

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
June 15, 2020
7:00 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, Police Chief Charles Donoghue, Michael Delaney

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. 1 - Requesting that the New York State Assembly Enact Assembly Bill No. A10514 Reducing the Number of City Court Judges in the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 2 - Requesting that the New York State Senate Enact Senate Bill No. S8302 Reducing the Number of City Court Judges in the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund and Self-Funded Health Insurance Budgets
- Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing Change to City Fees and Charges Schedule for Bus Advertising
- Resolution No. 5 - Approving Agreement of Lease Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.
- Resolution No. 6 - Approving Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.
- Resolution No. 7 - Approving Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract
- Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Proposal for Energy Performance Contract
- Resolution No. 9 - Authorizing Supplemental Agreement #2 Contract No. D035666 Massey Street, Coffeen Street, & Court Street Bridges, PIN 775362, Project Engineering, Design, ROW Incidentals, ROW Acquisition
- Resolution No. 10 - Accepting Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant Application for COVID-19 Relief Package, Police Department
- Resolution No. 11 - Approving Change Order No. 1 for the CDBG Sidewalk and Northside ADA Ramps Repair Project, Concrete Slipform Inc.
- Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 47-space Parking Lot and a Reconfiguration of the Existing Parking Lot at 420 Gaffney Drive, VL-2 Gaffney Drive, 234-238 Glenn Avenue, 233 Stanton Street, and M151 Carlton Avenue, Parcel Numbers 8-40-101.003, 8-40-101.005, 8-40-108.000, 8-19-206.100, 8-18-322.000, 8-19-207.100, and 8-18-303.000

- Resolution No. 13 - Requesting The City Police Department to Issue a Permit for Consumption of Alcohol In Designated Areas of Public Square
- Resolution No. 14 - Authorizing a Grant Application to the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program
- Public Hearing - Resolution Authorizing Spending From Capital Reserve Fund
- Tabled Resolution - Finding That Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 1348, 1352, and 1356 Washington St., Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000, and 14-21-108.000 from Residence B to Neighborhood Business Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment
- Tabled Ordinance - Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street, Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000 from Residence B to Neighborhood Business
- Brett Street Property
- NDC Housing Program
- Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – May 2020
- Sales Tax Revenue – May 2020

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 adjourned meeting on June 1, 2020 and regular meeting of June 1, 2020 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 Melinda Gault, Executive Director of Community Action Planning Council (CAPC) of Jefferson County, expressing appreciation to Council for re-instating their funding in the 2020-21 City budget.

A petition was received containing 24 signatures of residents opposed to the proposed development of 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:15 p.m. Mayor Smith asked the City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning authorizing spending from Capital Reserve Fund.

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

No one spoke.

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

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Requesting that the New York State Assembly Enact Assembly Bill No. A10514 Reducing the Number of City Court Judges in the City of Watertown

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS, the State Legislature amended the New York Uniform City Court Act and New York Judiciary Law to increase the number of judges in several City Courts throughout the State, which amendment took effect on April 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, among the changes made by the Legislature was an increase in Watertown City Court Judge positions from one full-time City Court Judge and one part-time City Court Judge (1/4 time) to two full-time City Court judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the initial proposal of the ad hoc City Court Advisory Committee of the State's Chief Administrative Judge recommended, in its initial report to the State Legislature, that the City of Watertown remain at one and one-quarter judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc Advisory Committee's report made specific findings that, in connection with municipalities where the number of judgeships would be increased, there had been a process of statewide consultation with Mayors and a review of facilities of affected cities, to include the "suitability and sufficiency of existing courtrooms and other facilities to accommodate the proposed new and expanded judgeships;" and

WHEREAS, the political process resulted in amendments to the legislation calling for two full-time Watertown City Court judgeships in lieu of the ad hoc Advisory Committee's recommended one and one-quarter judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the amended legislation was referred back to the ad hoc Committee for its comments; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc Committee re-issued its report, recommending the assignment of two full-time judges to the Watertown City Court, but made no changes in connection with its comments that there had been a process of statewide consultation with Mayors and that the "facilities were suitable and sufficient to accommodate the proposed new and expanded judgeships, including courtrooms;" and

WHEREAS, effective April 1, 2014, the new legislation went into effect, creating two full-time elected judgeships in the City of Watertown; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Watertown believes that the original allocation of one and one-quarter judges, one of which was elected and the other was appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of City Council, was and is sufficient to handle the workload of Watertown City Court; and

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown's Mayor was never consulted concerning the expansion of elected judgeships and, regardless of the ad hoc Committee's claim that facilities were sufficient, the Office of Court Administration has now insisted that the City expand its facilities, to include an additional courtroom, to accommodate a judgeship which was never requested and is not necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Watertown believes that it is in the best interests of the City to ask its elected officials, at the State level, to introduce legislation designed to reduce the City of Watertown City Court judgeships to one and one-quarter judgeships, to be filled in the same manner as existed prior to the 2014 legislation; and

WHEREAS, one of the City of Watertown's existing City Court Judges is running unopposed for a judgeship at the County level, the election to which, and taking of that oath of office, will create a vacancy in that position as of December 31, 2020, and the timing is appropriate to request legislation, now, to be in effect at the end of this calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Hon. Mark Walczyk, Watertown's representative to the New York State Assembly, introduced Assembly Bill A10514 designed to amend the Uniform City Court Act and the Judiciary Law in relation to Watertown City Court judges, such introduction having been made at the request of the Watertown City Council pursuant to a Resolution adopted on May 4, 2020,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Watertown, that it respectfully requests that the New York State Assembly enact Assembly Bill No. A10514 designed to reduce the City of Watertown City Court judgeships to 1 1/4 judgeships, to be filled in the same manner as existed prior to the 2014 amendment to the New York Uniform City Court Act and New York Judiciary Law.

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

Resolution No. 2 - Requesting that the New York State Senate Enact Senate Bill No. S8302 Reducing the Number of City Court Judges in the City of Watertown

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS, the State Legislature amended the New York Uniform City Court Act and New York Judiciary Law to increase the number of judges in several City Courts throughout the State, which amendment took effect on April 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, among the changes made by the Legislature was an increase in Watertown City Court Judge positions from one full-time City Court Judge and one part-time City Court Judge (1/4 time) to two full-time City Court judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the initial proposal of the ad hoc City Court Advisory Committee of the State's Chief Administrative Judge recommended, in its initial report to the State Legislature, that the City of Watertown remain at one and one-quarter judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc Advisory Committee's report made specific findings that, in connection with municipalities where the number of judgeships would be increased, there had been a process of statewide consultation with Mayors and a review of facilities of affected cities, to include the "suitability

and sufficiency of existing courtrooms and other facilities to accommodate the proposed new and expanded judgeships;” and

WHEREAS, the political process resulted in amendments to the legislation calling for two full-time Watertown City Court judgeships in lieu of the ad hoc Advisory Committee’s recommended one and one-quarter judgeships; and

WHEREAS, the amended legislation was referred back to the ad hoc Committee for its comments; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc Committee re-issued its report, recommending the assignment of two full-time judges to the Watertown City Court, but made no changes in connection with its comments that there had been a process of statewide consultation with Mayors and that the “facilities were suitable and sufficient to accommodate the proposed new and expanded judgeships, including courtrooms;” and

WHEREAS, effective April 1, 2014, the new legislation went into effect, creating two full-time elected judgeships in the City of Watertown; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Watertown believes that the original allocation of one and one-quarter judges, one of which was elected and the other was appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of City Council, was and is sufficient to handle the workload of Watertown City Court; and

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown’s Mayor was never consulted concerning the expansion of elected judgeships and, regardless of the ad hoc Committee’s claim that facilities were sufficient, the Office of Court Administration has now insisted that the City expand its facilities, to include an additional courtroom, to accommodate a judgeship which was never requested and is not necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Watertown believes that it is in the best interests of the City to ask its elected officials, at the State level, to introduce legislation designed to reduce the City of Watertown City Court judgeships to one and one-quarter judgeships, to be filled in the same manner as existed prior to the 2014 legislation; and

WHEREAS, one of the City of Watertown’s existing City Court Judges is running unopposed for a judgeship at the County level, the election to which, and taking of that oath of office, will create a vacancy in that position as of December 31, 2020, and the timing is appropriate to request legislation, now, to be in effect at the end of this calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Hon. Patty Ritchie, Watertown’s representative to the New York State Senate, introduced Senate Bill S8302 designed to amend the Uniform City Court Act and the Judiciary Law in relation to Watertown City Court judges, such introduction having been made at the request of the Watertown City Council pursuant to a Resolution adopted on May 4, 2020,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Watertown, that it respectfully requests that the New York State Senate enact Senate Bill No. S8302 designed to reduce the City of Watertown City Court judgeships to 1 1/4 judgeships, to be filled in the same manner as existed prior to the 2014 amendment to the New York Uniform City Court Act and New York Judiciary Law.

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

Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund and Self-Funded Health Insurance Budgets

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS on June 1, 2020 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21, of which \$41,872,180 was appropriated for the General Fund and \$9,880,811 for the Self-Funded Health Insurance Fund, and

WHEREAS the adopted budget eliminated two Parks and Recreation Maintenance Worker positions for which City Council would now like to restore one of said positions,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund and Self-Funded Health Insurance Fund Budgets for Fiscal Year 2020-21 to add back one Parks and Recreation Maintenance Worker position and reduce various Parks and Recreation temporary personal service and applicable fringe benefit expenditure lines to fund the position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby that the following adjustments be included in the re-adopted General Fund and Self-Funded Health Insurance Fund Budgets:

GENERAL FUND

A.7110.0130	Thompson Park - Wages	\$ 19,314
A.7110.0140	Thompson Park - Temporary	\$ (20,000)
A.7110.0810	Thompson Park - Retirement	\$ 1,697
A.7110.0830	Thompson Park - Social Security	\$ (55)
A.7110.0850	Thompson Park - Health Insurance	\$ 1,800
A.7140.0130	Playgrounds - Wages	\$ (4,541)
A.7140.0810	Playgrounds - Retirement	\$ (749)
A.7140.0830	Playgrounds - Social Security	\$ (348)
A.7140.0850	Playgrounds - Health Insurance	\$ (834)
A.7141.0130	Outdoor Recreation - Wages	\$ 6,221
A.7141.0810	Outdoor Recreation - Retirement	\$ 951
A.7141.0830	Outdoor Recreation - Social Security	\$ 475
A.7141.0850	Outdoor Recreation - Health Insurance	\$ 2,296
A.7180.0130	Pools - Wages	\$ (1,095)
A.7180.0810	Pools - Retirement	\$ (160)
A.7180.0830	Pools - Social Security	\$ (83)
A.7180.0850	Pools - Health Insurance	\$ (285)
A.7265.0130	Arena - Wages	\$ 18,978
A.7265.0140	Arena - Temporary	\$ (20,000)
A.7265.0810	Arena - Retirement	\$ 1,239
A.7265.0830	Arena - Social Security	\$ (76)
A.7265.0850	Arena - Health Insurance	\$ 3,710
A.9050.0800	Unemployment Claims	\$ (8,455)
	Total	<u>\$ -</u>

<u>SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE FUND</u>		
MS.0000.1270	Shared Services Charges	\$ 6,688
MS.0000.2708	Employee Contributions	<u>\$ 1,179</u>
	Total	\$ 7,867
MS.0000.0909	Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>\$ (7,867)</u>
		<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

Secinded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith explained that this is to put the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Worker back into the budget by reducing the amount budgeted for temporary employees.

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

Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing Change to City Fees and Charges Schedule for Bus Advertising

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 the FY 2020-2021 City Fees and Charges Schedule was adopted by City Council on June 1, 2020 when the FY 2020-2021 Budget was adopted, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to revise rates for Advertising Displays on CitiBus,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, hereby authorizes the attached City Fees and Charges Schedule for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, to include the rates changes for Advertising Displays on CitiBus, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this schedule is effective July 1, 2020.

Secinded by Council Member Sarah V. Compo and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 5 - Approving Agreement of Lease Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown owns the property known as Thompson Park, located in the City of Watertown, and

WHEREAS the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc. desires to lease certain premises located at Thompson Park for the operation of the Thompson Park Zoo, and the City is willing to lease the same to the Conservancy under the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Agreement of Lease,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Agreement of Lease between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc., in connection with the operation of the Thompson Park Zoo, 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 Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Secoded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 6 - Approving Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the Lessor, City of Watertown, owns the facility known as Thompson Park, located in the City of Watertown, County of Jefferson, State of New York, and

WHEREAS the Lessor has entered into an Agreement with the Tenant, Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc., to lease certain premises located at the Park for the operation of the “Thompson Park Zoo”, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has provided both financial and in-kind services in support of the Thompson Park Conservancy, and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the taxpayers of the City of Watertown to provide direct support to the Thompson Park Conservancy to assist with operations as detailed in the attached Agreement,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc., a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

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

Secoded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Ruggiero stated, for the public’s benefit, that the agreement states the Zoo must give the City an accounting of how the money was used.

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

Resolution No. 7 - Approving Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Employee Assistance Programs are designed to assist employees and their families with difficult issues related to finances, stress at home and in the workplace, substance abuse, and other issues related to the well-being of employees, and

WHEREAS an Employee Assistance Program is an effective and supportive management tool aimed at helping employees cope with life's many challenges, and

WHEREAS the City wishes to provide such a program for its employees and their families in compliance with NYS DOT and FTA requirements, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown wishes to enter into a Service Agreement with Pivot, 167 Polk Street, Watertown, New York, for one year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract between the City of Watertown and Pivot (formerly Northern Employee Assistance Services), a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

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

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V. Compo and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Proposal for Energy Performance Contract

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Department has advertised and received sealed proposals for Energy Performance Contract, and

WHEREAS proposals were sent to (4) four service companies, with (3) three proposals submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., the proposals received were opened, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Dale Morrow reviewed the proposals received with the City Engineering Department and the Water Superintendent, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the proposal submitted by Wendel Energy Services, LLC, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the proposal of Wendel Energy Services, LLC, and

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

No Introduction

Resolution No. 9 - Authorizing Supplemental Agreement #2 Contract No. D035666 Massey Street, Coffeen Street, & Court Street Bridges, PIN 775362, Project Engineering, Design, ROW Incidentals, ROW Acquisition

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS a project for the reconstruction of Massey Street, Coffeen Street & Court St. Bridge, PIN 775362, (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for

the apportionment of the cost of such program to be borne at the ratio of eligible costs at 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 federal and non-federal share of the costs of the Design, Right-of-Way Incidentals and Right-of-Way Acquisition in the amount of \$529,000, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown authorizes the City Comptroller to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the costs of Design, Right-of-Way Incidentals and Right of Way Acquisition, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$529,000 is hereby appropriated from the existing Bond and made available to cover the local cost of participation in the above phase of the Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the costs associated with the phase of the projects listed above in the amount of \$529,000 from the Bond, 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 City Manager, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City of Watertown, Kenneth A. Mix, is hereby authorized and directed to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal 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 for the local share of federal aid eligible project costs and all project costs within appropriations that are not 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 Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 10 - Accepting Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant Application for COVID-19 Relief Package, Police Department

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown Police Department has been awarded \$39,782 from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program from the Department of Justice (DO), Office of Justice Programs, and

WHEREAS the project period for this funding is January 20, 2020 to January 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS these funds will be used for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the Police Department in connection with the Coronavirus,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the \$39,782 from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program from the Department of Justice (DO), Office of Justice Programs, and

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

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Police Chief Donoghue explained this is something the City did not have to apply for, and that the Department of Justice predetermined the amount of funds to be distributed to the agencies throughout the State. He said the City will receive \$39,782 and it will be used towards expenses for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in connection with COVID-19.

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

Resolution No. 11 - Approving Change Order No. 1 for the CDBG Sidewalk and Northside ADA Ramps Repair Project, Concrete Slipform Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS at the March 16, 2020 Meeting, City Council approved a bid from Concrete Slipform Inc. in the amount of \$248,981.50 for the CDBG Sidewalk and Northside ADA Ramps Repair Project, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown is planning to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility on Rutland, Emerson, Burchard and Bronson Streets, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown proposes utilizing Community Development Block Grant funds to replace and repair deteriorated concrete sidewalk at these locations, and

WHEREAS Concrete Slipform Inc. has now submitted Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$20,988.60 to include additional sidewalk blocks replacement on side streets, off of Rutland Street North, and on the front of Rutland Street properties previously not included in the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown approves Change Order No. 1 from Concrete Slipform Inc. in the amount of \$20,988.60, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, bringing the total to \$269,970.10, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 1 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

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

Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 47-space Parking Lot and a Reconfiguration of the Existing Parking Lot at 420 Gaffney Drive, VL-2 Gaffney Drive, 234-238 Glenn Avenue, 233 Stanton Street, and M151 Carlton Avenue, Parcel Numbers 8-40-101.003, 8-40-101.005, 8-40-108.000, 8-19-206.100, 8-18-322.000, 8-19-207.100, and 8-18-303.000

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Howard Ganter of The ARC of Jefferson-St. Lawrence has submitted an application for Site Plan Approval for the construction of a 47-space parking lot, a reconfiguration of the existing parking lot, including reconfigured traffic patterns, and associated site improvements at 420 Gaffney Drive, VL-2 Gaffney Drive, 234-238 Glenn Avenue, 419 Glenn Avenue, 233 Stanton Street, and M151 Carlton Avenue, Respective Parcel Numbers 8-40-101.003, 8-40-101.005, 8-40-108.000, 8-19-206.100, 8-18-322.000, 8-19-207.100, and 8-18-303.000, and

WHEREAS the Jefferson County Planning Board reviewed the proposal at its meeting on May 26, 2020, pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law Section 239-m, and adopted a motion finding that the project was of local concern only, and

WHEREAS the Planning Board of the City of Watertown reviewed the site plan at its meeting held on June 2, 2020 and voted to recommend that the City Council of the City of Watertown approve the site plan with the following conditions:

1. The applicant must designate the internal western drive aisle that parallels Gaffney Drive for one-way traffic only and must label this designation on the final plan set.
2. The applicant must assemble all seven (7) subject parcels, as proposed, by way of a new metes and bounds description that is filed with the County Clerk.
3. The applicant must obtain the following permits, minimally, prior to demolition and construction: Building Permit, General City Permit, Sanitary Sewer Connection Permit, Water Supply Permit and a Certificate of Zoning Compliance.

And,

WHEREAS the City Council has previously determined by resolution dated June 1, 2020 that the proposed construction and site plan is an Unlisted Action and will not have a significant impact on the environment, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT 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 Howard Ganter of The ARC of Jefferson-St. Lawrence for the construction of a 47-space parking lot, a reconfiguration of the existing parking lot, including reconfigured traffic patterns, and associated site improvements at 420 Gaffney Drive, VL-2 Gaffney Drive, 234-238 Glenn Avenue, 419 Glenn Avenue, 233 Stanton Street, and M151 Carlton Avenue, Respective Parcel Numbers 8-40-101.003, 8-40-101.005, 8-40-108.000, 8-19-206.100, 8-18-322.000, 8-19-207.100, and 8-18-303.000, as depicted on the site plan submitted to the City Planning and Community Development Department on May 21, 2020, contingent upon the applicant meeting the conditions listed above.

Secinded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 13 - Requesting The City Police Department to Issue a Permit for Consumption of Alcohol In Designated Areas of Public Square

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Chapter 75 of the Code of the City of Watertown governs the consumption of alcohol in public places and authorizes the Police Department to issue a permit to consume alcoholic beverages in public places, and

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to support local business by increasing opportunities for outdoor dining within designated areas within Public Square in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and

WHEREAS other communities have recently allowed for open containers in their business districts in order to allow for increased outdoor seating capacity, and

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to allow for the consumption of alcohol within designated seating areas of Public Square known as Public Square Park, the area designated as the furniture zone on all sidewalks within Public Square and in Lachenauer Plaza ***and in the green space of Park Drive commonly known as the Park Circle** during the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby requests that the Police Department issue a permit for the consumption of alcohol in the Public Square area, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the alcohol to be consumed in the Public Square area must be obtained from area restaurants as to-go alcohol only, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the consumption of alcohol in the Public Square area shall be limited to the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily in areas designated by the City to include the area known as Public Square Park, the area designated as the furniture zone on all sidewalks within Public Square and in Lachenauer Plaza ***and in the green space of Park Drive commonly known as the Park Circle.**

Secinded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

In response to Council Member Compo's question, City Manager Mix stated that there is no expiration on this permit. He explained that it would not be in effect after the State Liquor Authority's (SLA) special COVID requirement is discontinued and restaurants are not allowed to serve alcohol to-go. He added that this is only to serve those restaurants.

Council Member Compo stated that she believed this requirement was to expire on June 27 but it could be extended for two years.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson inquired about businesses outside of Public Square that have access to picnic tables set up by the City and suggested that the resolution be amended to apply to them as well.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to amend the 4th paragraph and the 7th paragraph of the foregoing resolution by adding the words “ and in the green space of Park Drive commonly known as the Park Circle” after the words “Lachenauer Plaza.” Motion was seconded by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson 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. 14 - Authorizing a Grant Application to the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the United States Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment has recently announced a funding opportunity to address deficiencies in community infrastructure supportive of military installations under the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program, and

WHEREAS eligible infrastructure projects include community support facilities that enhance military family quality of life, and

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown desires to pursue funding for the construction of a new amphitheater in Thompson Park to be utilized for events such as the July 4th Concert in the Park, concerts and other performances to strengthen the quality of life in our area for the military population and all residents of Watertown,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves and endorses the City’s application to the United States Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) under the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program for a project known as the Thompson Park Amphitheater Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to file a grant proposal and application for funding for the project and upon approval of said request, to enter into and execute a grant agreement with the Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member 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.

Mayor Smith explained that this is an application which does not require a City match and is a PILOT program by the Department of Defense (DOD). He said that he has spoken with the Garrison Commander and the Civilian Aid to Secretary of Army, former Mayor Butler, and there is another applicant in the community. Explaining that the YMCA has an excellent application for a program that is different from the City's application and can stand on its own, he said the City will apply for a grant for an amphitheater stage within Thompson Park. He stated this would benefit and be utilized by this community and the Fort Drum community. He stressed it is a completely different application and there is not anything that prevents or states the Base Commander cannot support two applications.

Council Member Roshia commented that the amphitheater idea has been discussed for a while and feedback from the community in regard to this has been positive, so he hopes this grant will work out for the City.

Council Member Compo agreed, stating she thinks this is something that the City lacks and that both the military and civilian communities will be able to enjoy.

Mayor Smith added that he spoke with Joe Rich regarding the number of concerts that DPAO has brought to the area and that they are adding data which will support this application as well.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Authorizing Spending From Capital Reserve Fund. *(Introduced on 6/1/2020; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 7 of the 6/1/2020 adjourned meeting minutes).*

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

Resolution - Finding That Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 1348, 1352, and 1356 Washington St., Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000, and 14-21-108.000 from Residence B to Neighborhood Business Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment. *(Introduced on 6/1/2020; tabled; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 11-12 of the 6/1/2020 minutes).*

Remained tabled.

Ordinance - Changing the Approved Zoning Classification of 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street, Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000 from Residence B to Neighborhood Business. *(Introduced on 5/18/2020; tabled; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 5-6 of the 5/18/2020 minutes).*

Remained tabled.

STAFF REPORTS

Brett Street Property

Mr. Mix explained that there was recent interest to purchase this property by Tony Augliano, 332 Broadway Avenue West, which was a response to letters that were sent out last year by the former City Engineer, Justin Wood. He advised that because it had been nine months since the previous letters were sent, he felt it was necessary to re-canvas the adjacent properties for additional interest, especially since one property had a new owner. As a result, he said, there are now several individuals who are interested in acquiring the land, so staff recommends that it be put to auction.

Mayor Smith questioned whether the parcel could be split and sold to the individual adjacent properties owners.

City Engineer Michael Delaney advised that some of the property owners are interested and some are not, and he warned that the City could get into a situation in which part of the parcel is sold causing the City to still own a piece that is landlocked but must still be maintained.

Discussion occurred regarding the different parties that are interested in purchasing the portions of the property, the cost of surveying and subdividing the property and who would incur those cost. Mr. Augliano joined the conversation through a video conference call and added input regarding his interest in obtaining ownership of the property. It was suggested that the individuals interested in purchasing the property could form an LLC and bid on the property at a public auction.

Council agreed to let the property go through the process of the public auction.

NDC Housing Program

Mayor Smith explained the City acquired two houses, 1101 Bronson Street and 214 East Hoard Street, through tax sale and that they are candidates for the NDC housing program.

Council agreed to have these houses go through the NDC program.

Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – May 2020

A report was available for Council's review.

Sales Tax Revenue – May 2020

A report was available for Council's review.

NEW BUSINESS

Picnic Tables Installed in Public Square

Council Member Compo thanked staff for installing the picnic tables so quickly and allowing restaurant patrons to enjoy outdoor eating during this unusual time.

Council Member Roshia added his thanks and noted he had received some good public feedback.

Council Member Ruggiero indicated she had seen many positive comments on social media.

Public Attendance at Council Meetings

Mentioning that Governor Cuomo changed his Executive Order to allow gatherings of 10 people be increased to 25 people, Council Member Compo commented that Council should consider opening meetings back up to the public. She suggested having a pre-registration system to handle the issue of limited available seating.

Mr. Mix indicated that staff was looking into how to best accommodate the allowed number of people in Council Chambers while still maintaining a safe environment, adding that barriers such as Plexiglas shields may be necessary. He stated the City may not have any option as the Executive Order that suspended open meeting lasts until July 6, which is the next regular City Council meeting. He noted that while the order could be extended, it had never been particularly clear as to whether it actually prohibited the public being allowed into the meetings. He said that it was going to be difficult to arrange the room due to the lack of space, and therefore, the number of people allowed in would need to be controlled.

Mayor Smith agreed that a pre-registry could be useful and that there may be a need to rotate the members of the public allowed so that everyone got a chance to come to meetings.

Police Reform

Since Chief Donoghue was present, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson asked if there were any ideas for a plan to follow the Governor's recommendation to take a look at the Police Department.

Mr. Mix indicated that there had not been enough time yet to look at exactly what would need to be done to comply.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson suggested that Ms. Voss and Mr. Lumbis assist with the community outreach aspect, since they have experience doing this with the Comprehension Plan.

Council Member Compo noted she had heard a news report that guidance on how to proceed would be forthcoming from the Governor's office.

Mayor Smith commended and thanked Chief Donoghue for the great job he does with the City Police Department, stating he would never advocate for defunding of the department. He added that he would love to be able to offer the department more resources, but that they always do a tremendous job with the resources they have.

All members of Council concurred.

Youth Baseball

Council Member Roshia inquired, in light of reductions in restrictions coming from the Governor's office, about the possibility of adding back youth baseball and softball for what is traditionally the second session.

Mr. Mix informed Council that he had received requests about this and that the organizations were also looking for reduced fees.

Mayor Smith stated that, as a rule, reduction of fees would not be possible.

Council Member Roshia clarified that he was particularly interested in the leagues run by the City.

Council Member Ruggiero added her support to adding any kinds of services back to the citizens of Watertown and also supports taking a look at what the organizations propose for reduced fees.

Alliance Meeting

Council Member Ruggiero informed Council that the Alliance would be conducting an online meeting which would include the topic of overdoses and all members of the public were invited to tune in to the meeting to participate.

Refuse Options

Mayor Smith asked the City Manager to look into whether there was something smaller than the 32-gallon tote that could be purchased to transition away from the stickers.

NDC Housing

Mayor Smith asked to take another look at the Borden and Ogilvie sites for housing development, noting that Neighbors of Watertown had investigated the possibility several years ago.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to move into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual and 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 7:56 p.m.

Council reconvened at 8:46 p.m.

A D J O U R N M E N T

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 8:46 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