

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

October 3, 2019

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachele Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Peter Ensel (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

**Absent:** **Councilor Elizabeth Gibbs (W3)**

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Thanked the councilors for their very hard work on the first of the budget presentations, the work has been divided up in to a series of committees each committee responsible for a number of departments and this is one of the best examples of doing a thorough analysis to digest some of the information the council will be discussing. Also, extended appreciation for all of the other groups that are assisting in this. We are talking about two different things recreation services we all value very highly and appreciate conversations we are having with groups like the YMCA and the county really trying to make it a group effort to collaborate. The council is wrestling with slightly different things like ageing structures and how to maintain them. You aren't wrestling with stopping delivering recreation services and we need to make that very important distinction. We value the recreation services for our residents as well as the much broader community to enjoy our facilities. Those discussions will continue.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on September 26, 2019 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong  
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 October 2, 2019 in the amount of \$ 61,243.73 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 Moore; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 the week of September 17 - 23, 2019
- Report from the Building Inspector’s office for the week of September 25 - October 1, 2019
- Report from the Police Department dated October 1, 2019
- Minutes from the Public Safety Committee meeting held on September 26, 2019
- Report from the City Clerk’s Office of all monies received during the month of September 2019 in the total amount of \$8,646.96
- Report from Animal Rescue Welfare Services dated October 2, 2019

**• COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*[meeting reports provided during work session]*

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Armstrong indicated met tonight no further report.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore indicated he and Councilor Gibbs were compiling information for the budget to do their presentation next week.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly indicated no updates.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs indicated nothing new, working on budget.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor Ensel 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 Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 October 4, 2019 in the amount of \$ 358,234.45 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 Moore; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None**

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**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 5pm. The route will begin on Beekman Street, travel down Brinkerhoff Street, turn left onto Oak Street, right onto Court Street and then right onto Margaret Street. It will proceed to Pine Street ending behind Stafford Middle School. This is to coincide with the Strand Center for the Arts tree lighting.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the North Country Mustang Club to hold their Annual All Ford Show at the US Oval on Sunday, July 26, 2020. They request electricity and tents will be erected. A utility fee of \$20 for electricity, a certificate of insurance for event and vendors, portopottys, dig safe permits, and health department requirements for vendors are required.

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign an agreement with B.A.S.S., LLC and Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau to host B.A.S.S. "2020 Bassmaster Elite Series fishing tournament" on July 30 – August 2, 2020.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 accepts the September 9, 2019 letter from the Clinton County Health Department and agrees to and authorizes entering into the corresponding Stipulated Agreement.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 approves that the Asbestos Abatement and Demolition of Plattsburgh Municipal Lighting Department (PMLD) Buildings project be awarded to low bidder Ormsby Trucking & Excavating, P.O. Box 795, Morrisonville, NY 12962 in the amount of \$319,000. The City's initial intention was to complete asbestos abatement and/or demolition of all six PMLD structures located on Green Street. This was altered to accommodate potential redesign of one of the structures, known as Building 4, for the Plattsburgh Farmers' and Crafters' Market and no asbestos abatement or demolition work will be performed on that structure as part of this project. The low bid included the cost of asbestos abatement of Building 4 and will be adjusted accordingly in the agreement to be signed between the City and the low bidder.

**Motion to waive reading and move Resolution**

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All voted in the affirmative to waive reading and move Resolution)

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, 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 Ensel** received an email from a constituent concerned about the Quarry blasting and seems more forceful and causes more shaking than in the past.

**Councilor Armstrong** thanked everyone for coming out for presentation on Rec Complex.

**Councilor McFarlin** thanked Rachelle for all of her work.

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

**Jim Howard** from Morrisonville area spoke on behalf of Pickle Ball Players and asked Council to keep gym open.

**Mayor Read** asked if Mr. Howard could help come up with solutions.

**Peter Regnier.** Business and property owner spoke in support of recreation facilities. Suggested a promoter take over Crete and spoke in support of Officer Miller and hope the Community Center stays open.

**Kirsten Recore,** spoke in support of gym, suggested forming a working group of citizens to help with decisions, making centers up to date, profitable and fix buildings.

**Officer Brad Miller,** spoke as private citizen, supports gym feels it is a great asset.

**Mayor Read** asked Officer Miller to help come up with solutions. Officer Miller suggested raising membership fees and ask people volunteer to help with renovations.

**Steve Peters,** former Superintendent of Recreation, spoke in support of gym and has solutions doesn't know if they would work would be willing to volunteer to help.

**Joan Janson** was on Livable Community Advisory Committee spoke in support of gym for visitors and her suggestion would be that she could offer Tai Chi for free.

**Luke Cyphers,** 160 US Oval, feels city can't close gym without a plan. Suggested surcharges for tournaments.

**Unidentified Speaker** angrily mentioned that the Mayor keeps asking the other speakers what their solutions are to save the gym. She demanded to know what the Mayor's solutions are and feels he should have a million ideas to save the gym because he was elected Mayor.

**Mayor Read** indicated at this point it is a council driven process and we are going to allow that process to continue over the next 6 weeks as the budget hearings continue.

**Unidentified Speaker** again asked if the Mayor had any solutions.

**Mayor Read** indicated at this point it is a council driven process and we are going to allow that process to continue over the next 6 weeks as the budget hearings continue.

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:05pm**