

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
November 2, 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: Michael Lumbis, Yvonne Reff, Michael Delaney

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Approving IT Security Policy
- Resolution No. 2 - Accepting Professional Services Agreement for Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project, C&S Companies
- Resolution No. 3 - Finding That the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment
- Resolution No. 4 - Approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Sub-Recipient Agreement with Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the 2020 Homebuyer Program
- Resolution No. 5 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 2,707 Square Foot Parking Lot and a New Retaining Wall at 1511 Washington Street, Parcel Number 13-23-104.002
- Resolution No. 6 - 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 Limited Business and that Approving The Site Plan Application for an 11,532 Square-Foot Building and a 29-Space Parking Lot on the Same Parcels Will Not Have A Significant Impact On the Environment
- Resolution No. 7 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of an 11,532 Square-Foot, Building, and a 29-Space Parking Lot at 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street, Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000
- Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Grant Funding for Tree Planting From the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF)
- Resolution No. 9 - Approving Change Order No. 2 for the CDBG Sidewalk and Northside ADA Ramps Repair Project, Concrete Slipform Inc.
- Ordinance No. 1 - Amending Section 216-3 of the City Code to Change the Closed Hours of Hamilton Street Playground
- Public Hearing - Resolution Approving the Special Use Permit Request Submitted by David Reed, President of WER Yellow Cab of Watertown, Inc., to Allow an Automobile Sales Lot at 1170 Water Street, Parcel Number 4-27-202.101
- Public Hearing - 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 Limited Business

- UMR, ProAct and CanaRx Performance Reports for FY 2019-2020
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 regular meeting of October 19, 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 claim seeking damages was received from Ruth Vecchio regarding a broken pipe in front of her home at 750 Davidson Street which caused sewage to back up into her cellar.

Above claim has been referred to the Board of Audit.

Mayor Smith interrupted the normal course of business to announce that Council has decided unanimously to appoint Kenneth Mix as the permanent City Manager. He stated that Mr. Mix had dedicated 30 years to the City prior to his retirement and was willing to come back and serve as the interim City Manager. Mayor Smith said Mr. Mix transitions into this position thoroughly knowing the ins and outs of the City and he is also well respected by all the Department Heads. He explained that his contract will start on January 1 because he is currently under contract until then.

Each member of Council offered words of praise and congratulations.

City Department Heads were also in attendance within Council Chambers during this period of the meeting in recognition of Mr. Mix's appointment.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Jason Traynor, 142 Mechanic Street, spoke to Council regarding issues facing society, such as alcoholism, violence, abuse, and discrimination towards the disabled. Mentioning that he is forming a group called "Healing and Hope," he said that people need to be rehabilitated from the inside out and offered solutions that the City could do to help people. He submitted a copy of his proposal (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Jonathan Phillips, 735 Mill Street, addressed the chair regarding his concerns of loud noises in his neighborhood, the need to ticket trucks without tow hitches properly installed and leaves in the street blocking storm drains and causing flooding.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:15 p.m. Mayor Smith asked the City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning approving the Special Use Permit Request submitted by David Reed, President of WER Yellow

Cab of Watertown, Inc., to allow an Automobile Sales Lot at 1170 Water Street, Parcel Number 4-27-202.101

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

No one spoke.

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

At 7:16 p.m. Mayor Smith asked the City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning 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 Limited Business

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

Jonathan Phillips, 735 Mill Street, addressed the chair stating he has spoken to many of the neighbors that are not in support of this project and he suggested having Habitat for Humanity fix up these houses for people to live in. He said he does not feel a dentist office should be on this part of Washington Street.

Mayor Smith declared the hearing closed at 7:18 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Approving IT Security Policy

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown IT Security Policy has been developed to govern the secure operation and use of the City's computer system, and

WHEREAS this policy addresses and strengthens the City's commitment to individual access rights, disaster recovery, backups, and an overall policy to reflect changes in technology for the City's computing environment,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the IT Security Policy, a copy of which is attached hereto and made part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this policy shall reflect the City of Watertown policy to be followed by all employees effective immediately.

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

City Clerk Saunders advised that staff recommended Council consider Resolution No 3 prior to considering Resolution No. 2.

Resolution No. 3 - Finding That the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the Flower Memorial Library is the recipient of \$113,000 in grant funding from the New York State Education Department for the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS the grant will cover 75% of the estimated \$151,000 project cost and will involve the replacement of 12 large arched windows in the original part of the library, and

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

WHEREAS the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project would constitute such an “Action,” and

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

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project will have any significant effect on the environment, Part 1 of a Short Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared by Library Director, Yvonne Reff, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution,

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

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and comparing the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact is known and the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council reviewed Part 2 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

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

Resolution No. 2 - Accepting Professional Services Agreement for Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project, C&S Companies

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown wishes to replace twelve windows on the north, west and south sides the Flower Memorial Library, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has reviewed the proposal submitted C&S Architects, Engineers & Landscape Architect, PLLC (C&S Companies) to perform design and construction administration services in the amount of \$25,595 for the Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project and wishes to proceed,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the agreement submitted C&S Architects, Engineers & Landscape Architect, PLLC (C&S Companies) to perform design and construction administration services in the amount of \$25,595 for the Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project, a copy of which is attached and made a part of said resolution,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement with C&S Companies on behalf of the City of Watertown to proceed with the Flower Memorial Library Window Replacement Project.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Smith noted that there is grant money as well as money in the budget for this and asked if it included the cost of the windows.

Mr. Mix replied that there was enough money budgeted to cover the cost.

Yvonne Reff, Library Directory, confirmed for the Mayor that the project was approved by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

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

Resolution No. 4 - Approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Sub-Recipient Agreement with Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the 2020 Homebuyer Program

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City of Watertown's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2020 includes funding for the purchase and rehabilitation of at least five (5) housing units to income eligible homebuyers within the City of Watertown, and

WHEREAS the Annual Action Plan identifies the Homebuyer Program to be \$150,000 in funding for the purchase, rehabilitation, administration and program delivery, and

WHEREAS Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. will serve as the Sub-Recipient of the funds for program administration, and

WHEREAS a Sub-Recipient Agreement between the City of Watertown and Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the CDBG funds has been prepared,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby approves the Sub-Recipient Agreement with the Neighbors of Watertown, Inc. for the 2020 Homebuyer Program, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Kenneth A. Mix, is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Sub-Recipient Agreement on behalf of the City Council for the 2020 Homebuyer Program.

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

Resolution No. 5 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of a 2,707 Square Foot Parking Lot and a New Retaining Wall at 1511 Washington Street, Parcel Number 13-23-104.002

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Robert Ferris on behalf of Ferris Holdings, LLC, has submitted an application for Site Plan Approval for the construction of a 2,707 square foot parking lot and a new retaining wall at 1511 Washington Street, Parcel Number 13-23-104.002, and

WHEREAS the Planning Board of the City of Watertown reviewed the site plan at its special meeting held on October 26, 2020 and voted to recommend that the City Council of the City of Watertown approve the site plan with the following conditions:

1. Erosion and sediment control measures will be required at each of the pipe outfalls to ensure that sediment is not carried to Washington Street during heavy rain events.
2. All SWPPP requirements will need to be met and a copy will need to be provided to the City and the New York State DEC.
3. The applicant must obtain a Zoning Compliance Certificate prior to finishing the construction and paving of the lot.

WHEREAS the City Council has reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form, responding to each of the questions contained in Part 2, and has determined that the project, as submitted, is an Unlisted Action and will not have a significant impact on the environment,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown declares that the proposed construction and site plan constitute an Unlisted Action for the purposes of SEQRA and hereby determines that the project, as proposed, will not have a significant impact on the environment, and

BE IT FURTHER 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 Robert Ferris on behalf of Ferris Holdings, LLC, for the construction of a 2,707 square foot parking lot and a new retaining wall at **1511 Washington Street**, Parcel Number 13-23-104.002, as depicted on the site plan submitted to the City Engineer on October 16, 2020 and October 22, 2020, contingent upon the applicant meeting the conditions listed above.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council considered Part 2 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

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

Resolution No. 6 - 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 Limited Business and that Approving The Site Plan Application for an 11,532 Square-Foot Building and a 29-Space Parking Lot on the Same Parcels Will Not Have A Significant Impact On the Environment

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has before it an Ordinance for the zone change application submitted by City Staff to change 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 Limited Business, and

WHEREAS the City Council also has before it an application for Site Plan Approval, submitted by Michael Altieri, P.E. of BCA Architects & Engineers, on behalf of Sundus & Sarah, LLC, to redevelop the subject parcels into professional office space, comprised of an 11,532 square-foot building and a 29-space parking lot on the same parcels, and

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

WHEREAS approving the Zone Change from Residence B to Limited Business and approving the Site Plan for the proposed professional office building and parking lot would constitute such an "Action," and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that changing the approved zoning classification of this property and constructing a professional office building and parking lot constitute an Unlisted Action as that term is defined by 6NYCRR Section 617.2 (al), and

WHEREAS there are no other involved agencies for SEQRA review as that term is defined in 6NYCRR Section 617.2 (t), and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the proposed zone change and site plan will have a significant impact on the environment, Part 1 of a Short Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared by Mr. Altieri, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution,

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

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and comparing the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact is known and the adoption of the zone change and the construction of an 11,532 square-foot building and a 29-space parking lot will not have a significant impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia

Mayor Smith disclosed for the record that he and Dr. Latif have a professional relationship through Mayor Smith's employment in that patients are referred to each other's medical practices.

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council considered Part 2 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson noted that the proposed action is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan in that the Comprehensive Plan calls for this future land use to be as a neighborhood mixed-use area.

Council Member Compo explained that she has had several discussions with the neighbors and the developers and noted that the project has now changed significantly from how the project started. She added that this was mainly due to the Latifs making concessions in an effort to address the neighbors' concerns. Stating that not everyone will be happy, she said she feels it is in the best interest of the community as a whole, and the neighborhood, to approve this because the developers could wait and move forward with something similar to the original project once this area becomes zoned as neighborhood mixed-use. She pointed out that the neighbors also brought to light the issues with traffic and speeding on this section of Sherman Street and asked for it to be addressed.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson suggested that on-street parking could help mitigate some of the speeding concerns.

Mr. Mix mentioned that Council Member Henry-Wilkinson's prior suggestion of adding crosswalks in this area of Sherman Street was reviewed by staff and it could be done next year. In regard to on-street parking, he said it would rely on convincing residents of that neighborhood to participate with it.

Council Member Ruggiero stated that she has spoken to everyone involved including the Planning Board Members that voted on both sides of this issue and she agrees there have been many concessions made to the original project, but she also understands the residents' concerns. Thanking everyone involved, Council Member Ruggiero said she is torn, but feels that Council is here to listen to the residents and should be working for them.

Council Member Roshia commented that he has always been firm on his stance on this project from the beginning, but it is a balancing act for Council to be open to business within the City of Watertown while being mindful of the residents. Stating this is a difficult decision, he noted there has been a lot of work put into this plan to be community friendly and to invest in the community, so he will be supporting this project.

Mayor Smith noted that Council and the Latifs have listened to the neighbors and made several changes to the project, such as the drainage, setbacks and buffer zones, so this represents a compromise and allows for progress within the neighborhood and community.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero voting nay.

Resolution No. 7 - Approving the Site Plan for the Construction of an 11,532 Square-Foot, Building, and a 29-Space Parking Lot at 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street, Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS Michael Altieri, P.E. of BCA Architects & Engineers, on behalf of Sundus & Sarah, LLC, has submitted an application for Site Plan Approval for the construction of an 11,532 square-foot, two-story, professional office building and a 29-space parking lot at 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington Street, Respective Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000, and

WHEREAS the Planning Board of the City of Watertown reviewed the site plan at its meeting held on August 4, 2020 and September 1, 2020 and voted 3-2 to defeat a motion recommending that the City Council of the City of Watertown approve the site plan with the following conditions:

1. The applicant must expand the scope of the proposed easement with the neighboring property owner at 1358 Washington Street to include two feet north of the property line a distance of 70 feet west from Washington Street and preserve the described area as driveway for the benefit of the neighboring property owner.
2. The applicant must have all utility and lighting easements in place prior to the issuance of any permits.
3. The applicant must submit a photometric shielding plan for the entire site prior to the issuance of any permits.

4. The applicant must fulfill all requirements related to asbestos surveying and abatement prior to the issuance of a Demolition Permit for the existing structures at 1352 and 1356 Washington Street.
5. The applicant must combine the three subject parcels by way of a new metes and bounds description that is filed with the County Clerk.
6. The applicant must obtain the following permits, minimally, prior to demolition and construction: Demolition Permit, Building Permit, General City Permit, Sanitary Sewer Connection Permit, Water Supply Permit and a Zoning Compliance Certificate

And,

WHEREAS the City Council has previously determined by resolution dated November 2, 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 Michael Altieri, P.E. of BCA Architects & Engineers, on behalf of Sundus & Sarah, LLC, for the construction of an 11,532 square-foot, two-story, professional office building and a 29-space parking lot at 1348, 1352 and 1356 Washington St, Respective Parcel Numbers 14-21-106.000, 14-21-107.000 and 14-21-108.000, as depicted on the site plan submitted to the City Planning and Community Development Department on August 21, 2020, contingent upon the applicant meeting the conditions listed above.

Seconded by Council Member Jesse C. P. Roshia and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero voting nay.

Resolution No. 8 - Accepting Grant Funding for Tree Planting From the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF)

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF) has recently awarded the City a grant to assist with costs associated with the Annual Fall 2020 Volunteer Tree Planting Project and the T. Urling Walker recognition ceremony scheduled for Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., and

WHEREAS 2020 marks the 20th consecutive year that the City of Watertown has been designated a Tree City USA, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has made the planting, care and management of City owned trees a priority over the last two decades in the wake of several devastating storms in the 1990's, and

WHEREAS the NNYCF's tree planting grant opportunity will allow for approximately 20 additional trees to be planted as part of the upcoming fall volunteer tree planting event in Thompson Park, and

WHEREAS the grant will also assist with the cost of purchasing a recognition plaque and stone to be placed on prominent display to honor former City of Watertown Mayor, T. Urling Walker, for his years of dedication to the City's urban forestry efforts, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby authorizes and endorses the acceptance of a \$2,000 grant from the NNYCF for tree planting and recognition ceremony funding under the DeWitt C. Middleton Fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager, Kenneth A. Mix, is hereby authorized and directed to sign the grant agreement, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, on behalf of the City of Watertown.

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

Resolution No. 9 - Approving Change Order No. 2 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 is utilizing Community Development Block Grant funds to replace and repair deteriorated concrete sidewalk at these locations, and

WHEREAS on June 15, 2020, City Council approved 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, and

WHEREAS Concrete Slipform Inc. has now submitted Change Order No. 2 to deduct \$19,167.50 as the project did not require the use of all the estimated material and changes to the scope of work on two of the three components,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Change Order No. 2 from Concrete Slipform Inc., which is attached and made part of this resolution, to deduct the amount of \$19,167.50 bringing the total to \$250,802.60, and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 2 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1 - Amending Section 216-3 of the City Code to Change the Closed Hours of Hamilton Street Playground

Introduced by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson

WHEREAS neighbors of the Hamilton Street Playground have made complaints about activities taking place at the Hamilton Street Playground, and

WHEREAS allowing use of the playground only during daylight hours will discourage the unwanted activities, and

WHEREAS as the City Council has determined that it is in the public interest to close Hamilton Street Playground during night-time hours,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, NY that it hereby amends Section 216-3 of the City Code by changing Paragraph A to read in its entirety: “No person shall enter or remain in any playground from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., except Hamilton Street Playground, which shall be closed from dusk to dawn.” and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this amendment shall take effect as soon as it is published once in the official newspaper of the City of Watertown, or printed as the City Manager directs.

Seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

Motion for unanimous consent moved by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Approving the Special Use Permit Request Submitted by David Reed, President of WER Yellow Cab of Watertown, Inc., to Allow an Automobile Sales Lot at 1170 Water Street, Parcel Number 4-27-202.101. (Introduced on 10/19/2020; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 7-8 of the 10/19/2020 minutes).

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council considered Part 2 of the Short Environment Assessment Form.

A discussion took place regarding the details and requirements of a Special Use Permit versus a Site Plan and the role of Council's approval.

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

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 Limited Business. *(Introduced on 10/19/2020; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety in the 2020 Minutes Book on page 17-18 of the 10/19/2020 minutes).*

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero voting nay.

STAFF REPORTS

UMR, ProAct and CanaRx Performance Reports for FY 2019-2020

A report was available for Council's review.

NEW BUSINESS

Special Use Permit – 700 Block of Washington Street - Stewart's Shops

Mayor Smith referred back to the earlier discussion regarding the criteria for a Special Use Permit and noted that Stewart's Shops had approached him about possibly moving their location to the vacant lots on the 700 block of Washington Street. He questioned whether this would fit into a Special Use Permit requirement and told Council to start thinking about whether they have an appetite to approve something like this prior to Stewart's application being submitted.

Christmas Parade

Council Member Compo indicated that Stan Zaremba had approached her about organizing a drive-by Christmas Parade and wondered what Council's thoughts were.

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson said he also spoke to Mr. Zaremba about a static parade due to the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Smith confirmed that Jefferson County Legislative Chairman Scott Gray is not opposed to this idea from the County's standpoint. He also pointed out that the Christmas Parade is not an event that is organized by the City.

Mr. Mix said that Mr. Zaremba was reluctant to organize a traditional Christmas parade this year and had suggested doing a static parade along Black River Parkway. He said he would speak to Mr. Zaremba further.

Tree Planting

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson offered a reminder of the tree planting this weekend in Thompson Park.

Council Member Ruggiero questioned whether there was also a tree planting in front of City Hall.

Planning and Community Development Director Michael Lumbis indicated that there will be one this Friday at 9:00 a.m. and noted the Arbor Day Celebration is a little later this year due to everything going on.

Zone Re-write Committee

Council Member Henry-Wilkinson indicated that the committee will begin to solicit comments from the public soon.

Privilege of the Floor - Mr. Traynor's Comments

Council Member Roshia stated there is a lot of merit to what Mr. Traynor said regarding different forms of abuse and noted that it is on the rise. Stating that he is not sure what the answer to it all is, he pointed out there are many nonprofit organizations in the community which can assist individuals.

American Flag at Half-Staff

In response to Council Member Roshia's inquiry, Mr. Mix advised the Governor has not reversed his directive for the flag to be at half-staff.

Winter Parking Restrictions

Council Member Ruggiero reminded everyone that winter parking restrictions went into effect on November 1.

Mill Street Storm Drainage – Mr. Phillips' Privilege of the Floor Comments

Mayor Smith asked the City Manager to have staff investigate this issue.

Crow Hazing

Noting that City staff will be trained in crow hazing, Mayor Smith wondered if there were members of the community that could volunteer to assist with this as well. He recognized that individuals would need to be vetted prior to participating, but thought that hitting the crows early in the season with several nights of volunteers and staff doing the crow hazing would be beneficial.

Motion was made by Council Member Ryan J. Henry-Wilkinson to move into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual, collective bargaining and pending, proposed or current litigation.

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

Council moved into Executive Session at 8:12 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 9:14 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