

At 4:45 pm Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a matter of potential sale of real property the public discussion of which would affect the value.

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

At 5:10 pm returned from Executive Session no action was taken during Executive Session.

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

July 9, 2020

5:00 P.M.

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Ira Barbell (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Elizabeth Gibbs (W3), Steve Brodi (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5) (*arrived after Roll Call at approximately 5:12pm*), Jeff Moore (W6)

**Absent:** None

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**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:** mentioned discussions will begin tomorrow with Unions on cost saving measures, spoke about report on Overtime of departments, and curb fees.

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**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on July 1, 2020 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
(All in Favor/opposed)

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

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**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending July 8, 2020 in the amount of **\$ 53,089.13** 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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
(All in Favor/opposed)

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

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**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for June 23 - July 6, 2020
- Minutes from the Governance, Strategy & City Operations Committee meeting held on July 1, 2020
- Reports from the Police Department dated July 6, 2020
- Report from the City Clerk’s Office of all monies received during the month of June 2020 in the total amount of \$4,857.00
- Report from the Director of Community Development for Green St. Improvements & Plattsburgh Farmer’s and Crafter’s Market Relocation dated July 7, 2020
- Report from City Planner to Establish Traffic Zone Designation No. 970

**COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Barbell indicated nothing to report.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore met tonight nothing more to report.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly mentioned he heard some citizens not receiving their electric bills in a timely fashion appreciated Mayor checking on that for him and understanding why that might happen.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs mentioned Item B on agenda tonight request for Data as she and Councilor Barbell are taking a close look at staffing needs. And she really wanted the resolution to make it clear to everyone that they are working very hard to do their homework and research so they can make informed decisions regarding budgets.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor McFarlin indicated nothing to report.

**MLD - MLD Board President** Councilor McFarlin indicated nothing to report.

**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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Barbell

(All in Favor/opposed)

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

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**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending July 10, 2020 in the amount of \$ 231,571.58 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, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

**Benjamin Pomerance** spoke about his and group of volunteers working on an outdoor concert series at the Harborside area throughout the summer.

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**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**A.** Whereas, the park joining Margaret Street to the west and Durkee Street to the east has long served as a pathway from the Strand Center for the Arts and the Durkee Street Parking Lot, and Whereas, with development of the Durkee lot that will allow more people to live downtown and residents and visitors alike to finally access the river between the Veterans' and the Kennedy Bridges, and,

Whereas there will be a continuous greenspace and sculpture garden between the Strand Center for the Arts and the newly opened riverfront, and

Whereas, this Arts Walk will serve the City for decades to come, and

Whereas, Senator Betty Little has also served this City for decades as our State Senator, and is about to retire as the Arts Walk is about to be completed,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the described greenspace between Margaret Street and Durkee Street shall be known as the Betty Little Arts Park.

By Councilor Barbell; Seconded by Councilor Brodi

Discussion: None

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

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**B.** Whereas, the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh has the power and duty to adopt the annual budget and appropriate moneys; and

Whereas, the Common Council has the power and duty to make investigations into the affairs of the City and the conduct of any City department; and

Whereas, on June 11, 2020, the Mayor presented his 2021 budget and a public hearing on said proposed budget was completed on June 25, 2020; and

Whereas, the Common Council is now reviewing the Mayor’s proposed 2021 budget and as part of that review, requires information from particular City departments; and

Whereas, some information and data requested by the Common Council from particular City departments has not been provided to the Common Council in a timely manner.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that for the 2020/2021 budget review, any written requests for data by any member of the Public Safety Committee which may impact the 2020/2021 budget shall be provided by the Department Heads from the respective Police Department, Fire Department or Building Inspector to the Public Safety Committee of the Common Council within seven calendar days of the written request.

**Motion to waive reading and move Resolution**

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Barbell  
(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolution)

Discussion: Yes

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council accepts and authorizes the property owner to enter into a contract with the lowest priced, qualified selected bid for “Downtown Grant Program – 21 Bridge Street Renovations” for renovation work related to the 21 Bridge Street project pursuant to the Downtown Grant Program Administrative Plan.

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

Discussion: Yes

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves rejecting all bids received for “City of Plattsburgh: Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Arts Park”.

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council agrees to and authorizes the execution of the First Amendment to the Host Agreement between the City, the

Adirondack Coast Visitor's Bureau, and B.A.S.S., LLC for the 2020 Bassmaster Elite Series fishing tournament to be held between July 30 and August 2, 2020.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Barbell  
Discussion: Yes

**Kristy Kennedy, VP Marketing, North Country Chamber of Commerce, Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau** spoke about tournament, the amendment to the agreement and changes due to COVID 19, etc.

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action:

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**F. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council authorizes and approves the "Curbside at Harborside" weekly concerts, utilizing the mobile stage at Harborside commencing July 11, 2020 at 7:30pm., and continuing weekly thereafter until Labor Day Weekend. This "Curbside at Harborside" will be voluntarily produced by Benjamin Pomerance. All attendees must comply with then current health and safety regulations and recommendations. In addition the event organizer, Benjamin Pomerance, will be responsible for providing any additional licenses or permits if required.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Brodi  
Discussion: Yes

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None**

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**9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None**

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**10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:**

**Councilor Gibbs** updated Council on the recent meeting of the Public Safety Citizens' Review Panel. Panel decided Wednesdays at 2pm are too difficult to hold meetings so the meetings are changed to Monday's at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers.

**Councilor Brodi** asked **Mayor Read** if Senator Little was still going to present the Curb tax idea to the Government body or is it a dead horse. **Mayor Read** indicated he thinks it is a dead horse, however, she is going to try and keep conversations going. **Councilor Brodi** asked about background on Special Assessment District for parking lot and if Council has power to make Special Assessment Districts and spoke further on that subject. **Councilor Brodi** asked if we ever sent a letter to County asking that there be no reassessment of downtown commercial businesses or buildings for the 2021 tax year. Mayor Read indicated he believes we communicated directly with the member of the Clinton County Legislature. **Councilor Brodi** mentioned

preciously spoke about an employee incentive program for employees that came up with ideas to save the city money have we made any progress on that and how do we follow up with that. **Mayor Read** indicated he could bring forward a resolution. **Councilor Kelly** indicated there would need to be a budget line item set up for that and funds moved there and he would be happy to work with **Councilor Brodi** on that. **Councilor Brodi** asked making some spots in back parking lot of City Hall 15 minute customer parking so people can run in to pay bills.

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**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:**

**Julie Baughn of Plattsburgh Farmers Market** spoke about the market move to Green Street/Harborside location. 2 out of 3 vendors are in support of the move recognize the opportunity for growth and expansion and make the market a “go to” spot. They are still on board with this move.

[further discussion ensued]

**Benjamin Pomerance** thanked Council for support of “Curbside at Harborside” and hoped they all would come down to enjoy some music.

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:15 pm**