

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
July 20, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding

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

Not Present: Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia

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

City staff present: James Mills, Geoffrey Urda, Scott Weller, Police Chief Charles Donoghue

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Authorizing Fund Raising Through the Northern New York Community Foundation for Operation and Maintenance of City Pools
- Resolution No. 2 - Appointment of Deputy City Constable, Patrick T. Connell
- Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget
- Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing Abate of Releived Water and Sewer Charges On Real Property Tax Bill For Property At 11 Public Square, Parcel No. 10-01-107.000
- Resolution No. 5 - Authorizing Sale of Real Property Known as 13 Shepard Purchase, Parcel No. 14-16-214.000 to Albert E. Gault
- Resolution No. 6 - Authorizing Sale of Real Property Known as 14 Shepard Purchase, Parcel No. 14-16-213.000 to Sidney A. Pond
- Resolution No. 7 - Accepting Change Order GC-2 for Thompson Park Pool & Bathhouse
- Resolution No. 8 - Authorizing Supplemental #1 Agreement With New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT), Final Design & ROW Phases of Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN: 70PS02
- Resolution No. 9 - Authorizing Professional Services Supplemental #1 Agreement for Design Services for ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition for the Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN 70PS02, Fisher Associates
- Resolution No. 10 - Appointing the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project Steering Committee
- Resolution No. 11 - Approving the Grant Agreement with Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. For the 2019 NDC Environmental Stabilization Program
- Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Sale of Real Property Known as 1101 Bronson Street, Parcel Number 6-12-205.000 to Neighbors of Watertown, Inc.
- Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance Pursuant to Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law of Refunding Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to be Designated “Public Improvement Refunding (Serial) Bonds”, and Providing for Other Matters in Relation Thereto and the Payment of the Bonds to be Refunded Thereby
- 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
- Laid Over Under the Rules - An Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Dated June 4, 2018, as Amended July 15, 2019, Authorizing the Issuance of \$525,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Design Cost of the Rehabilitation of Court Street Bridge and Massey Street and Coffeen Street Resurfacing, in and for Said City, to Expand the Purposes Financed to Include Construction and Right-of-Way Acquisitions, to Increase the Period of Probable Usefulness to Fifteen Years, to Increase the Estimated Maximum Cost to \$7,650,000, and to Increase the Amount of Bonds Authorized to \$750,000 to Pay for a Portion of Such Cost
- Academy Street Playground – Proposed Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Student Resource Officer
- LiveBarn
- Amending the City’s CDBG Citizen Participation Plan and 2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan for the CARES Act Funding
- Grant Street – Complete Streets Recommendation
- Tax Sale Certificates Assignment Request
- Tax Sale Certificate Assignment Request – 411 Binsse Street
- Property Purchase Offer – 632 Factory Street
- Property Purchase Offer – 135 North Rutland Street and 703 Franklin Street
- Sales Tax Revenue – June 2020
- Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – June 2020

Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 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.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Smith interrupted the regular course of business to proclaim August 21, 2020 as “Jefferson County Stronger Together Day” in the City of Watertown and throughout Jefferson County and encouraged citizens to continue their efforts to remain safe and healthy.

COMMUNICATIONS

A petition containing 5,681 signatures was received from In Defense of Animals in support of the use of non-lethal means for crow.

Above communication was placed on file in the office of the City Clerk.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Donnie Lee Barrigar, 134 Union Street, addressed the chair concerning his recent arrest in regard to taking down the Pride flag from City property as well as his opposition to wearing a mask during the COVID-19 pandemic and his thoughts that the earth is flat and non-rotational.

Mayor Smith interrupted Mr. Barrigar several times reminding him that he must keep his comments specific to City business and if he continues to be disruptive, he will be removed from Council Chambers.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Authorizing Fund Raising Through the Northern New York Community Foundation for Operation and Maintenance of City Pools

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Patrick Hickey has offered to raise funds for the operation and maintenance of the City swimming pools, and

WHEREAS the Northern New York Community Foundation was previously designated to serve as a vehicle through which individuals, organizations, and businesses can make charitable contributions in support of City programs, projects and initiatives, and

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown believes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City to authorize fund raising for the operation and maintenance of City pools,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown authorizes fund raising through the Northern New York Community Foundation for the purpose of providing resources to operate and maintain the Thompson Park Pool and William J. Flynn Pool, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Watertown is willing to accept the donated funds from the Northern New York Community Foundation for said purpose.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Henry-Wilkinson and Council Member Ruggiero thanked Mr. Hickey for offering to raise funds for the pool.

Mayor Smith reminded the public that the City will not be participating in the fundraising, and that it will be done by a private citizen.

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

Resolution No. 2 - Appointment of Deputy City Constable, Patrick T. Connell

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

BE IT RESOLVED that the following individual is hereby appointed as Deputy City Constable for the City of Watertown for the remainder of the year for this one-year term expiring on December 31, 2020:

Patrick T. Connell
173 Bowers Avenue
Watertown, New York 13601

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

Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Budget

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

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to operate the Thompson Park pool upon its construction completion for the remainder of the 2020 season, and

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to add a shared Secretary position to the Engineering and Planning Departments and abolish a Civil Engineer I position, and

WHEREAS the City Council is desirous of Parks and Recreation operating a youth baseball program, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 to appropriate funds to operate the Thompson Park pool, to create a shared Secretary position for the Engineering and Planning Departments, to abolish a Civil Engineer I position in the Engineering Department and to appropriate funds to operate a youth baseball program, 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 Budget:

GENERAL FUND

Revenues:

A.0000.2001	Parks and Recreation Charges	\$ 1,500
Total Revenue		<u>\$ 1,500</u>

Expenditures:

A.1440.0110	Engineering - Salaries	(\$51,700)
A.1440.0120	Engineering - Clerical	\$ 14,450
A.1440.0810	Engineering - Retirement	(\$ 3,575)
A.1440.0830	Engineering - Social Security	(\$ 2,845)
A.1440.0850	Engineering - Health Insurance	(\$ 6,200)
A.1990.0430	Contingency – Contracted Services	(\$ 4,365)
A.7141.0140	Outdoor Recreation - Temporary	\$ 700
A.7141.0460	Outdoor Recreation – Materials and Supplies	\$ 600
A.7141.0810	Outdoor Recreation - Retirement	\$ 50
A.7141.0830	Outdoor Recreation - Social Security	\$ 55
A.7180.0140	Pools - Temporary	\$ 20,650
A.7180.0150	Pools - Overtime	\$ 1,000
A.7180.0440	Pools – Fees	\$ 750

A.7180.0460	Pools – Materials and Supplies	\$ 5,000
A.7180.0810	Pools - Retirement	\$ 1,400
A.7180.0830	Pools - Social Security	\$ 1,675
A.8020.0120	Planning - Clerical	\$ 14,450
A.8020.0810	Planning – Retirement	\$ 1,425
A.8020.0830	Planning – Social Security	\$ 1,105
A.8020.0850	Planning - Health Insurance	<u>\$ 6,875</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 1,500</u>

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith explained the reason for the adjustments to the budget. He pointed out the amendment in order to add the City Youth Baseball program and offered clarification to the recent media reports regarding Watertown Little League’s interaction with the City. He noted that Watertown Little League is not a City program and many of the participants live outside the City. Mentioning that Watertown Little League’s field is outside the City limits, he explained they asked for use of the City fields due to repairs being done on their field.

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

Resolution No. 4 - Authorizing Abate of Releived Water and Sewer Charges On Real Property Tax Bill For Property At 11 Public Square, Parcel No. 10-01-107.000

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS there is an outstanding amount of City Real Property Taxes on the property owned by the Jefferson County Industrial Development Agency located at 11 Public Square, parcel number 10-01-107.000, the amount of which represents \$0.00 for 2020-21 City Taxes, and \$699.71 for releived water and sewer charges, and

WHEREAS, due to an administrative error in the posting of a payment causing \$699.71 of water and sewer charges to be erroneously releived onto the 2020-21 City tax bill, and

WHEREAS the Charter of the City of Watertown, Section 120, authorizes the City Council to correct any error made in the levying or extending of any tax, and

WHEREAS Real Property Tax Law Section 554 authorizes the appropriate tax levying body to make corrections to the tax roll before the expiration of the warrant, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that the amount of \$699.71 for releived water and sewer charges be abated from the 2020-21 City tax bill, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the charge of \$699.71 be reapplied to the water and sewer account for the property at 11 Public Square, parcel 10-01-107.000, and the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to adjust the tax commitment and records accordingly and make whatever refunds necessary.

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

Resolution No. 5 - Authorizing Sale of Real Property Known as 13 Shepard Purchase, Parcel No. 14-16-214.000 to Albert E. Gault

WHEREAS the City of Watertown owns a certain lot of land known as 13 Shepard Purchase, approximately 50'x 100' in size, and also known and designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 14-16-214.000, and

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

WHEREAS said the City has received a purchase offer for said real property from Albert E. Gault and

WHEREAS Albert E. Gault owns an adjacent lot of land known as 286 Barben Avenue, approximately 100'x 122' in size, and also known and designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 14-16-203.000, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires Albert E. Gault to merge the two lots of land known as 13 Shepard Purchase (parcel number 14-16-214.000) and 286 Barben Avenue (parcel number 14-16-203.000) into one parcel, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to ensure that properties such as this property be brought into compliance with all applicable provisions of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code and all City of Watertown zoning and health codes within one (1) year of their sale to subsequent buyers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 23, Subdivision (b) of the General City Law, Section 247 of the Charter of the City of Watertown as amended by Local Law No. 1, 1985, adopted December 3, 1984, effective January 17, 1985, and the ordinance, Municipal Code, Chapter 16 adopted by the Council on June 6, 1977, that the offer of \$100.00 submitted by Albert E. Gault for the purchase of Parcel No. 14-16-214.000, is a fair and reasonable offer therefore and the same is hereby accepted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith, be and he hereby is authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver a Quit Claim Deed of said real property to Albert E. Gault upon receipt of the above mentioned sum of money in cash only by the City Comptroller, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deed issued by the City contain a provision that if the property sold is not merged with the lot of land known as 286 Barben Avenue (parcel number 14-16-203.000) within three (3) months of the City's delivery of the deed to the buyer, the City shall have the right to seek reversion of title to the City, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deed issued by the City contain a provision that if the property sold is not brought into compliance with all applicable provisions of the State Fire Prevention and Building Code and all City of Watertown zoning and health codes within one (1) year of the City's delivery of the deed to the buyer, the City shall have the right to seek reversion of title to the City.

No introduction

Resolution No. 6 - Authorizing Sale of Real Property Known as 14 Shepard Purchase, Parcel No. 14-16-213.000 to Sidney A. Pond

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown owns a certain lot of land known as 14 Shepard Purchase, approximately 50'x 100' in size, and also known and designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 14-16-213.000, and

WHEREAS said real property has a City sewer line running through it that the City must retain the right to access, and

WHEREAS said the City has received a purchase offer for said real property from Sidney A. Pond and

WHEREAS Sidney A. Pond owns an adjacent lot of land known as 1141 Holcomb Street, approximately 60'x 116' in size, and also known and designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 14-16-212.000, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires Sidney A. Pond to merge the two lots of land known as 14 Shepard Purchase (parcel number 14-16-213.000) and 1141 Holcomb Street (parcel number 14-16-212.000) into one parcel, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to ensure that properties such as this property be brought into compliance with all applicable provisions of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code and all City of Watertown zoning and health codes within one (1) year of their sale to subsequent buyers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 23, Subdivision (b) of the General City Law, Section 247 of the Charter of the City of Watertown as amended by Local Law No. 1, 1985, adopted December 3, 1984, effective January 17, 1985, and the ordinance, Municipal Code, Chapter 16 adopted by the Council on June 6, 1977, that the offer of \$100.00 submitted by Sidney A. Pond for the purchase of Parcel No. 14-16-213.000, is a fair and reasonable offer therefore and the same is hereby accepted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith, be and he hereby is authorized, empowered and directed to execute and deliver a Quit Claim Deed of said real property to Sidney A. Pond upon receipt of the above mentioned sum of money in cash only by the City Comptroller, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deed issued by the City contain an easement to the City for accessing the City sewer line for maintenance purposes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deed issued by the City contain a provision that if the property sold is not merged with the lot of land known as 1141 Holcomb Street (parcel number 14-16-212.000) within three (3) months of the City's delivery of the deed to the buyer, the City shall have the right to seek reversion of title to the City, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the deed issued by the City contain a provision that if the

property sold is not brought into compliance with all applicable provisions of the State Fire Prevention and Building Code and all City of Watertown zoning and health codes within one (1) year of the City's delivery of the deed to the buyer, the City shall have the right to seek reversion of title to the City.

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

Resolution No. 7 - Accepting Change Order GC-2 for Thompson Park Pool & Bathhouse

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS on January 7, 2020 City Council accepted the bid from Con Tech Building Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$2,165,174.88, for the Thompson Park Pool & Bathhouse Project, per our specifications, and

WHEREAS Con Tech Building Systems, Inc. has now submitted Change Order GC-2 in the amount of \$4,288.29 to include placement of sod around the Thompson Park Pool,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby accepts Change Order GC-2 submitted by Con Tech Building Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$4,288.29 for the Thompson Park Pool & Bathhouse Project, bringing the total amount to \$2,169,463.17, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign all documents necessary to accept Change Order GC-2 on behalf of the City.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith explained this additional cost is due to the installation of sod and to prevent the area from becoming muddy since the pool will be opening immediately upon completion.

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

Resolution No. 8 - Authorizing Supplemental #1 Agreement With New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT), Final Design & ROW Phases of Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN: 70PS02

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS a Project for the City of Watertown Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN 70PS02 (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 100% Federal funds and 0% 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 Pedestrian Signal Improvement 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 Final Design and ROW Incidentals and Acquisition work for the Project or portions thereof, and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$198,000 is hereby appropriated from the 2018-19 Capital Budget and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phases 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 Watertown shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said amount immediately upon notification by the New York 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 request 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, Mayor Smith pointed out that there is no local match required on this.

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

Resolution No. 9 - Authorizing Professional Services Supplemental #1 Agreement for Design Services for ROW Incidentals and ROW Acquisition for the Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN 70PS02, Fisher Associates

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS a Project for the City of Watertown Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN 70PS02 (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 12 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ration of 100% Federal funds and 0% non-federal funds, and

WHEREAS in support of this project, the City Engineering Department has received a supplement to the professional services agreement with Fisher Associates for ROW incidental and

acquisition services for the Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project, PIN 70PS02 in the amount of \$135,000.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Supplement #1 to the Agreement between the City of Watertown and Fisher Associates, 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 the Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

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

Resolution No. 10 - Appointing the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project Steering Committee

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown is undertaking a rewrite of its outdated Zoning Ordinance which currently dates to 1959, and

WHEREAS the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project will make it easier for residents and developers to do work in the City and will be the main tool to implement the City's recently adopted Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS the City Council seeks to establish a Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project Steering Committee to work with the City's consultant on the project, Elan Planning, to help guide the development of the zoning ordinance recommendations, facilitate communication with the community and stakeholders and build commitment and collaboration throughout the process,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby appoints the following individuals to the City's Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project Steering Committee:

- Council Member – Ryan Henry-Wilkinson
- Planning Board Member – Linda Fields
- Zoning Board of Appeals Member – Samuel Thomas
- Resident/Commercial Property Owner – Hartley Bonisteel-Schweitzer
- Planning Department Staff
 - Michael Lumbis
 - Jennifer Voss
 - Geoffrey Urda
 - Michael DeMarco
- Code Enforcement Staff
 - Carolyn Meunier
 - Dana Aikins

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith thanked Council Member Henry-Wilkinson and the members of the Steering Committee for serving in this capacity. He said this is an effort to clean up zoning throughout the City.

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

Resolution No. 11 - Approving the Grant Agreement with Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. For the 2019 NDC Environmental Stabilization Program

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2019, adopted by the City Council on May 20, 2019, included \$40,000 for the NDC Program, and

WHEREAS the funding will be used to help stabilize properties that the City has acquired through the tax foreclosure process until a full redevelopment plan is put in place as well as to assist with needed environmental remediation, and

WHEREAS a Grant Agreement between the City of Watertown and Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the 2019 NDC Program has been drafted and is attached for Council's review, and

WHEREAS the purpose of this Grant Agreement is to establish a means by which the City and Neighbors can work together to accomplish the stabilization of up to two homes that the City has acquired through the tax foreclosure process and to establish the roles and responsibilities of each organization in order to do so,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby approves the Grant Agreement between the City of Watertown and Neighbors of Watertown, for the 2019 NDC Environmental Stabilization Program, 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 sign the Grant Agreement with Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the 2019 NDC Environmental Stabilization Program.

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

Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Sale of Real Property Known as 1101 Bronson Street, Parcel Number 6-12-205.000 to Neighbors of Watertown, Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown owns a certain lot of land known as 1101 Bronson Street and designated as Parcel Number 6-12-205.000, and

WHEREAS the City Council deems the property to be excess and not required for any City purpose, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown, Neighbors of Watertown, Inc., and the Development Authority of the North Country are partners in the NDC Housing Rehabilitation Program, and

WHEREAS Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. has offered to purchase this parcel as part of the NDC Housing Rehabilitation Program at a sale price subject to available funds after sale of the property by Neighbors of Watertown to a homeowner and all other obligations are met, but in no case will it be greater than Seven Thousand Six Hundred Seventy One and 62/100 Dollars (\$7,671.62) and the sale price will be deferred until Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. resells the property,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York approves the sale of property known as 1101 Bronson Street, Parcel Number 6-12-205.000 to Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. at the sale price stated above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the sale documents on behalf of the City.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Ruggiero asked if the City will be reimbursed once the property is sold and wondered if it was same that was done with the Academy Street property and if there had been any offers on the property.

Mr. Mix stated the process will be the same as all houses that go through the NDC program. He noted that the City had received all of its money back on other NDC properties but nothing on the Academy Street property as of yet, adding he was unsure if there had been any offers. He suggested checking with Planning and Community Development Director Michael Lumbis.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance Pursuant to Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law of Refunding Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to be Designated “Public Improvement Refunding (Serial) Bonds”, and Providing for Other Matters in Relation Thereto and the Payment of the Bonds to be Refunded Thereby

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS, the City of Watertown (the “City”) heretofore issued, on February 25, 2008, \$7,345,000 Public Improvement (Serial) Bonds, 2008, dated February 15, 2008 (the “2008 Bonds”), pursuant to various bond ordinances for various objects or purposes all as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof, and a bond certificate of the City Comptroller executed in connection therewith, and now outstanding and maturing on February 15 in each of the following years and amounts;

Year	Amount
2020	\$375,000
2021	325,000
2022	275,000

WHEREAS, it appears that it would be in the public interest to refund the \$975,000 outstanding principal amount of the 2008 Bonds maturing in the years 2020 through 2022, inclusive (the “2008

Refunded Bonds”) by the issuance of refunding bonds pursuant to Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS, the City heretofore issued, on June 15, 2010, \$2,225,000 Public Improvement (Serial) Bonds, 2010, dated June 15, 2010 (the “2010 Bonds”), pursuant to various bond ordinances for various objects or purposes all as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto and made a part hereof, and a bond certificate of the City Comptroller executed in connection therewith, and now outstanding and maturing on December 15 in each of the following years and amounts;

Year	Amount
2020	\$75,000
2021	75,000
2022	75,000
2023	75,000
2024	75,000

WHEREAS, it appears that it would be in the public interest to refund the \$375,000 outstanding principal amount of the 2010 Bonds maturing in the years 2020 through 2024, inclusive (the “2011 Refunded Bonds”) by the issuance of refunding bonds pursuant to Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS, the City heretofore issued, on April 15, 2011, \$2,175,000 Public Improvement Refunding (Serial) Bonds, 2011 Series A, dated April 15, 2011 (the “2011 Series A Bonds”), pursuant to various bond ordinances for various objects or purposes all as set forth in Exhibit C attached hereto and made a part hereof, and a bond certificate of the City Comptroller executed in connection therewith, and now outstanding and maturing on November 15 in each of the following years and amounts;

Year	Amount
2021	\$155,000
2022	165,000
2023	170,000
2024	180,000
2025	180,000

WHEREAS, it appears that it would be in the public interest to refund the \$850,000 outstanding principal amount of the 2011 Series A Bonds maturing in the years 2021 through 2025, inclusive (the “2011 Series A Refunded Bonds”) by the issuance of refunding bonds pursuant to Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS, it appears that each of the refundings of the 2008 Refunded Bonds, 2010 Refunded Bonds and 2011 Series A Refunded Bonds (collectively, the “Refunded Bonds”) will result in present value savings in debt service as required by Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. For the object or purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Refunded Bonds, including providing moneys which, together with the interest earned from the investment of certain of the proceeds of the refunding bonds herein authorized, shall be sufficient to pay (i) the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds, (ii) any redemption premiums on the Refunded Bonds at their respective call dates; (iii) the aggregate amount of interest payable on the Refunded Bonds to and including the dates on which the Refunded Bonds that are callable are to be called prior to their respective maturities in accordance with the Refunding Financial Plan (as hereinafter defined), (iv) the costs and expenses incidental to the issuance of the refunding bonds herein authorized, including the development of the Refunding Financial Plan (as hereinafter defined), compensation to the Underwriter, as hereinafter defined, costs and expenses of executing and performing the terms and conditions of the escrow contract, if applicable and fees and charges of the escrow holder, as hereinafter mentioned, (v) any redemption premiums to be paid on the Refunded Bonds which are to be called prior to their respective maturities, and (vi) the premium or premiums for a policy or policies of municipal bond insurance or cost or costs of other credit enhancement facility or facilities, for the refunding bonds herein authorized, or any portion thereof, there are hereby authorized to be issued not exceeding \$2,400,000 refunding serial bonds of the City pursuant to the provisions of Sections 90.00 or 90.10 of the Local Finance Law (the "Refunding Bonds"), it being anticipated that the aggregate amount of Refunding Bonds actually to be issued will be approximately \$2,305,000, as provided in Section 5 hereof. The Refunding Bonds described herein are hereby authorized to be consolidated for purposes of sale in one or more refunding serial bond issues. The Refunding Bonds shall be designated substantially "PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT REFUNDING (SERIAL) BOND", including the year of issuance, and a series designation if appropriate, shall be dated September 16, 2020, or such earlier or later date as shall hereafter be determined by the City Comptroller pursuant to Section 5 hereof, shall be of the denomination of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof not exceeding the principal amount of each respective maturity, shall be numbered with the prefix "R-" followed by the last two digits of the year of issuance, a dash and then from 1 upward, and shall mature annually on February 15 in each of the years 2021 through 2026, inclusive, or such other dates as the City Comptroller shall hereafter determine pursuant to Section 5 hereof, bearing interest payable semi annually on February 15 and August 15, commencing February 15, 2021, or such other dates as the City Comptroller shall hereafter determine pursuant to Section 5 hereof, at the rate or rates of interest per annum as may be necessary to sell the same, all as shall be determined by the City Comptroller. It is hereby further determined that the Refunding Bonds may be issued in one or more series, each having a separate maturity date and separate interest payment dates. The City Comptroller shall determine the amortization of each series, and may employ level debt service as an alternate method of amortization, at the discretion of the City Comptroller.

Section 2. The Refunding Bonds may be subject to redemption prior to maturity upon such terms as the City Comptroller shall prescribe, which terms shall be in compliance with the requirements of Section 53.00 (b) of the Local Finance Law. If less than all of the Refunding Bonds of any maturity are to be redeemed, the particular refunding bonds of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by the City by lot in any customary manner of selection as determined by the City Comptroller. Notice of such call for redemption shall be given by mailing such notice to the registered owners not more than sixty (60) days nor less than thirty (30) days prior to such date. Notice of redemption having been given as aforesaid, the bonds so called for redemption shall, on the date for redemption set forth in such notice for redemption, become due and payable, together with interest to such redemption date, and interest shall cease to be paid thereon after such redemption date.

Section 3. The Refunding Bonds shall be issued in registered form and shall not be registrable to bearer or convertible into bearer coupon form. In the event said Refunding Bonds are issued in non-certificated form, such bonds, when issued, shall be initially issued in registered form in denominations such that one bond shall be issued for each maturity of bonds and shall be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”), which will act as securities depository for the bonds in accordance with the Book-Entry-Only system of DTC. In the event that either DTC shall discontinue the Book-Entry-Only system or the City shall terminate its participation in such Book-Entry-Only system, such bonds shall thereafter be issued in registered, certificated form of the denominations of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof not exceeding the principal amount of each respective maturity. In the case non certificated Refunding Bonds, principal of and interest on the bonds shall be payable by check or draft mailed by the City Clerk as fiscal agent for the Refunding Bonds to the Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or to its partnership nominee, Cede & Co., while the bonds are registered in the name of Cede & Co. in accordance with such Book-Entry-Only System. Principal shall only be payable upon surrender of the bonds to the City Clerk as fiscal agent for the Refunding Bonds.

In the event said Refunding Bonds are issued in registered, certificated form, principal of and interest on the Refunding Bonds shall be payable by check or draft mailed by a bank or trust company or banks or trust companies located or authorized to do business in the State of New York, as shall hereafter be designated by the City Comptroller as fiscal agent of the City for the Refunding Bonds (collectively the “Fiscal Agent”) to the registered owners of the Refunding Bonds as shown on the registration books of the City maintained by the Fiscal Agent as of the close of business on the first business day or fifteenth day of the calendar month preceding each interest payment date, as appropriate. Principal shall only be payable upon surrender of bonds at the principal corporate trust office of the Fiscal Agent.

Refunding Bonds in certificated form may be transferred or exchanged at any time prior to maturity at the principal corporate trust office of the Fiscal Agent for bonds of the same maturity of any authorized denomination or denominations in the same aggregate principal amount. Principal and interest on the Refunding Bonds will be payable in lawful money of the United States of America.

The City Comptroller, as chief fiscal officer of the City, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement or agreements containing such terms and conditions as the City Comptroller shall deem proper with the Fiscal Agent, for the purpose of having such bank or trust company or banks or trust companies act, in connection with the Refunding Bonds, as the Fiscal Agent for said City, to perform the services described in Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, and to execute such agreement or agreements on behalf of the City, regardless of whether the Refunding Bonds are initially issued in certificated or non-certificated form.

The Refunding Bonds shall be executed in the name of the City by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Comptroller and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted, affixed or impressed thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Clerk. In the event that the Refunding Bonds are issued in certificated form, the Refunding Bonds shall be authenticated by the manual signature of an authorized officer or employee of the Fiscal Agent. The Refunding Bonds shall contain the recital required by subdivision 4 of paragraph j of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law and the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required

by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the City not to impose and collect from registered owners of the Refunding Bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the Fiscal Agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the Fiscal Agent.

Section 4. It is hereby determined that:

- (a) the maximum amount of the Refunding Bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to this ordinance does not exceed the limitation imposed by subdivision 1 of paragraph b of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law.
- (b) the maximum periods of probable usefulness permitted by law at the time of the issuance of the Refunded Bonds and the objects or purposes for which such respective Refunded Bonds were issued are as shown upon Exhibit A, Exhibit B and Exhibit C attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof.
- (c) the last installment of the Refunding Bonds of each series will mature not later than the expiration of the period of probable usefulness of each object or purpose, or the weighted average of the periods of probable usefulness of the objects or purposes for which said respective series of Refunded Bonds were issued in accordance with the provisions of subdivision 1 of paragraph c of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law.
- (d) the estimated present value of the total debt service savings anticipated as a result of the issuance of each series of the Refunding Bonds, computed in accordance with the provisions of subdivision 2 of paragraph b of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, is as shown in the Refunding Financial Plan described in Section 5 hereof.

Section 5. The financial plan for the refunding authorized by this ordinance (the "Refunding Financial Plan"), showing the sources and amounts of all moneys required to accomplish such refundings, the estimated present value of the total debt service savings and the basis for the computation of the aforesaid estimated present value of total debt service savings, is set forth in Exhibit D attached hereto and hereby made a part of this ordinance. The Refunding Financial Plan has been prepared based upon the assumption that the Refunding Bonds will be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$2,305,000, and that the Refunding Bonds will mature, be of such terms, and bear interest as set forth in said Exhibit D. This Council recognizes that the amount of the Refunding Bonds, maturities, terms, and interest rate or rates borne by the Refunding Bonds to be issued by the City will probably differ from such assumptions and that the Refunding Financial Plan will also probably differ from that attached hereto as Exhibit D. The City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to determine which Refunding Bonds are to be issued, the amount of the Refunding Bonds to be issued, the date of such bonds and the date of issue, maturities and terms thereof, the provisions relating to the redemption of Refunding Bonds prior to maturity, whether the Refunding Bonds will be insured by a policy or policies of municipal bond insurance or otherwise enhanced by a credit enhancement facility or facilities, whether the Refunding Bonds shall be sold at a discount in the manner authorized by paragraphs e and f of Section 57.00 of the Local Finance Law, and pursuant to subdivision 2 of paragraph f of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, and the rate or rates of interest to be borne thereby, and to prepare, or cause to be provided, a final Refunding Financial Plan for the Refunding

Bonds and all powers in connection therewith are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller; provided, that the terms of the Refunding Bonds to be issued, including the rate or rates of interest borne thereby, shall comply with the requirements of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law. The City Comptroller shall file a copy of a certificate or certificates of the City Comptroller determining the details of the Refunding Bonds and of the final Refunding Financial Plan with the City Clerk not later than ten (10) days after the delivery of the Refunding Bonds, as herein provided.

Section 6. Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph a of Section 56.00 of the Local Finance Law, the power to determine whether to issue the Refunding Bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service, as provided in paragraph d of Section 21.00 and in paragraph c of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller. All other matters relating to said Refunding Bonds issued by said City and having substantially level or declining annual debt service, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller.

Section 7. The City Comptroller is hereby further delegated all powers of this Council with respect to agreements for credit enhancement, derived from and pursuant to Section 168.00 of the Local Finance Law, for said Refunding Bonds, including, but not limited to the determination of the provider of such credit enhancement facility or facilities and the terms and contents of any agreement or agreements related thereto.

Section 8. The City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an escrow contract or contracts (the "Escrow Contract"), if deemed necessary by the City Comptroller, with a bank or trust company chosen by the City Comptroller, located and authorized to do business in this State (the "Escrow Holder"), for the purpose of having the Escrow Holder act, in connection with the Refunding Bonds, as the escrow holder to perform the services described in Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 9. The faith and credit of said City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Refunding Bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such Refunding Bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said City a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 10. All of the proceeds from the sale of the Refunding Bonds, including the premium, if any, but excluding accrued interest thereon and any amount applied by or on behalf of the City on the date of delivery of the Refunding Bonds for costs of credit enhancement, shall immediately upon receipt thereof be placed in escrow with the Escrow Holder for the Refunded Bonds. Any accrued interest on the Refunding Bonds shall be paid to the Office of the City Comptroller to be expended to pay interest on the Refunding Bonds on February 15, 2021, or such other first interest payment date of a series as may be determined by the City Comptroller in accordance with Section 5 hereof. Such proceeds as are deposited in the escrow deposit fund for the payment of interest, premium or principal of the Refunded Bonds, to be created and established pursuant to the Escrow Contract, whether in the form of cash or investments, or both, inclusive of any interest earned from the investment thereof, shall be irrevocably committed and pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the series of Refunded Bonds for which such escrow deposit fund was established in accordance with Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, and the holders, from time to time, of such series of Refunded Bonds shall have a lien

upon such moneys held by the Escrow Holder. Such pledge and lien shall become valid and binding upon the issuance of such series of Refunding Bonds and the moneys and investments held by the Escrow Holder for the Refunded Bonds in such escrow deposit fund shall immediately be subject thereto without any further act. Such pledge and lien shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the City irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof.

Section 11. Notwithstanding any other provision of this ordinance, so long as any of the Refunding Bonds shall be outstanding, the City shall not use, or permit the use of, any proceeds from the sale of the Refunding Bonds in any manner which would cause the Refunding Bonds, issued as a tax exempt bond, to be an “arbitrage bond” as defined in Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and, to the extent applicable, the regulations promulgated by the United States Treasury Department thereunder, as then in effect.

Section 12. In accordance with the provisions of Section 53.00, Section 90.00 or of paragraph h of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, as applicable, the City hereby elects to call in and redeem (i) the 2008 Refunded Bonds and the 2010 Refunded Bonds on October 16, 2020, and (ii) the 2011A Refunded Bonds on November 15, 2020, or such later date(s) as shall be determined in accordance with the final Refunding Financial Plan, at par, or such portion thereof as shall be determined in accordance with the final Refunding Financial Plan.

The Escrow Holder for the Refunding Bonds is hereby authorized and directed to cause notices of such calls for redemption to be given in the name of the City in the manner and within the times provided in each respective Refunded Bond Ordinance. Such notices of redemption shall be in substantially the forms to be attached to the Escrow Contract. Upon the issuance of any series of Refunding Bonds, the election to call in and redeem the callable Refunded Bonds refunded by such series and the direction to the Escrow Holder to cause notices thereof to be given as provided in this paragraph shall become irrevocable, provided that this paragraph may be amended from time to time as may be necessary in order to comply with the publications requirements of paragraph a of Section 53.00 of the Local Finance law, or any successor law thereto.

Section 13. The Refunding Bonds may be sold at private sale to an underwriter designated by the City Comptroller (the “Underwriter”), for a purchase price to be determined by the City Comptroller on the date of sale thereof, plus accrued interest from the date of the Refunding Bonds to the date of the delivery of and payment for the Refunding Bonds, and all powers in connection with the sale of the Refunding Bonds to the Underwriter are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller. Subject to the approval of the terms and conditions of such sale by the State Comptroller as required by Section 90.00 or subdivision 2 of paragraph f of Section 90.10 of the Local Finance Law, the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to execute and deliver a purchase contract for the Refunding Bonds in the name and on behalf of the City providing the terms and conditions for the sale and delivery of the Refunding Bonds to the Underwriter. After the Refunding Bonds have been duly executed, they shall be delivered by the City Comptroller to the Underwriter in accordance with said purchase contract upon the receipt by the City of said purchase price, including accrued interest. Alternatively, the City Comptroller may sell the Refunding Bonds to a purchaser at public sale using an advertised notice of sale (the “Purchaser”) and may deliver the executed Refunding Bonds to the Purchaser in accordance with the notice of sale upon the receipt by the City Comptroller of the purchase price, including accrued interest.

Section 14. The City Comptroller and all other officers, employees and agents of the City are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the City to execute and deliver all certificates and other documents, perform all acts and do all things required or contemplated to be executed, performed or done by this ordinance or any document or agreement approved hereby.

Section 15. All other matters pertaining to the terms and issuance of the Refunding Bonds shall be determined by the City Comptroller and all powers in connection thereof are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller.

Section 16. The validity of the Refunding Bonds may be contested only if:

1. Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
2. The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this ordinance are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
3. Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 17. A summary of this ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in full in the Watertown Daily Times, the official newspaper of said City, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Laid over under the rules.

OLD BUSINESS

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.

An Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Dated June 4, 2018, as Amended July 15, 2019, Authorizing the Issuance of \$525,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Design Cost of the Rehabilitation of Court Street Bridge and Massey Street and Coffeen Street Resurfacing, in and for Said City, to Expand the Purposes Financed to Include

Construction and Right-of-Way Acquisitions, to Increase the Period of Probable Usefulness to Fifteen Years, to Increase the Estimated Maximum Cost to \$7,650,000, and to Increase the Amount of Bonds Authorized to \$750,000 to Pay for a Portion of Such Cost. *(Introduced on 7/6/2020; laid over; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 9-10 of the 7/6/2020 minutes).*

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

STAFF REPORTS

Academy Street Playground – Proposed Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Mayor Smith read the memo, stating the ribbon cutting will be held on August 3 at 6:00 p.m. and he confirmed for Mr. Mix that he would be available to speak at the event.

Student Resource Officer (SRO)

Mayor Smith reviewed the memo, stating everyone has been in support of adding a second officer in the past.

In response to Council Member Ruggiero's question of whether this meant that the City would rehire one of officers that were laid off due to the budget cuts, Police Chief Charles Donoghue indicated it does, as the department would backfill officers to fill the duties of the SRO.

Mr. Mix reminded Council that there is a 25/75 split of the costs but the school will only reimburse for hours that the officer spends at the school. He pointed out that with the possibility of students not attending school due to the pandemic, it may cost the City more than expected.

LiveBarn

Assistant Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Scott Weller explained the software which allows individuals to watch events and games remotely. He indicated that the implementation of it was requested by minor hockey and that it is subscription-based and offers not only live viewing but also video playback for 30 days. He pointed out that the City will incur no expenses to add the service as LiveBarn takes care of all costs. He added that the City will receive 30% of the proceeds, paid quarterly.

Mayor Smith agreed that this is a good service and mentioned that he has used it to watch his children's sporting events when he was unable to attend them.

Amending the City's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan and 2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan for the CARES Act Funding

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to schedule a Public Hearing to hear public comments on the proposed amendment to the City's Community Development Block Grant Citizen Participation Plan and the proposed amendment to the City's Community Development Block Grant 2020 Annual Action Plan related to the CDBG CARES Act Funding.

Motion was seconded by Council Member Sarah V. Compo and carried with all present voting in favor thereof.

Grant Street – Complete Streets Recommendation

Mayor Smith reviewed the report and staff's recommendation to narrow the street from 28 to 26 feet. He agreed with staff's suggestion to add five-foot sidewalks. He asked if parking would still be allowed on the street.

City Planner Geoffrey Urda explained that, as with other City streets, parking would be allowed on both sides of the street during the non-winter months. He added that there was a lot of flexibility in where the sidewalk would be placed and noted that it is a high pedestrian traffic area.

Tax Sale Certificates Assignment Request

Mayor Smith noted that a tax sale was held and the buyer missed the opportunity to buy the tax certificate. He explained that by holding onto the certificates the City has the benefit of receiving the interest payment if the taxes are paid.

Mr. Mills noted that there are two ways to go: sell the certificates which will collect the City's taxes and move on or hold on to the certificates which allows the City to control what happens with the properties. He noted one of the properties on the list is the disputed 542 Cooper Street, indicating if the City retained control of that property, they could then attend to those code issues. Mr. Mills also stated, for the record, that taxes for two of the properties on the list had been paid for by Mark Bonner and were no longer for sale.

Mayor Smith indicated that he was in favor of holding on to the certificates.

Council Member Ruggiero stated that she was for selling them and getting the cash into the City's coffers now.

Council Members Henry-Wilkinson and Compo agreed with the Mayor to hold on to the tax sale certificates.

Tax Sale Certificate Assignment Request – 411 Binsse Street

Mr. Mix indicated that staff suggests holding on to this certificate, particularly because the potential purchaser has another property in the City with significant code issues.

Property Purchase Offer – 632 Factory Street

Although the report suggested putting the property to auction, Mayor Smith suggested that both owners of the adjacent properties be approached about splitting the cost and dividing the property.

Attorney Slye informed Council that if that was done, a survey of the property would be necessary and noted the City should not incur those costs.

Mayor Smith suggested adding the costs to the purchase price of the property offered to the abutting owners.

Property Purchase Offer – 135 North Rutland Street and 703 Franklin Street

Council Member Ruggiero suggested that since the buyer, Patrick O'Connor, had made an effort to get the check in on time that he should be given consideration.

Council Member Compo agreed, mentioning the report indicates that Mr. O'Connor has health problems.

Attorney Slye reminded Council that deadlines exist for a reason.

Mr. Mills added that he did not wish to set a precedent that allowed someone to bring the wrong kind of check and buy themselves an extra month after the deadline.

Council Member Ruggiero mentioned that Council had allowed Mr. Chiarelly to buy his property back in a similar situation last year.

Mayor Smith noted that Mr. Chiarelly occupied that property and that Mr. O'Connor's properties are rental properties and for that reason he would support auctioning them.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson stated that he is in favor of auction.

Council Member Compo agreed on the grounds that she did not wish to set a bad precedent.

Sales Tax Revenue – June 2020

A report was available for Council to review.

Mr. Mills informed Council that 20% of State revenue had been withheld.

Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – June 2020

A report was available for Council to review.

NEW BUSINESS

Sewer Issue on Cedar Street

Council Member Compo mentioned she had been contacted about this issue and understood that the situation was being investigated.

Mayor Smith advised that he would be meeting with DPW the next day at 10 a.m. and they were going to tour the Cedar Street location to try to determine the source of the problem. He invited all Council members to join. He noted that there were concerns that possibly the Arsenal Street bridge project, completed by the State, had altered the sewer in some way, potentially causing this problem.

Council Member Roshia Absence

Council Member Compo indicated that Council Member Roshia asked for her to pass along the message that he is absent this evening due to traveling to a State that is on the list of quarantined States and not due to illness.

Mental Health – National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson discussed the issue of mental health concerns during this period of the pandemic and provided information on the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Owl Habitat at ZooNY

Council Member Ruggiero remarked that she, Mayor Smith and Council Member Henry-Wilkinson had attended the opening of the new Owl habitat at the Zoo and that she believed that the owl was the oldest one in captivity. She noted it was a nice event despite the rain.

Mayor Smith agreed that this was a great event and that the newly branded ZooNY was off to a great start.

No Parking Sign at the Parking Lot in Thompson Park Near Watertown Golf Course

Council Member Ruggiero asked why the “No Parking” sign had been removed.

Mr. Mix stated that no one on staff could find any indication that a “No Parking” sign had ever been placed. The “Public Parking” sign had been removed, but no one recalled installing anything in its place or of being directed to do so.

Council Member Ruggiero insisted that she had seen it and noted a constituent had seen it as well. She noted that there had been a resolution in December to place one there.

Mayor Smith reminded Council Mr. Lundy has done everything asked of him at the Golf Course.

In response to Council Member Ruggiero’s noting the area was to be re-seeded after the septic was installed, Mr. Mix stated that the septic system had been installed.

Council Member Ruggiero stated that there was a great deal of overflow parking in that lot which was supposed to have public parking prohibited.

Mayor Smith remarked that parking has been in the area forever and the City provides lots of public parking in other areas in the City. He added he thought it was important to provide public parking in the City’s public park. He informed Council would ask for a Resolution regarding this at the August 3 Council meeting.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to move into Executive Session to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation 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 8:06 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

A D J O U R N M E N T

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 9:25 p.m. by motion of Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero, seconded by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Lisa M. Carr

City Clerk