

At 5:37pm Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss potential issues of litigation and the employment of a particular person.

By Councilor McFarlin; Motion was not seconded.

Motion to enter Executive Session FAILS

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

April 16, 2020

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

(RC)

Present: Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Ira Barbell (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Elizabeth Gibbs (W3), Paul DeDominicas (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

Absent: None

MAYOR’S COMMENTS: spoke about the COVID 19 pandemic, very real health challenges we face, the difficult time we are facing, incredible financial challenges, the steps the city has taken to respond early and our Common Council has some very difficult decisions to make.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on April 8, 2020 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office

By Councilor Barbell; Seconded by Councilor Moore
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore
(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 April 15, 2020 in the amount of \$ 56,578.66 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 Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Barbell
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for March 18 - April 14, 2020
- Report from the Building Inspector’s office for the week of April 8-14, 2020
- Minutes from the City Infrastructure Committee meeting held on April 8, 2020
- Reports from the Police Department dated April 13, 2020

COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Governance, Strategy, and City Operations- Chair Councilor Barbell mentioned updates on Climate Smart Communities grant.

City Infrastructure – Chair Councilor Moore indicated no updates.

Finance and Budget – Chair Councilor Kelly met tonight indicated no further updates.

Public Safety – Chair Councilor Gibbs indicated nothing to report. Public Safety Committee next week would like to meet with Chiefs before that.

Plattsburgh Public Library – Chair Councilor DeDominicas indicated no updates.

MLD - MLD Board President Councilor McFarlin indicated no updates.

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and any written reports are placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor DeDominicas; Seconded by Councilor Barbell

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending April 17, 2020 in the amount of \$ 546,903.88 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Moore

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

No one addressed the Council in person, in writing or by utilizing the “Youtube” chat feature on the City of Plattsburgh meeting livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7H36PiuYNJJKZpczbLvCbw/>

7. OTHER ITEMS:

Items 7A, 7B and 7C added during Finance and Budget Committee held at 4:30pm, April 16, 2020:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves request from the City Chamberlain to amend the 2020 General Fund Budget by \$3,043,734.00 in reduced estimated revenues and increased appropriations for the projected financial impact of the Coronavirus lockdown, which will increase the General Fund appropriated fund balance by \$3,043,734.00.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Barbell

Discussion: Yes

Motion to Table

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor DeDominicas

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore

(Councilors Barbell, Kelly and Moore voted in the negative. Councilors Gibbs, DeDominicas and McFarlin voted in the affirmative. Mayor Read broke tie in the negative)

Motion to Table FAILS

Discussion: continues

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves request from the City Chamberlain to amend the 2020 budgets for the Rec Complex Fund, the Parking Fund, the Water Fund, The Sewer Fund, the Library Fund and the MLD Fund by a combined \$618,949.00 in reduced estimated revenues and increased appropriations for the projected financial impact of the Coronavirus lockdown, which will increase these funds appropriated fund balance or surplus by a combined amount of \$618,949.00.

By Councilor Barbell; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. Whereas, the City of Plattsburgh and its surrounding region have been afflicted with the worst global pandemic since the Spanish Flu of 1918 and 1919, and

Whereas, the City of Plattsburgh and its civic government have taken steps to help ensure the safety and health of City employees and citizens,

Whereas, the human costs locally and regionally will be tragic, so too will be the economic costs, and

Whereas, the State has ordered all non-essential workers to stay home, and

Whereas, the City must also ensure it has the resources to compensate its essential workers for the water and sewer, transportation and lighting, clerk and public safety functions, and the infrastructure necessary to maintain them, and

Whereas, the Common Council expects revenue to fall in the areas of sales tax, Aid and Incentives to Municipalities, utility and property taxes, reimbursements, recreation and parking fees, and revenue from various permits, and expenses to rise in the areas of COVID-19 preparation, first responder overtime, pension and health care contributions, bond interest, and employee assistance programs, and

Whereas, the City remains concerned about the financial well-being of all of its residents and must ensure that they are not burdened further, through fees or additional taxation, at this time of financial vulnerability; and

Whereas, initial analysis demonstrates that the City will need to reduce spending in the General Fund by \$3,043,734.00 and in other funds by unspecified amounts; and

Whereas, the Council's 2020 budget will require significant amendments in order to address these mounting financial challenges and the Council requests that the Mayor explore a combination of general fund utilization, re-allocation of available unappropriated revenues, and most pointedly, a reduction of appropriations; and

Whereas, Charter Section C-6-6C describes the process to amend the budget after adoption:

Reduction of appropriations. If it appears to the Mayor that there is likely to be insufficient revenue or unappropriated funds to pay an appropriation, he or she shall promptly inform the Common Council of the amount of the estimated deficit and recommend a course of action. The Common Council may, by ordinance or resolution, reduce one or more unencumbered appropriations to eliminate such deficit.

Whereas, the finance committee has had multiple conversations with committee members, liaison chairs, the mayor and department heads, and has produced a list of positions, in no particular order, that we believe reached the budget trimming goals and ensures employees have maximum access to new government stimulus funds.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh requests that the mayor shall reduce the workforce for an unspecified duration through reductions in hours or full reductions in the following positions:

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE	AFSCME	TYPIST
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE	AFSCME	TYPIST-HIC
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MGMT	MANAGEMENT	DIRECTOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	AFSCME	TYPIST
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	AFSCME	TYPIST
MAYOR'S OFFICE	MANAGEMENT	CEC/Project Coordinator Sharing
MAYOR/ CITY LEGAL	NON UNION	CORPORATION COUNCIL
MLD	IBEW MUN LIGHTING	3 LINE HELPER
MLD	IBEW MUN LIGHTING	LINE HELPER
MLD	IBEW MUN LIGHTING	LINE HELPER-HIC
MLD	IBEW MUN LIGHTING	MLD PLANT ATTENDANT
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	DRAFTSPERSON
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	GROUNDSKEEPER-HIC
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	LABORER
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	LABORER
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	LABORER-HIC
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	PUBLIC WORK MAINT WORKER I
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	PW MAINTENANCE WORKER I
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	TEMPORARY LABORER
PUBLIC WORKS	AFSCME	WATER METER MAINTAINER-HIC
WATER FILTRATION -MANAGEMENT	MANAGEMENT	CHIEF WATER TREAT PLANT OPER
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	AFSCME	WASTEWATER TR/PL MAINT WKR I
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	AFSCME	WASTEWATER TR/PL OPERATOR
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	AFSCME	WWTP OPERATOR
WPCP-MANAGEMENT	MANAGEMENT	WATER RESOURCE CHEMIST
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	CLEANER
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARIAN I
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARIAN II
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARIAN II
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY CLERK
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY CLERK
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY CLERK
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY PAGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY PAGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY PAGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY PAGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	LIBRARY PAGE
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	PRINCIPAL LIBRARY CLERK-HIC
PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY AFSCME	SENIOR LIBRARY CLERK
BUILDING INSPECTOR'S OFFICE	AFSCME	SENIOR CLERK
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	AFSCME	PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	NON UNION	SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	POLICE	POLICE DISPATCHER-HIC
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	POLICE	POLICE DISPATCHER-HIC
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	POLICE	POLICE DISPATCHER-HIC
POL CLER/CRS GRDS/SYSTEM ADMIN	POLICE	POLICE DISPATCHER-HIC
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	LABORER
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	LABORER
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	LABORER
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	RECREATION LEADER
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	RECREATION MAINTENANCE WORKER
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	RECREATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR
RECREATION COMPLEX	AFSCME	TYPIST
RECREATION-MANAGEMENT	MANAGEMENT	RECREATION FITNESS CTR SPVR

By Councilor Barbell; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore
(Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas and Moore voted in the affirmative. Councilor McFarlin voted in the negative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None

10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS: None

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:

No one addressed the Council in person, in writing or by utilizing the “Youtube” chat feature on the City of Plattsburgh meeting livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7H36PiuYNJkZpczbLvCbw/>

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Barbell; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin
Roll Call: Councilors Barbell, Kelly, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:57 pm