

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

February 27, 2020

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

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

**Absent:** Councilor Mike Kelly (W2)

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** excited about item on the agenda, Memorandum of Agreement with Firefighters Association, appreciates the willingness of the Firefighters Association to work with us on this and all the work the Fire Chief did, the Public Safety Committee. This will improve public safety and will be a model of collaboration. This is a trial project, will see how this works out, many other collaboration projects in the wings.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on February 20, 2020 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office

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

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 February 26, 2020 in the amount of \$ 502,865.17 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 Barbell  
(All in Favor/opposed)

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

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

- Report from the Building Inspector's office for the week of February 19-25, 2020
- Reports from the Police Department dated February 24, 2020
- Minutes from the Finance and Budget Committee meeting held on February 20, 2020
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for January 2020

**COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*[meeting reports provided during work session]*

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Barbell mentioned that he and Councilor DeDominicas are reviewing the Comptroller general’s framework for a Strategic Plan, gathering information and taking a look at other cities to see how they are approaching. Also, met with Community Development office Matt and Malana on the Comprehensive plan. Hope to have information on Strategic Plan for Council.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore indicated planning on having something ready for next week on Water Rates

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly absent. Councilor Moore mentioned Councilor Kelly is working on the 5 year plan and making sure everything is good.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs indicated met tonight. Items moved to agenda to be voted on.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor DeDominicas was not able to attend last week’s Board Meeting

**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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore  
(All in Favor/opposed)  
Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 February 28, 2020 in the amount of \$ 1,850,083.56 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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore  
(All in Favor/opposed)  
Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 increasing the General Fund budget by \$107,000.00 for under-budgeted Police Department costs for various accounts projected to be over-budget for contracted or expected 2020 expenditures.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore  
Discussion: Yes  
Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 a \$410,000 bond resolution for the purpose of funding through borrowing the General Fund portion of capital project H5110.74, 2020 Equipment Purchase.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Barbell  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** that the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Plattsburgh and Plattsburgh Professional Firefighters Association Local 2421 which extends the collective bargaining agreement for a two year term effective January 1, 2021 and continuing through December 31, 2022 and permits the City to operate a second ambulance under certain circumstances shall be and hereby is ratified and approved.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Barbell  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 that the Mayor be authorized to sign Supplemental Agreement #4 with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for Saranac River Trail Phase 2, PIN 7805.88; D034636. The agreement includes additional design efforts for NYSDEC permitting and coordination, additional coordination with NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation for grant requirements, and attendance at coordination meetings with other City projects (DRI, NYSEG) in the amount of \$21,500. It also includes the performance of full-time, on-site construction inspection services for the anticipated 9-month duration of the construction phase of Saranac River Trail Phase 2 in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. Funding will be provided through Capital Project H5110.58.

**Motion to waive reading and move Resolutions 7D and 7E**

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor DeDominicas  
(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolutions 7D and 7E)

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 authorizes the Director of Community Development to advertise for bids for “Saranac River Trail Phase 2”, PIN 7805.88; DO34636.

**[See details under Item 7D]**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**8. TRAVEL REQUEST:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Police Department employee to attend the State Preparedness Training “Active Integrated Response Course” from March 23-25, 2020 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$274.25 as there is no cost for training and it will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

**Motion to waive reading and move Resolutions 8A – 8E**

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor DeDominicas  
(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolutions 8A -8E)

Discussion: No

Roll call: Councilors Barbell, Gibbs, DeDominicas, 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 one Police Department employee to attend the State Preparedness Training “Active Integrated Response Course” from March 23-25, 2020 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$174.25 as there is no cost for training and it will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

**[See details under Item 8A]**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Police Department employee to attend “Glock Armors Course” on May 19, 2020 in North Syracuse, NY. The

total cost will not exceed \$442.50 as there is no cost for training and it will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

**[See details under Item 8A]**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Police Department employee to attend “Glock Armors Course” on May 19, 2020 in North Syracuse, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$341.50 as there is no cost for training and it will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

**[See details under Item 8A]**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Police Department employee to attend “Glock Armors Course” on May 19, 2020 in North Syracuse, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$562.50 as there is no cost for training and it will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

**[See details under Item 8A]**

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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

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

**Councilor Gibbs** thanked Firefighters Union, Chief Lawliss, Mayor Read and the Council for collaborating and working together, putting together this MOA and agreeing to it tonight.

**Councilor Barbell** asked what the next step is on the River trail he knows it ends at the Senior High School and there have been some conversation about extending it out further along city property.

**Jesse Feiler** spoke further on Saranac River Trail and future plans.

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**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC: None**

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

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

(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:51 pm**

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by and between the City of Plattsburgh ["City"] and the Plattsburgh Professional Firefighters Association, Local 2421 ["Union"].

The parties agree to the following:

1. The current collective bargaining agreement shall be extended for a period of two years though December 31, 2022. No terms and conditions as set forth in the current collective bargaining agreement, including all applicable memoranda of agreement, shall be modified except as set forth in this Memorandum of Agreement.
2. The salary schedules shall increase on January 1, 2021 and again on January 1, 2022 by the same percentage as the increase in the "Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers; All Items in the Northeast Class B/C (2,500,000 persons or less)," but in no event shall the percentage increase in 2021 or 2022 be less than 0.5% or more than 1.5%. The increases for 2021 and 2022 shall be implemented by the second payroll of March of each year and shall be retroactive to January 1 of each year.
3. Provided the City is maintaining a minimum daily staffing level of seven (7) or more firefighters, including lieutenants and captains and excluding the chief, per shift, the City shall be permitted, but not required, on days when the fire stations are actually staffed with a total of eight (8) or more firefighters, including lieutenants and captains and excluding the chief, to place a second ambulance in service. This provision, which requires eight (8) firefighters on duty in order to operate the second ambulance, reflects the commitment of the City and Union to ensure the safety of the public at-large and the firefighters when a second ambulance is operated.
4. The City shall hire four (4) firefighters no later than February 28, 2020.
5. All firefighters shall be permitted to sell, at their straight time rate, up to four (4) Kelly Days per year to the City. Firefighters shall provide notice of their irrevocable intent to sell Kelly Days for the following year during the same period that Kelly Days are chosen and payment shall be included in the last paycheck issued to firefighters the following December.
6. Upon 30 days written notice, the City shall be permitted to reopen negotiations regarding health insurance plans and the Union agrees to negotiate in good faith regarding same. In the event the parties are unable to come to an agreement, the City shall be permitted to seek interest arbitration of the dispute. The parties agree that this provision shall sunset and terminate on December 31, 2022.
7. Within 30 days of execution of this Memorandum of Agreement, the City will complete its review of the integrated CBA, incorporating interest arbitration awards for 2008-09, 2010-11 and 2012-13 and a negotiated Agreement for 2014-20, and this Memorandum of Agreement such

that the parties can complete and sign a new CBA, extending through December 31, 2022.

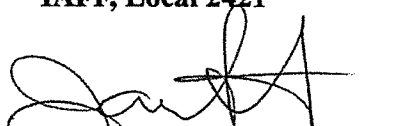
8. This Memorandum of Agreement shall not be construed as an acknowledgement by the City that it does not have the authority to determine the minimum daily staffing level of the fire department or the total number of firefighters it should employ; nor shall this Memorandum of Agreement be construed as an acknowledgement by the Union that the City has the authority to determine the minimum daily staffing level of the fire department or the total number of firefighters the City should employ. Each party retains the right to make whatever argument(s) it desires regarding whether the City may determine the minimum daily staffing level of the fire department or the total number of firefighters it should employ.

**City of Plattsburgh**

**IAFF, Local 2421**



Mayor  
Colin L. Read  
02-25-2020



President  
James H. Schwartz