast they are going.

**Catherine Chipp**, informed Council that she is a recovered heroin addict and indicated that there is a large population of Watertown that suffers from mental illness and addiction. She expressed concern with vacant buildings being used by squatters and addicts.

**Jason Traynor**, 142 Mechanic Street, agreed that there are drug and overdose problems in the City and asked if some of the recently awarded \$22 million grant money could go towards offering more services for these problems. He spoke of his ideas to resolve and assist with these issues, mentioning a program he is developing called Safe Watch.

**Tonia Stephenson**, 24444 White Road, relayed her personal experiences and losses due to family members suffering from drug addiction and noted that there are issues with the care and mental health

services provided to people suffering from mental health illnesses and addiction. She commented that there is a lack of action from law enforcement.

**Jonathan Phillips**, 735 Mill Street, stated that he thinks it is a good idea for the City to opt out of the legalization of marijuana and agreed there needs to be more assistance for individuals suffering from mental health illness and addiction. He also expressed concern with people on electric scooters using the bike lane on Coffeen Street and the condition of the sidewalks on Mill Street.

**Kevin Miller**, 306 North Rutland Street, commented that individuals with disabilities should not be bullied and said he agreed with the prior speakers, wishing that those issues could be fixed.

**S.G. Gates**, 157 Dorsey Street, mentioned that since there was a new Council Member, he wanted to review the past events in his efforts to bring a dog park to the area. He stated that he feels the area near the Thompson Park Lookout is the best location and he would also like a pavilion containing restrooms installed.

**Seth Labarge**, Jefferson Street, asked if Council plans to install speed bumps on Jefferson Street.

**Donnie Lee Barrigar**, 134 Union Street, informed Council that they made the right choice on the legalization of marijuana. He began to speak about his beliefs of the Bible and the firmament and Mayor Smith asked him to keep his comments to topics pertaining to the City of Watertown.

**Robert Schorr**, 640 Leray Street, asked Council to clarify why speed bumps could be installed on Marshall Place but not on Jefferson Street.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution No. 1 - Approving Usage Agreement, Italian American Civic Association**

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

WHEREAS the Italian American Civic Association (“Association”) plans an annual Bravo Italiano Festival each year with a weekend of events for the community, and

WHEREAS the Association has made the Watertown Arena their permanent home for this annual event, and

WHEREAS the Association has requested a reduced fee of \$2,500 for the use of the Arena for the 2021 Festival, because of the fiscal impact the pandemic has had on their organization,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Usage Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Italian American Civic Association with a fee of \$2,500, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution.

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

### **Resolution No. 2 - Approving Intermunicipal Agreement to Collect School Taxes**

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

WHEREAS the Watertown City School District wishes to have the City of Watertown provide tax collection services on behalf of the School District for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years, and

WHEREAS the City agrees to provide tax collection services on behalf of the School District for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, and

WHEREAS the City and the School District wish to enter into an intermunicipal agreement pursuant to the powers granted to local governments by New York State General Municipal Law Article 5(G),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Intermunicipal Agreement between the Watertown City School District and the City of Watertown for Tax Collection Services, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

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

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

**Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing Naming of Tennis Courts at John C. Thompson Park as Donald E. Osborn Courts**

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

WHEREAS the City of Watertown maintains tennis courts at John C. Thompson Park, and

WHEREAS the Parks and Recreation Department has received a request to formally name the tennis courts in honor of Donald E. Osborn for his decades of support for the tennis program,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the naming of the tennis courts at John C. Thompson Park as the Donald E. Osborn Courts to honor of Mr. Osborn's positive impact on the community.

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith noted that Mr. Osborn has given a lot to the tennis community, so this is a nice recognition for him which is well deserved.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Leonard G. Spaziani voting nay.**

**Resolution No. 4 - Accepting Bid for DPW Street Sweeper, Joe Johnson Equipment LLC**

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

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for DPW Street Sweeper, as per City specifications, and

WHEREAS bid invitations were also issued to qualified bidders with two (2) sealed bids submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 2:00 p.m., the bid received was publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Dale Morrow reviewed the bids received with DPW, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid submitted by Joe Johnson Equipment LLC,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, accepts the bid submitted by Joe Johnson Equipment LLC as the lowest qualifying bidder meeting our specifications in the amount of \$221,728.00.

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

**Resolution No. 5 - Authorizing Supplemental #2 Agreement With New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT), Construction and C/I, Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization & Coordination, Contract D036492, PIN 780720**

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

WHEREAS a Project for the City of Watertown Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination, P.I.N. 780720 (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination Project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown duly convened does hereby approve the above-subject project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Watertown to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of Construction and Construction Inspection for the Project or portions thereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$492,000 is hereby appropriated from the 2019-20 Capital Budget and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of the City of Watertown shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City of Watertown be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Watertown with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, City Manager Mix responded to Mayor Smith's question by stating that CHIPs funds could be used for both general paving and the traffic signal optimization project.

Council Member Spaziani asked if this project included the Arcade Street intersection.

Mayor Smith explained the traffic signal at that intersection will be paid for by the extra CARES funds that were received for transportation projects.

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

**Resolution No. 6 - Accepting Bid for Public Square Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination Project (NYSDOT PIN: 780720) - Power & Construction Group, Inc.**

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

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed bids for Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination – Public Square, NYS Rte 3, NYS Rte 12, US Rte 11, Washington Street, Mill Street, as per City specifications, and

WHEREAS bid invitations were also issued to planholders with one (1) sealed bid submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at 11:00 a.m., the bid received was publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department reviewed the bid received with City Engineering, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid submitted by Power & Construction Group, Inc. in the amount of \$416,287.17, and

WHEREAS the City is financing this project using Federal and State Aid, and therefore the City will not enter into a binding agreement with a contractor until after NYSDOT approves the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid of Power & Construction Group, Inc. in the amount of \$416,287.17 for Traffic Signal Optimization and Coordination, as the lowest qualified bidder meeting our specifications, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon receipt of NYSDOT approval and not before receiving said NYSDOT approval, the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign all contracts associated with implementing the award to Power & Construction Group, Inc.

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith asked if the City knows why the bid came in so far over budget.

Mr. Mix explained that prices have escalated for materials and labor since COVID-19 and provided details of an error in the estimated cost of equipment made when putting the initial estimated budget together.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea except for Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith voting nay.**

**Resolution No. 7 - Adopting an Amendment to the City of Watertown's Community Development Block Grant 2020 Annual Action Plan**

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

WHEREAS the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act awarded additional funds to the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, and

WHEREAS in order to utilize the funds, the 2020 Annual Action Plan that the City Council adopted on May 4, 2020, must be amended, and

WHEREAS a proposed amendment has been drafted that identifies how the City intends to use the CARES Act CDBG funds provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and

WHEREAS Staff conducted outreach efforts with local constituency groups and the City Council held a public hearing on June 7, 2021, to solicit public comments regarding the proposed amendment, and

WHEREAS the draft amendment to the 2020 Annual Action Plan was completed and published on June 11, 2021, and was made available to the public for review, and

WHEREAS a 5-day public comment period for the draft amendment to the 2020 Annual Action Plan was held between June 12, 2021, and June 16, 2021, after a notice of the comment period was published in the *Watertown Daily Times*,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby adopts the Amendment to the City of Watertown's CDBG Program Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2020, dated June 11, 2021, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution and authorizes the submission of the amendment to HUD.

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith summarized the amendment in terms of the additional funding given to the local food pantries and backpack program, as well as the Small Business Emergency Relief Program. He advised that the application for the Small Business Emergency Relief Program will be posted on the City's website tomorrow for submissions to begin on Friday.

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

**Resolution No. 8 - Revising Designated Depositories of City Funds for 2021**

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

WHEREAS Section 30 of the City Charter requires the City Council to designate each year at its first meeting some incorporated bank or banks or trust company located in the City of Watertown for the deposit of all moneys belonging to the City, and

WHEREAS on January 4, 2021 City Council designated the depositories of the City of Watertown, New York for the year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 to be Community Bank, N.A., Key Bank and WSB Municipal Bank with each being required to either execute a bond delivered to the City of Watertown, New York as approved collateral or to deposit at a mutually agreed upon depository approved collateral of a value up to THIRTY-FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$35,000,000), and

WHEREAS the City has received over \$11,000,000 from the first installment of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 causing the need to increase the original limits authorized in resolution number approved by City Council on January 4, 2021,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Bank, N.A., Key Bank and WSB Municipal Bank each be required to either execute a bond, deliver to the City of Watertown, New York approved collateral or to deposit at a mutually agreed upon depository approved collateral of a value up to FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$50,000,000).

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

**Resolution No. 9 - Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Watertown and The Watertown Local Development Corporation for the City's Small Business Emergency Relief Program**

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

WHEREAS the City of Watertown (City) is a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and

WHEREAS the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act awarded additional funds to the City's CDBG program, and

WHEREAS the City has allocated CDBG funding as part of its CARES Act Amendment to the 2020 Annual Action Plan for a project known as the City of Watertown Small Business Emergency Relief program, and

WHEREAS the Watertown Local Development Corporation (WLDC) has agreed to assist the City with the implementation of the program, and

WHEREAS a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared between the City and the WLDC for the project to establish a means by which the two entities can work together to administer the program, and to establish the roles and responsibilities of each organization in order to do so, and

WHEREAS the program will help the City respond to Coronavirus by assisting small businesses and thereby retaining jobs that otherwise would be at risk due pandemic-related losses,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding with the Watertown Local Development Corporation, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

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

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith explained this is for an agreement with the Local Development Corporation (LDC) to handle the application process of the Small Business Emergency Relief program. He disclosed that he is the president of the LDC but will not be on the loan committee.

Council Member Pierce remarked that this is a great way for the City to help small businesses that were financially impacted by COVID-19.

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

**Resolution No. 10 - Adopting Management Pay Plan - Effective July 1, 2021**

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

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to implement a grade and step pay plan for Management employees, and

WHEREAS a pay chart has been developed that places each management position within a grade level that has annual step increases within a range of pay, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby adopts the Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees chart that is attached and made part of this resolution, effective July 1, 2021, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to start individual employees at the step he/she determines to be appropriate at the initiation of this pay plan and for each new employee at the time of hire.

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

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Spaziani asked if employees would start at step A.

Mr. Mix explained that a new hire would typically start at step A unless their qualifications and experience were much higher. He said this sets a salary range for each position and the steps are approximately 2.5% per year, which is still considerably less than the percentage of union step increases. He answered various questions, noting the step increases are not merit based and the chart will be adjusted accordingly each year along with the budget resolution. He stressed this is not a cost-of-living increase and explained the past discrepancies in salary between management and their subordinate union employees, causing some union employees to make more than their supervisor because they grew at a faster pace.

Further discussion occurred and Council Member Spaziani expressed that he did not support this but other Council Members noted they hoped this would help retain management personnel.

Mr. Mix added that this provides structure for hiring new employees.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Leonard G. Spaziani voting nay.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Reduction of Fees for Jefferson County Fair**

Mayor Smith pointed out that Council just approved a reduction in fees for the Italian American Civic Association but at the time that it was originally presented and discussed, COVID-19 restrictions were still in place. He said that those restrictions have now been lifted so there may be regular or increased attendance to the fair. Noting that, before COVID-19 and restrictions, Council tended to be against fee reductions, he suggested having the Jefferson County Fair pay a portion of the fee upfront and then base the balance of the fee on the backend dependent on high well attendance was.

In response to Council Member Ruggiero's inquiry of whether American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds could be used to supplement a reduction in fees, Mr. Mix stated he is still reviewing the tourism component to the ARP funding.

Mayor Smith discussed his proposal further and Council agreed to move forward with that plan.

### **Creation of a Project Review Committee for the DRI Public Art Project**

Planning and Community Development Director Michael Lumbis summarized the staff report, noting the project is starting and they need to form a Project Review Committee. He requested one of the Council Members be a member of that committee.

Council Member Pierce volunteered for that position.

**Application to National Grid's Urban Center/Commercial District Revitalization Program for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Streetscape Project**

Mr. Lumbis reviewed his memo to Council, noting that the National Grid's Urban Center/Commercial District Revitalization Program was suggested as a funding source. He explained that there was a match requirement to this but it could be paid for by DRI funds. He asked for Council's approval to seek application to this program.

Council agreed.

**Sales Tax Revenue – May 2021**

A report was available for Council's review.

**Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – May 2021**

A report was available for Council's review.

**Supplemental Information for Resolution No. 7 – Adopting an Amendment to the City of Watertown's Community Development Block Grant 2020 Annual Action Plan**

A report was available for Council's review.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Speed Bumps on Marshall Place**

In response to Mayor Smith's question, Mr. Mix explained that prior Council had decommissioned Marshall Place as a dedicated City street and then speed bumps were installed because it was actually part of a parking lot.

**Jefferson County Board of Elections – Watertown Nonpartisan Election Law**

Mayor Smith mentioned that a letter was received from the Board of Elections requesting amendments to the City's election law, but this topic was delayed due to COVID-19. He asked that a work session be dedicated to this topic.

Council agreed to schedule this for September.

**Request for Speed Sign on TenEyck Street**

In response to the comments during Privilege of the Floor, Mayor Smith requested that a sign checking speeds be set up on the street.

Mr. Mix indicated that he would have staff set up the electronic speed signs in this location.

**Pride Month and Flag Raising**

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson said this was a good event and thanked everyone that was involved in organizing it.

Council Member Ruggiero agreed that this was a nice event.

Mayor Smith also discussed this event and said it was well attended.

### **Potholes**

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson reported that there are large potholes on Court Street Bridge and along Arsenal Street near the intersection with South Meadow Street.

### **Flower Memorial Library Annual Book Sale**

Council Member Pierce explained that the Library is looking for books to be donated for the annual sale and indicated that people can drop off books by appointment only. She added that the guidelines for what types of books can be donated is on the Library's website.

### **Mental Health and Addiction Issues in the Community**

Referring to the speakers during Privilege of the Floor, Council Member Ruggiero indicated that Council does not have control of the mental health services that are provided to the community. She suggested having a future work session dedicated to this topic in order to inform the public of the various services that are available.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert in the Park**

In response to Council Member Spaziani's inquiry, Mayor Smith advised that the only COVID-19 restriction that will apply to the Concert in the Park is the CDC recommendation that unvaccinated people wear a mask. He confirmed that this will be based on the honor system.

### **National Grid Lighting Issues**

Mayor Smith said that there are issues with lighting in the downtown area and in Thompson Park, but that National Grid has not been very responsive. He asked the City Manager and City Attorney reach out to National Grid regarding this, and he indicated that if National Grid is not willing to work with the City, then the City may have to require them to remove their lighting from the City's right-of-way.

### **Ceremony for Fallen Firefighter Peyton Morse**

Mayor Smith asked why none of Council was invited to the recent event honoring Fallen Firefighter Peyton Morse held at the Massey Street Fire Station.

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

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

Council moved into Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 9:05 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