

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

May 27, 2010

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Michael Kelly (W2), George Rabideau (W3), Jim Calnon (W4), Amy Valentine (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on May 20, 2010 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Valentine; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending May 26, 2010 in the amount of \$ 269,456.85 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of May 20 - 26, 2010
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office from March 25 – May 24, 2010

RESOLVED: That the reports as read are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills approved by the Auditing Committee of the Common Council in the amount of \$ 2,111,332.64 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bill Treacy, Manager MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from May 1, 2009 to May 31, 2009 in the total amount of \$5,527.95. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .57 %.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Jackson
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Kevin Farrington, City Engineer to advertise for bids for contract #2010-09, "Painted Pavement Markings."

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to perform a budget transfer for additional unbudgeted costs related to the 2010 budget for the telephone maintenance contract invoices received from TwinState Voice Data/Video. The transfer will add \$1,420.26 allocated between all of the telephone appropriation accounts in the General Fund and relieve the Contingency for the same amount thereby not increasing the 2010 budget.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon
Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that Handy Dan D Home Improvement be awarded the contract #HOME 2009-1 (14 Leblanc Lane) for \$16,345. This project will be funded by the 2009 HOME program.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Kevin Farrington, City Engineer to advertise for bids for contract #2010-08, "Park Avenue Roadway & Waterline Improvements."

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion:

Councilor Rabideau said we had discussed last week but this street was chosen because of priority due to 5 water breaks last winter.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. THE MAYOR HANDS DOWN THE APPOINTMENT OF BRETT CARPENTER TO THE POSITION OF FIRE FIGHTER EFFECTIVE MAY 27, 2010.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. THE MAYOR HANDS DOWN THE PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CITY CHAMBERLAIN TO CAROLE GARCIA EFFECTIVE MAY 28, 2010.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

H. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a leave of absence for Carole Garcia from her position as accountant effective May 28, 2010 until her probationary requirements are completed.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

I. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to approve a budget transfer of \$850 from Contingency to Parks & Beautification for the 2010 Budget to cover repair of emblems attached to the monuments at the Clyde Lewis Memorial Park.

By Councilor Valentine; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion:

Councilor Jackson said he knew we have a pool of money for the maintenance of that park and we can use only the interest.

Mayor Kasprzak said that can only be used for the repairs of the airplanes. He checked in to it last week and was told we couldn't use those funds.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

J. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Seth Silver of 40 Trafalgar Drive to close down part of Trafalgar Drive on June 19, 2010 from 10 am to 6 pm to have a safe area for a block party.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson

(Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Calnon, Valentine and Jackson voted in the affirmative. Councilor Rabideau voted in the negative.)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

K. RESOLVED: The Mayor is authorized to sign a Services Contract with the Technical Assistance Center at SUNY Plattsburgh for the development of a promotional power point presentation for use in connection with The City of Plattsburgh's community development efforts. A copy of the approved contract is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Discussion:

Councilor Carpenter said over the last few weeks he has heard several people talk about the ability to get someone to invest in Plattsburgh. These are people that he respects so I listened to what they had to say. They said that we are going to have to find a "loser" or a "sucker" or someone with more money than sense to invest in to the different properties that the city has open. He started to think maybe these people are right, maybe this city is in trouble and maybe we aren't going to be able to change things. He grew up in the south end or "fox hill" as they called it. His mom went to OLVA Secretarial School and that is a pretty big building and it wasn't too long ago that the secretarial school closed down. That building was used for almost nothing a couple of people that tried to put a business in there but weren't successful. In a lot of other communities that had a big building like that would end up being condemned and demolished. He thinks to what is going on in Detroit right now they are bull dozing down huge chunks of the city. A "sucker" came along and bought that property. I don't know the gentleman his name is Ken Mousseau, I wish I did know him. When he bought the property it was tax exempt and returned nothing whatsoever for taxes. That property now is assessed at 1.2 million dollars and it returns to the City, school district and County over \$43,000 in taxes. Money that he or anyone else in the city doesn't have to pay out of their pocket this is money that is coming in to the city. Maybe this Ken Mousseau got lucky and maybe that is the only property this could happen to. His grandparents worked at the Imperial paper mill another business that closed down. Woe to the city we are in trouble that place is going to be condemned or we are going to have to bull doze it. The owner of that property hired a guy name David Bray, a pretty bright guy actually to manage that property and the Imperial building is thriving in fact they are getting close to where they would run out of room to bring new businesses in. There are several businesses there who are desperately trying to expand. Another "sucker/loser" could there be more? The old Seton building on Broad Street the United group came and put in college housing and they have been very successful there. The last one that comes to mind is the MAI building another building that in other communities would have ended up being condemned. Putting senior housing in and they have a waiting list of people and they don't even have one apartment finished that they can show and they have a list of people waiting and desperate to get in that place. The list goes on; the more he looked in to this the more places the more properties he saw that have been developed in this city with or without their help. I would submit to you that probably the "losers and suckers" aren't necessarily those who have some money to invest and come along but its more those who take a negative side and say it will never happen. He believes it will happen and there are people who have a lot of sense and people who are willing to invest and for that reason we need to finish and do this power point presentation. It will give us the ability in the most efficient way to market and look for someone to come and make a ton of money in the open properties we have. So he would urge his fellow Councilors please to vote yes and move forward.

Councilor Valentine asked **Corporation Counsel John Clute** that he confirmed last week that they

will get to preview the video/power point.

Corporation Counsel John Clute said yes we have it staged in 3 phases so they can help shape it as it evolves.

Councilor Kelly wanted to suggest if this resolution passes that they make it accessible from our website.

Corporation Counsel John Clute they can't do that but the presentation should be able to be "plugged-in" so the next thing we may have to look at is to "jazz" up the website.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Corporation Counsel John Clute to transfer the City of Plattsburgh Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund Administration responsibilities to Lake City Local Development Corporation.
2. Request from the City Chamberlain to approve a bond resolution of the City of Plattsburgh, New York, authorizing financing for the acquisition of public service equipment owned by the City to be used for maintenance and repairs of City infrastructure, stating the estimated maximum cost thereof is \$575,000, appropriating said amount therefore, and authorizing the issuance of \$575,000 serial bonds of said City to finance said appropriation according to the attached detailed resolution included in the minutes of this meeting, accompanied by extract and estoppel certifications to be supplied after the required legal notice has been published.
3. Request from the City Chamberlain to approve a bond resolution of the City of Plattsburgh, New York, authorizing financing for the acquisition of an aerial fire truck and apparatus owned by the City to be used for fire fighting, stating the estimated maximum cost thereof is \$900,000, appropriating said amount therefore, and authorizing the issuance of \$900,000 serial bonds of said City to finance said appropriation according to the attached detailed resolution included in the minutes of this meeting, accompanied by extract and estoppel certifications to be supplied after the required legal notice has been published.
4. Request from the City Chamberlain to approve a bond resolution of the City of Plattsburgh, New York, authorizing financing for the construction and reconstruction of streets owned by the City to be used for public conveyance, stating the estimated maximum cost thereof is \$1,976,000, appropriating said amount therefore, and authorizing the issuance of \$885,000 serial bonds of said City together with Federal and New York State funds in the amount of

\$1,091,000 to finance said appropriation per the attached detailed resolution included in the minutes of this meeting, accompanied by extract and estoppel certifications to be supplied after the required legal notice has been published.

5. Request from the City Chamberlain to establish capital project H7220.39 for the renovation and equipment purchases needed for the Crete Bros Gym as detailed in the 2010 capital expenditure plan.
6. Request from City Engineer Kevin Farrington to advertise for bids for Contract # 2010-10, "One new 2011 single axle truck w/snow plow and multi-purpose dump spreader body."
7. Request from City Engineer Kevin Farrington to advertise for bids for Contract # 2010-11, "One new 2011 tandem axle dump truck."
8. Request from NYSEG to temporarily use, occupy, and travel over the property of the City of Plattsburgh in the course of performing the coal tar removal project to allow for portage and boat access above dammed area.

Councilor Kelly would just like to ask that NYSEG mows the property they own down the street from this area it is overgrown.

9. Request from Police Chief Desmond Racicot for two police officers to attend the "Crash Management Training Series; Basic Crash Management and Intermediate Crash Management" in Albany, NY from June 27 – July 2, 2010 and August 8 –13, 2010 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$2,662.00 and will be paid out of Asset Forfeiture Fund (Split DOJ funds and Treasury funds).

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Valentine would like to say thank you to our Superintendent of Recreation, the Mayor and the Police department for accommodating the beach goers this week. In the end they did the right thing by opening the gates and allowing people to use the beach.

Mayor Kasprzak received two phone calls last night during and after the storm we had some real issues and MLD went out and did an outstanding job we had a pole down we had some trees and limbs. Mike Brodi had some calls and the police department they reacted very quickly, we had St Lawrence 1 go down and energize real quickly they did an outstanding job.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Kelly, Rabideau, Calnon, Valentine, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:52 pm