

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF ONEONTA, NEW YORK, COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JULY 2, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

**Mayor Mark Drnek
Council Member Elayne Mosher Campoli
Council Member Cecelia Walsh-Russo
Council Member Shannon McHugh
Council Member Kaytee Lipari Shue
Council Member Len Carson
Council Member Scott Harrington
Council Member Bryce Wooden
Council Member Don Mathisen**

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITIONERS / PUBLIC HEARINGS / *CORRESPONDENCE

PRESENTATIONS

- *Reimagining the Arts in Oneonta – Paul Konye
- Downtown Renaissance Program Report – Josh Taylor

BOARDS / COMMISSIONS / TASKFORCES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Legislative Committee
- Finance and Human Resources Committee

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

1. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the warrants totaling \$(to be announced) and that the same be placed on the Director of Finance’s desk for payment, as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. ***MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the minutes of the regular meeting held June 18, 2024.
3. ***MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the minutes of the special meeting held June 25, 2024.
4. **MOTION**, that the Common Council concurs with the Mayor’s recommendations and approves the following appointments of City of Oneonta residents to city boards and/or commissions:

<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
Airport Commission	Lou Shields	July 2, 2027

5. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the City Administrator’s appointment of Samantha Augur to the position of Human Resources Specialist, at a base annual salary of \$50,000 (Administrative Manual salary grade A-1), effective July 3, 2024, subject to the satisfaction of all applicable civil service and pre-employment requirements.
6. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the City Administrator’s appointment of Bruce Shano to the position of Bus Driver at a base annual salary of \$42,500 (CSEA Grade C-4), effective July 8, 2024, subject to the satisfaction of all applicable civil service requirements.

7. **MOTION**, that the Common Council appoints the City Administrator to replace the Human Resources Director as one of the City's representatives on the Cayuga County Health Insurance Consortium Board of Directors, effective July 3, 2024.
8. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the Purchasing Agent's recommendation to award the bid for the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) Replacement and Relocation Project at the Albert S. Nader Regional Airport to the lowest responsive qualified bidder, Baseline King Corp, of Barneveld, NY, in the amount of \$880,880. The Council further authorizes the creation of the capital project and all necessary budget transfers and amendments.
9. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the creation of the capital project budget for the completion of engineering design and preparation of construction bid documents for the Muller Plaza Bandstand project, in the amount of \$15,000, to be funded with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Council further authorizes the necessary budget transfers and amendments.
10. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta Common Council hereby requests financial assistance in an amount to be determined, up to the program maximum of \$2,000,000, from the New York State Climate Smart Communities grant program pursuant to Environmental Conservation Law Article 54, Title 15; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta Common Council authorizes the funding of the required local match from the City's Streets and Sidewalks Reserve pursuant to the requirements of Environmental Conservation Law Article 54 Title 15; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Oneonta Common Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator to submit an application through the Consolidated Funding Application for up to \$2,000,000, to be used for the Oneonta Route 23 and 28 Complete Streets Project, and further authorizes the City Administrator to sign all documents and agreements necessary to execute a grant agreement and complete the project, subject to review by the City Attorney, and authorizes any necessary budget amendments and transfers.

11. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta accepted \$2,626,500 in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant funds and \$2,626,500 in interest-free financing to cover the required local match through the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) on January 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City is seeking additional funding to reduce the impact to City sewer rate payers; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application to the NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP) for an amount up to \$2,100,000 to reduce the local match for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project for the City of Oneonta, and further authorizes the City Administrator to sign all documents and agreements necessary to execute a grant agreement and complete the project, subject to review by the City Attorney; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Common Council authorizes a local match of 25% of the WQIP grant award amount to be funded by the interest-free financing through the EFC and authorizes any necessary budget amendments and transfers.

12. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves a \$10,500 budget amendment to fund the seeding and mulching of City property adjacent to the Albert S. Nader Regional Airport, land that was recently disturbed by City logging operations, increasing the Community Landscaping Appropriated Fund Balance and increasing the Forestry Purchased Services code CM05.8730.464.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

MAYOR’S REMARKS

DISCUSSION AGENDA

13. Prioritizing Remaining ARPA Funds

14. Local Development Corporation

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS / COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

SUNY ONEONTA

Office of the President

June 28, 2024

Kerri Harrington
City Clerk
City of Oneonta

RE: Comment for July 2, 2024 meeting of the Common Council

Dear Ms. Harrington,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the downtown renaissance project recently funded by the Oneonta City Common Council. I commend the Council for funding this initiative. It is not only a vital step toward rejuvenating our city's core but also a catalyst for economic growth, community engagement, and an improved quality of life for our residents.

SUNY Oneonta has invested in the potential of our downtown area, and we believe in the transformative impact that targeted development can bring. The downtown renaissance project promises to breathe new life into our city center by enhancing public spaces, supporting local businesses, and attracting renewed interest.

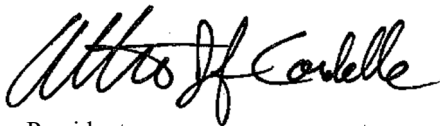
The benefits of this project are already visible. I receive weekly feedback from university employees highlighting how the current efforts are creating a more inviting and vibrant environment that encourages foot traffic and supports local commerce.

The downtown renaissance project aligns perfectly with SUNY Oneonta's and the city's long-term vision for sustainable development and economic prosperity. This project will help us retain more of our graduates in the area. I wholeheartedly support this initiative and encourage the Council to maintain funding for the duration of the project to demonstrate its long-term return on investment.

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to improving our city. Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information or support.

Sincerely,

Respectfully Submitted,



President
SUNY Oneonta

- PRESENT:** Mayor Mark Drnek
Council Member Elayne Mosher Campoli
Council Member Cecelia Walsh-Russo
Council Member Shannon McHugh
Council Member Kaytee Lipari Shue (*arrived at 6:03pm*)
Council Member Len Carson
Council Member Scott Harrington
Council Member Don Mathisen
- ABSENT:** Council Member Bryce Wooden

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:02 pm. Those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing was held before the Common Council to receive public comments on the City of Oneonta’s potential submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for the CDBG Business Expansion and Startup program for up to \$100,000 for Social Eats Project 607 on Main Street in the City of Oneonta that will result in the creation of up to four full time equivalent jobs. The applicants and City staff summarized the program and plan. With no comments received from the public and no one wishing to be heard, the public hearing was closed at 6:14pm.

PETITIONERS

The Common Council received comments from the following people (a “W” after the speaker’s name indicates that written comments were submitted for the record and will be attached to the end of these minutes): David Rainieri.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received.

PRESENTATIONS

- Route 23 and 28 Complete Streets Project – Steve Godlewski, from Fisher Associates, provided the Common Council with an update on the proposed Route 23 and 28 Complete Streets project.
- Airport Capital Improvement Plan – Martijn Kamerbeek, Airport Commission Chair, provided the Common Council with a brief update on the Airport’s Capital Improvement Plan.
- Oneonta Armory Structure Report – Stephen Yerly and Judy Pangman provided the Common Council with an update on the Armory Structure Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Community Wellness Committee – the Common Council received an update on the most recent Community Wellness Committee meeting from Council Member Lipari Shue.
- Legislative Committee – the Common Council received an update on the most recent Legislative Committee from Council Member Carson.
- Finance / Human Resources Committee – the Finance / HR Committee will meet on June 27th at 5:00pm.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

1. **MOTION**, made by Council Member Mosher Campoli and seconded by Council Member Mathisen, that the Common Council approves the warrants totaling \$704,848.14 and that the same be placed on the Director of Finance’s desk for payment, as presented.

Mayor Drnek asked for discussion and, hearing none, asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Ayes: Council Member Mosher-Campoli
Council Member Walsh-Russo
Council Member McHugh
Council Member Lipari Shue
Council Member Carson
Council Member Harrington
Council Member Mathisen

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Wooden

Motion Passes 7-0-1

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION, made by Council Member Mathisen and seconded by Council Member Walsh-Russo, that the Common Council accepts and approves consent agenda items 2-8.

2. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the minutes of the regular meeting held June 4, 2024.
3. ***MOTION**, that the Common Council approves a 2023 budget transfer totaling, \$14,845, as presented.
4. **MOTION**, that the Common Council authorizes the Director of Finance to accept a gift from an anonymous donor of 120 linear feet of windscreen, valued at \$1,274, for the City to install at the Neahwa Park pickleball courts, and authorizes any necessary budget amendments for said acceptance.
5. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the City Administrator's appointment of Brock Davis to the position of Maintenance Worker, at a base annual salary of \$39,500 (CSEA salary grade C-3), effective June 19, 2024, subject to the satisfaction of all applicable civil service and pre-employment requirements.
6. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the City Administrator's appointment of Matthew Bueche to the position of Motor Equipment Operator, at a base annual salary of \$42,500 (CSEA salary grade C-4), effective June 19, 2024, subject to the satisfaction of all applicable civil service and pre-employment requirements.
7. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the City Administrator's appointment of Angela Miller to the position of Administrative Specialist, at a base annual salary of \$39,500 (CSEA salary grade C-3), effective August 5, 2024, subject to the satisfaction of all applicable civil service and pre-employment requirements.
8. **MOTION**, that the Common Council approves the following resolution:

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MASS TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL PROJECT #C006011**

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta submitted a grant application, dated November 14, 2022, to the New State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for the Purchase Replacement of three (3) buses, and;

WHEREAS, the NYSDOT has approved the Project at a cost of \$498,204, with the City of Oneonta being awarded a federal grant of \$398,563, state grant of \$49,821 and requiring a local match of \$49,820, and

WHEREAS, consistent and in furtherance of said Project, the City desires to advance the Project by committing funds for the local match in the amount of \$49,821 available within the OPT Transit Enterprise Fund, and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta and the State of New York have heretofore entered into an Agreement which authorizes the undertaking of the Project and the payment of the Federal, State, and Local Share for the project; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that all necessary budgets, budget amendments and transfers for said project are hereby authorized, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements on behalf of the City of Oneonta, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes: Council Member Mosher-Campoli
Council Member Walsh-Russo
Council Member McHugh
Council Member Lipari Shue
Council Member Carson
Council Member Harrington
Council Member Mathisen

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Wooden

Motion Passes 7-0-1

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

City Administrator Mattice answered questions relating to the Common Council's tour of the water treatment plant. Following a brief discussion, it was suggested that the City develop a brief video demonstrating the process to make constituents aware of what goes in to processing the water. Council Member Mathisen volunteered to create the video.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

There was no Mayor's Remarks.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

9. **MOTION**, made by Council Member Carson and seconded by Council Member Lipari Shue, that the Common Council authorizes the City Administrator to sign and submit an attestation form to the NYS Department of Criminal Justice Services (DJCS) as part of the Law Enforcement Technology program to accept a grant of \$142,777 to fund the purchase of new in-car video and license plate reader (LPR) systems and new fixed LPR assets for the Oneonta Police Department, and further authorizes the City Administrator to sign all documents and agreements necessary to complete the project, subject to review by the City Attorney. The Common Council further authorizes any necessary budget amendments and transfers.

Mayor Drnek asked for discussion.

Council Members asked for additional information on fixed LPR assets and Chief Witzenburg provided and explanation.

Mayor Drnek asked for further discussion and, hearing none, asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Ayes: Council Member Mosher-Campoli
Council Member Walsh-Russo
Council Member McHugh
Council Member Lipari Shue
Council Member Carson
Council Member Harrington
Council Member Mathisen

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Wooden

Motion Passes 7-0-1

10. **MOTION**, made by Council Member Carson and seconded by Council Member Mosher Campoli, that the Common Council approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has made available a grant program to which the Albert S. Nader Regional Airport is eligible to apply, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Oneonta desires to apply for grant; the project being described as On-Airport Obstruction Removal - Construction, by committing funds for the local match; funding shares being FAA 90%, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) 5%, and local 5%, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Oneonta Common Council hereby endorses and approves the project being described as the On-Airport Obstruction Removal - Construction for the total project amount not to exceed \$430,483, with a local share not to exceed \$21,525, and it is further;

RESOLVED, that the City of Oneonta Common Council make available all necessary funds to match the FAA and NYSDOT grant share of funds for said project, and further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements on behalf of the City of Oneonta with the FAA in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mayor Drnek asked for discussion and, hearing none, asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Ayes: Council Member Mosher-Campoli
Council Member Walsh-Russo
Council Member McHugh
Council Member Lipari Shue
Council Member Carson
Council Member Harrington
Council Member Mathisen

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Wooden

Motion Passes 7-0-1

11. Market Street Transportation Improvements Projects – Budget Review – City Administrator Mattice provided the Common Council on the budget as it relates to the Market Street Transportation Improvement project.

12. Establishing a process for evaluation of City-owned properties for potential sale and/or development
 - a. Oneonta Armory, 2 Academy St – Council members held a discussion on the future use of the Armory and whether it would be prudent to sell the property. Alternative uses of the property and options for development were discussed. The Common Council is aware that there is a restriction on the deed and it was agreed that the City Attorney should start the process to seek relief from those limitations. This item will return to a future agenda.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS / COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Council Member McHugh reminded those in attendance of this weekends Juneteenth event in Neahwa Park. She, along with Mayor Drnek, also reported that there will be a two-hour presentation in Muller Plaza on Wednesday on Juneteenth.

Council Member Mosher Campoli, along with other Council Members, spoke in support of the water feature in use in Muller Plaza during the heat wave.

Council Member McHugh made the statement that while as much as they love their positions, there are times the Common Council may be unable to be present at meetings.

Council Member Lipari Shue made inquiries of the LDC / ARPA fund discussions.

Council Member Mathisen inquired if property owners could opt out of the historic designations and Code Enforcement Officer Yerly stated that, no, similar to Zoning, they could not.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION, made by Council Member Carson and seconded by Council Member Harrington, that the Common Council enters into executive session to discuss a particular employee.

Ayes: Council Member Mosher-Campoli
Council Member Walsh-Russo
Council Member McHugh
Council Member Lipari Shue
Council Member Carson
Council Member Harrington
Council Member Mathisen

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Wooden

Motion Passes 7-0-1

The Common Council entered into executive session at 8:52pm and exited, by unanimous vote, following a motion by Council Member Carson and seconded by Council Member Walsh-Russo. There was no further action taken.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS / COUNCIL CONSIDERATION, continued

Council Member Lipari Shue inquired about the Downtown Renaissance Program and spoke of the water feature. Mayor Drnek reported that Josh Taylor will be in attendance the July 2, 2024 meeting to provide information.

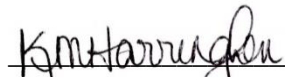
Council Member Lipari Shue inquired about the communication update resulting from December’s retreat.

Mayor Drnek reminded those in attendance of the June 25, 2024 meeting to be held from 6p-8p to discuss the City’s strategic plan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the regular meeting of the Common Council was adjourned at 9:24 pm.

I, KERRIANN HARRINGTON, City Clerk and Clerk of the Common Council, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct report of all motions, resolutions and ordinances passed or enacted, and all other procedures had and taken by the Common Council at the regular meeting held on June 18, 2024.



KERRIANN HARRINGTON, City Clerk

**ONEONTA, NEW YORK – JUNE 25, 2024
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**

**6:00 P.M.
VOL. 17, PG. 89**

PRESENT: Council Member Elayne Mosher Campoli
Council Member Cecelia Walsh-Russo
Council Member Shannon McHugh
Council Member Kaytee Lipari Shue (*arrived at 6:32pm*)
Council Member Len Carson
Council Member Scott Harrington
Council Member Bryce Wooden
Council Member Don Mathisen
ABSENT: Mayor Mark Drnek

The special meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:02 pm. Those in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

DISCUSSION TOPIC OF INTEREST

The Common Council, with the assistance of City staff, met to discuss the key strategies of the City's strategic plan. There was no additional action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the special meeting of the Common Council was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

I, KERRIANN HARRINGTON, City Clerk and Clerk of the Common Council, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct report of all motions, resolutions and ordinances passed or enacted, and all other procedures had and taken by the Common Council at the special meeting held on June 25, 2024.



KERRIANN HARRINGTON, City Clerk



**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Boards and Commissions
Appointment**

Airport Commission

Reason for Appointment: Reappointment

Name: Lou Shields

Residency: City

Exemption Justification: N/A

Required Qualifications per City Code: None

Reappointment? Yes

Original Appointment Date: 01/05/2021

Current Expiration Date: 01/05/2024

Proposed Appointment Date: 07/02/2024

Term Length: 3 years

Expiration Date: 07/02/2027

Terms Remaining after Proposed Appointment: 1

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action: Send to Council Consent

Comments: None



**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Staffing
Appointment**

Employee Information

Reason for Appointment: Fill Vacancy

Department: Human Resources

Title: Human Resources Specialist

Name: Samantha Augur

Proposed Appointment Date: July 3, 2024

Unit, Salary Grade: Administrative Manual, A-1

Base Salary: \$50,000

Budget Code(s): A.1430.1

Budget Status: Included in 2024 Adopted Budget. A budget adjustment is not needed to make this appointment.

Notes for Consideration: The staffing structure of the HR Department was recently changed from having an HR Director, Senior HR Specialist, and part-time Clerk, to having a Principal HR Specialist, two (2) HR Specialists, and a part-time HR Specialist. The Council approved a motion to approve this new staffing structure on June 4, 2024.

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action: Send to Council – Consent

Comments: None



**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Staffing
Appointment**

Employee Information

Reason for Appointment: Fill Vacancy

Department: Oneonta Public Transit

Title: Bus Driver

Name: Bruce Shano

Proposed Appointment Date: July 8, 2024

Unit, Salary Grade: CSEA, C-4

Base Salary: \$42,500

Budget Code(s): ET.5630.11

Budget Status: Included in 2024 Adopted Budget. A budget adjustment is not needed to make this appointment.

Notes for Consideration: OPT has five (5) budgeted full-time Bus Drivers. While all of these positions are currently filled, Jan Benson has decided to transition from full-time to part-time, after July 5th. The proposed appointment of Bruce Shano, a current part-time Bus Driver, to the full-time position will ensure all full-time Bus Driver slots are filled.

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action: Send to Council – Consent

Comments: None



COMMON COUNCIL FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Health Insurance

Appointment to Consortium Board of Directors

Background

As a member of the Cayuga County Health Insurance Consortium, the City may assign two representatives to the Consortium's Board. These two representatives have been identified by employee title as the Finance Director and Human Resources Director. Given the HR Director recently resigned, and the Council subsequently approved an alternative staffing structure for the HR Department that does not include an HR Director, another City employee must be assigned to the Consortium Board.

It is recommended that the City Administrator be assigned to the Board, given this position has assumed some of the duties of the former Human Resources Director, and has a role that includes overseeing the finances and operations of the City. The City Administrator works closely with the Finance Director to understand health insurance costs and budget considerations, including the effect on collective bargaining agreements. The members of the Consortium Board discuss the financial information regarding the Consortium itself, various components of the health insurance plans, wellness programs, pharmaceutical costs, strategies to control costs, marketing to recruit new members to join the Consortium, etc. The Board's discussions include the sharing of certain confidential information such as specific health information about consortium member employees (albeit unnamed) that impact Consortium costs and policies.

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action: Send to Council Consent

Comments: It seems to be appropriate to have both the Finance Director and City Administrator on the Board.



**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Capital Improvement Project
Budget Review and Funding Approval**

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Projects

Budget Summary

The City was awarded a total of \$1,426,354.70 in ARPA funds directly from the Federal government, plus an additional \$50,000 in ARPA funds via Otsego County, which has thus far been allocated as follows:

Neahwa Park Electric Infrastructure Improvements Phase 2

City ARPA funding: \$83,000

- Council motion 3/15/2022

Other funding: None

Description: Underground electrical infrastructure in Neahwa Park to provide power around the area used by the Festival of Lights, Fourth of July, and other events

Status: Complete

Neahwa Park Mill Race Paved Pathways - Neahwa Pl to Catella Park to Lettis Hwy

City ARPA funding: \$199,433.03

- Council motion 5/17/2022

Other funding: \$70,000 City Greenway Reserve plus \$50,000 FOF donation

Description: Paved multi-use pathway along the Mill Race in Neahwa Park and connecting through Catella Park to Lettis Highway sidewalk to New Island

Status: Complete

Wilber Lake Trail Bridge Replacement

City ARPA funding: \$129,748.22

- Council motion 8/1/2023

Other funding: None

Description: Replace the failed pedestrian/bicycle bridge at the upper end of Wilber Lake

Status: Complete

Neahwa and Catella Park Paved Pathways - Complete 5K Race Course Loop

City ARPA funding: \$35,000

- Council motion 7/18/2023

Other funding: \$15,000 2021 Streets Capital Projects budget + \$10,603.78 City DPW 2023 budget

Description: Paved multi-use path around perimeter of Catella Park and along the path to the dog park, providing complete accessible 5K race course loop contained entirely within Neahwa/Catella Park

Status: Complete

River St and Ann St Reconstruction – Water and Sewer Infrastructure Replacement

City ARPA funding: \$710,000

- Council motion 6/6/2023
- 2024-28 Capital Improvement Plan

Other funding: \$1,225,000 City water bond

Description: Replace water and sewer utilities along River St from Main to Wilcox and from Bridge Ave to the dead end, and along Ann St

Status: Complete

Upper Wilber Park Basketball Court #1 Reconstruction & Playground Improvements

City ARPA funding: None

Other funding: \$50,000 Otsego County ARPA

- Council motion 7/5/2023
- 2024-28 Capital Improvement Plan

Description: Resurface, reline and replace hoops for upper Wilber basketball court; install shade structure above upper Wilber playground

Status: Basketball court complete; Playground improvements in design/procurement

Muller Plaza and Neahwa Park Performance Stages

City ARPA funding: \$235,000

- 2024-28 Capital Improvement Plan
- Council motion 11/1/2022 (no dollar amount, prioritization only)

- 10. ARPA Discussion – A discussion was held on the plans for ARPA funding. Following a review of expenditures to present and options for future spending, the Common Council approved to plan to fund projects in the following order: performance stage, Wilber Reservoir pedestrian bridge and Neahwa Park sidewalk.



COMMON COUNCIL FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- Presentation to Council on 11/7/2023 by Kevin Wood & Andrew Thomas re: proposed architectural design of the Muller Plaza Bandstand in memory of Al Gallodoro
- Council motion TBD to accept donation of Muller Plaza Bandstand architectural design plans & specs
- Council motion TBD to set up budget

Other funding: \$unknown – architectural design being donated by private party

Muller Plaza Description: design and build a small performance stage dedicated to famous Oneonta jazz musician Al Gallodoro on the east side of Muller Plaza; replace electrical infrastructure throughout Muller Plaza, as needed and as funds allow

Muller Plaza Status: Architectural design phase nearly complete; need motion to accept design donation, then need budget set up to proceed with engineering and construction bidding phase

Neahwa Park Description: design and build an approximately 300-seat performance venue in Neahwa Park

Neahwa Park Status: high-level conceptual plan created by volunteer Raphael Sason and presented to Council on 2/6/2024; there are not sufficient ARPA funds to complete this project; need to first decide if it is still a priority, then decide if any ARPA funds will be used for design, understanding construction will require significant additional funds from undetermined source(s); need to determine operational model for this facility, such as who will be responsible for event programming, management, and maintenance

Neahwa Park Skate Park Rehabilitation*

City ARPA funding: \$34,173.43*

- 2024-28 Capital Improvement Plan
- Council motion TBD to set up budget

Other funding: None

Description: Design and construct improvements to the skate park in Neahwa Park, the condition of which has deteriorated to the point of needing repairs; also, it has been noted by some in the skating community that the design of the existing skatepark is challenging and makes it difficult for inexperienced skaters to learn

Status: Not started

* Current projected balance of City ARPA funds to be spent on Neahwa Park Skate Park Rehabilitation. Actual amount available will depend on actual cost of Performance Stage project(s).

Authorizations Needed

Muller Plaza Bandstand

If the Council wishes to move forward with this project, a motion is needed to authorize a budget of \$235,000 to utilize ARPA funds.

The next steps would then be to complete engineering/architectural design, prepare bid documents, seek construction bids, and complete construction.

A Council motion will also be required to accept the donation of architectural design services for this project.

Neahwa Park Skate Park or Another Project TBD

If the Council wishes to move forward with this project, a motion to authorize a budget to utilize ARPA funds will be needed. Further discussion about Council priorities for the remaining ARPA funds appears to be warranted.

Supporting Documents

- N/A

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action #1: Send to Council Consent – establish \$15,000 budget using ARPA funds to complete engineering design of the Muller Plaza Bandstand and prepare construction bid documents.

Action #2: Send to Council Discussion – “Prioritizing Remaining ARPA Funds”

Comments: Council should authorize ARPA funds to complete the design phase and prepare bid documents, so the City may obtain actual construction costs, at which point the Council may consider establishing a budget and awarding a contract for construction.

In the meantime, Council should also discuss how it intends to spend the remaining ARPA funds, which must be obligated by December 31, 2024.



**COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Capital Improvement Project
Budget Review and Funding Approval**

Oneonta Route 23 and 28 Complete Streets

Scope: Construct sidewalks/multi-use paths along Routes 23 and 28, including Lettis/Foster Highway, to connect the City of Oneonta to the Town of Oneonta's Southside area, improving pedestrian and bicycle safety and walkability.

Justification: The City and Town have partnered to complete this project, which has already been awarded a \$5,000,000 grant through the NYSDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Authorizing resolutions have been approved by both municipalities, including establishing the project budget and committing local matching funds. This project is included in the City's Comprehensive Plan (Policy Area 10 Transportation, Goal 2.T.3) and Capital Improvement Plan.

Status: The City Council approved matching funds up to \$2.3m in authorizing resolution for this project on 9/21/2021. The project engineering consultant, Fisher Associates, has completed a draft design report and updated the project cost estimate for two design alternatives.

Alternative #1 includes a multi-use path and tree-lined grass medians across Lettis Highway to the Town, and sidewalks along Southside in the Town. This includes reducing Lettis Highway to one southbound vehicular lane while keeping two northbound vehicular lanes. Changes are proposed to intersection geometry and traffic signal timing at the Interstate 88 interchange.

Alternative #2 is essentially the same as #1, except it includes a separate sidewalk and bicycle path along Lettis Highway and reduces the road to one vehicular lane in each direction.

NYSDOT is in the process of finalizing comments on the draft design report and have indicated they would support Alternative #1.

Cost Estimate: The current total project cost for Alternate #1 is estimated to be \$7,615,419, with the City's estimated share of the local match totaling \$1,895,143.

As the design phase progresses, certain design/scope changes may result in an updated cost estimate. Ultimately, the construction costs will be finalized through a formal bidding process.

Funding Sources: The NYSDOT TAP grant of \$5,000,000 will be split between the City and Town according to their respective construction costs.

The source of the City's estimated contribution of \$1,895,143 must be determined. It is recommended the City fund this with a combination of Streets and Sidewalks Reserve funds, unrestricted General Fund balance, and possibly additional grant funds.

To reduce the amount of City reserves that must be used to fund this project, the City may apply to the NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities (CSC) grant program for additional funding. Staff believe we may be eligible for up to \$760,000. If the City receives this funding, it would reduce the City's total contribution of reserve funds to approximately \$1,140,000.

Approvals Needed: Council authorization to apply to the NYSDEC CSC program for grant funds up to \$760,000, including a local match of up to \$190,000, for a total CSC project cost of \$950,000*.

*Note, the CSC project cost represents only a portion of the overall Route 23 and 28 Complete Streets project cost, which has additional funding sources as described above.

Timeline: The deadline to apply to the NYSDEC CSC grant program is July 31st. Awards would be expected to be announced this winter.

Detailed engineering will be completed this fall with construction bidding to occur this winter. Construction is anticipated to start in spring 2025 and be completed by fall 2025.

Supporting Documents

- Draft Design Report – https://cms7files1.revize.com/oneonta/230138_Design%20Report%20w%20Appendices.pdf
- City Council Presentation, June 18, 2024 – <https://cms7files1.revize.com/oneonta/Oneonta%20Complete%20Streets%20Presentation%2020240618.pdf>

Committee Review

Date: 06/27/2024

Action: Send to Council Consent

Comments: Council should authorize a CSC grant application, as described above, for a total project cost of up to \$2,000,000 with a City match of up to \$400,000. This would afford flexibility to apply for the maximum amount allowed per grant guidelines. The final determination would be made by staff, based on their understanding of the grant program requirements and overall project costs.