

**CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
June 1, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding

Present: Council Member Sarah V. Compo
Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson
Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia
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

This meeting was conducted in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order No. 202.1 that restricts in-person access to meetings. The public was able to view or listen to the meeting live at: <https://livestream.com/swp/wcc>.

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 6 - Approving 2020-21 Operating Budgets, City of Watertown, New York
- Resolution No. 7 - Establishing Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-21
- Resolution No. 8 - Approving 2020-21 through 2024-25 Capital Program Budget, City of Watertown, New York
- Resolution No. 9 - Establishing Annual City Fees and Charges Schedule
- Resolution No. 10 - Amendment No. 124 to the Management And Management Confidential Pay Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-21
- Resolution No. 11 - Amending Employment Agreement with Kenneth A. Mix as City Manager of the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 12 - Authorizing Spending From Capital Reserve Fund

Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk

Mayor Smith reopened the adjourned meeting from May 18, 2020.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 6 - Approving 2020-21 Operating Budgets, City of Watertown, New York

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has met and considered the Proposed Budget for the City of Watertown for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and it has conducted public hearings on the Proposed Budget and has determined that revenues and appropriations for the several funds in the Budget for 2020-21 will be amended as indicated in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Detail of Changes in Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance Appropriations to the Proposed Budgets, which detail is attached and made a part of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that it hereby adopts the Budget for the City Government for Fiscal Year 2020-21 in the total amount of \$58,041,568 of which in the General Fund \$31,419,770 is to be raised by estimated revenues other than real property taxes, \$435,000 is to be appropriated from fund balance, \$39,043 is to be appropriated from the sidewalk program reserve, \$207,000 is to be appropriated from the Capital reserve, \$13,058 is estimated to be received from omitted taxes and \$9,758,309 is to be raised by real property tax levy. In adopting the Budget, the City Council hereby appropriates \$58,041,568 for all operating funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in adopting the Budget, the City Council hereby appropriates \$9,944,246 for all reserve funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in adopting the Budget, the City Council approves the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Detail of Changes in Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance Appropriations to the Proposed Budgets, which is attached and made a part of this resolution.

Seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson indicated that he would like to add the librarian position that was eliminated back into the budget and he would like to use fund balance to pay for it. He discussed his reasons for supporting this, stating the teen librarian plays an important role for at-risk families.

Council Member Ruggiero agreed, stating there is more of a need for it now and the Library offers something for the children.

Mentioning the librarian who spoke at the public input session and said she helps people with resumes and job searches, Mayor Smith said he understands the need but noted this seems to be a duplication of services provided to the community by The WorkPlace. He also mentioned that the City does not know what will happen with the proposal to cut State Aid and how that will affect the City's financial situation. He suggested waiting to see how State funding and sales tax comes in and then possibly add the position by readopting the budget.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson pointed out that funding this position will only cost approximately \$60,000 and stated that if \$60,000 is going to make or break this budget then the City has a much bigger problem.

Council Member Roshia questioned whether adding this position would affect the hours of operation for the Library, noting that the proposed budget cut the service hours.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson noted that Library Director Yvonne Reff indicated that Sunday hours were cut for safety reasons since there was not enough staff to safely monitor the whole building.

Council Member Ruggiero suggested readopting the budget on June 15 if more information on the funding is known by then.

City Comptroller James Mills reminded Council that final year-end sales tax will not come in until July 15 and indicated that he is waiting to hear the determination on State Aid in the coming days. He stressed that if the Governor follows through with his 20% cut then there will be \$940,000 less for fiscal year 2019-20 and he recommends that should be the baseline number for next year as well. He noted that this is a \$1.8 million question so there are bigger issues.

Council Member Compo said she understands the importance of the services provided by the Library but given the reasons that Mr. Mills just stated, she does not think the City is in a position to add things back into the budget right now. She said that if, in the future, they find that there is positive news when it comes to State Aid and the City's finances overall, then that would be the time to look at possibly adding it back in.

Mayor Smith noted that Council has until July 1 before the budget takes effect.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson commented that he will be voting no on this resolution tonight but he would be willing to readopt the budget in the future if that position is saved.

Mayor Smith said he sent an email to everyone on Council and they were in agreement regarding a revenue neutral change to the proposed budget. He explained that the CSEA president suggested adding back in one full-time Parks and Recreation Maintenance Worker by decreasing the amount in the temporary workers account lines. He further explained that this would not affect the fund balance.

Mr. Mills advised that with the higher per hourly cost of the full-time person traded for temporary workers, there will be fewer "work hours."

Mayor Smith affirmed that they will have to work harder.

Mr. Mills explained that a resolution could be prepared for the June 15 meeting to readopt the budget to move the money for this change.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea except for Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson voting nay.

Resolution No. 7 - Establishing Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-21

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has adopted the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 to be in the amount of \$41,872,180, and of this amount \$9,758,309 is to be raised by taxes on real estate and \$13,058 is to be collected in omitted City taxes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that the tax on real estate in the amount of \$9,771,367 is hereby levied and the rate to produce \$9,758,309 of this levy is hereby established at \$8.9450 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, and the remaining \$13,058 is to be collected in omitted taxes.

Seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, members of Council thanked staff, in particular Mr. Mills and Mr. Mix, for the hard work that was done to get the tax rate down to 1.84%.

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

Resolution No. 8 - Approving 2020-21 through 2024-25 Capital Program Budget, City of Watertown, New York

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has met and considered the Proposed Budget for the City of Watertown for Fiscal Year 2020-21, including the Proposed Capital Program for the years 2020-21 through 2024-25 and has conducted public hearings on the Proposed Capital Program Budget, and has determined that the projects as listed in the Proposed Capital Program shall constitute the Capital Program Budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, hereby adopts the Capital Program Budget for the years 2020-21 through 2024-25.

Seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

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

Resolution No. 9 - Establishing Annual City Fees and Charges Schedule

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS City Council established a City Fees and Charges Schedule for the City of Watertown, as authorized by Local Law No. 2 of 2016, and

WHEREAS through budget deliberations, fees being collected by the City have been updated for the FY 2020-2021 and is reflected in the City Fees and Charges Schedule,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby adopts the City Fees and Charges Schedule attached and made a part of this Resolution for FY 2020-2021.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson asked if the website had been updated with the current permit fees and noted that the last time he looked it was incorrect.

Mr. Mix stated he will ensure that this is done.

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

Resolution No. 10 - Amendment No. 124 to the Management And Management Confidential Pay Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-21

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Amendment No. 124 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan, in order to amend the annual compensation for the positions listed below effective July 1, 2020,

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Accountant (part-time)	\$ 21,739
Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Recreation	\$ 60,599
Assistant Superintendent of Public Works	\$ 78,643
Benefits Administrator	\$ 43,810
Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator	\$ 63,008
Chief Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator	\$ 75,577
City Assessor	\$ 69,328
City Comptroller	\$ 93,403
City Engineer	\$ 87,622
Civil Engineer II (Mauer)	\$ 73,988
Civil Engineer I (Hammond)	\$ 64,444
Civil Engineer I (Arquitt)	\$ 56,435
Civil Engineer I (Damon)	\$ 63,250
Code Enforcement Supervisor	\$ 66,223
Confidential Secretary to the City Manager	\$ 51,477
Deputy City Clerk (Carr)	\$ 35,861
Deputy City Clerk (Puccia)	\$ 38,335
Executive Secretary to the Civil Service Commission	\$ 46,001
Fire Chief	\$ 107,800
Human Resources Manager	\$ 72,111
Information Technology Manager	\$ 77,347
Information Technology Project Manager	\$ 58,486
Library Director	\$ 74,479
Planning and Community Development Director	\$ 72,953
Planner (Urda)	\$ 46,353
Planner (DeMarco)	\$ 44,938

Police Captain	\$ 110,079
Police Chief	\$ 115,583
Purchasing Manager	\$ 73,329
Senior Planner	\$ 60,632
Street and Sewer Maintenance Supervisor (3)	\$ 68,450
Superintendent of Public Works	\$ 92,041
Superintendent of Water	\$ 91,967
Superintendent of Parks and Recreation	\$ 78,974
Supervisor of Water Distribution	\$ 68,306

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Roshia thanked the management staff and said this reflects that management is in this with everyone else together.

Mayor Smith said he echoes his colleague's sentiments.

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

Resolution No. 11 - Amending Employment Agreement with Kenneth A. Mix as City Manager of the City of Watertown

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City Council and Kenneth A. Mix, City Manager entered into an agreement for employment services on March 16, 2020, and

WHEREAS as part of expense reductions the City of Watertown's 2020-21 budget includes a 2% reduction in salary for the City Manager,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council desires to amend the contract with Kenneth A. Mix to reduce his salary by 2% effective on July 1, 2020, a copy of which amendment is attached to, made a part of, this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith, is hereby authorized and directed by the City Council to sign said Employment Agreement Amendment on behalf of the City Council.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Roshia thanked Mr. Mix and said that he has been the perfect man to lead the City through this time.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Mix as well.

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

Resolution No. 12 - Authorizing Spending From Capital Reserve Fund

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS on June 19, 2006, the City Council approved establishing a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-c of the General Municipal Law to finance future capital improvements, and

WHEREAS the Adopted 2020-21 Capital Fund Budget and General Fund Budget included the following projects and equipment purchases: Newell Street fuel farm rehabilitation (\$42,000) and Electric department aerial service truck (\$165,000), and

WHEREAS the City Council desired to fund these projects and equipment purchases from the Capital Reserve Fund, and

WHEREAS on Monday, June 15, 2020 at ~~*7:30 p.m.~~ **7:15 p.m.**, the City Council of the City of Watertown held a public hearing to discuss the expenditure of funds from this capital reserve fund, and

WHEREAS it has been determined that the expenditure of these funds is in keeping with the purpose for the capital reserve fund,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes the appropriating of Capital Reserve funds in an amount not to exceed \$207,000 to pay for the cost of the Newell Street fuel farm rehabilitation (\$42,000) and Electric department aerial service truck (\$165,000).

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Rules waived by Motion of Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to amend the foregoing resolution changing the time in the 4th paragraph from 7:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Motion was seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to schedule a Public Hearing on the foregoing resolution for Monday, June 5 at 7:15 p.m. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

ADJOURNMENT

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 6:49 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