

COMMON COUNCIL

October 15, 2019

Mayor Christine Carnrike presided at a meeting of the Common Council held at 6:30 PM on October 15, 2019, in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Christine Carnrike
Ald. Matthew Caldwell
Ald. Brian Doliver
Ald. Bryan McCracken arrived at 6:34
Ald. Linda Kays-Biviano
Ald. David Zieno
Ald. Robert D. Jeffrey

Also:

Director of Finance/City Clerk Dee DuFour
Director of Human Resources Lynn Murray
DPW Superintendent Edward Pepe
Fire Chief Jan Papelino
Police Chief Rodney Marsh
City Attorney Steve Natoli
Deputy City Clerk Agnes Eaton

Media Representative: none

Supervisor Robert M. Jeffrey

Absent

Supervisor James McNeil

Call to Order

The meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Carnrike at 6:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to approve the minutes of the special meeting of September 10 and the regular meeting of September 17, 2019. Seconded by Ald. Doliver and duly approved ayes all.

Open Forum

Robert Jeffrey, 17 York St. and Ward 4,5,6 Supervisor, reported that the City's Tax Equalization Rate for 2020 has been set at 65%, down from last year's 66%. He also reported the Chenango County Board authorized another application for IRT in 2021. Also, the Chenango County Bed Tax passed in the Assembly and Senate and awaits the Governor's signature. At the end of (today's) County Board meeting, he asked the status of the EMS discussions. The Supervisor Mastro of the Town of Sherburne who has been chairing the discussions said there weren't many people in attendance at the last EMS discussion meeting. Supervisor Jeffrey does not see a sense of urgency (at the County level) with this matter. He congratulated Director of Finance and Human Resource Director on their selection of Lorraine Keckeisen as the new Grants Coordinator. He also congratulated the Mayor and Council on making the Human Resource Director a Department Head position.

Correspondence

Dollars for Scholars Bottle Drive – Ald. McCracken **moved** to approve a request from Dollars for Scholars for the use of the Firehouse for a Bottle Drive on Sunday, November 3, 2019 from 9 a.m. – noon. Seconded by Ald. Zieno, approved ayes all.

Veteran's Day Parade – Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to approve a request from the VFW Christy Rock Post 2782 for Police Assistance with their Veteran's Day Parade on Monday, November 11, 2019. The parade will begin at the VFW at 10:40 a.m. and proceed to East Main St. Park with a ceremony beginning at 11:00 a.m. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Fall Festival of Bands Road Closures – Ald. Kays-Biviano **moved** to approve a request from Richard Linder on behalf of the Fall Festival of Bands for road closures during the Fall Festival of Bands on Saturday, October 19, 2019. Road closures include Midland Dr. be closed from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Marconi Ave. from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Closures would increase safety measures to allow students to move equipment and props from the Middle School to the NHS football field during the competition. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Department, Board and Commission Reports

Youth Bureau Report – 3rd Quarter
Water Commission Minutes – May
Traffic Commission Minutes – September
Finance Report - September
Human Resource Report – September
Police Report – June, July, August
Civil Service Commission – July, September
Fire Report - September

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to receive and file the department, board, and commission reports. Seconded by Ald. Doliver, approved ayes all.

Council Appointments

Traffic Commission

- ◆ Ald. Caldwell **moved** to approve the Council appointment of Mike Hepfer, 11 Jones Avenue, to the remainder of a three-year term expiring December 31, 2019. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Ward Reports

Ward 1

Ald. Caldwell reported one communication from a Hayes St. resident expressing his pleasure with the paving of Hayes, a new sidewalk and a tree that has been removed.

Ward 2

Ald. Doliver reported a communication regarding the state of the West Main St. bridge which is a County bridge and has forwarded the information to Supervisor McNeil. Another communication involved the condition of Pleasant St. and requested patching of the street prior to winter.

Ward 3

Ald. McCracken reported no communications this month.

Ward 4

Ald. Kays-Biviano reported no communications this month.

Ward 5

Ald. Zieno reported a communication regarding the removal of the “No Parking Here to Corner” sign on Adelaide St. near Mitchell St. which has been forwarded to the Traffic Commission and DPW. Another complaint has been resolved.

Ward 6

Ald. Jeffrey reported an incorrectly printed street sign which has been forwarded to DPW.

Ald. Doliver **moved** to receive and file the ward reports. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Motions

Authorize Contract with Little Tykes for Playground Equipment – Ald. McCracken **moved** to authorize the signing of a contract with Little Tykes in the amount of \$28,000 for playground equipment. Funds were previously approved with \$13,000 coming from the City with the balance received in a Grant from the Follett Foundation. Seconded by Ald. Zieno, approved ayes all.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #48 -2019**ESTABLISHING 2020 COMPENSATION FOR EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT OFFICER**

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Joint Committee has made certain recommendations relative to 2020 compensation for the Emergency Management Officer; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that effective January 1, 2020, the 2020 compensation schedule be amended by increasing the salary for the Emergency Management Officer by two percent (2.0 %).

Seconded by Ald. Doliver and duly adopted 6 - 0 on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #49 - 2019**AUTHORIZING PURCHASE AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR PRESSURE
RELEASE VALVE**

Ald. McCracken introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the pressure release behind the Hospital in the Newton Heights area has failed; and

WHEREAS, the valve has reached the end of it's useful life; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of DPW has made the recommendation for the purchase of a new pressure release valve at a cost of \$15,255; and

WHEREAS, a transfer from Capital Reserves is required to pay for such purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Committees have made certain recommendations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the purchase of a new pressure release valve for \$15,255 is hereby approved; and, further be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer of funds in the 2019 General Fund budget:

From:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HR30	Capital Reserves – Water System Improvements	\$15,255

To:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
F8340.4040	Water Distribution – Repairs & Maintenance	\$15,255

Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #50 - 2019**APPOINTMENT OF CITY ASSESSOR**

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the position of City Assessor; and

WHEREAS, interviews were held to fill said position; and

WHEREAS, the interview committee has recommended the appointment of Caitlyn Brown of Preble, NY to such position; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Caitlyn Brown of Preble, NY, be and hereby is appointed to the position of City Assessor, effective as of October 16, 2019, to a six-year term expiring on September 30, 2025; and further be it

RESOLVED, that Caitlyn Brown be compensated for her service at the annual certified salary of \$20,518.

Seconded by Ald. Zieno, and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

Discussion: Before the vote, Ald. Zieno asked D. DuFour is there is money in the budget for continuing education for the Assessor. DuFour stated there is \$500 dollars, but more could be added if necessary. She would check with Ms. Brown to see if more would be needed. She stated that Brian Fitts is willing to work with Ms. Brown, particularly in regards to commercial properties.

Other

Update on Recruitment Bonus Policy – L. Murray reported that the MOA has been approved by her and is still awaiting the PBA Attorney's approval.

Payment of October 2019 Bills

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to pay the October 2019 bills after proper audit and certification.

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>10/15/2019</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	\$168,926.04	\$80,848.14	\$ 249,774.18
Sewer Fund	20,497.58	21,772.08	42,269.66
Water Fund	36,382.66	19,935.16	56,317.82
Trust	26,633.74	-	26,633.74
Debt Service		-	
Comm. Dev. - Special Grants		-	
Capital Projects	291,265.22	-	291,265.22
TOTALS	\$543,705.24	\$122,555.38	\$666,260.62

Seconded by Ald. Kays-Biviano and duly adopted 6 - 0.

Executive Session

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of particular individuals at 6:50 p.m.
Seconded by Ald. Doliver, approved ayes all.

Ald. Zieno **moved** to exit executive session at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Adjournment

Ald. Zieno **moved** to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.