

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

August 8, 2019

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Elizabeth Gibbs (W3), Peter Ensel (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

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

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** mentioned held ribbon cutting for the newly installed Electric Car charging station in front of City Hall, more charging station in various locations will be added in future, and held a Press Conference today to roll out Battle of Plattsburgh events including unveiling the 2019 Button designed by a local 4<sup>th</sup> grade student.

**Mayor Read presented the following proclamation:**

Whereas, every day the Professional Firefighters of the City of Plattsburgh and the City Police put their lives on the line to serve the residents of the City; and

Whereas, this past Monday, August 5th, City Firefighters and City Police Officers first responded to a potentially catastrophic fire on Adirondack Lane,

Whereas, Fire Departments from Plattsburgh District 3, South Plattsburgh, Cumberland Head, Peru, and Morrisonville, CVPH and Morrisonville EMS, and Clinton County Emergency Services all came to assist; and

Whereas, when arriving on scene City first responders made quick work of rescuing 13 people and extinguishing the fire in the 8 unit apartment building; and

Whereas, Patrol Officers Minardi and Puchalski entered the building to determine if there were any residents present, but were rebuffed by the flames; and

Whereas, Police Officers Minardi, Puchalski, and Clarke spotted a child in another second floor residence screaming for help from behind a window; and

Whereas, the officers instructed the child to push out the air conditioner and lower two other small children down to them; and

Whereas, Patrol Officers Puchalski and Minardi caught two small children and their mother in their arms; and

Whereas, under the direction of Captain Feazelle, Lieutenant Mitchell, and Firefighters Howard and Oczechowski laddered the second story of the building with two ladders under heavy smoke and heat conditions and rescued eight children and adults who were trapped with no means of escape; and

Whereas, Firefighter Sciole operated the fire engine with multiple lines to ensure crews had water to extinguish the fire and protect rescue efforts, and Firefighters King and Rock deployed and operated hose lines to protect the rescue efforts and hold back and extinguish the fire; and

Whereas, the following first responders assisted in saving lives that evening; Captain Terry Feazelle, Lieutenant Chris Mitchell, Firefighters David Sciole, Craig King, Darrell Oczechowski, Michael Howard, Nicholas Rock , and Patrol Officers Mike Lawliss, Emily Tucker, Christine Minardi, Devin Clarke, and Daniel Puchalski were on scene; and

Whereas, these lives were spared by the heroic work of our City First Responders and their Mutual Assistance Colleagues, and for which our city could not be more grateful.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Colin L. Read, Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh, New York, proclaim this week to be Dedicated Employee Week in honor of the men and woman who help keep our city safe

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Plattsburgh to be affixed.

Done in the City of Plattsburgh, New York this eighth day of August in the Year Two-Thousand Nineteen  
Colin L. Read, Mayor

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on August 1, 2019 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 Armstrong, Gibbs, 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 August 7, 2019 in the amount of \$ 61,911.25 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 Moore  
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, Ensel, 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 July 31 - August 6, 2019

- Report from the Police Department for the week of July 28 - August 4, 2019
- Minutes from the Governance, Strategy & City Operations Committee held on August 1, 2019
- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of July 30 - August 5, 2019
- Report from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month of July 2019 in the total amount of \$8,919.35

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

*[meeting reports provided during work session]*

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Armstrong mentioned had a presentation on Socrata and the next Plattsburgh Sustainability Committee meeting will be held on August 21, 2019.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore mentioned he and Councilor Gibbs are meeting with Mayor and Infrastructure Departments working on budgets.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly absent. **Mayor Read** mentioned his working on his 2020 Budget almost finalized.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs indicated no updates.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor Ensel indicated no updates.

**MLD** - MLD Board President Councilor McFarlin announced the next MLD Board Meeting will be held on August 29, 2019

**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 Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, 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 August 9, 2019 in the amount of **\$ 633,636.84** 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 Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, 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:**

**Motion to remove Item 7A from the Table**

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

Discussion: Yes

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves establishing the following minimum fee schedule for requests to use the following City of Plattsburgh property. In addition to minimum fee schedule, the city may also require reimbursement for actual labor costs incurred by city employees for the accommodation, set up, delivery, and/or retrieval of city property.

Cones	\$ 1.00	each cone/per event
Barricade	\$ 5.00	each barricade/per event
Staging	\$ 10.00	each 4 x 8 section/per event
Trailer Stage	\$ 200.00	per event

**Motion to Amend Resolution**

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor McFarlin

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative to Amend Resolution)

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves establishing the following minimum fee schedule for requests to use the following City of Plattsburgh property. In addition to minimum fee schedule, the city may also require reimbursement for actual labor costs incurred by city employees for the accommodation, set up, delivery, and/or retrieval of city property. In such instances, the user will be notified of any additional charges in advance of the event.

Cones	\$ 1.00	each cone/per event
Barricade	\$ 5.00	each barricade/per event
Staging	\$ 10.00	each 4 x 8 section/per event
Trailer Stage	\$ 200.00	per event

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, 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 City Chamberlain to adjust the 2019 budgets for the General, Water & Sewer Funds for additional PW Snow & Ice sand and salt purchases, and for adjusting the inter-fund revenues for administrative cost chargebacks to the Water and Sewer Funds, according to the budget adjustment memo dated August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, attached as supporting documentation for the meeting minutes along with the General Fund transfer justification worksheet based on the 2018 actual costs.

By Councilor Moore; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs  
Discussion: Yes  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, 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 authorizes entering in to a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation Agreement with Lyon Mountain Wastewater Treatment Plant, Town of Dannemora per the scope and reimbursement described in the memo (made part of the minutes of this meeting) subject to the final contract approval of the Mayor and City of Plattsburgh Corporation Counsel.

By Councilor Moore; Seconded by Councilor Ensel  
Discussion: Yes  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH REVITALIZATION PROJECTS GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plattsburgh revitalization efforts will result in several downtown area improvement projects, some of which have already been specifically proposed and some of which are in the conceptual stage (collectively the “Projects”).

**WHEREAS**, the Plattsburgh Common Council ("Common Council") determined that the Projects collectively are a Type I Action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), identified the potential Involved Agencies under SEQRA, notified the potential Involved Agencies that the City of Plattsburgh Common Council wished to be established as Lead Agency for SEQRA review of the Projects and has been designated as SEQRA Lead Agency with consent of the Involved Agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council recognized that the Projects may result in one or more significant impacts on the environment and wishes to review the potential impacts of the Projects taken together rather than separately, including consideration of potential cumulative impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council determined to conduct this comprehensive review of the Projects through preparation of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) pursuant to SEQRA and Section 617.10 of the implementing Regulations set forth at Title 6 of the New York Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR); and

**WHEREAS**, the decision to prepare a GEIS reasonably anticipated the determinations required for a SEQRA Positive Declaration and guarantees the highest level of scrutiny of the potential adverse environmental impacts of the Projects; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chazen Companies has prepared a Draft Scoping Document pursuant to 6 NYCRR Section 617.8 to focus the contents of the GEIS on potentially significant impacts rather than impacts that are likely to be irrelevant or not significant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council, as SEQRA Lead Agency, must provide a copy of the Draft Scope to all Involved Agencies, make it available to any individual or SEQRA Interested Agency that has expressed an interest in writing to the Lead Agency and include an opportunity for public participation in the scoping process;

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has determined to provide both a period of time for the public to review and provide written comments on the Draft Scope and to provide for public input at a public scoping session;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Common Council hereby accepts the Draft Scoping Document for the GEIS.
2. A Scoping Session on the Draft Scoping Document will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Plattsburgh City Hall, 41 City Hall Place, Plattsburgh, New York.
3. Public comments will be accepted on the Draft Scope until Monday, August 26, 2019 at 4:00pm. Comments must be submitted in writing to the City of Plattsburgh Common Council, City Hall, 41 City Hall Place, Plattsburgh, New York 12901.
4. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file a Notice of Completion of Draft Scoping Document and provide copies of the Draft Scope as required by SEQRA.
5. The City Clerk is further authorized and directed to publish a Notice of Scoping Session to receive comments on the Draft Scope in *The Press Republican*, a newspaper of general circulation in the City.
6. Copies of the Draft Scope will be available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office, Plattsburgh City Hall, 41 City Hall Place, Plattsburgh, New York and on the City's website at <https://www.cityofplattsburgh-ny.gov/192/Community-Development>.
7. The City Clerk is further authorized and directed to provide a copy of the Draft Scope to all SEQRA Involved Agencies and any individual or SEQRA Interested Agency that has expressed an interest in writing.
8. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Motion to waive reading and move Resolution**

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

Discussion: Yes  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, 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 Armstrong** mentioned a constituent concern on Underwood Avenue, a dead end street, possibility of a sign installed “No Trucks Allowed.” Also, possibility of a trash can being installed in Park.

[further discussion ensued]

**Councilor Armstrong** appreciated the suggestions and ideas from the Livable Community Advisory Committee.

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

**Jamie Schwartz, Vice President of Plattsburgh Professional Firefighters** thanked Mayor and Council for Proclamation, spoke about concerns after recent fire and doesn’t feel the department staffing levels are adequate.

**Jill Aley 20 Olivetti Place,** wife of a Retired City of Plattsburgh Firefighter, spoke about her concerns that there are not adequate staffing levels in Fire Department.

**Ernie Gillespie,** thanked Police and Fire fighters, thanked Department of Public Works for working on road, asked about reducing speed on Wall Street and a security gate being installed at MLD Substation.

**Laverne Hicks, 9 Alex Way,** agreed MLD needs to install a security gate, need lower speed limit on Wall Street, thanked Department of Public Works for Road work, concerns about truck traffic on Wall Street in early morning hours (3am and 6am) trucks weren’t supposed to use Main Mill Street and a no parking sign should be installed near cemetery on Main Mill Street because it is hard to see around.

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:07 pm**