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JANUARY 9, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the January 9, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Andrew Touma at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Andrew Touma, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Charles Walker

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell.

Chairman Touma made a motion to amend the Agenda to vote on Agenda Item #2 at this time.

Yea	5
Nay	0

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA APPROVED

**CITY CLERK: APPOINTMENT**

**Agenda Item #2**

As part of my plans relative to the City Clerk's office for calendar year 2017, I am hereby removing Carol Antonucci, 6610 Ward Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304 from the office of City Clerk, effective immediately. I thank her for her years of service to the City.

Pursuant to Section 2.3 of the City Charter, I am hereby appointing Lisa Vitello, 4859 Terrace Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14305 to the office of City Clerk. As per the 2017 adopted budget, the salary for the City Clerk's position is \$48,000.00. This is now a full-time position whereas in many years prior to 2017 it was a part time position.

Will the Council vote to confirm the removal of Carol Antonucci from the office of City Clerk and the appointment of Lisa Vitello to the office of City Clerk?

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Agenda Item at this time	
Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

Chairman Touma thanked Carol for her commitment & Mayor Dyster also thanked her.

Honorable Judge Diane Vitello then administered the Oath of Office to Lisa A. Vitello as Ms. Vitello's mother held the Bible.

Chairman Touma asked if there were any nominations for Council Chairman 2017. Council Member Grandinetti nominated Charles Walker and this nomination was seconded by Council Member Tompkins. There being no further nominations, Chairman Touma called for a vote to be taken. All Council Members voted for Charles Walker, who was unanimously elected Council Chairman for 2017. Honorable Judge Diane Vitello then administered the Oath of Office to Chairman Walker as Chairman Walker's wife and grandson held the Bible.

Council Member Scott introduced Darian Tanksley.

There was a Presentation by Darian Tanksley about a Daddy-Daughter Ball that is being held on February 18, 2017.

He explained about the Ball and added that he has a few sponsors but could use more. An application to request Public Funds from the City, given to Bridgette, Council Administrative Assistant.

Council Member Grandinetti talked about the State of the State message by Gov. Cuomo today. She said it was stated that there will be strong support for the revitalization of Main Street and she has never heard that much about this support before and was very pleased.

Ended at 6:20 PM

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of December 27, 2016.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Touma and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ron Anderluh	Agenda Item #2
Ron Anderluh	Thank you & congratulations to Lisa Vitello; wish Carol good luck & thank you for her years of Service; Congratulations to Charles Walker; City Wide assessment; Business tax raised; Parking Meters
Ken Hamilton	Talked more of the Daddy-Daughter Ball; great plans For Kalfas School; customizing of area students with Students from Africa
Vince Anello	Congratulated Lisa & Charles; Employees should be recognized

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERKS CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2016

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CITY CLERK: APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #2  
THIS ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS DEPT.: BUDGET AMENDMENT, EMPLOYEE TRANSFER

Agenda Item #3

As done previously, when an existing employee transfers to another position, we have taken into account the employee's service time when applied to the corresponding wage schedule. Hugh Leftwich is the new Assistant Foreman Streets, Grade 17B which according to the 2017 budget has a salary of \$45,220. Taking into account Mr. Leftwich's years of service, it will be necessary to place him at Step 4.5 of the appropriate Grade, with a salary of \$47,759 resulting in a difference of \$2,539 in the biweekly line.

Funds are available in the biweekly line of A.8510.0000.0110.000 due to a current vacancy.

Will the Council so approve the transfer of \$2,539 from A.8510.0000.0110.000 to A.5110.0200.0110.000, effective immediately?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

2

5

0

APPROVED

PURCHASING DEPT.: BUDGET AMENDMENT, EMPLOYEE TRANSFER

Agenda Item #4

As done previously, when an existing employee transfers to another position, we have taken into account the employee's service time when applied to the corresponding wage schedule. Cynthia Ransom is the new Administrative Assistant-Purchasing, Grade 19, which according to the 2017 budget has a salary of \$38,471. Taking into account Ms. Ransom's 8 years of service, it will be necessary to place her at Step 1.1 of the appropriate Grade, with a salary of \$44,492, resulting in a difference of \$6,021.06 in the biweekly line.

Funds are available in the biweekly line of A.8020.4720.0110.000 due to a current vacancy.

Will the Council so approve the transfer of \$6,021 from A.8020.4720.1110.000 to A.1345.0000.0110.000, effective immediately?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Council Members Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Council Member Tompkins	

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA GAZETTE, OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, 2017-1

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #5

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the designation of the Niagara Gazette as the official newspaper of the City of Niagara Falls, New York for the purposes of printing and/or publishing of all legal notices, public hearing notices and any other matters required by law or by the City Council or the Boards of the City to be printed and/or published is hereby continued; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this designation shall be in effect for the year 2017, but such designation shall not thereafter lapse until superseded.

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: INVESTMENT POLICY, 2017, 2017-2

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #6

WHEREAS, New York law requires the governing board of each municipality to adopt an investment policy; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the investment policy are:

1. To conform with legal requirements
2. To provide for the safety of principal
3. To provide for sufficient liquidity to meet operating requirements
4. To obtain a reasonable rate of return; and

WHEREAS, the attached investment policy is designed to satisfy these objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the City of Niagara Falls hereby adopts the attached investment policy.

INVESTMENT POLICY FOR  
CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK  
(2017)

I. SCOPE

This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for investment on behalf of the CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK [hereinafter "CITY"] or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

II. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the CITY's investment activities are, in priority order:

1. To conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements (legal);
2. To adequately safeguard principal (safety);
3. To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
4. To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The governing board's responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the City Controller who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a data base or records incorporating description and amounts of investments, transaction dates, and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

IV. PRUDENCE

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the CITY to govern effectively.

Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

V. DIVERSIFICATION

It is the policy of the CITY to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

VI. INTERNAL CONTROLS

It is the policy of the CITY for all moneys collected by any officer or employee of the government to transfer those funds to the City Controller within 10 days of deposit, or within the time period specified in law, whichever is shorter.

The City Controller is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly, and are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITARIES

The banks and trust companies authorized for the deposit of monies up to the maximum amounts are:

<b>Depository Name</b>	<b>Maximum Amount</b>	<b>Officer</b>
Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company	\$100 Million	City Controller

#### VIII. COLLATERALIZING OF DEPOSITS

In accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law, §10, all deposits of CITY, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

1. By a pledge of "eligible securities" with an aggregate "market value" as provided by GML §10, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Appendix A to the policy.
2. By an eligible "irrevocable letter of credit" issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the government for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt to obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.
3. By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims - paying ability - is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

#### IX. SAFEKEEPING AND COLLATERALIZATION

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by the depositary and/or a third party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure local government deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events which will enable the local government to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. In the event that the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the CITY or its custodial bank.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

#### X. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS

As authorized by General Municipal Law, §11, the CITY authorizes the City Controller to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- Special time deposit accounts;
- Certificates of deposit;
- Obligations of the United States of America;
- Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;
- Obligation of the State of New York
- Obligations issued pursuant to LFL \$24.00 or 25.00 (with approval of the State Comptroller) by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the CITY;
- Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies and industrial development agencies where the general State statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments;
- Certificates of Participation (COPs) issued pursuant to GML §109-b;
- Obligations of this local government, but only with any moneys in a reserve fund established pursuant to GML §§6-c, 6-d, 6-e, 6-g, 6-h, 6-j, 6-k, 6-l, 6-m, or 6-n.

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the CITY within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures or purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the CITY within two years of the date of purchase.

#### XI. AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

The CITY shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the CITY. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The City Controller is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositaries, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

## XII. PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS

The City Controller is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

1. Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
2. By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Article 5G of the General Municipal Law where such program meets the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller Opinion No. 88-46, and the specific program has been authorized by the governing board.
3. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the governing board.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the CITY by the bank or trust company. Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law, §10.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

## XIII. REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

- All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.
- Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.
- Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America.
- No substitution of securities will be allowed.
- The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

APPENDIX A

Schedule of Eligible Securities

- (i) Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States of America, an agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation.
- (ii) Obligations issued or fully guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the African Development Bank.
- (iii) Obligations partially insured, or guaranteed by any agency of the United States of America, at a proportion of the Market Value of the obligation that represents the amount of the insurance or guaranty.
- (iv) Obligations issued or fully insured, or guaranteed by the State of New York, obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation of such State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under a specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public moneys.
- (v) Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (vi) Obligations of Puerto Rico rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (vii) Obligations of counties, cities and other governmental entities of a state other than the State of New York having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (viii) Obligations of domestic corporations rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (ix) Any mortgage related securities as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which may be purchased by banks under the limitations established by bank regulatory agencies.
- (x) Commercial paper and bankers' acceptances issued by a bank, other than the Bank, rated in the highest short term category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and having maturities of not longer than 60 days from the date they are pledged.

Zero coupon obligations of the United States government marketed as "Treasury strip"

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**JANUARY 23, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the January 23, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:10 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson and City Controller Sandra Peploe.

Council Member Tompkins moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of January 9, 2017.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Patricia Wrobel, from Niagara University, explained that they have been asked to help with the revitalization of the City Market. They intend to focus on activities for families in the community. The activities will focus on culture, commerce, providing financial advice, job training sessions, summer camps and additional community resources.

Councilwoman Grandinetti discussed other partners in the Market Project including Cornell Cooperative Extension, Mr. AL Muto and additional partners/business owners in the Market area.

Councilwoman Grandinetti invited NU to the Market meeting on Wed., Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM at 755 Restaurant.

Chairman Walker asked where the programs would take place. Ms. Wrobel stated they would be outdoor activities.

Councilman Touma thanked NU for their assistance as did Councilman Scott.

Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, gave a presentation regarding the Highland Ave. Firehouse. He stated that the Isaiah 61 Project has had great success. He discussed the strength of the Project giving graduation statistics. He also gave an update on the Firehouse Renovation budget which is on time and on budget. He also gave an update on new events.

Councilman Tompkins questioned Mr. Piccirillo on the cost and the details of the renovations. A discussion followed on this.

In the Administrative Update, Mayor Dyster discussed the US Conference of Mayors: TIGER Grants and significant infrastructure improvements that would be possible through TIGER.

Councilman Touma discussed the short term Rental Ordinance stating that we need to take a closer look at the Ordinance.

Tom DeSantis, Acting Director of Planning, stepped forward to give details on the short term Rental Ordinance. He stated that the Planning Board worked diligently on the Ordinance. He also stated that the Sign Ordinance regarding Zoning had not been updated since 1970.

Councilman Tompkins asked about the Train Station lighting and Mr. DeSantis gave an update.

Councilwoman Grandinetti explained that NTCC has packages in place for train travel, she also inquired about the vending situation at the station.

Councilman Touma asked about demo funds. Mayor Dyster explained they were emergency demos. Councilman Touma also asked about the 2017 budget regarding the use of Casino Funds.

Mayor Dyster also discussed streets and other infrastructure, TIP Projects, NYS funds, GBNRTC, alley repairs and cleanings. He also explained the Financial Budget Director position.

Kelly Kudela, from the NACC, spoke about the importance of their programs. In light of asking the Council for funds as did the NCAP stating that they focus on energy audits, financial planning, food service and additional services for families.

City Administrator Nick Melson, stated that Item #13, SPCA Contract, was being Pulled.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson stated that there are 2 Agenda Items to be Amended.

1. Agenda Item #6, Police Code corrected  
Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to Amend the Item  
Yea 5  
Nays 0

MOTION TO AMEND ITEM APPROVED

2. Agenda Item #7, amount corrected  
Yea 5  
Nays 0

MOTION TO AMEND ITEM APPROVED

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 2 Agenda Items to be added.

1. A Resolution relative to Recognizing St. Johns AME Church-Gospel Chorus.

Council Member Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda  
Yea 5  
Nays 0

Motion to add Resolution to Agenda approved  
The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #26

2. A Communication relative to the Contract for Library Boiler repair

Council Member Touma moved to add this Communication to the Agenda

Yea 5  
Nays 0

Motion to add Communication to Agenda approved  
The Communication was added to the Agenda as #27

This session ended at 6:02 PM

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:23 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Damon DeCastro	Agenda Item #25
Rich Meranto	Agenda Item #10
Norma Higgs	Agenda Items #4, #5, #9, #12
Dana Carr Jr.	Agenda Item #25
Dana Carr Sr.	Agenda Item #25
Nick D'Angelo	Agenda Item #23
Tiara Carr	Agenda Item #25

Joe LaGamba	Agenda Item #23
Darryl DiNoto	Agenda Item #23
Robert Ventry	Agenda Items #9, #10, #15, #20
Jim Briggs	Agenda Item #23
Vince Anello	Agenda Items #3, #12, #13
Cheryl Jonaper	Agenda Item #25
Ron Anderluh	Paving of streets
Gerald Skrlin	Various topics
Robert Ventry	Community groups; website; recognizing of Martin Luther King, Jr.; City financials

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2016

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: BRIDGE PROGRAM, BUFFALO AVE., CONSULTANT SERVICES, C & S COMPANIES

Agenda Item #2

Based upon the New York State Department of Transportation standard merit selection procedures, C & S Companies has been selected as the City's consultant for the above referenced program.

Funding for the Design portion of this project is the responsibility of the City at 100%. Construction Inspection and Construction Administration components will be federally eligible at the standard 80% Federal and 20% local reimbursement procedure.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the Project Proposal, Design report, Final Plans & Specifications be awarded to C & S Companies at the proposed price of \$37,577.00.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

E911 SERVICES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #3

In order to continue uninterrupted service of the City's E911 system, it is requested that the sum of \$50,276.76 be made available from casino revenues for this purpose. These dollars will be transferred to police capital code H0816. A final quote is attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) and the amount is \$50,276.76. The money requested will pay for the annual maintenance of the system.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

Council Member Tompkins asked the City Controller where the money is coming from. City Controller, Sandy Peploe, stated it comes from Casino Money.

CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION, FUNDING

Agenda Item #4

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the NBC. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with NBC is required. Funding is available from Tourism budget.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti said thanks to the Committee & other partners in the Market Project.

CONTRACT: NIAGARA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, FUNDING

Agenda Item #5

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the NACC. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the NACC is required. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a letter from Kathie Kudela, the Executive Director of NACC outlining many of the events and programs scheduled for 2017. Funding is available from Tourism budget.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for the NACC?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that we are very lucky to have this. Chairman Walker agreed with Councilwoman Grandinetti on this.

CONTRACT: 72<sup>ND</sup> STREET FIREHOUSE, REPLACEMENT OF APPARATUS FURNACE, SCHAEFER SUPPLY

Agenda Item #6

The Fire Chief advises that the apparatus furnace at the firehouse on 72<sup>nd</sup> Street is broken and is not able to be repaired. Therefore, it needs to be replaced. A quote was obtained for this purpose from Schaefer Supply in the amount of \$1,098.72 which is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Funding is available from casino revenues earmarked for capital improvements for the Fire Department.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STREET SWEEPER WASTE, BUFFALO FUEL CORPORATION

Agenda Item #7

The Director of the Department of Public Works advises that it is necessary to amend the above referenced item to reflect an additional cost of rescreening the street sweeper waste to be a cost of \$17,500.00 rather than a cost of \$12,473.00. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) are communications from the Director as well as Buffalo Fuel Corp.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM INC., FUNDING

Agenda Item #8

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$27,500.00 for the Niagara Community Action Program Inc. so that it may continue to provide assistance to qualified City residents during fiscal year 2017. This will require that the City enter into a Funding Agreement with this entity.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Funding Agreement in form satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS BLOCK CLUB COUNCIL, FUNDING

Agenda Item #9

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Council. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the Council is required.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for the Council?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: OSC-21, SCHOOL DISTRICT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #10

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the School District to assist in funding the operation of the OSC-21, public access channel ("OSC"). In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the School District is required.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL, FUNDING

Agenda Item #11

The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the NIMAC. In order to effectuate this, a funding agreement with NIMAC is required.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for NIMAC?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPT.: DEMOLITIONS, FUNDING

Agenda Item #12

The Acting Director of Code Enforcement is requesting that the sum of \$500,000 be made available to his department to perform additional demolitions and emergency board ups during the balance of this year. Funding is available from Casino revenues and will be transferred to Demolitions account code H0910.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: SPCA, SHELTERING SERVICES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #13

THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PULLED  
NO ACTION TAKEN

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CONTRACT: SHERATON HOTEL PARKING AGREEMENT, AMENDMENT

Agenda Item #14

THIS ITEM HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY PROPERTY: 2718 ORLEANS AVE, SALE

Agenda Item #15

The City has received a request from Habitat for Humanity to purchase the above referenced City-owned property for the sum of \$500.00. This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of this premises and further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CLAIM: LAMARCA, JENNIFER

Agenda Item #16

Date Claim Filed:	N/A
Date Action Commenced:	August 18, 2010
Date(s) of Occurrence:	July 2009 through November 2009
Location:	N/A
Nature of Claim:	Damages suffered during hiring process
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Pre-trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$36,000.00
Make Check Payable to:	Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement
Conditions:	Settlement Agreement, General Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve, and authorize the Corporation Counsel to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: PLANNING BOARD, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-3  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name:

REAPPOINTMENTS:	TERM EXPIRES:
Willie Dunn 3075 Macklem Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Charles MacDougall 8227 Boller Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2019
Michael Murphy 642 4 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2019

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-4

Agenda Item #18

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

<u>REAPPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Rick Williams 2761 Falls Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303 Yea Nays	12/31/2019 5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-5  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #19

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Commission, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

<u>REAPPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Alan Nusbaum 149 62 <sup>nd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Yea Nays	12/31/2020 5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-6  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #20

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby appointed/reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Zoning Board of Appeals, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name:

<u>APPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Christopher Kulbago, Sr. 7820 Lindbergh Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2019

<u>REAPPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
James Spanbauer 528 College Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019

<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
12/31/2019

Chris Ciccone  
1220 Brandi Drive  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-7  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Traffic Advisory Commission, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name:

<u>REAPPOINTMENTS:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Robert Ventry 1884 Niagara Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Alysia Welch - Chester PO Box 1004 Niagara Falls, NY 14302	12/31/2019
Yea Nays	5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, CONTINUATION, 2017-8  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City Council by Resolution 2006-7 re-established the Tourism Advisory Board and by Resolution 2006-11 set its membership at sixteen (16); and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it desirable to continue the Tourism Advisory Board during 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York continues the Tourism Advisory Board consisting of sixteen (16) members appointed by the City Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board and its function shall cease one (1) year from the date of the adoption of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby appointed/reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their names:

<u>APPOINTMENTS:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Dominick Colucci, III 2220 Pine Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Gaelan Baillie 5906 Garlow Road Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Howie E. Ewing, Jr. 304 - 78 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017
Lisa Routhier 8649 Buffalo Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017

<u>REAPPOINTMENTS:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Traci L. Bax 8654 Hennepin Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017
Adrienne Bedgood 2256 South Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2017
Angela Berti Prospect Street & Old Falls St. Niagara Falls, NY 14303	12/31/2017
Richard A. Crogan 646 4 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Ron Droege 300 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303	12/31/2017
Jeffery Flach 723 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Ernest Lucantonio 2450 Forest Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Gay Molnar 2114 River Road Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017
Pat Proctor 454 Main Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Lisa Vitello 4859 Terrace Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2017
Yea Nays	5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: WATER BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-9  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #23

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Water Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

<u>APPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Nicholas Forester 3206 Michigan Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Yea Nays	5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SENIOR CITIZEN COUNCIL, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-10  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #24

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Senior Citizen Council, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their names:

REAPPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Marie DeFelice 2540 Jerauld Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Caroline Fera 611 33 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2019
Louise Morreale 3239 North Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Jean Stewart 3022 Orleans Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14303	12/31/2019
Yea Nays	5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS, GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #25

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 365 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers is hereby amended to read as follows on the next page:

CHAPTER 365

Taxicabs, [and] Taxicab Drivers, Liveries and Livery Drivers

365.00 Legislative Findings and Declarations.	365.23 Consideration of Application.
365.01 Definitions.	365.24 Issuance of License; Duration and Annual Fee.
365.02 Taxicab Medallion and Registration Permit Required; <u>Livery Registration and Permit Required</u>	365.25 License Period.
365.03 Applicability of Chapter.	365.26 Display of License.
365.04 Number of Taxicab Medallions Limited.	365.27 Dress, Behavior and Grooming of Taxicab Drivers <u>and Livery Drivers</u> and Use of Radio.
365.05 Public Hearing.	365.28 Suspension and Revocation of Driver's License.
365.06 Application for <u>Taxicab</u> Medallions and Driver's Licenses <u>for Taxicab</u> <u>and Livery</u> .	365.29 Notice to Driver.
	365.30 Failure to Comply with City, State and Federal Laws.

365.07 Taxicab Medallion.	365.31 Designation of Taxicabs.
365.08 Transferability of Taxicab Medallions.	365.32 Taximeter Required.
365.09 Medallion Fees.	365.33 Periodic Inspections of Taximeter Required.
365.10 Taxicab <u>and Livery</u> Registration Permit.	365.34 Rates of Fare; Rate Card Required.
365.11 Taxicab <u>and Livery</u> Registration Permit Fees.	365.35 Open Stands Established; Use and Parking.
365.12 Application for Taxicab <u>and Livery</u> Registration Permit.	365.36 Solicitation, Acceptance and Discharge of Passengers.
365.13 Liability and Worker's Compensation Ins. Required.	365.37 Receipts.
365.14 Inspection of Vehicles.	365.38 Refusal of Passenger to Pay Legal Fare.
365.15 Emergency Taxicab <u>and Livery</u> Registration Permits.	365.39 Direct Routes.
365.16 Schedule of Rates; Display.	365.40 Taxicab Service.
365.17 Suspension and Revocation of Medallion and Taxicab Registration Permit <u>or Livery Registration Permit</u> .	365.41 Manifests.
365.18 Taxicab Driver's License <u>and Livery</u> <u>Driver's License</u> .	365.42 Service Contract Reports.
365.20 Application for Driver's License <u>and Livery Driver's License</u> .	365.43 Transferring the Taxicab Vehicle.
365.21 Examination of Applicant.	365.44 Appeal.
365.22 Police Investigation of Applicant.	365.45 Police Department; Duty to Enforce Chapter.
	365.46 Penalty.
	365.99 Separability.

#### 365.00 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION.

(a) It is hereby determined by the City Council and the City Officials that the taxicab and livery industry is an integral and vital element which is necessary to assure adequate and safe public transportation for our residents and visitors.

(b) It is also determined that the taxicab and livery industry is especially suited for inclusion in the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce and all City meetings and functions related to public transportation and tourism issues.

(c) It is found that a spirit of mutual cooperation and public pride exists between the taxicab and livery industry and other governmental and civic organizations and that it is essential that goodwill be maintained amongst all.

(d) It is also found that reasonable standards and regulations relating to the number of taxicabs and livery vehicles, the number and location of taxicab stands and the condition and appearance of the taxicab and livery vehicles and drivers are needed to assure fairness and to promote the public health, safety and welfare.

#### 365.01 DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, have the meanings as set out herein:

(a) "Person" means and includes an individual, a corporation or other legal entity, a partnership and any incorporated association.

(b) "Street" means and includes any street, avenue, alley, court, bridge or public thoroughfare within the City.

(c) "City" means the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

(d) "Taxicab" means a motor vehicle regularly engaged in the business of carrying passengers for hire, having a seating capacity of less than seven persons and not operated on a fixed route.

(e) "Livery" means every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or a bus, used in the business of transporting passengers for compensation. However, it shall not include vehicles which are rented or leased without a driver.

[(e)][f] "Cruising" means the driving of a taxicab on the streets of the City in search of or soliciting prospective passengers for hire.

[(f)][g] "Taxicab and livery registration permit" means the permit issued by the Superintendent of Police to a taxicab medallion owner and livery owner which evinces that the operating taxicab or livery has fulfilled the annual inspection and registration requirements as mandated by this Ordinance.

[(g)][h] "Driver's license" means the permission granted by the City to a person to drive a taxicab or livery upon the streets of the City.

[(h)][i] "Taximeter" means a meter instrument or device attached to a taxicab which measures mechanically the distance driven and the waiting time upon which the fare is based.

[(i)][j] "Waiting time" means the time when a taxicab is not in motion from the time of acceptance of a passenger or passengers to the time of discharge, but does not include any time that the taxicab is not in motion if due to any cause other than the request, act or fault of the passenger or passengers.

[(j)][k] "Open stand" means a public place alongside the curb of a street in the City which has been designated by the City as reserved exclusively for the use of taxicabs.

[(k)][l] "Owner" means any person owning or having control of the use of a taxicab or livery or both upon the streets of the City.

[(l)][m] "Manifest" means a daily record prepared by a taxicab or livery driver of all trips made by such driver showing time and place of origin, destination, number of passengers and the amount of fare of each trip.

[(m)][n] "Rate card" means a card issued by the Superintendent of Police for display in each taxicab which contains the rates of fare then in force.

[(n)][o] "Medallion" means the plate issued by the City of Niagara Falls which represents the privilege given to the possessor to operate a taxicab in the City of Niagara Falls.

#### 365.02 TAXICAB MEDALLION AND REGISTRATION PERMIT REQUIRED; LIVERY REGISTRATION AND PERMIT REQUIRED.

No person shall operate or permit a taxicab owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire upon the streets of the City without having first obtained a taxicab medallion for each vehicle desired to be operated and a taxicab registration permit affixed to each such vehicle. No person shall operate or permit a livery owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire within the City without having first obtained a livery registration permit affixed to each such vehicle.

#### 365.03 APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER.

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to the operation of a taxicab or a livery upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare, or place where the passenger is picked up, begins within the corporate limits of the City, regardless whether the point of destination is within or without the City.

The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to the operation of a taxicab or a livery upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare begins outside the corporate limits of the City regardless of whether the point of destination is within the City. The provisions of this Chapter shall also not apply to a taxicab or livery that is returning a fare to a destination outside the corporate limits of the City which fare originated outside the corporate limits of the City, provided the return fare is made within 24 hours of the drop off of the originating fare.

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365.06 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB MEDALLIONS AND DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR TAXICAB AND LIVERY

(a) An application for any available taxicab medallion shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and shall be verified under oath and shall furnish the following information:

(1) Name, address, age and whether applicant is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date and if a corporation the name, address, age and whether each officer, director and shareholder is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date.

(2) Experience of applicant in the transportation of passengers.

(3) Number of taxicab medallions desired by the applicant.

(4) The financial status of the applicant, including the amounts of all unpaid judgments against the applicant arising out of the use of a motor vehicle.

(5) The name or names of persons not an applicant, or, if a corporate applicant not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation having an interest, financial, proprietary or other, direct or indirect, in the taxicab or the business to be licensed, or having made any loan to an applicant for such taxicab or having any lien or mortgage on such taxicab, setting forth the names and addresses of such person or persons, the nature of the interest and the date acquired.

(6) The name of any person not an applicant herein, or, if a corporate applicant, any person not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation who shares or will share on a percentage basis, or in any way in the receipts, losses or deficiencies of the operation of the taxicab, to any extent whatsoever other than by fixed salary, setting forth the names and addresses of such persons, the nature and percentage of the share and the date acquired.

(7) Whether the applicant has previously held a taxicab medallion from any locality or a former "taxicab permit" from the City of Niagara Falls and if such medallion or permit has ever been suspended or revoked, and if so, for what cause.

(8) Such further information as the Superintendent of Police of the City of Niagara Falls may require. (Adopted 7/13/88.)

(b) No person shall be issued a taxicab and/or livery driver's license unless such person meets the following qualifications:

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365.10 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 herein, no taxicab or livery shall be operated on the streets of Niagara Falls unless it has been issued a taxicab or livery registration permit. Each vehicle issued a permit under this Chapter shall affix a decal, supplied by the City of Niagara Falls, to the lower right hand corner of the rear window. The permit decal must be visible at all times and not placed on tinted windows/glass. Said decals shall be issued in a distinctively different color each year as proscribed by the Superintendent of Police. Taxicab and livery registration permits shall be non-transferable and must be renewed annually.

### 365.11 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT FEES.

The annual cost of a taxicab or livery registration permit shall be Seventy Dollars (\$70.00). No taxicab or livery registration permit decal shall be issued until such fee is paid. The taxicab or livery registration permit shall be issued between and including the dates of June 1 and June 15 of each year and all of such permits shall expire on the anniversary date in the next calendar year, unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any owner to whom a permit is issued during the permit year shall pay the full amount of the annual permit fee. All revenues generated by the collection of taxicab or livery permit fees shall be budgeted for the administration and enforcement of the taxicab and livery ordinance. [Permits expiring between April 1 and April 15, 1998 are hereby extended for sixty (60) days and will expire between June 1 and June 15, 1998].

### 365.12 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

An application for a taxicab or livery registration permit shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and such application shall contain the following information:

- (a) Make, model type and vehicle identification number of the vehicle to be registered.
- (b) Year of manufacture and seating capacity of each vehicle.
- (c) New York State license number of each vehicle to be registered.
- (d) The color scheme and insignia to be used to designate each vehicle.

In addition to the application and filing fee, [a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months and] proof of liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance, if required in accordance with Section 365.13, must be submitted at the time of application; and in the case of a taxicab, a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months.

The Superintendent of Police shall keep records of all vehicles registered pursuant to this chapter. Said records shall include the date of original vehicle inspection and shall record any subsequent inspections of the vehicle as well as any vehicle equipment and vehicle condition violations.

### 365.13 LIABILITY AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIRED.

(a) No taxicab or livery permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the minimum amount of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for bodily injury to any one person; in the minimum amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for injuries to more than one person which are

sustained in the same accident, and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for property damage resulting from any one accident. Such policy or policies shall insure to the benefit of any person who shall be injured or who shall sustain damage to property proximately caused by the negligence of a holder, his servants or agents. Such policy or policies shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police shall have at least fifteen days' written notice of such cancellation, which requirement shall be conspicuously placed on said policy or policies and any Certificate evidencing such insurance.

(b) No taxicab or livery permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a worker's compensation insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the statutory minimum amount. This provision may be waived if the taxicab or livery owner can produce a letter from the State of New York within the last twelve (12) months confirming that the taxicab or livery owner does not need worker's compensation insurance.

### 365.14 INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

Prior to the use and operation of any vehicle and the issuance of a taxicab or livery registration permit under the provisions of this chapter, such vehicle shall be thoroughly and carefully examined and inspected by the Police Department and must be found to comply with such reasonable rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Superintendent of Police. These rules and regulations shall be promulgated to provide safe and comfortable transportation and shall specify such safety equipment and regulatory devices as the Superintendent of Police shall deem necessary therefor.

In addition to periodic inspections by the Police Department, at such intervals as shall be established by the Superintendent of Police, taxicab and livery vehicles are subject to on-the-spot "no notice" inspections by police officers. Inspections shall not be instigated nor take place while a fare is present. Such inspections shall require, but are not limited to, the following vehicular standards:

- (a) All vehicles shall have current New York State Inspection Certificates.
- (b) The exterior of the vehicles shall be generally clean and free from rust and damage.
- (c) The vehicle paint must be applied in a professional manner. Automobile make insignias and vehicle chrome shall not be painted over.
- (d) Vehicles must be completely assembled and shall not be structurally altered from the manufacturer's design including, but not limited to, having the lights, exhaust system, fenders and bumpers properly attached.
- (e) Any lettering or company logo applied to the exterior of the vehicle must be professionally air-brushed or neatly stenciled upon the vehicle. A decal insignia shall be considered an acceptable substitute for the above requirement.
- (f) The interior of the vehicle must be kept clean and sanitary, and shall be free of all litter and debris.

If a vehicle has been involved in an accident causing physical damage so as to violate the above vehicle standards, it shall not be automatically excluded from service, if the vehicle can still be operated safely. The taxicab or livery owner shall have 24 hours to have the vehicle evaluated by the Police Department, in order to determine if the vehicle should be taken out of service or to determine the exact date repairs will be made. If a vehicle is taken out of service on account of the police inspection of damage, the taxicab or livery owner shall be notified in writing.

- (g) A violation of any of the above vehicle standard requirements will be punishable by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each offense. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

### 365.15 EMERGENCY TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMITS.

The Mayor may, in case of a declared public emergency or necessity, waive or modify any or all of the requirements of this chapter and may issue a temporary permit for the operation of any vehicle defined in this chapter upon the streets of the City without a public hearing, such permit to be revocable at any time with by the Mayor or his designee.

### 365.16 SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR TAXICABS; DISPLAY.

There shall be displayed in the passenger's compartment of each taxicab in full view of the passengers, a card not less than four inches by six inches in size, which shall have plainly printed thereon the name of the owner or the [fictitious] name under which such owner operates the business, the address and telephone number of such owner and a correct schedule of the rates to be charged for conveyance in such vehicle. Such card shall be approved as to form by the Superintendent of Police before being so displayed. A true and correct copy of the card, as approved, shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police.

365.17 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF MEDALLION AND TAXICAB REGISTRATION  
PERMIT OR LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

A taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit issued under the provisions of this chapter, may be revoked or suspended by the City Administrator, if the owner thereof has:

- (a) Violated any material provisions of this chapter.
- (b) Falsified any information on the application or failed to notify the Superintendent of Police of any material change of status from that indicated in the application.
- (c) Abandoned the taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit. The medallion or permit shall be deemed abandoned when a taxicab assigned a medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery issued a livery registration permit has not been regularly operated as a taxicab or livery for a period of six (6) months, or
- (d) Conducted himself in a manner indicating he is not a fit and proper person to hold such an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit.

In the event any person to whom an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit is issued has such medallion or permit suspended on three separate occasions, such medallion or permit shall be revoked. Whenever any medallion shall be revoked, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police. If the medallion is suspended, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police and retained by him until the suspension period expires. In the case of suspension or revocation of the taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit, the identifying decal shall be immediately removed.

Prior to suspension or revocation, the owner shall be given written notice of the proposed action to be taken together with a statement of the basis therefor and shall have an opportunity to be heard by the City Administrator within two weeks of receiving said written notice. No suspension or revocation shall be effective until a written decision of the Administrator is filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

365.18 TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 of this Chapter, no person shall operate a taxicab for hire or livery upon the streets of the City and no person who owns or controls a taxicab or livery shall permit it to be so driven, and no taxicab or livery licensed by the City shall be driven at any time for hire unless the driver of such taxicab or livery shall have first obtained and shall have then in force a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license issued under the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not apply to a taxicab or livery driver who is returning a fare to a destination outside the corporate limits of the City which fare originated outside the corporate limits of the City, provided the return fare is made within 24 hours of the drop off of the originating fare.

365.20 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

An application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police on forms provided by the City, and such application shall be verified under oath and shall contain the following information:

• • •

Any false statements made by the applicant on the application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be sufficient cause for the refusal of the issuance of a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license to such applicant, or shall be sufficient cause for the revocation or suspension of a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license after the issuance of same.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a taxicab driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendent of Police, on forms provided by the City, a livery driver's license. Provided the taxicab driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a livery driver's license shall be issued for no additional fee.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a livery driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendent of Police, on forms provided by the City, a taxicab driver's license. Provided the livery driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a taxicab driver's license shall be issued for no additional fee.

#### 365.21 EXAMINATION OF APPLICANT.

Before licensing, all taxicab drivers and livery drivers must undergo a local orientation program of up to two hours coordinated by the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation (NTCC). Prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each driver must successfully complete a test of the information covered during the program. The applicant is responsible to pay any fee incurred by the NTCC for administering the test. Such program shall include, but is not limited to, the geography of the City, traffic laws and regulations and public relations and appearance.

#### 365.22 POLICE INVESTIGATION OF APPLICANT.

The Police Department of the City shall conduct an investigation of each applicant for a taxicab driver's license and livery driver's license, and a report of such investigation and a copy of the traffic and police record of the applicant, if any, shall be attached to the application for the consideration of the Superintendent of Police.

#### 365.23 CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION.

The Superintendent of Police shall, upon consideration of the application and the reports and certificate required to be attached thereto, in his discretion, approve or reject the application. If the application is rejected, the applicant may request a personal appearance before the Superintendent of Police to offer evidence why his application should be reconsidered.

#### 365.24 ISSUANCE OF LICENSE; DURATION AND ANNUAL FEE.

Upon approval of an application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license, the Superintendent of Police shall issue a license to the applicant which shall bear the name, address, age, signature and photograph of the applicant, issuance number, date of expiration and the name of the owner for which such driver is authorized to operate a vehicle. Such license shall be valid only so long as the driver continues in the employ of such owner. Upon the termination of any driver's employment, the owner by whom such driver has been employed shall immediately give the Superintendent of Police written notice of such termination, the reasons therefor, and shall forthwith surrender the driver's license to the Superintendent of Police for cancellation.

Such license shall be in effect for the remainder of the calendar year. A license for every calendar year thereafter shall be issued upon the payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), unless the license for the preceding year has been revoked.

#### 365.25 LICENSE PERIOD.

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be issued as of January 1st in each year and shall be valid to and including December 31st of that same year unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any driver to whom a license is issued during the license year shall pay the full amount of the annual license fee.

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**365.27 DRESS, BEHAVIOR AND GROOMING OF TAXICAB DRIVERS AND LIVERY DRIVERS  
AND USE OF RADIO FREQUENCY.**

(a) Each driver shall make a presentable appearance while operating taxicabs and livery in the City of Niagara Falls, and shall be clean, well-groomed, neatly dressed, and conduct himself or herself in a professional, courteous manner. Every driver shall be required to wear a shirt with a collar.

(b) Each driver shall be permitted to use only the radio frequency that is used by the company the driver is affiliated with. The monitoring of another cab or livery company's frequency is strictly prohibited and will lead to sanctions against the driver and/or company the driver is affiliated with.

**365.28 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE.**

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license may be suspended for the following reasons:

• • •

No driver or operator whose license has been revoked shall be eligible to be licensed as a taxicab driver or livery driver in the City for a period of three (3) years, unless otherwise prohibited by Section 365.19 of this Chapter.

**365.29 NOTICE TO DRIVER.**

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be deemed to be suspended or revoked as of the third day after the Superintendent of Police shall cause to be deposited in the United States Post Office within the City, a registered letter giving notice of such revocation or suspension, and directed to the person named and to the address given on the application pursuant to which such license was issued. In the event a person has both a taxicab driver's license and a livery driver's license, a suspension or revocation of one license has the effect of suspending or revoking the other license.

**365.30 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CITY, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.**

Every driver licensed under this chapter shall comply with all City, State and Federal laws. Failure to do so will justify the suspension or revocation of a license.

**365.31 DESIGNATION OF TAXICAB.**

The taxicabs of every owner operating a taxicab within a City shall be of a color scheme and bear the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia which are clearly and easily distinguishable from the color scheme, owner's trade name, monogram or insignia used on the taxicabs of any other owner's already operating under this chapter. No change whatever in the color scheme or distinguishing characteristics of any taxicab shall be made without written permission from the Superintendent of Police, and it shall be unlawful for any person soliciting patronage from any vehicle described in this chapter to represent by word, sign or insignia that the vehicle for which he is soliciting such patronage is a vehicle owned or operated by other than the actual owners.

Every taxicab operated within the City shall bear the following identification: the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia, together with a cab number and the owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the metal portion of the outside of each side of the taxicab and the cab number and owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the outside rear panel of the taxicab. All lettering mentioned in this paragraph shall be not less than two and one-quarter inches in height and not less than five-sixteenths inch stroke. In addition to the identification hereby required, taxicabs may bear the following signs or advertisements:

- (a) A metal sign bearing the words "For Hire", and being no larger than six inches by nine inches;
- (b) A sign attached to the top of the cab bearing the word "Vacant" and being no larger than two and one-half inches by nine inches, and

(c) Advertisements not exceeding twelve square feet in total area, subject to the rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Police.

If, after a permit has been issued for a taxicab hereunder, any portion of this section is violated in such a manner as to be misleading or deceiving to the public, the Superintendent of Police in his discretion, may suspend or revoke the permit of the owner covering such taxicab or taxicabs.

(d) This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City.

### 365.32 TAXIMETER REQUIRED.

All taxicabs operated under the authority of this chapter shall be equipped with taximeters fastened in front of the passengers, visible to them at all times day and night; and, after sundown, the face of the taximeter shall be illuminated. Such taximeter shall be operated mechanically by a mechanism of standard design and construction, driven either from the transmission or from one of the front wheels by a flexible and permanently attached driving mechanism. No taximeter shall be operated from any wheel to which power is applied. They shall be sealed at all points and connections which, if manipulated, would affect their correct reading and recording. Each taximeter shall have thereon a flag to denote when the vehicle is employed and when it is not employed, and it shall be the duty of the driver to throw the flag of such taximeter into a non-recording position at the termination of each trip. The taximeters shall be subject to inspection from time to time by the Police Department. Any inspector or other officer of the Police Department is hereby authorized either on complaint of any person or without such complaint, to inspect any meter and, upon discovery of any inaccuracy therein, to notify the person operating such taxicab to cease operation. Thereupon, such taxicab shall be kept off the streets, until the taximeter is repaired and in the required working condition.

This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the owner of a livery operating under the authority of this chapter may, at the option of the owner, equip the livery so owned with a taximeter. In the event the owner equips the said livery with a taximeter, all applicable provisions of this chapter pertaining to taximeters shall apply. In addition, the owner, prior to installation of the taximeter in the livery vehicle, agrees to immediately give written notice to the Superintendent of Police of the installation of the taximeter.

•••

### 365.35 OPEN STANDS ESTABLISHED; USE AND PARKING.

The Traffic Engineer is hereby authorized and empowered to establish open taxi stands for the exclusive use of taxicabs in such places upon the streets of the City as he deems necessary. In creating an open stand, the Traffic Engineer shall take into consideration the need for such stands by the taxicab owners and the convenience to the general public. He shall prescribe the number of taxicabs that shall occupy such open stands. The Traffic Engineer shall not create an open stand in front of any place of business where the abutting property owners object to the same or where such open stand would tend to create a traffic hazard. Such open stands shall be designated by appropriate signs or curb markings as the Traffic Engineer shall determine.

Open stands shall be used by the different drivers on a first come, first serve basis. The driver shall pull into the open stand from the rear and shall advance forward as the vehicles ahead pull off. A driver shall be in attendance at every taxicab parked in an open taxi stand. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as preventing a passenger from boarding the vehicle of his choice that is parked at an open stand.

No owner or driver of a taxicab shall stand or park such vehicle at any place on a public street other than an open stand, except for the purpose of discharging or receiving passengers.

No person shall park or stand any vehicle other than a taxicab in an open taxi stand.

Liveries may not utilize open taxi stands for parking or for any other purpose.

### 365.36 SOLICITATION, ACCEPTANCE AND DISCHARGE OF PASSENGERS.

No driver shall solicit passengers for a taxicab except when sitting in the driver's compartment of such taxicab or while standing immediately adjacent to the curb side thereof. No driver of a livery may solicit passengers for a livery. The driver of any taxicab shall remain in the driver's compartment or immediately adjacent to his vehicle at all times when such vehicle is upon the public street, except that, when necessary, a driver may be absent from his taxicab for not more than ten consecutive minutes, and provided further that nothing herein contained shall be held to prohibit any driver from alighting to the street or sidewalk for the purpose of assisting passengers into or out of such vehicle.

No driver shall solicit patronage in a loud or annoying tone of voice or by sign or in any manner annoy any person or obstruct the movement of any persons, or follow any person for the purpose of soliciting patronage.

Drivers of taxicabs and liveries shall not receive or discharge passengers in the roadway but shall pull up to the right hand sidewalk as nearly as possible, or in the absence of a sidewalk, to the extreme right hand side of the road, and there receive or discharge passengers, except upon one-way streets where passengers may be discharged at either the right or left hand sidewalk or side of the roadway, in the absence of a sidewalk.

No driver shall cruise in search of passengers, except in such areas and at such time as shall be designated by the Traffic Engineer. Such areas and times shall only be designated when the Traffic Engineer finds that taxicab cruising would not congest traffic or be dangerous to pedestrians and other vehicles.

No driver, owner or operator shall solicit passengers at the terminal of any other common carrier, not at any intermediate points along any established route of any other common carrier.

No driver shall permit any other person to occupy or ride in such taxicab unless the person or persons first employing the taxicab shall consent to the acceptance of an additional passenger or passengers. No charge shall be made for an additional passenger except when the additional passenger rides beyond the previous passenger's destination, and then only for the additional distance so traveled.

No driver shall permit more persons to be carried in a taxicab as passengers than the rated seating capacity of his taxicab, as stated in the permit for such vehicle. A child in arms shall not be counted as a passenger.

No driver shall refuse or neglect to convey any orderly person or persons, upon request, unless previously engaged or unable or forbidden by the provisions of this chapter to do so.

It shall be a violation of this chapter for any driver of a taxicab to solicit business for any hotel, or to attempt to divert patronage from one hotel to another. Neither shall such driver engage in selling intoxicating liquors or soliciting business for any immoral purpose, or use his vehicle for any purpose other than the transporting of passengers.

### 365.37 RECEIPTS.

The driver of any taxicab or livery shall, upon demand by the passenger, render to such passenger a receipt for the amount charged, either by a mechanically printed receipt or by a specially prepared receipt on which shall be the name of the owner, license number or motor number, amount of meter reading or charges, and date of transaction.

...

#### 365.41 MANIFESTS.

Every driver of a taxicab and livery shall maintain a daily manifest upon which are recorded all trips made each day, showing the time and place of origin, the destination of each trip and amount of fare, and all such completed manifests shall be returned to the owner by the driver at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The forms for each manifest shall be furnished to the driver by the owner, and shall be of a character approved by the Superintendent of Police.

Every owner of a permit shall retain and preserve all drivers' manifests in a safe place for at least the calendar year next preceding the current calendar year, and such manifests shall be available to the Superintendent of Police.

#### 365.42 SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTS.

It shall be mandatory for all owners to file with the Superintendent of Police, copies of all contracts, agreements, arrangements, memoranda or other writings relating to the furnishing of taxicab or livery service to any hotel, theater, hall, public resort, terminal or other place of public gathering, whether such arrangement is made with the owner or any corporation, firm or association with which the owner may be interested or connected. Failure to file such copies within seven days shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of a permit of any offending owner or the cancellation of any cab stand privileges.

...

#### 365.44 APPEAL.

If any person is aggrieved by any act or failure to act on the part of the Superintendent of Police either in issuing, failure to issue, suspending or revoking any owner's permit or driver's license, such aggrieved party may file with the City Clerk a statement addressed to the [City Administrator] Niagara Falls City Council, setting forth the full facts and circumstances in connection with the action or failure of action on the part of the Superintendent of Police. Such appeal must be filed within ten days after commission or omission of the act by which the appellant claims to have been aggrieved.

The [City Administrator] Niagara Falls City Council shall call [a meeting] for a public hearing not less than [ten] thirty days from the date on which such appeal shall have been filed with the City Clerk, shall hear the appellant and his witnesses and determine the merits of the appeal, and the [ruling of the City Administrator] decision by a majority vote of the Niagara Falls City Council thereon shall be final. (C66 S39, adopted 1-13-69; amended 12/29/11.)

...

**Bold and Underlining indicate Additions.**

**Bold and Brackets indicate [Deletions].**

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved that the Communication be Tabled	4
Yeas	
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	1
Nays	
Touma	

TABLED

RESOLUTION: ST. JOHNS AME GOSPEL CHORUS 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, RECOGNIZING,  
2017-11  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #26

WHEREAS, in July of 2009 the Senate of The United States was given a resolution by Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Hutchison asking that September be designated as "Gospel Music Heritage Month and honoring gospel music for its valuable contributions to the culture of the United States; and

WHEREAS, gospel music is a beloved art form of the United States, a cornerstone of the musical traditions of the United States and has spread beyond origins in African-American spirituals to achieve popular cultural and historical relevance, spreading beyond geographic origins to touch audiences around the world; and

WHEREAS, for 90 years the Gospel Chorus of St. Johns AME Church located at 917 Garden Avenue Niagara Falls, New York, has touched many lives with the universal appeal of this art that both inspires and entertains across racial, ethnic, religious, and geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on this day, January 21, 2017, they welcome back members to join in a community choir under the direction of former member Roger Walker of Atlanta Georgia; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize the many members who continue to sing and bless this world with the valuable and longstanding contribution to our culture, such as our own Marsha McWilson, Kathy Jordan Sharpton, Constance Matthews, Maxwell Taylor, and many, many more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby congratulate Pastor Dion Greer, President Rosemary Bass Mims and the St. Johns Gospel Chorus on their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we also recognize their greatness and value to the Niagara Falls community.

Yea

5

Nays

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ADOPTED

CONTRACT: LIBRARY REPAIRS, D.V. BROWN & ASSOCIATES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #27

After the solicitation of multiple quotes for the repair of the E.W. Brydges Library boiler, the following eligible responsible bid was received:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID
D.V. Brown & Associates 567 Vickers Street Tonawanda NY 14150	\$ 33,000.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to D.V. Brown & Associates at their total bid of \$33,000.00. Funding is available from casino funding.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked why this is not out of the Budget. Director of Public Works, John Caso, stated that this is in addition to the Budget.

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



FEBRUARY 6, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the February 6, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Nelson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of January 23, 2017.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Sara Capen, executive Director of Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, discussed the Niagara Shuttle. Ms. Capen gave a history of the inception of the shuttle explaining the economic benefits of the shuttle. The shuttle connects users to tourist sites, routes connect visitors into the city, tourists and locals use the shuttle, alleviates traffic and parking concerns, reduces congestion, creates jobs, and is critical to tourism.

Councilwoman Grandinetti commented on the success of the shuttle and its importance to the Niagara region.

Councilman Touma asked about funding sources. Ms. Capen stated funding comes from the NYSPA and grants. Councilman Touma asked if Hotel/Motel owners could be tapped as a funding source.

The Mayor discussed alternative funding sources, stakeholders in the hospitality industry.

Councilman Tompkins asked if the shuttle route traveled down Pine Avenue.

Amy Lewis, Executive Director of the SPCA gave a presentation on the SPCA. Ms. Lewis gave a history of correspondence with the city regarding the contract. She discussed costs related to the housing of animals at the shelter explaining that costs have increased because the facility became a "no kill" shelter.

Councilman Tompkins asked why they decided to become a "no kill" shelter.

Ms. Lewis stated that the public demanded it. Councilman Touma asked about dogs that are kept there for a long period of time. A discussion on pit bulls took place.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if the SPCA was pursuing funding from the county.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if that was the responsibility of Ms. Lewis or her Board of Directors. Ms. Lewis gave details about the spay/neuter program.

Councilman Touma asked about the feasibility study for the area and if there were any possible tenants at this point.

The City Administrator discussed aspects of the feasibility study with council.

Councilman Touma asked about the funding for Centennial Circle.

A resolution was read by the City Clerk recognizing Mary Ann Hess from Honeymoon Sweets. Council voted on the item (#16) on the agenda which recognized Ms. Hess for her contributions.

The item was approved to be included at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

RESOLUTION: HONEYMOON SWEETS, HESS, MARY ANNE, RECOGNIZING, 2017-12  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hess the owner of Niagara's Honeymoon Sweets received and accepted an invitation from the New York State Society of Washington D.C. to attend the inauguration of the 45<sup>th</sup> president of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Mary Anne made the trip to the capital representing Niagara Falls and the State of New York at the 45<sup>th</sup>, inauguration where she and her chocolates participated in a show, where she made sure to show off her hometown with 13 handcrafted chocolate frames featuring images from around Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne has also participated in the swearing in ceremony of former president Barack Obama also by invitation, other high profile events such as the Grammy's, the Emmys and the Oscars to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hess has done an outstanding job of representing Western New York and the City of Niagara Falls,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby recognize Mary Anne Hess of Niagara's Honeymoon Chocolates for her outstanding work and for the recognition and promotion of our city. We also honor her and recognize her great accomplishments over the years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls, New York we do recognize in Mary Anne Hess an outstanding citizen worthy of this honor, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our state and federal representatives that they may make note of her accomplishments.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

Mayor Dyster and the Council presented the Resolution to Ms. Hess.

Councilman Touma moved to remove from the table the resolution relative to amending Chapter 365 of the codified ordinance entitled Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers.

Yea  
Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma  
Nays  
Scott, Chairman Walker

3  
2

The item was removed from the table.

Councilman Touma moved to amend the item, the Corporation Council read the amendment.

Yea  
Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma  
Nays  
Scott, Chairman Walker

3  
2

AMENDED

This session ended at 6:12 P.M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:22 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Tompkins and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council Member Ezra Scott JR., read transcripts about the meaning of the fist pump salute's history and it being an expression of solidarity and spoke about Black History Month.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Dave Bieksza	Agenda Item #15
Gerald Skrlin	Agenda Item #13
Roger Wingo	Agenda Item #15
Nicholas Forester	Agenda Item #15
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Items #9, #15
Vince Anello	Agenda Items #2, #9, #10, #14
Mike Parsnick	Commend City's endeavor for refugees; Lodge on Goat Island; downtown hotels paying taxes
Bill Carroll	Importance of Discovery Shuttle; SPCA
Gerald Skrlin	Statue on Circle; Political Elite; Promoting the City
Dr. Joseph DiPasquale	Spirit of Solidarity
Mark Diodate	Support Councilman Scott on solidarity
Dana Carr, Jr.	Taxicab/Livery Ordinance; regulate medallions
Nicole Carr	Medallions; A-1 Taxi
Ken Hamilton	Event Center due diligence by Council; taxi cabs, Liveries, ambulance drivers; properly regulating Medallions
Alysia Welch-Chester	Possibilities of people speaking up & doing Community work; Black History Month
Amber Hill	Solidarity; Black History Month
Mick	Taxicab issue; need City support of medallions
Damon DeCastro	People who sold medallions

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: OLD STONE CHIMNEY SITE INTERPRETATION, CONSULTANT, TROWBRIDGE WOLFE MICHAELS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Agenda Item #2  
The Planning Office will be working with a small steering committee representing, at a minimum, the Historic Preservation Commission and Tourism Advisory Board with the goal of more appropriately interpreting the historic significance of the Old Stone Chimney/Dean Adams hydraulic canal and the surrounding "River View Park" Site through signage and landscape design (Old Stone Chimney History on file in the City Clerk's Office).

The Niagara River View Park Site is an essential component of the City's Waterfront Revitalization Program, fully described in the original study completed in 1988 by Saratoga Associates and approved as part of the City's 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

The City had recently been awarded a Niagara River Greenway Commission grant to work with NYPA, the owner of the Old Stone Chimney and New York State Park Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation to develop a historically appropriate interpretation for the Old Stone Chimney and site. The Niagara River Greenway Commission grant award is in the amount of \$200,000.00.

Other the staff "in-kind" services, no City funds will be used for this project. As such, there is no cash contribution or other cash disbursement required in accepting this award or in completing the Project. Total project expenditures will not exceed \$200,000.00.

Therefore, to effect the intended purpose of the grant, the Development of Planning Environmental & Economic Development solicited proposals for professional services, and is now recommending that the proposal from Trowbridge Wolfe Michaels Landscape Architects LLP be accepted in the, not to exceed, amount of \$20,835.00.

Will the Council vote to accept the Niagara River Greenway Commission grant, approve the contract award Trowbridge Wolfe Michaels Landscape Architects LLP and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary, in form and in content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel, to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti stated that no City funds is being used for this & it is a Historical Site.

CONTRACT: SIGN/BILLBOARD CODE, CONSULTANT, STEINMETZ PLANNING GROUP

Agenda Item #3

The Planning Environmental & Economic Development, Law, and Code Enforcement Departments will be working with the Niagara Falls Board as the Steering Committee along with business owners and other members of the public with the goal of drafting a new updated Sign and Bill Board Ordinance.

In updating the Sign Code, the City will establish a new comprehensive system of sign controls governing the display, design, construction, installation, and maintenance of signs. The new Sign Code will be incorporated into the Niagara Falls Zoning Ordinance resulting, in a document that is better organized, easily referenced, and more comprehensible by both staff and the general public, while also being reflective of the community's vision.

A brief overview of SPG and its relevant project experience, as well as the proposed scope, timeline, and fee are provided in detail and attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

In addition to staff-time to supplement this project, funding is currently available in the Tribal revenue Account. Total project expenditures will not exceed \$25,000.00.

Will the Council vote to approve the contract award to Steinmertz Planning Group and authorize the Mayor to execute and documents necessary, in form and in content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel, to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CITY MARSHALS, RE-APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #4

The City Council designated Gary Bevilacqua, Eugene Oshal, Frederick Pucci and Rocco Zendano as City Marshals with terms that expired on December 31, 2016. It is recommended that these four (4) individuals be re-appointed to terms expiring on December 31, 2018.

They will continue to provide satisfactory insurance coverage naming the City of Niagara Falls, New York as additional insured and their remuneration will continue to be limited to the fees that they collect for services rendered.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: 3625 HIGHLAND AVENUE BUSINESS PARK, ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION, MARK CERRONE INC.

Agenda Item #5

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Mark Cerrone Inc., 2368 Maryland Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY, on September 6, 2016 in an amount of \$153,635.00.

The project for buildings #2 and #3 required additional abatement work for unanticipated and necessary asbestos remediation work. In addition, un-safe areas of contamination and necessary demolition were required to be performed by our qualified contractor. The cost for both buildings associated with remediation and demolition is \$76,825.22

Furthermore, during the course work, subsequent cost savings of \$6,289.00 were realized to offset increases.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$70,536.22 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$224,171.17 Sufficient funds presently exist in the City's Economic Development Department project fund for 3625 Highland Avenue Business Park, approved by City Council.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: TENTH STREET/CEDAR AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION & INSPECTION SERVICES, FOIT ALBERT ASSOCIATES

Agenda Item #6

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Foit Albert Associates, P.C., on May 29, 2007 in an amount of \$555,000.00. Change Orders request to date bring the total contract amount to \$1,685,197.35

The prime contractor for the Tenth Street/Cedar Avenue project abandoned the job in 2011 before completion and never returned. Since then, the City has settled litigation and can move forward with the remaining funding to correct defective and uncompleted work.

This Change Order covers Professional Engineering Services for design, contract documents, engineering services associated with administering the contract to completion and full time inspection in accordance with the NYSDOT standards specifications and the LAFAP manual.

This project was funded with Federal Highway money as a NYSDOT pass-through project. The NYSDOT is requesting that the project be "closed-out" in order to protect the City from having to refund monies we have been reimbursed for earlier work.

The City's Engineering staff has been in contact with Foit-Albert Associates and have negotiated for the services to complete said project in the amount of \$139,000.00

As a Federal pass-through project it is still eligible for reimbursement at the standard 80% -20% split and a portion of funding is also reimbursable under N.Y. State Marchiselli funding.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #5 be approved in the amount of \$139,000.00 with funding for this change order still available in the original project funding Code H0921.9901.0000.0900.H0632.

Will the council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: CENTRE COURT POOL, LINING OF MAIN DRAIN, DYNA MOLE LLC

Agenda Item #7

The following is the result of bids received on May 4, 2016 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
Dyna Mole LLC 195 Dewey Avenue Rochester NY 14608		\$44,193.56

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder

Dyna Mole LLC at their total bid of \$44,193.56. Funding is available from casino funds.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT., LEAD PARKING ATTENDANTS, PARKING ATTENDANTS, WAGE INCREASES

Agenda Item #8

The Director of the Department of Public Works ("DPW") is requesting that the hourly wage for Lead Parking Attendants and Parking Attendants be increased. Presently Lead Parking Attendants make \$11.00 per hour and Parking Attendants make \$9.75 per hour. It is requested that the hourly wage for Lead Parking Attendants be increased to \$15.00 per hour and the hourly wage for Parking Attendants be increased to \$11.00 per hour.

These are seasonal employees. The Lead Parking Attendants have taken on all duties related to the new parking meters. Those duties include but are not limited to cash collection, cash balancing, cash deposits, banking, troubleshooting any maintenance issues as well as snow removal on and around the meters. The Parking Attendants new wage no longer includes Step 2, 3 or 4. The proposed increase will meet the New York State minimum wage increase and will remain in compliance through the end of 2018.

Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a spreadsheet reflecting the cost of this increase which is anticipated to be \$32,237.41, inclusive of FICA.

Funds are available through budgeted funds. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nays	1
Scott	

APPROVED

Council Member Scott stated that there should be contracts.

Council Member Touma stated that we are fortunate to have responsible people for these positions.

#### CONVENTION CENTER/ARENA, FEASIBILITY STUDY

##### Agenda Item #9

My understanding from a communication from Samuel M. Ferraro, Commissioner of Niagara County Department of Economic Development dated January 13, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office), is that Niagara County has allocated \$50,000.00 towards the cost of a feasibility study to determine the necessity for a new convention center/arena in Niagara Falls. My further understanding is that Senator Ortt's office will also be contributing up to \$50,000.00 for this feasibility study. Based upon and contingent upon the \$50,000.00 allocation from Niagara County and the up to \$50,000.00 allocation from the office of Senator Ortt, it is requested that the City of Niagara Falls also contribute up to \$50,000.00 towards the cost of such a feasibility study.

The City's contribution, as described above, is contingent upon the funding described from the County as well as the office of Senator Ortt, and is also contingent upon the approval by the City's Law Department as well as the City's Office of Planning and Economic Development as to the content and terms and conditions contained in a Request for Proposals for such a feasibility study developed by the Niagara County Department of Economic Development.

Funding is available from casino revenues.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti agonized over her decision but she was convinced by the City Administrator & Ken Hamilton.

Council Member Touma said we are working with Senator Ortt's office & the County on this.

Chairman Walker stated that collaboration with all opens door for other Projects.

CONTRACT: CENTENNIAL CIRCLE WATERMAIN RELOCATIONS, YARUSSI CONSTRUCTION

Agenda Item #10

The following were the result of bids received on January 31, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
Yarussi Construction Inc. 5650 Simmons Ave. Niagara Falls NY 14304		\$184,560.00
Scott Lawn Yard		\$228,905.00
Mark Cerrone Inc.		\$272,235.00
Accadia Site Contracting Inc.		\$399,650.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder Yarussi Construction Inc., Inc. at their total bid of \$184,560.00. Funding of \$150,000.00 is available from Greenway and \$34,560.00 from casino.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
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Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
--------------------------------------------	--

Nays	1
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Tompkins	
----------	--

APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti said there are a lot of pieces that fit into this.

Council Member Tompkins can't see spending so much money & it should be the responsibility of the Water Board.

Council Member Touma said we are lacking in culture & this would be a start.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: NY CENTRAL MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O WILLIAM & ANNA HARTMAN

Agenda Item #11

Date Claim Filed:	August 18, 2014
Date Action Commenced:	August 27, 2015
Date(s) of Occurrence:	June 6, 2014
Location:	Intersection of 24 <sup>th</sup> Street and Grand Avenue
Nature of Claim:	Damages from collision with City vehicle
City Driver:	Ryan Mackie
Status of Action:	Pre-trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$5,564.63
Make Check Payable to:	New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company a/s/o William and Anna Hartman
Conditions:	General Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: SWANSON, FATEMA

Agenda Item #12

Date Claim Filed:

September 13, 2016

Date Action Commenced:

N/A

Date of Occurrence:

September 10, 2016

Location:

1707 Ferry Avenue

Nature of Claim:

Tree branch fell on vehicle

City Driver:

N/A

Status of Action:

Claim stage.

Recommendation/Reason:

Best interests of City to pay claim.

Amount to be Paid:

\$2423.89

Make Check Payable to:

Fatema Swanson

Conditions:

General Release to City, approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: PUBLIC HEARING, ALLEY ABANDONMENT, 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup> STS, SOUTH OF ORLEANS AVENUE, 2017-13

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #13

WHEREAS, the adjoining property owner has requested the abandonment a portion of the alley running north/south between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Streets, south of Orleans Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended to Council that this request be approved; and

WHEREAS, this Council declares its intention to abandon said alley portion.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the abandonment of the aforementioned alley portion, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of intention to discontinue and abandon the said alley portion in the official newspaper once a week for two successive weeks preceding February 21, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

ADOPTED

Council Woman Grandinetti said the abandonment would be a help. Council Member Touma voted yes to the Public Hearing.

RESOLUTION: RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT, WAIVER, 2017-14  
BY: COUNCILMEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls has been without a City Engineer since April 2013, and the absence of the engineer has caused significant hardship for the City both financially and operationally; and

WHEREAS, since April 2013, the City has conducted several local and nationwide searches for candidates for the City Engineer position. All of these searches have proven to be unsuccessful as a number of qualified candidates have been either unable or unwilling to comply with the City's Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, which requires all newly hired City employees to become residents of the City within six months of their date of hire; and

WHEREAS, one of these candidates, John A. Gerlach, is at the top of the City's list for potential City Engineers; however, Mr. Gerlach is a resident of Youngstown, New York and is unable to relocate due to personal/family circumstances; and

WHEREAS, a copy of John A. Gerlach's resume (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, provides that this Council may, by resolution, waive the requirement of residency for newly hired employees if it determines that enforcing the Local Law is not in the best interest of the City; and

WHEREAS, it is obvious that there is a lack of qualified applicants for the City Engineer position residing within the City or unwilling to accept the City Engineer position if required to comply with the City's residency requirement and, further, that enforcing the residency requirement for a new City Engineer is not in the best interest of the City since the most qualified candidate for the position is not a City resident and is unable to relocate into the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened, does hereby grant a waiver pursuant to Section 6 of Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, to John A. Gerlach, exempting him from the residency requirements contained in said Local Law for the specific purpose of the hiring of John A. Gerlach as City Engineer, and it is further

RESOLVED, that this waiver shall continue for the duration of Mr. Gerlach's employment with the City, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the City Administrator of the City of Niagara Falls, New York are hereby authorized to effectuate said waiver in relation to the hiring of John A. Gerlach for the City Engineer position.

Yea	3
Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma	
Nay	2
Scott, Chairman Walker	

ADOPTED

Council Woman Grandinetti said she is a high believer in residency requirement, however, the Engineering Dept. is in need of a Director. Council Member Scott said he met with the gentleman considered. He also said that we could find talent that would move to Niagara Falls. Council Member Tompkins said he agrees with Council Woman Grandinetti. Council Member Touma based his decision on fact & this will make the Engineering Dept. more efficient. Chairman Walker stated that we've had opportunities for someone that will live in the City.

RESOLUTION: DRIP PROGRAM, WATER BOARD, REINSTATEMENT, 2017-15  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, certain neighborhoods in the City have been adversely affected by water lines that tend to freeze during certain periods of inclement weather; and

WHEREAS, in prior years, the Niagara Falls Water Board ("NFWB") has enacted a "drip program" which allowed certain residents on a list developed by the NFWB to participate in a program that allowed those residents up to 2,500 cubic feet of water usage at no charge for keeping their faucets running at all times during periods of time in the winter months in an effort to keep pipes from freezing; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has learned that the NFWB is planning to discontinue the drip program going forward and this City Council believes that the drip program is an important resource for residents in order to help guard against frozen water lines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council does hereby request that the NFWB reinstate the drip program and make it available to residents as it has in the past.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the NFWB.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

Council Member Touma said the Water Board doesn't play by the rules. Council Chairman Walker said the idea of City & Water Board separation was a bad idea.

RESOLUTION: HONEYMOON SWEETS, HESS, MARY ANNE, RECOGNIZING, 2017-12  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

THIS ITEM WAS AMENDED AND APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

RESOLUTION: OASIS, FEE WAIVER, SERTOMA CLUB, 2017-16  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Sertoma Club wishes to do its part in helping those in our city who are considered less fortunate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the City of Niagara Falls does hereby waive the fee for rental of the Oasis at Hyde Park for the Niagara Falls Sertoma Club Annual Chicken Barbecue (request letter on file in the City Clerk's Office), to be held on Sunday, August 20, 2017. This is one of their main fundraisers that help support various organizations throughout the City.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-17  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Christian G. Printup 310 Fourth Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303p	12/31/2017
Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #19

THIS ITEM WAS TABLED  
NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Touma	

TABLED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



FEBRUARY 21, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the February 21, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:03 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Nelson and Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of February 6, 2017.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0  
APPROVED

**RESOLUTION: BRADLEY, PATRICK J., REV. DEACON, HONORING, 2017-18**  
BY: COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, Reverend Deacon Patrick J. Bradley, has served as chaplain to the Niagara Falls Fire and Police Department for many years; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Deacon Bradley has also served our country in the New York Army National Guard in 1980 as a heavy anti-armor weapons squad leader and chaplain's assistant. Reverend Bradley was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant (E-5) in 1986; and

WHEREAS, in May 2000, Patrick Bradley was ordained and is currently serving the Lord as Deacon of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley has been married to the former Linda Hamilton since 1982. They have an adult son, Joshua; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley is currently a member of Diocesan Council - Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, Bishop's Advisory Committee on Deacons-Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, Western New York Stress Reduction Program (provides educational and interventional critical incident stress management services to Western New York's emergency services providers), Niagara Ministerial Council, International Conference of Police Chaplains, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, New York State Association of Fire Chaplains, Riverdale Cemetery Association Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley is currently employed at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Director of Public Relations and Communications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby recognize Reverend Deacon Patrick J. Bradley for his outstanding service as chaplain to the Niagara Falls Fire Department, Niagara Falls Police Department and the Niagara Falls community.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0  
ADOPTED

The Rev. Patrick Bradley received an award for his service to the fire and police department. A resolution was read by the City Clerk honoring Rev Bradley for his many accomplishments. Rev. Bradley gave a speech thanking the city for the honor.

The City administrator spoke about Zombie Legislation. He stated that inspections and citations are currently being conducted. The administrators office is also gathering a list of problem sidewalks and potholes. Any problems can be reported to the administrators office or to the Department of Public Works.

Mayor Dyster spoke on the poverty initiatives which address job opportunities, transportation problems for those seeking jobs as well as other concerns for equality in job creation.

Councilman Ezra Scott questioned the Mayor about the replacement Pedestrian Bridge across Goat Island. The Mayor discussed a meeting with State Parks which took place last year. The State presented numerous designs for the bridge and comments were recorded during that meeting. The Mayor stated that the project lacks funding at this point. This is a long term future project and any updates will be submitted to the council. Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if there were any other projects in conjunction with the bridge project. The Mayor stated that there are other projects which are part of the efforts to improve the island.

Ended at 5:20 PM.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Scott and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Walker announced a Special Order of Business, a Public Hearing relative to the abandonment of a portion of the alley running North/South between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25 Streets, South of Orleans Avenue and asked if there were any speakers relative thereto.

Ron Anderluh      Dairy Queen building new building and the alley is  
                            Needed for this construction

THERE WERE NO FURTHER SPEAKERS

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Galen Bailey	Agenda Items #7, #17
Ron Anderluh	Agenda Item #17
Harvey Albond	Agenda Item #17
Helen Kress	Agenda Items #7, #17
Kathie Kudela	Agenda Item #7
Lynne Neveu	Agenda Items #7, #17
Robert Borgati	Agenda Items #7, #17
Sara Capen	Agenda Item #7
Damon DeCastro	Agenda Item #17
Tim Huether	Agenda Items #2, #3, #7, #17
Nicholas Baio	Agenda Item #17
Linda Tomkiel	Agenda Item #17
Margaret Topor	Agenda Items #7, #17
Tim Baxter	Agenda Item #7
Robert Emerson	Agenda Item #7
Tom Chambers	Agenda Item #7
John Kinney	Agenda Item #7
Tod Kniarzuk	Agenda Item #7
Bill Kennedy	Agenda Item #17
Harvey Albond	Asking Council to propose electricity from Power Authority; Niagara Falls to walk on 2 legs, Tourism and Industry

Jamie Caldwell	Lodge bad idea; crime problems, roads; paying high utilities; take care of people who live here; Political nonsense
Damon DeCastro	The odor from the plants
Robert Porter	Accountability; Niagara Falls needs to be the jewel of the State again; chemical plants leaving the City; Crime rate
Mark Diodate	Lodge on Goat Island; new development; find a Location for new Lodge
Earl Bass	Against the Lodge; so much rich history here; Highest water rates in the country
Vince Anello	Parkway drawings; John Daly Blvd.; revenue from the Power Authority; Lodge on Goat Island; yes to the shuttle
Cynthia Sgro	Thanks to Council Member Tompkins on helping with the Zombie home next to her home; Council Member Tompkins said that home is on the top of the list
Daniello DiPalma	Lodge; preserving natural environment; tourism; Work together with the State
Pat Gall	Object to referring it as a Lodge not Hotel; 3 Sisters Island is a sanctuary
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI STATED THAT SHE HAS JUST HEARD FROM THE GOVERNORS OFFICE THAT NEW PROPOSALS FOR THE LODGE WAS PROMISED. THERE WILL BE MULTIPLE MEETINGS WITH THE PUBLIC AND THEY ARE LISTENING TO US</b></p>	
Charles Lamb	In light of the news from Council Woman Grandinetti, will not speak on the Lodge
Pat Scremin	Contacted organizations on Gov. Cuomo's speech that contained the Lodge on Goat Island proposal
Robert Ventry	Benefits from Casino; State should work for better jobs

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1  
 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED  
 NO ACTION TAKEN

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: HYDE PARK PLAYGROUND, DRAINAGE SYSTEM, SCOTT LAWN YARD

Agenda Item #2  
 A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Scott Lawn Yard on July 11, 2016 in the amount of \$133,265.00.  
 Subsequent to the start of the project, intermittent pockets of clay and spongy soils necessitated the installation of area drainage. The drainage system installed allowed both the star-shaped geometry of the playground to be drained efficiently while preserving the safety surface warranty. The cost of these improvements, along with minor quantity overruns, is \$43,750.00. Funding is available in Community Development.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a change order in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
 Nays

5  
 0  
 APPROVED

CONTRACT: 70<sup>TH</sup> ST. PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION, GARDENVILLE LANDSCAPE & NURSERY

Agenda Item #3

The following was the result of bids received on February 6, 2017, for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID	ALT. #1
Gardenville Landscape & Nursery LLC 3069 Clinton St. West Seneca NY 14224	\$105,572.50	\$4,036.00
Yarussi Construction Inc.	\$131,135.00	\$8,018.40
Titan Development	\$134,700.00	\$6,136.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder, Gardenville Landscape & Nursery LLC at the combination of their base bid and alternate price of: \$109,608.50. Funding is available through Community Development.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0  
APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: MCKOON AVE., 2878, SALE, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Agenda Item #4

Habitat for Humanity of Niagara County (Habitat) requests purchase approval of 2878 McKoon Avenue for \$500. As with recent purchases/renovations, Habitat agrees to:

- Renovate the home for an owner that must agree to own and live in the home as prime occupant for no less than five years and pay all applicable property taxes.
- Renovate the home to meet code compliance within one year of purchase.

Sale of 2878 McKoon Avenue was recommended by the Niagara Falls Planning Board on May 11, 2016, as part of the 2016 Home Ownership Auction. As noted in a September 2016 City Council Agenda item, the successful bidder for 2878 McKoon Avenue elected to forfeit his rights to the property, prior to closing. There were no other interested bidders to contact, per Home Ownership Auction guidelines. As the house does have structural issues, it is the opinion of Niagara Falls Community Development that this disposition makes more sense than waiting for a future home ownership auction.

As Habitat is currently successfully renovating other formerly city owned properties, the sale of 2878 McKoon Avenue is a sensible fit. Habitat is also in need for additional renovation candidates, as flood plain restrictions in the Echota neighborhood are preventing previously planned renovations.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0  
APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Agenda Item #5

In the past, the City has served as a contractor for the Niagara County Office for the Aging by providing information and assistance services to persons 60 years old or older who meet Office for the Aging eligibility requirements. These services are performed at 1201 Hyde Park Boulevard, Niagara Falls, New York. The City is paid an amount not to exceed \$9,025.00 for these services. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CITY CONTROLLER OFFICE: CITY CONTROLLER, APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #6

As part of my plans relative to the City Controller's office for the calendar year 2017, I am hereby removing Sandra Peploe from the office of City Controller, effective end of business day February 24, 2017. I thank her for her service and dedication to the City of Niagara Falls.

Pursuant to Section 2.3 of the City Charter, I am hereby appointing Daniel Morello (resume on file in the City Clerk's Office) to the office of City Controller, effective February 27, 2017. As per the 2017 adopted budget, the salary for the City Controller's position is \$95,000.00.

Will the Council vote to confirm the removal of Sandra Peploe from the office of City Controller and the appointment of Daniel Morello to the office of City Controller?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Grandinetti, Touma, Chairman Walker  
Nays  
Scott  
Abstain  
Tompkins

3  
1  
1

APPROVED  
Agenda Item was amended to delete the Deputy City Controller from the item.

## DISCOVERY NIAGARA SHUTTLE, FUNDING

### Agenda Item #7

It is requested that the City contribute the sum of \$100,000.00 to support the continued operation of the Discover Niagara Shuttle. During its first year in operation during the tourist season of 2016, the shuttle transported approximately 33,000 visitors and local people between Niagara Falls State Park and Old Fort Niagara with another dozen stops along the Niagara Gorge corridor. This is a way to connect the broader Niagara region to the county's tourist center in Niagara Falls.

During the first year of the operation of the Discover Niagara Shuttle, contributors included the USA Niagara Development Corp., the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the New York Power Authority, the NFNHA and the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corp. Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	3
Grandinetti, Scott, Chairman Walker	
Nays	2
Tompkins, Touma	

### APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti said that she use to be in the Hospitality Field and we need to invest in the City. This is a 1 time asking and it is an awesome thing. This is not taxpayer money.

Council Member Scott said that Sara is a hard worker who believes in this investment.

Council Member Tompkins stated that Tourism Funds were all spent last year and we should give them a lesser amount of money.

Council Member Touma said this is a difficult decision with all the discussion from tonight. They received no money from the City for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. He added that \$50,000.00 should be given and have other municipalities invest.

Chairman Walker said that Niagara Falls is taking care of Niagara Falls and we need to invest in the Tourism market. We need to work with other cities on this.

## THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION

### 37<sup>TH</sup> ST. BETWEEN WALNUT & PINE AVES., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING

### Agenda Item #8

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON 37<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN WALNUT AVENUE & PINE AVENUE

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 59.1% signatures.

Submitted By: Jenna Seintan, 639 - 37<sup>TH</sup> Street and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

### APPROVED

90<sup>TH</sup> ST. BETWEEN LUICK AVE. & BROOKSIDE DR., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING

Agenda Item #9

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON 90<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN LUICK AVENUE & BROOKSIDE DRIVE

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 69% signatures.

Submitted By: Garold B. Acker, 1116 - 90<sup>th</sup> Street and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

MAPLE AVE. BETWEEN BELL ST. & HUDSON DR., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING

Agenda Item #10

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON MAPLE AVENUE BETWEEN BELL STREET & HUDSON DRIVE

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 59.3% signatures.

Submitted By: Lynn Beach, 1340 Maple Avenue and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

718 BUFFALO AVE., INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #11

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 718 BUFFALO AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Susan Maffei, 718 Buffalo Avenue, #1

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

3328 CHURCH AVE., INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #12

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 3328 CHURCH AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Nimire Burnett, 3328 Church Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

333 RAINBOW BLVD., INSTALL "2 HOUR PARKING RESTRICTION" ON THE WEST SIDE OF 4<sup>TH</sup> ST., ALONG THE WINGATE BY WYNDHAM HOTEL, IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE HOTEL'S PORTE-COCHERE AND THE PARKING LOT DRIVEWAY, AMENDED

Agenda Item #13

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following AMENDED item:

INSTALL "2 HOUR PARKING RESTRICTION" ON THE WEST SIDE OF 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ALONG THE WINGATE BY WYNDHAM HOTEL, 333 RAINBOW BLVD, IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE HOTEL'S PORTE-COCHERE AND THE PARKING LOT DRIVEWAY

This request was made, for this 90' long area, to encourage turnover in parking by preventing all day parkers for patrons of a soon to be opening restaurant which will be located within the hotel.

Submitted By: Frank Strangio, Vice President, Plati Niagara Inc., 7708 Niagara Falls Boulevard

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS, APPOINTMENTS

Agenda Item #14

Shawn Bosi	NFPD
James Bragg	Planning Department
John Caso	DPW
Roger Freeman	NFPD
Joseph Giaquinto	NFPD
Nicholas A. Melson	Administration
Jennifer L. Myers	DPW
Nicholas Paonessa	NFPD
David Tothill	Billing & Collection
Lisa A. Vitello	City Clerk's Office
Nadine Wasson	City Clerk's Office

Victor Acevedo Jr.	2418 Willow Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14305
Matthew Bergey	4715 Isherwood Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14305
Emma H. Chapman	3125 Apple Ct., Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Candice Creamer	640 Oxbow Lane, Lewiston, NY 14092
Ni'Jae Davis	18 C Packard Ct., Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Damon A. DeCastro II	1531 Lake Rd., Youngstown, NY 14174
Rebecca Dyster	626 Orchard Pkwy., Niag. Falls, NY 14301
Jeffery Flach	723 3 <sup>rd</sup> St., Apt. 31, Niag. Falls, NY 14301
Peggy Frame	8431 Buff.Ave., Apt. #16, Niag. Falls, NY, 14304
Evonne D. Holstrom	2918 Jerauld Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14305
Ragini Jain	6700 Lindbergh Ave., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
James Joyce	2744 Thornwoods Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Michelle Kelly	6921 Nash Rd., N.Tonawanda, NY 14120
Kathy E. Kephart	6425 Sherman Dr., Lockport, NY 14094
Gail Merino	9365 Rivershore Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Allison M. Moore	2653 Porter Rd., Niagara Falls, NY 14305
Rozanne Muto	642 19 <sup>th</sup> St., Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Mary C. O'Byrne	40 Livingston Place, Lockport, NY 14094
Matthew M. Peunic Jr.	8015 Frontier Ave., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Akasha Pugh	531 4 <sup>th</sup> St., Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Chelsea Raymond	579 Homestead Dr., N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
Diana Restaino	826 College Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14305
Jane Travis	1369 Caravelle Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Randal Ubriaco	837 15 <sup>th</sup> St., Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Dennis Virtuoso	2703 Independence Ave., Niag. Falls, NY 14301
Jennifer Weerheim	1866 Saunders Settlement Rd., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Jennifer Weigel	454 27 <sup>th</sup> St., Lower, Niag. Falls, NY 14303
Nadine C. Wilson	839 Barberry Pl., Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.	

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: GRAY FURNACE SERVICE

Agenda Item #15

Date Claim Filed:	August 24, 2016
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	July 7, 2016
Location:	2700 block of Pierce Avenue
Nature of Claim:	
Automobile damage sustained in collision with City vehicle	
City Driver:	Carmen Tripi
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$896.94
Make Check Payable to:	Gray Furnace Service
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

CLAIM: HARRIS, TESSIA C.

Agenda Item #16

Date Claim Filed:	February 22, 2013
Date Action Commenced:	July 8, 2013
Date of Occurrence:	January 18, 2013
Location:	Intersection of 11 <sup>th</sup> Street and Niagara Avenue
Nature of Claim:	Injuries and damages sustained in collision with City vehicle
City Driver:	John Rosino
Status of Action:	Post-Liability Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$125,000.00
Make Check Payable to:	Cellino & Barnes, P.C. and Tessia C. Harris
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK, FURTHER COMMERCIALIZATION, 2017-19

BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, the Park was established by an act of the New York State Legislature which was the result of a widespread effort known as "Free Niagara.;" and

WHEREAS, the Free Niagara Movement was an effort to de-industrialize the parklands surrounding the falls and portions of the Upper Niagara River and created State Park in a natural setting, free to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Park was designed by noted Landscape Architect, Frederick Law Olmsted; and

WHEREAS, As Olmsted implied: any commercial undertaking into which the state was entering, would be in competition with the people of the village of Niagara and... It is a sufficient answer to say that there is no point in the reservation at which a house can be placed that is more than ten minute walk or five minute drive from hotels and restaurants standing on land of private ownership." - Thus, giving any state sponsored development of the park an unfair and ...an unfair advantage over private ownership near the park; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to the Niagara Falls State Park number more than eight million every year, making it the most profitable park in the state of New York, there is no justification for further commercialization to be in competition with the City of Niagara Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby respectfully requests Governor Andrew Cuomo; and the State of New York, cease efforts to further commercialize Niagara Falls State Park and redirect State resources toward promoting Economic Development within the guidelines of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

To Table was defeated

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK, FURTHER COMMERCIALIZATION  
BY: COUNCILWOMAN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #18  
THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA  
NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

RESOLUTION: PLANNING BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-20  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #19  
WHEREAS, there is currently one vacant seat on the Planning Board, due to the resignation of Lisa Vitello.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board effective for the unexpired term that expires on the date opposite his name shown below:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM:
Richard D. Smith 1021 96 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, Ny 14304	12/31/2018

Yeas	3
Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	
Nays	2
Grandinetti, Touma	

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: BRADLEY, PATRICK J., REV. DEACON, HONORING, 2017-18  
BY: COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI  
Agenda Item #20  
THIS ITEM WAS AMENDED AND APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING AT 5:00

RESOLUTION: COMMUNITY MISSIONS, SWEETHEART DINNER, WAIVER OF PARKING FEES, 2017-21  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21  
WHEREAS, Community Missions held its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweetheart Dinner on Friday, February 10, 2017 at the Conference and Event center in Niagara Falls, New York (request letter on file in the City Clerk's Office).  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that the City of Niagara Falls does hereby waive parking fees for the Community Missions for Friday, February 10, 2017.

Yeas	5
Nays	0

ADOPTED

Amendment was to correct date of the dinner

RESOLUTION: ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ST. RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO 543 6<sup>TH</sup> ST., PUBLIC HEARING, 2017-22  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #22  
WHEREAS, the adjoining property owner has requested the abandonment a portion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street right-of-way adjacent to 543 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street; and  
WHEREAS, the Planning Board will act on its recommendation to Council at its meeting on February 22, 2017; and  
WHEREAS, this Council declares its intention to abandon said alley portion, subject to the recommendation of the Planning Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the abandonment of the aforementioned street portion, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of intention to discontinue and abandon the said alley portion in the official newspaper once a week for two successive weeks preceding March 6, 2017.

Yea

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Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF THE ALLEY RUNNING NORTH/SOUTH BETWEEN 24th & 25th STS., SOUTH OF ORLEANS AVE. 2017-23  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #23

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls desires to abandon a portion of the alley running north/south between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Street, south of Orleans Avenue, in order to facilitate the development of the real estate; and

WHEREAS, the City Council did, by resolution, give notice of its intention to abandon a portion of the aforementioned alley and did direct the City Clerk to publish notice of such intention and that a public hearing would be held by the City Council at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time and advise that all persons interested would be heard on that said time and place; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was duly held on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time in regards to said abandonment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that a portion of the alley running north/south between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Streets south of Orleans Avenue, is hereby abandoned, the said abandoned alley portion subject, however, to reservation of right of and for the City of Niagara Falls, the Niagara Falls Water Board and any utility companies, their successors and assigns to use, maintain, repair, replace and continue to maintain their services and operations in said abandoned alley. The said alley portion is bounded and described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situated in the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the east line of the twelve (12) foot alley running north/south between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Streets with the north line of Niagara Street;

Thence north along said east line of the alley a distance of 99.72 feet to a point;

Thence west at a 90 degree angle a distance of twelve (12) feet to a point on the west line of said alley;

Thence south along said west line of the alley a distance of 99.72 feet to a point on the north line of Niagara Street;

Thence east along the north line of Niagara Street a distance of twelve (12) feet to the point and place of beginning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Niagara and that the Mayor may sign deeds or other documents desirable to effectuate this abandonment.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk

56



**MARCH 20, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the March 20, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 6, 2017.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

Renee Kimble spoke about Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. She handed out Blue Pins to be worn in support of this to the Council Members. Councilmember Touma made a motion to amend the Agenda to vote on Agenda Item #15 at this time.

Yea	5
Nay	0

Motion to amend Agenda approved

**RESOLUTION: COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, 2017-30**  
**BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, Colorectal Cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the United States and the second leading cause of death from cancer, and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects people in all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people age 50 and older, and

WHEREAS, the good news is if everyone age 50 and older were screened regularly, 6 out of 10 deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented, and

WHEREAS, Niagara County Cancer Services Program has involved the communities, families, and individuals in education and promotion of the importance of early detection, and

WHEREAS, we join people all over the United States in wearing blue during the month of March to bring attention to this deadly yet preventable disease, and encourage everyone to share the good news of early detection and prevention,

NOW THEREFORE Be it resolved that we the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls New York do hereby recognize March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and encourage all citizens 50 and over to contact your doctor and get your screening done.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

A Presentation was read by the City Clerk and was presented to Renee Kimble by the Council Members.

The Mayor and Administrator discussed the storm clean-up. The over-time budget due to this event was discussed by the City Administrator.

The Mayor and Administrator thanked the State of New York for their assistance in the clean-up efforts. The Administrator thanked DPW and others for their quick and thorough response to the clean-up.

The Administrator also thanked police and fire for their response to the wind storm damage. He also thanked Chief Dalporto for his management/help with damages due to these weather events.

Councilman Touma also thanked all involved, DPW, police and fire. He stated that residents were very pleased with the efforts of all departments involved.

The Administrator discussed tree removal efforts, now and in the future. He stated there were 1000 requests for tree removal and of those requests 264 trees have been taken down. He stressed the continued effort to remove trees that may pose a danger during storms of this nature. There must be an aggressive effort to dead and dying trees. Councilman Touma thanked the Administrator for his management during these difficult events.

The Mayor also thanked Superintendent Mark Laurrie for closing the schools without delay which aided in the clean-up efforts. The Mayor also thanked the Niagara Falls Water Board for their help in clearing fire hydrants during the storm.

The Mayor and Administrator also discussed the changes to Legends Park. Chairman Walker asked for a time-line in regards to paving the parking lot. The Mayor stated that it will be completed shortly. Councilman Touma asked about a plan for street paving.

The Mayor discussed the issues with Whirlpool Street stating that it is part of the master plan for the RMP removal. The street will be totally reconstructed.

Councilman Tompkins questioned the change order regarding Agenda item #6, 3624 Highland Ave.

Councilman Walker questioned agenda item #10, the Taxi Advisory Committee. The Chairman inquired as to who would sit on this Committee.

Councilman Scott requested that all members of the Taxi Advisory Committee be residents of Niagara Falls.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 3 Agenda Items to be added and 1 Agenda Item to be Amended.

1. A Resolution relative to authorizing the use of City Buildings as Polling Places for the School Board Election.

Councilmember Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda

Yea	5
Nay	0

Motion to add Resolution to Agenda Approved

The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #18

2. A Resolution relative to appointment to the Youth Board. Councilmember Tompkins moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda

Yea	5
Nay	0

Motion to add Resolution to Agenda Approved

The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #19

3. A Resolution relative to Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to remove this from Table (originally from Meeting of January 23, 2017)

Yea	3
Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma	
Nay	2
Scott, Chairman Walker	

Motion to Remove from the Table Approved

The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #21

4. An Amendment to Agenda Item #12 in the wording of that Item.

Councilmember Touma moved to amend this Item

Yea

5

Nay

0

Motion to Amend the Communication Approved

Council Chairman Walker read a statement thanking all the Government Agencies that helped in the snow removal for the City from the recent storm.

Councilmember Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda.

Yea

5

Nay

0

Motion to add Resolution to the Agenda Approved

This was added to the Agenda as #20

This session ended at 6:05 P. M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:15 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Chairman Walker and the Chairman also led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #6, #14, #17
Bill Carroll	Agenda Item #14
Judi Powell	Agenda Item #16
Dan Davis	Agenda Item #12
Diane Tattersall	Agenda Items #14, #17
Ron Anderluh	Snow removal, DPW; Neighbor to Neighbor meetings
Diane Tattersall	Cell phone distraction

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: VARIOUS DILAPIDATED/FIRE DAMAGED BLDGS., BOARDING UP,  
CANDELLA CONSTRUCTION CORP., INC., FUNDING

Agenda Item #2

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Candella Construction Co., Inc.  
6810 Laur Rd. Unit. 5A  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

FOR: Boarding up of various dilapidated and fire damaged structures, both privately and publicly owned, deemed hazardous by the City of Niagara Falls, NY.

Price per square foot: \$ 1.28

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to six (6) vendors. One (1) bid was received. The above referenced company submitted the lowest bid.

Funds for this expenditure are in H.0910.2009.0910.0449.599.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN, BLOCK GRANT

Agenda Item #3

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of the draft Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Consolidated Action Plan. It is year three of our 2015-19 Five Year Strategic Plan. Based on our projections, it consists of \$2.8 million in federal investment, \$2.1 million in non-municipal matching funds for a \$4.9 million total leveraged plan. The draft FFY 2017 Community Development Action Plan consists of the following United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Rehabilitation Program, and Emergency Solutions Program (ESG).

Draft 2017 CDBG Amount:	\$2,304,029
Draft 2017 HOME Amount:	\$356,799
Draft 2017 ESG Amount:	\$201,874

These budgets are being presented to the City Council in draft form, based on estimate, to accommodate the city and federal governments' differing fiscal year budget schedules. HUD's final FFY allocations are generally posted in the spring of each calendar year. A final schedule for 2017 has not yet been set by the federal government. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department will request City Council approval of the final HUD allocations at that point. Historically, our draft budget estimates have been within 2 percent of our final allocations. Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council.

The draft 2017 Community Development Consolidated Action Plan was built through a 16 week civic engagement process, which included discussion at 11 public meetings, public review of the draft budget since January 2017, online and print citizen surveys, an email address dedicated to dialogue and a 30 day public comment period. Our department also presented an overview of the draft plan to the City Council at its March 6, 2017 meeting. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department is confident that our process is a national model of transparent and well explained public engagement and budgeting.

**Neighborhood Planning Meetings (2016 Dates)**

Tues., Nov. 1	LaSalle Public Library, 8728 Buffalo Ave.
Wed., Nov. 2	City Hall Council Chambers, 745 Main St.
Thurs., Nov. 3	Maple Ave. School, Rm #5, 952 Maple Ave,
Wed., Nov. 9	NACC, Niagara Room, 1201 Pine Ave.
Wed., Nov. 9	Doris Jones Family Resource Bldg., 3001 - 9th St.
Thurs., Nov. 10	John Duke Center, 1201 Hyde Park Blvd.
Tues., Nov. 15	Neighborhood Housing Services, 479 - 16th St.
Wed., Nov. 16	LaSalle Senior Facility, 9501 Colvin Blvd.

**Application/Approval Process**

Fri., Dec. 16/16	Application Submission Deadline
Wed., Jan. 25	Draft Plan and Budget Available for Review
Thurs., Feb. 2	Presentation of Draft 2017 Annual Plan & Budget
Tues., Feb. 7	Pizza with the Plan - 1022 Main Street
Feb. 2 - Mar 6th:	30-day Public Comment Period

Upon City Council approval, the draft action plan will be submitted to HUD for programmatic review and approval. The action plan is not finalized until HUD approves of it and the city's actual allocations are posted. Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council. Will Council vote to approve the Draft FFY 2017 Community Development Action Plan?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Tompkins	

APPROVED

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: CENTER CITY & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, CDBG BUDGET CHANGES**

**Agenda Item #4**

Over the past few years, there have been discrepancies between the program delivery funding for Center City Neighborhood Development Corporation and Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. shown in the Community Development action plans, the expectations of each of the two neighborhood organizations and the amounts actually paid from grant funds for program delivery. One reason for the discrepancy was a complex and outdated program delivery funding formula which failed to take into account shifts in spending priorities from the Community Development Block Grant program to the HOME Investment Partnerships program for housing rehabilitation projects in recent years.

Program delivery funds are used to pay salaries of employees for services in connection with the housing rehabilitation programs. Each neighborhood corporation receives Community Development grant funds specifically for these purposes and additional grant funds to pay for the actual rehabilitation costs. It is proposed that the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Community Development budgets and grant agreements be changed to reflect \$100,000.00 for program delivery for each of Center City and NHS in each year. This change will simplify the payment method and will be more in line with the CCNDC and NHS budget needs. The change will also conform the grant agreements to grant disbursement practice in prior years.

This change does not increase or decrease grant funding for Center City or NHS. This change does not constitute a change in allocation priorities, a decision to carry out an activity not previously described in the action plan, a change that amounts to more than 10% of the aggregate budget or a substantial change in the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of an activity. There is no need for a public hearing before approving the changes.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Tompkins	

APPROVED

CONTRACT: LASALLE WATERFRONT PARK & GRIFFON PARK, ENTRY SIGNAGE, A&B HERITAGE INC., FUNDING

Agenda Item #5

The following is the result of bids received on May 10, 2016 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
A&B Heritage Inc. dba ASI Signage Innovations 2957 Alt Boulevard Grand Island, NY 14072		\$9,740.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder A&B Heritage Inc., dba ASI Signage Innovations at their total bid of \$9,740.00. The funding utilized for this project will be from leftover Love Canal settlement funds that have been held in escrow.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: 3625 HIGHLAND AVE., MECHANICAL/PLUMBING ACTIVATION, CHANGE ORDER #1, J.R. SWANSON PLUMBING CO., FUNDING

Agenda Item #6

Mechanical & Plumbing Activation for Three (3) City-owned Buildings at 3625 Highland Avenue CHANGE ORDER #1

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc., 413-103<sup>rd</sup> Street, Niagara Falls, NY, on August 15, 2016 in an amount of \$35,800.00.

This contract is a structure whereas the contractor would provide estimates for additional work required to meet the 2015 International Mechanical and Plumbing Codes.

Items in this Change Order request are revisions to the original 'scope of work', but necessary to complete the project and to allow for the City to obtain a certification of occupancy.

Funding for this Change Order is available from Casino Funds, earmarked for the City's Economic Development Department. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State ESD Grant is available to offset project cost.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$112,858.82 be approved, bringing the new contract total to \$148,658.82.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

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Nays

0

APPROVED

Council Member Scott questioned the Engineer about Change Orders.

All Council Members discussed the issue of Change Orders and that we need to monitor funds allocated for Change Orders.

CONTRACT: POTHOLE KILLER, PATCH MANAGEMENT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #7

The Director of the Department of Public Works is recommending that Patch Management, Inc. be engaged once again this year to provide a pothole killer truck, an operator, and 200 tons of materials, service and support to the City to assist the City in the fight against potholes. GPS recordings of all repairs will be provided. This service will commence when weather permits and continue through June 30, 2017. The cost of this service is \$73,500.00. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a proposed agreement prepared by Patch Management Inc.

Funding is available from casino revenues.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an engagement agreement satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: SPCA, SHELTERING SERVICES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #8

The City's agreement with the SPCA has expired. It is necessary for the City to enter into a new agreement with the SPCA in order for it to continue to provide sheltering services for calendar year 2017. The expired agreement called for the City to pay to the SPCA the sum of \$223,127.00 billed on a monthly basis. The agreement the SPCA now proposes for 2017 will require the City to pay to the SPCA the sum of \$311,269.77 annually to be billed at a monthly rate of \$25,939.15. This would allow the City to be allocated 1,292 kennel days per month; any kennel days in excess of this amount will be billed at the rate of \$23.00 per kennel day per dog over the 1292 allocation.

Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a summary provided by the SPCA which focuses on the detail involved in arriving at this requested increased contract price. The City presently has budgeted for this service the sum of \$223,127.00 leaving a shortfall of \$88,142.77. This additional dollar amount shortfall is available from casino revenues.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to enter into a new agreement with the SPCA for 2017 provided the same is in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti commented that the SPCA needs to remember that they serve the County and that funding should also come from the County.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: BARTLETT, GLENN

Agenda Item #9

Date Claim Filed:	March 11, 2015
Date Action Commenced:	October 14, 2015
Date(s) of Occurrence:	February 8, 2015
Location:	Walnut Avenue & 9 <sup>th</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	Vehicle he was passenger in was struck by City vehicle.
City Driver:	Brittany Searight
Status of Action:	Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$500,000
Make Check Payable to:	Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP and Glenn Bartlett
Conditions:	General Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve, and authorize the Corporation Counsel to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that on the advice of the Corporation Counsel Office, she was voting yes.

RESOLUTION: TAXICAB & TAXICAB DRIVERS ORDINANCE, CITIZEN ADVISORY BODY, CREATION

BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS TOMPKINS AND TOUMA

Agenda Item #10

WHEREAS, during its consideration of certain amendments to Chapter 365 of the City Ordinances entitled "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" this City Council was alerted by members of the public to issues which may exist pertaining to the City's issuance of taxicab medallions; and

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to undertake a review of Chapter 365 as concerns the issuance of taxicab medallions to make certain the medallion issuance process, including the number of authorized medallions, is fair and equitable; and

WHEREAS, prior to making any amendments to Chapter 365, it is desirable for the Niagara Falls City Council to have a thorough understanding of the medallion issue generally and whether or not public convenience and necessity requires an increase in the number of taxicab medallions and taxicabs and whether existing transportation is adequate to meet the public need and the probable effect of increased service on local traffic conditions; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate this, the City Council has determined that it would be prudent to solicit the advice and recommendations from a body consisting of involved City Department Heads and those outside City government to provide it with assistance as to these matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3.6(a) of the City Charter, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby create a "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body to compliment the effectiveness of this City Council by providing it with advice and recommendations about the number of taxicab medallions which are presently issued, the number of taxicabs operating, and examine the necessity for the issuance of additional medallions as well as any other issues which may arise during the review of the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body shall consist of no more than seven (7) members to be comprised of the Superintendent of Police or his designee, the Corporation Counsel or his designee, as well as five (5) members of the community who will be selected by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council, for a period ending no later than December 31, 2017 or upon presentation to the City Council of a report of its recommendations or upon like evidence of the attainment of the purpose for which it was established, whichever occurs sooner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this advisory body will not be compensated for their services on the advisory body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body will provide advice and recommendations only and be required to submit the same to the City Council as requested by the City Council. The panel will have no formal decision making role, and will have no access to confidential, supervisory or other confidential information.

Yea

3

Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker

Nay

2

Grandinetti, Touma

TABLED

Chairman Walker commented that there should be more information about who would be on the Advisory Board and what they would address.

RESOLUTION: MARCHISELLI PROGRAM-AID FOR BRIDGE WASHING, 2017-27  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #11

WHEREAS, a Project for the bridge washing of 13 bridges and deck sealing of 7 bridges P.I.N. 5761.42 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of bridge washing of 13 bridges and deck sealing of 7 bridges PIN 5761.42.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$153,000.00 is hereby appropriated from casino funds and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately

Yea

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Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: MARCHISELLI PROGRAM-AID, TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, JOHN B. DALY BLVD., NIAGARA ST. TO PINE AVE., 2017-28  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #12

WHEREAS, a Project for the John B. Daly Boulevard, Niagara Street to Pine Avenue, P.I.N. 5755.57 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of John B. Daly Boulevard, Niagara Street to Pine Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$912,000.00 is hereby appropriated from bond proceeds and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately

Yea

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Nays

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ADOPTED

Councilwoman Grandinetti discussed the importance of this Project. Councilman Touma commented on the positive aspects of the Project.

RESOLUTION: 543 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET, RIGHT OF WAY, ABANDONMENT, 2017-29

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #13

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls desires to abandon a portion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Right of Way adjacent to 543 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street; (information on file in the City Clerk's Office) and

WHEREAS, the City Council did, by resolution, give notice of its intention to abandon a portion of the aforementioned right of way and did direct the City Clerk to publish notice of such intention and that a public hearing would be held by the City Council at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time and advise that all persons interested would be heard on that said time and place; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was duly held on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time in regards to said abandonment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that a portion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Right of Way adjacent to 543 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is hereby abandoned, the said abandoned right of way portion subject, however, to reservation of right of and for the City of Niagara Falls, the Niagara Falls Water Board and any utility companies, their successors and assigns to use, maintain, repair, replace and continue to maintain their services and operations in said abandoned right of way. The said right of way portion is bounded and described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situated in the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the easterly right of way of Sixth Street, said point also being the northwest corner of the parcel located at 543 Sixth Street, now or formerly owned by the Walnut Avenue Homes Housing Development Fund as described in the Deed recorded on November 7, 2014 in the Niagara County Clerk's Office as Instrument # 2014-19191, said point of beginning also being 165.50 feet per deed and 165.91 feet as more recently measured, south of the intersection of the South Line of Walnut Avenue with the Easterly Line of 6<sup>th</sup> Street, thence;

1. S 02<sup>0</sup> 28' 26" E a distance of 131.80 feet along the easterly right of way line of Sixth Street to a point at the southwesterly property corner of 543 Sixth Street, thence;
2. S 87<sup>0</sup> 31' 34" W a distance of 7.00 feet to a point, thence;
3. N 02<sup>0</sup> 28' 26" W a distance of 131.80 feet to a point, thence;
4. N 87<sup>0</sup> 31' 34" E a distance of 7.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Intending to describe a 7-foot-wide abandonment of the right of way totaling ± 0.021 acres from the city of Niagara Falls, NY to Walnut Avenue Homes Housing Development Fund. Said abandonment is shown on the drawing entitled "Walnut Avenue Homes ROW Abandonment", prepared by Passero Associate on December 27, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Niagara and that the Mayor may sign deeds or other documents desirable to effectuate this abandonment.

Yea

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Nay

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: PUBLIC MEETINGS, PROTOCOL, COUNCIL MEMBERS  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBER TOMPKINS

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that persons attending City Council meetings deserve the time and attention of all Council Members during the course of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that activated personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, brought to public meetings by Council Members have the potential to distract Council Members from focusing on the business of the people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council Members refrain from bringing with them activated personal electronic devices of any nature, including cell phones, to any public meetings of this City Council.

Yea

1

Tompkins

4

Nay

Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker

DEFEATED

Councilman Scott commented that this issue should be handled In House. Councilman Tompkins stated that phone records could be Foiled. Councilman Touma stated that cell phones are a positive addition and used for information gathering.

RESOLUTION: COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, RECOGNIZING, 2017-30  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

THIS WAS VOTED ON AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

RESOLUTION: NFMMC, FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, 2017-31  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center (NFMMC) has provided high quality care to those who live and work in Niagara Falls and beyond since its founding in 1895; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC provides the health care and services that our communities need, while also making significant economic contributions to our region; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC has shown tremendous growth over the past 12 years with the construction of The Heart Center of Niagara and the Golisano Center for Community Health while greatly expanding its surgical services, adding six primary care offices and opening a comprehensive wound care center, two OB/GYN centers, a bariatric surgery center and other needed medical services; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC provided an array of inpatient and outpatient services to more than 44,500 people (unduplicated count) in 2015 and again in 2016; and

WHEREAS, according to the economic indicator formula provided by the American Hospital Association, NFMMC's economic impact on Niagara County and the surrounding area is \$275 million annually; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC is a major economic force in the Niagara Region with a significant, stable employment base of 1,200 employees and a steady, consistent job growth record comprising 150 well-paying jobs created during the past four years with 25 more positions to be added by mid-2018; and

WHEREAS, 800 of NFMMC's current employees are represented by and members of 1199SEIU; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC's growth has created an acute parking shortage that will become even more critical with the April opening of a cardiac catheterization laboratory at The Heart Center of Niagara on its downtown campus; and

WHEREAS, that growth has added urgency to the need for NFMMC to replace its aging emergency power generators; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC and 1199SEIU have launched a major joint initiative asking Governor Andrew Cuomo to provide state funding for needed capital and infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS the requested funds would renovate and transform NFMMC's aging parking garage and bridge connector into an aesthetically attractive interactive facility that would host medical center and community activities; and

WHEREAS, those funds would also replace Memorial's antiquated emergency power system with a system that would ensure adequate emergency power to meet the healthcare needs of Niagara County residents without interruption and guarantee full capacity to provide for its critical role as a First Responder facility in the event of a public emergency situation; and

WHEREAS, this capital project is an extension of the common goals of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and 1199SEIU to maintain the highest standards of patient safety and satisfaction and meet the needs of our growing community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Niagara Falls City Council hereby supports the joint campaign being conducted by NFMMC and 1199SEIU and urges Governor Andrew Cuomo to ensure funding in the 2017/2018 New York State budget for repairs, construction and modernization of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

Councilman Touma stated that the Hospital has done a great job for the Community and they continue to grow and improve.

RESOLUTION: RAISE THE AGE, GOV. CUOMO, 2017-32  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, New York is one of only 2 states in the nation that process all 16 and 17 year-olds in the adult criminal justice system, no matter what their offense, and

WHEREAS the Governor is renewing his call to raise the age once and for all and insure that 16 and 17 years olds are treated as juveniles when they commit crimes to ensure they receive the intervention and evidence based treatment they need, and

WHEREAS, in New York State of the 27,000 teenagers arrested in 2015, approximately 86 percent were arrested for non-violent crimes, under this proposal youth who commit serious crimes will still be held accountable but will have their cases heard by specially trained judges, while those who commit certain less serious crimes will have their cases heard in Family Court, and

WHEREAS, without age-appropriate facilities, teenagers face a greater risk of being assaulted, being victims of sexual violence, and committing suicide they are 34 percent more likely to be re-arrested for violent and other crimes than youth retained in the youth justice system, and

WHEREAS, under the Governor's proposal youth ages 16 to 17 will be treated as juveniles and will receive the intervention and evidence-based treatment they need.

NOW THEREFORE we the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls New York do hereby support the Raise the Age proposal, as we believe this will change the game for youth ages 16 to 17, that are count in the court system with another out. And we also ask that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor Coumo, Assemblyman Morinello, and State Senator Ortt.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION/BUDGET, POLLING PLACES, 2017-33  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

WHEREAS, the annual Niagara Falls City School District election will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City School District requests the use of several city buildings as polling places for this election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Niagara Falls City Council does hereby approve the request outlined in the attached letter (on file in the City Clerk's Office) from the Niagara Falls City School District.

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-34  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #19

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

REAPPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Rick Williams 2761 Falls Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303	12/31/2019

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SNOW REMOVAL, THANKING AGENCIES, 2017-35  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls was hit hard by the recent wind and snow storm; and

WHEREAS, without help from the following agencies, it would have been difficult to clean up our city so quickly; New York State Department of Transportation, Niagara County Emergency Management office, Office of New York State Governor Cuomo, Erie County, and Town of Clarence, NY

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby thank all agencies for their assistance, manpower and equipment, as well as our Department of Public Works Department, under the direction of Mr. John Caso for their extraordinary response during the clean-up efforts to help make our streets safe.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, AMENDING  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #21  
THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA  
NO ACTION TAKEN

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



APRIL 3, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

---

The first session of the April 3, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 20, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

Presentation by Destination Niagara USA (NTCC)

John Percy President & CEO, gave a presentation on the new brand launch and marketing film created by Destination Niagara USA.

Andrea Czopp, Director of Communications for Destination Niagara distributed a flyer to Councilmembers which outlined the economic impact of tourism in Niagara County.

Mr. Percy gave a breakdown of the brand and explained the regional approach to tourism. He also explained the name change from Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation to **Destination Niagara USA**.

Mr. Percy also gave a video presentation describing the new apps that are available to direct tourists to sites all over the county.

Chairman Walker asked what steps would be taken to connect the tourist district to the rest of the city. Mr. Percy explained that the new apps will allow tourists to share the places they have visited in the county, pictures and opinions, stating that this will connect tourists to sites they may not have known about.

Mr. Percy concluded by stating that the new brand is already extremely successful and that his organization will continue to work creatively and diligently to promote Niagara Falls as one of the world's most important tourist destinations.

City Controller Daniel Morello gave a presentation on the current state of the budget in light of possible issues with Casino funding. His presentation included, Parking revenue, credit card fees, general fund balances, overtime in certain departments, the train station budget and overtime costs, preliminary fund budget report, casino spending and 2016 balances and reserves for the 2018 budget.

Councilman Touma stated that the city must continue to be aggressive in regards to parking revenue.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about overtime budgets for the year in regards to certain departments who may be approaching their overtime limits. The Controller explained that the majority of the overtime was due to storm clean-up efforts.

Councilman Touma stated that the Council must be made aware of overtime costs. Councilman Tompkins asked about overtime costs at the train station. The Controller stated that overtime costs would improve now that staffing is at a proper level.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about Casino funds, current reserves and expenditures.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about the danger of low fund balances.

The Controller explained that some of this will be alleviated with parking revenues which is a new revenue source that did not exist when the city faced this problem in past years.

**Administrative updates**

Chief Thomas Colangelo (acting administrator) spoke about the training tower grant.

The Mayor announced a time line for spring activities, including fishing, boat launches, pot hole patching, zipper maintenance, the Easter Egg Hunt for children and the stocking of Hyde Park Lake. The Mayor also gave a time line for the Robert Moses Parkway North project which will include complete reconstruction of Whirlpool St. The Mayor also addressed illegal dumping near Gill Creek and reviewed trash pick-up procedures.

Chairman Walker asked about upgrades to city parks. Seth Piccirillo, Community Development Director, gave an update stating that work will be done at 70<sup>th</sup> St, Jerauld Park, Hyde Park, Highland Avenue Pocket Park, 91<sup>st</sup> St and restrooms at Gill Creek.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about contract negotiations with the firefighters as well as other union contracts.

Councilman Touma asked about the details regarding the firefighters contract.

The Mayor explained that complete details would be available to Council.

Councilman Touma stated that the council would like input on the negotiations.

Chairman Walker asked about progress regarding the concerns of NOAH and their ongoing efforts for training and job placement.

The Mayor stated that the administration and all involved are working diligently to promote such programs.

Chairman Walker reiterated the need for such training and job placement programs.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed an addition to the agenda.

1. A communication relative for the utilization of parking lots for Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center employees.

Councilman Touma moved to add this Communication to the Agenda

It was seconded by Councilwoman Grandinetti

Yea	5
Nay	0

Motion to add item to the agenda approved  
The Communication was added to the Agenda as #11.

This session ended at 6:10 PM

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:20 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #5, #9
Jeff Flack	Agenda Item #10
Eric Dixon	Agenda Item #4
Ron Anderluh	Tourist season; traffic control; downtown parking
Greg Myles	NOAH; CBA
Rev. Joanne Scott	NOAH

Michael Henderson	Block Club Meetings; election
Ken Hamilton	Parking; UBER; Basketball Courts
Jamie Caldwell	Casino Money
Robert Ventry	Listening skills; Casino Money

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: FIREWORKS DISPLAY, SKYLIGHTERS FIREWORKS OF NY

Agenda Item #1

We respectfully request you award a contract for a fireworks display as follows:

TO: Skylighters Fireworks of New York, LLC  
P.O. Box 1357  
Orchard Park, NY 14127  
FOR: Fireworks displays on July 4, 2017 at Hyde Park:  
\$25,000.00

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law. Notice that proposals were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and requests for proposals were sent to five (5) companies. The proposal submitted by Skylighters Fireworks was the only proposal received by the bid opening deadline. After reviewing this proposal, it was determined that Skylighters Fireworks has met all the specifications required in Request for Proposal # 2017-06.

Funds are available in the Tourism Fund account code T.6410.0000.0449.599.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: TROLLEY SERVICE, NFTA

Agenda Item #2

It is desirable to continue again this year Trolley Service in the City in cooperation with the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. It is recommended that Trolley Service commence on May 19, 2017 and conclude October 29, 2017. During the month of May, 2017, from May 19, 2017 through May 28, 2017, the Trolley Service will operate on weekends only (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) plus Memorial Day, May 29, 2017. Trolley service from May 29, 2017 through October 5, 2017 will be on a daily basis. From October 6, 2017 through October 29, 2017, trolley service will be on weekends only (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). From November 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, NFTA validated passes may be utilized for all metro routes. The cost to the City for this service will be \$566,300. This will be subject to the terms and conditions contained in an agreement subject to approval by the Corporation Counsel which will also contain a route for service. Funding is available from the Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

Agenda Item #3

The City has been notified that it has been selected as the recipient of a \$92,000.00 GRANT award from the DHS State Homeland Security Grant Program which is administered by the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a letter detailing the parameters of the Grant. This funding is provided to improve and develop tactical team capabilities through equipment, training, exercise and planning projects that support counter-terrorism missions in our jurisdiction. This is pursuant to a regional partnership with the Niagara County Sheriff's Office, City of North Tonawanda Police Department, City of Buffalo Police Department, New York State Police Bomb Squad, New York State Parks Police and Customs and Border Protection and, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. This will require that the City enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement.

Will the Council approve the grant award and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents required to accept the grant award, inclusive of an Inter-Municipal Agreement, provided the same are in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CATARACT LITTLE LOOP FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, CONTRIBUTION

Agenda Item #4

It is requested that the City contribute the sum of \$15,000.00 toward the expenses incurred in operating the Cataract Little Loop Football Association Inc. youth travel football program this year. This is part of the "Pop Warner" travel football program. This team, consisting primarily of City youth, competes in various locations.

Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma also commented on the importance of this program.

Councilwoman Grandinetti commented on the success of CLL Program.

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVE., 3625, ADDITIONAL ELECTRICAL WORK, CIR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION CORP.

Agenda Item #5

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to CIR Electrical Construction Corp. 400 Ingham Avenue, Buffalo, NY, on August 15, 2016 in an amount of \$129,000.00.

The focus of the Base Bid work was to energize the three buildings, test and investigate and repair specific existing electrical components. During the course of the work, the contractor encountered differing site conditions associated with making the buildings code compliant to ensure a Certification of Occupancy (CO) and other repairs or replacements that are based on contractual bid unit pricing.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$37,695.00 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$166,695.00 Sufficient casino funding presently exist in the City's Economic Development Department project fund for 3625 Highland Avenue Business Park, previously approved by City Council.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O TERRANA, SHEILA

Agenda Item #6

Date Claim Filed:	March 26, 2014
Date Action Commenced:	January 27, 2015
Date of Occurrence:	March 16, 2014
Location:	Pine Avenue & 33 <sup>rd</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	Damages to vehicle when struck by City vehicle
City Driver:	Vincent Jackson
Status of Action:	Post-Liability Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$1,574.00
Make Check Payable to:	Handelman, Witkowicz & Levitsky, LLP
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: ESCHBORN, DAVID AS PARENT OF ESCHBORN, KYLE

Agenda Item #7

Date Claim Filed:	October 5, 2011
Date Action Commenced:	January 12, 2012
Date of Occurrence:	July 25, 2011
Location:	Porter Road near Robbins Road
Nature of Claim:	Injuries sustained when City vehicle collided with Kyle while he was riding his bicycle
City Driver:	Robert L. Simpson
Status of Action:	Post-Liability Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$15,000.00
Make Check Payable to:	Ramos & Ramos as attorneys and Kyle A. Eschborn
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: SENIOR CITIZEN COUNCIL, APPOINTMENT, 2017-36  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Senior Citizen Council, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name (letter on file in the City Clerk's Office):

APPOINTMENT:

Angelo Ciraolo  
8215 Lindbergh Avenue  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

TERM EXPIRES:

12/31/2019

Yea

Nays

5

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: HOME RULE REQUEST, SPEED LIMIT, 2017-37  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #9

WHEREAS, Section 1634 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law, concerning speed limits on highways in cities and villages, provides that no such speed limit applicable throughout such city or village or within designated areas of such city or village shall be established at less than 30 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, Senator Robert Ortt introduced Senate Bill No. S402, as attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office), and Assemblyman Angelo Morinello introduced Assembly Bill A5548, as attached hereto, which would authorize and empower the City of Niagara Falls to lower the speed limit to not less than 25 miles per hour in its downtown area in furtherance of projects to attract new investment in said downtown area as described in both bills; and

WHEREAS, in order for the legislative process to continue, this Council is asked to adopt the annexed Home Rule Request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby recognize, acknowledge and support the enactment by the New York State Legislature of Senate Bill No. S402 and Assembly Bill A5548, entitled "An Act Relating to Authorizing the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, to Reduce the Speed Limit in Downtown Niagara Falls", and this City Council declares that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this City Council is directed to complete and certify the Home Rule Requests and forward copies of the New York State Legislature as required.

Yea

Nays

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0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS, AMENDING ORDINANCE, 2017-38  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #10

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended that Chapter 1328 of the Codified Zoning Ordinances be amended by adding a new subdivision 13; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Planning Board's recommendation is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the adoption of an amendment to Chapter 1328 of the Codified Zoning Ordinance relative to Short-Term Rental Units, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on April 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the official newspaper prior to April 17, 2017.

Yea	4
Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Grandinetti	

ADOPTED

Councilman Touma stated this item was to call for a Public Hearing

CONTRACT: WALNUT AVE., 805, FERRY AVE., 802, CITY OWNED LOTS, PARKING

Agenda Item #11

The Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center ("NFMMC") is commencing a substantial renovation project to its parking garage. During this renovation, the number of available parking spaces in the garage will be restricted. NFMMC would like those spaces to be available to accommodate the hospital's patients and those visiting the hospital. Therefore, NFMMC is requesting that the City allow hospital employees to park in the City owned lots located at 805 Walnut Avenue and 802 Ferry Avenue on an as-needed basis during the renovation project which is expected to begin on or about April 5, 2017 and conclude in late September 2017. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of NFMMC's request. The City does not utilize these lots for any purpose. NFMMC is not proposing to pay the City for the utilization of these lots but will provide insurance and will indemnify the City.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an Access and Utilization Agreement provided the same is in form and substance acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:15 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



APRIL 17, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the April 17, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:10 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of April 3, 2017.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Chief Brian DalPorto gave an update about a recent incident on Pine Avenue stating that although there was a homicide in that vicinity crime rates in the City overall are in decline.

The Chief thanked the residents of that neighborhood for their help and assistance.

The Chief also dispelled rumors that the Cleveland murder suspect was headed to Niagara Falls stating that despite face book posts to the contrary there was no credible evidence that the suspect was in the State of New York or headed to Niagara County. The Chief did state that the city was on high alert for any new information regarding this individual.

Councilmember Kristen Grandinetti moved to amend item # 21 to move the Item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Yea

5

Nay

0

The item was amended and approved

RESOLUTION: POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, RECOGNITION, 2017-42  
BY: COUNCILWOMAN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #21

WHEREAS, on February 4, 2017, Officers John Marcyan and Officer Wayne General responded to a call of an adult male holding several of his young children hostages in a room of a residence; and

WHEREAS, The NFPD Crisis Negotiator Team, Det. Capt Ted Weed, Officer Charles Fink, Officer Sandy Arist did arrive on scene. Det. Captain Weed was the first team member to arrive on scene. At this point the team observed the male sitting on a bed with two children ages 5 and 2. The male was holding a pocket knife in his hand up to his daughter's throat. The other daughter was sitting right next to him still in harm's way; and

WHEREAS, the quick actions and professionalism of responding Lt. Tedesco, Officers General, and Marcyan allowed for the critical response and expertise of the Crisis Negotiator Team. The Crisis Negotiators Fink and Arist quickly gained critical information that allowed for the safe release of the hostages. Det. Capt. Weed's calm demeanor, professionalism, and skill as a negotiator in the face of extreme danger to himself and the children is far "above and beyond" the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the actions of all officers, especially Det. Capt. Weed, saved the lives of the two children and the male. The Niagara County District Attorney's Office praised the work of all the officers especially Det. Capt. Weed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Det., Captain Ted Weed, Lt. James Tedesco, Officers; John Marcyan, Wayne General, Charles Fink and Sandy Arist be recognized for their timely and heroic efforts which resulted in a positive outcome to this unfortunate situation. These individuals exemplify the professionalism of the Niagara Falls Police Department and are a credit to both the Department and the City.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

Chief DalPorto read the resolution in honor of the officers. Councilwoman Grandinetti was joined by the remaining Council Members to hand out the awards and congratulate the officers.

Councilman Scott inquired about the time frame for demolitions.

Councilman Touma asked the City Administrator for an update on the camera and security systems.

Councilman Tompkins asked if there were any incidents involving the security cameras. The Councilman also asked for an update involving tree removal and sidewalk repair.

The City Administrator stated that the city has hundreds of tree removal projects and prioritizes them based on safety concerns.

Na Ria Westbrook, a young resident, asked the Council if holding fundraisers in Gluck Park was a possibility.

Thomas DeSantis, the City Planner, gave information to the Council regarding vacation rentals, and explained the differences between entities such as Airbnb and Bed and Breakfast establishments.

Chairman Walker stated that vacation rentals should be zoned.

Mr. DeSantis explained that enforcement of codes and ordinances would be more efficient if vacation rentals were approved city wide requiring all establishments to abide by the same standards.

Councilman Touma stressed the importance of passing a vacation rental ordinance stating that Niagara Falls has a great opportunity to welcome visitors and improve the economy.

Mr. DeSantis stated that vacation rental property is definitely a positive land use tool.

Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, spoke to Council about renovated properties stating that there is increased interest in renovating properties for this use. Neighborhoods welcome this type of establishment. Mr. Piccirillo also discussed direct financial benefit from renovating homes for vacation rentals.

Councilman Tompkins asked if owner occupied properties are preferred when creating a vacation rental market.

Mr. Piccirillo stated that the condition of the property is key to the success of any vacation rental.

Councilman Scott asked about the procedure for purchasing properties through Community Development.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed a resolution to be added to the Agenda.

1. Resolution relative to Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Federal Restoration Funding

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to add this Resolution to the agenda.

Councilman Touma seconded the motion.

Yea

5

Nays

0

Motion to add Resolution to Agenda Approved  
The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #25

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson also called for a Resolution to be removed from the Table from the March 20, 2017 Council Meeting, relative to the creation of a Citizen Advisory Body to provide advice and recommendations to the City Council regarding Chapter 365 of the City Ordinances "Taxicab and Taxicab Drivers"

Council Member Tompkins moved to Remove from the Table

Yea	5
Nay	0

Motion to remove Item from the Table Approved  
The Item was added to the Agenda as #26

This Session ended at 5:50 PM

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:20 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Scott and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Walker announced a Special Order of Business, a Public Hearing relative to Amending Chapter 1328 of the Codified Ordinances by adding a new Subdivision 1328.13 "Short-Term Rental Units" and asked if there were any speakers relative thereto.

The following spoke:

Sheila Zuni	Merle Smouse
Diane Tattersall	Michael Murphy
Bob Pascoal	Carroll Reetz
Lou Rizzo	James Abbondanza
Jeff Flach	David Abbondanza
Mary Leahy	Tina Galyn
Maryann Harvey	

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #7, #9, #19
Damon DeCastro	Agenda Item #17
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Item #17
Idriss Cisse	Agenda Item #17
Pat Proctor	Parking Ramps
Na'Ria Westbrook	Gluck Park Playground
Ken Hamilton	various topics
Cheryl Johnpur	Taxicabs

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

Agenda Item #2  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: MEALS FOR PRISIONERS, PSNF INC., D/B/A MCDONALDS

Agenda Item #3

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: PSNF Inc. d/b/a McDonald's  
1726 Pine Avenue  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301

FOR: Meals for prisoners at the Municipal Services Building:

Breakfast (est. 3,000)	\$1.00
Lunch (est. 6,700)	\$1.65
Supper (est. 2,200)	\$1.65
Diabetic Request (est. 10)	\$0.50

(unit price for diabetic request is added to the unit price of meal when purchased)

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids (on file in the City Clerk's Office) were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to four (4) vendors. Three (3) bids were received. Frankie's Donuts and Submariner's submitted the other bids. This contract will be in effect for one year from date of award.

Funds for this expenditure are available in Prisoner Meals A.3120.0001.0449.010.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STREET MILLINGS, SALE, LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA, INC.

Agenda Item #4

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: LaFarge North America, Inc.  
75 Pineview Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228

FOR: Sale of approximately 37,785 tons of street millings generated during the 2017 paving season: \$ 2.00/ton

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids (on file in the City Clerk's Office) were sent to nine (9) vendors. Three (3) bids were received as well as one (1) recusal. The above referenced company submitted the highest price for the millings. The two (2) other bids that were received were from Modern Corporation at -\$0.25/ton and Santarosa Holdings/Buffalo Fuel Corporation at \$ 1.20/ton.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: CEDAR AVE., 326, TERMS

Agenda Item #5

On July 25, 2016, the City Council approved the sale of 326 Cedar Avenue to Buffalove Development for \$10,000.00. The purpose of this agenda item is to approve the terms of sale.

Buffalove Development, LLC will be the developer of the site. A wholly owned subsidiary, Little Wheel Holdings, LLC, will hold title to the property.

The costs of the City will be paid from the sale proceeds, and will include \$750.00 for a title search.

The property was acquired by the City in tax foreclosure in January, 2016. The sale will be subject to payment of the 2016 School Tax base amount (\$134.03) and the 2016 City Tax base amount (\$124.10).

Will the Council vote to approve the terms presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute the deed and any documents necessary to effectuate the transfer?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CODE ENFORCEMENT: EXPENSES INCURRED IN REPAIR, DEMOLITION OR BOARD OF STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CITY

Agenda Item #6

In accordance with Chapter 1133, Section 1133.08 of the City of Niagara Falls Codified Ordinances, we hereby submit a report relative to certain privately owned properties upon which the City has incurred expenses or Community Development funds have been expended for each property which remain unpaid and in accordance with the above noted Section (the) Council shall "order an assessment against said premises for several sums herein reported".

We recommend that all the costs incurred by the City of Niagara Falls that remain unpaid upon certain privately owned properties be assessed against said properties in the manner as prescribed in the above City provisions of the City of Niagara Falls Codified Ordinances.

A list of all chargeable costs incurred is attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office). A complete record of all costs incurred and included in this report shall remain permanently on file in the office of the Department of Code Enforcement.

Will the Council so order?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

NFPD: COMMUNITY LIAISON POSITIONS, FUNDING

Agenda Item #7

The Superintendent of Police advises that NFPD has two Community Liaisons that provide an important service to the NFPD and the City. These liaisons have been paid from grant money. That grant has now been exhausted. It is recommended that these positions not be eliminated.

The Superintendent of Police further advises that there is money remaining from a Business District Initiative funding line that was provided to NFPD in the past. These unused dollars did not fall to fund balance because the source of the funds was casino revenues. It is requested that \$23,000.00 be transferred out of this line (S.3120.2787) to S.3120.2785 in order to keep these Community Liaisons employed for the balance of 2017. This will also cover a \$6,000.00 deficit that has been incurred. It should be noted that NFPD is in the process of applying for an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant for years 2017/2018 as a source of future funding for these positions.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTROLLER: AUDITS, TROY & BANKS CONSULTANTS LLC

Agenda Item #8

The City Controller is recommending that the City engage the firm of Troy & Banks Consultants LLC to perform audits on the fees received by the City pursuant to the Cable Franchise Agreement as well as the taxes remitted to the City pursuant to the Gross Receipts Utility Tax local law. It has been quite some time since audits of this nature were performed.

The compensation paid to Troy & Banks Consultants LLC will be in the nature of a contingency fee of 40% of any underpayment recovery. If no underpayments are identified, there will be no fees owed. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) are proposed agreements to employ Troy & Banks Consultants LLC.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to sign any agreements provided the same are approved by the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVE., 3625, WINDOWS/DOORS  
REHABILITATION/REPLACEMENT, ALLSTATE GENERAL CONTRACTING INC.

Agenda Item #9

The following is the result of bids received on March 27, 2017 for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID	ALT. #1
Allstate General Contracting Inc.	\$299,664.00	\$64,540.00
31 Ransier Drive		
West Seneca NY 14224		
Walter S. Johnson Building Co. Inc.	\$346,450.00	\$70,000.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder Allstate General Contracting Inc. at their Base Bid and Alternate #1 of \$364,204.00. Funding from the City's Economic Development Department has been earmarked for this project from Casino Funds. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State Grant will offset some of the costs associated with this project.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 3359

Agenda Item #10

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office), please find the proposed 2014 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Niagara Falls Fire Department Officer's Association, Local 3359. This proposed agreement is an extension of the party's collective bargaining agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma discussed savings and stability for the Fire Dept. Councilwoman Grandinetti read a statement of support for the Contract. All Council Members discussed positive aspects of the Contract.

CONTRACT: UNIFORM FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 714

Agenda Item #11

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office), please find the proposed 2014 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Niagara Falls Uniform Firefighter's Association, Local 714. This proposed agreement is an extension of the party's collective bargaining agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: JERAULD AVENUE PARK, EQUIPMENT/INSTALLATION, PURCHASE

Agenda Item #12

It is the administration's recommendation that the purchase of Jerauld Avenue Park equipment and the purchase and installation of Jerauld Avenue Playground safety surfacing should be purchased via the New York State Office of General Services Playground Equipment, and Related Products Statewide Contract. GAMETIME Playground Equipment is a qualified vendor as part of the statewide contract (NYS CONTRACT PC 66669). The total amount that the Niagara Falls City Council is being asked to authorize is as detailed below.

Item	Cost
Equipment Purchase	\$66,557.33
Safety Surfacing and Installation	\$38,335
Total	<b>\$104,892.33</b>

The Jerauld Avenue Improvement Project will not require any municipal general fund or casino capital fund revenue. The entire project, including the purchase of equipment and installation, will be funded by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant funds.

The proposed playground will replace the existing, outdated facility, and will be located within the park. An adult exercise station pad and bench seating will also be installed. Equipment purchase is included in this request. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department (CD) partnered with the Hyde Park East and West Block Clubs on this project, meeting in both 2016 and 2017 to discuss the project. Final placement of the playground footprint and exercise pad will result from staking out equipment/safety pad dimensions, and receiving feedback from both neighboring residents and the Niagara Falls Police Department. The overall goal of this improvement project is to provide park upgrades for the first time in decades at Jerauld Avenue Park, and to provide amenities that reflect the surrounding neighborhood.

The Niagara Falls City Council approved the Jerauld Avenue Park Improvement Project as part of the 2016 CDBG Action Plan. Beyond the aforementioned purchase of equipment and purchase installation of safety surfacing, final equipment installation will be bid, per municipal procurement law, and funded with CDBG funds.

This project is part of CD and the City of Niagara Falls' continuing effort to increase and improve youth facilities and services in our community. Improvement at Jerauld Avenue Park are consistent with the adopted Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for the purchase and limited installation of this equipment, in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: DOG PARK PROJECT, EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

##### Agenda Item #13

It is the administration's recommendation that equipment for the Niagara Falls Dog Park Project be purchased from the New York State Office of General Services Playground Equipment, and Related Products Statewide Contract. GAMETIME Playground Equipment is a qualified vendor as part of the statewide contract (NYS CONTRACT PC 66669). The total amount that the Niagara Falls City Council is being asked to authorize is detailed below.

Item	Cost
Equipment Purchase	\$17,042.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,042.25</b>

Construction of this project will not require any municipal general fund or casino capital fund revenue. The entire project, including the purchase of equipment and installation, will be funded by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant funds.

Over the past two years, Niagara Falls Community Development (CD) and the City of Niagara Falls has been working with the Niagara Falls Dog Park resident group and the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to create a dog park within the City of Niagara Falls. The proposed DeVeaux Woods State Park site provides the City of Niagara Falls with the ability to execute this project in a timely fashion while not having to utilize city park space or build out additional infrastructure in support of a new facility. The City of Niagara Falls will be responsible for the construction of the dog park features, the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will be responsible for long term maintenance and capital repairs, and routine maintenance duties will be established via legal agreement. Such precedent established at DeVeaux Woods State Park with the public ice skating rink.

Utilization of DeVeaux Woods State Park for the proposed dog park will also build off of other ongoing investment. The New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is installing a new playground at the park in addition to hosting Whirlpool Little League Baseball. This partnership with New York State will create more opportunities for local Niagara Falls residents to enjoy this greenspace.

The Niagara Falls City Council approved the Niagara Falls Dog Park Project as part of the 2016 CDBG Action Plan. Beyond the aforementioned purchase of equipment and purchase installation of equipment will be bid, per municipal procurement law, and funded with CDBG funds.

This project is part of CD and the City of Niagara Falls' continuing effort to enhance park spaces in our community. Creation of a dog park is consistent with the adopted Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for the purchase and limited installation of this equipment, in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Councilman Tompkins inquired as to the location. He asked if it should be more centralized.

Councilman Touma also stated he felt location could have been different but was satisfied with the savings.

#### CITY PROPERTY: FERRY AVENUE, 3625, SALE, RICKARD, CATHERINE

##### Agenda Item #14

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department hosted Home Ownership Auctions in 2013, 2015 and 2016, with the following guidelines:

- Successful bidders must agree to own and live in the home as prime occupant for no less than five years and pay all applicable property taxes.
- Successful bidders must submit a renovation plan, designating work to be completed by the owner and/or contractors, as well as possess the financial ability to execute the renovation prior to completing the sale agreement with the City of Niagara Falls.
- If the above terms are not met after the purchase of the property, ownership will revert back to the City of Niagara Falls.
- Beginning with the 2015 Home Ownership, successful bidders were required to pay a bidder's fee and a bidder bond of \$500. The bidder bond is to only be returned upon the completion of the renovation.

All Home Ownership Auction properties are required to receive sale recommendation for the Niagara Falls Planning Department and sale approval from the Niagara Falls City Council. As this process deals with long vacant properties, with long standing title/lien issues, and major renovation needs, unforeseen search issues and discrepancies occur. Despite these unforeseen issues, the process has led to successful renovations and sale closings on vacant properties. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of the following revision, for the stated reason, in the pursuit of successful renovation and occupancy.

3625 Ferry Avenue

The successful bidder has decided not to pursue ownership and renovation, thus forfeiting the bidder bond and auction fee. Catherine Richard, a home owner occupying 3621 Ferry Avenue, has made an offer of \$4,000 for the property. She plans to renovate the home, to be occupied by a family member. It is CD's opinion that such a purchase and renovation is within the spirit of the Home Ownership Auction process.

Will the Council vote to approve the sale revision presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documents? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Chairman Walker asked about the process for acquiring property. Community Development Director, Seth Piccirillo, explained the process. Councilman Tompkins asked if the property is put up for auction. Chairman Walker stated that residents have voiced concerns about the process.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: GEICO GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Agenda Item #15

Date Claim Filed:	N/A
Date Action Commenced:	July 8, 2013
Date of Occurrence:	January 18, 2013
Location:	Intersection of 11 <sup>th</sup> Street and Niagara Avenue
Nature of Claim:	The City was previously found liable for this accident. Due to the weight of the City vehicle, the insurance company is allowed to commence an arbitration action to recover its no fault payments to its insured.
City Driver:	John Rosino
Status of Action:	Arbitration Award
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$5,389.61
Make Check Payable to:	GEICO General Insurance Company
Conditions:	N/A

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: GIBBS, FELIX

Agenda Item #16

Date Claim Filed:	April 26, 2016
Date Action Commenced:	June 15, 2016
Date of Occurrence:	March 2, 2015
Location:	N/A
Nature of Claim:	False arrest and Malicious Prosecution
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Discovery Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$7,500.00
Make Check Payable to:	DeMarie & Schoenborn, P.C. and Felix E. Gibbs
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS/TAXICAB DRIVERS, AMENDING ORDINANCE  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #17

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 365 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers is hereby amended to read as follows on the following pages:

April 17, 2017 Amendments

Change the definition of "Livery"

Amendments as shown as underscored language to be added or bracketed language to be removed from Sections 365.11, 365.20, 365.21, 365.24 and 365.32.

CHAPTER 365

Taxicabs [and] Taxicab Drivers, Liveries and Livery Drivers

365.00 Legislative Findings and Declarations.	365.23C Consideration of Application.
365.01 Definitions.	365.24 Issuance of License;
365.02 Taxicab Medallion and Registration Permit Required; <u>Livery Registration and Permit Required</u> .	Duration and Annual Fee.
<u>365.03 Applicability of Chapter.</u>	365.25 License Period.
365.04 Number of Taxicab Medallions Limited.	365.26 Display of License.
365.05 Public Hearing.	365.27 Dress, Behavior and Grooming of Taxicab Drivers and Livery Drivers and Use of Radio.
365.06 Application for Taxicab Medallions and Driver's Licenses <u>for Taxicab</u> <u>and Livery</u> .	365.28 Suspension and Revocation of Driver's license.
	365.29 Notice to Driver.
	365.30 Failure to Comply with City, State and Federal Laws.

365.07 Taxicab Medallion.	365.31 Designation of Taxicabs.
365.08 Transferability of Taxicab Medallions.	365.32 Taximeter Required.
365.09 Medallion Fees.	365.33 Periodic Inspections of Taximeter Required.
365.10 <u>Taxicab and Livery</u> Registration Permit.	365.34 Rates of Fare; Rate Card Required.
365.11 <u>Taxicab and Livery</u> Registration Established; Use Permit Fees.	365.35 Open Stands and Parking.
365.12 Application for Taxicab and Livery Registration Permit.	365.36 Solicitation, Acceptance and Discharge of Passengers.
365.13 Liability and Worker's Compensation Ins. Required.	365.37 Receipts.
365.14 Inspection of Vehicles.	365.38 Refusal of Passenger to Pay Legal Fare.
365.15 Emergency Taxicab and Livery Registration Permits.	365.39 Direct Routes.
365.16 Schedule of Rates; Display.	365.40 Taxicab Service.
365.17 Suspension and Revocation of Medallion and Taxicab Registration Taxicab Permit <u>or Livery Registration Permit</u> .	365.41 Manifests.
365.18 Taxicab Driver's License and Livery Driver's License.	365.42 Service Contract Reports.
365.20 Application for Driver's License and Livery Driver's License.	365.43 Transferring the Vehicle.
365.21 Examination of Applicant.	365.44 Appeal.
365.22 Police Investigation of Applicant.	365.45 Police Department; Duty to Enforce Chapter.
	365.46 Penalty.
	365.99 Separability.

#### 365.00 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION.

(a) It is hereby determined by the City Council and the City Officials that the taxicab and livery industry is an integral and vital element which is necessary to assure adequate and safe public transportation for our residents and visitors.

(b) It is also determined that the taxicab and livery industry is especially suited for inclusion in the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce and all City meetings and functions related to public transportation and tourism issues.

(c) It is found that a spirit of mutual cooperation and public pride exists between the taxicab and livery industry and other governmental and civic organizations and that it is essential that goodwill be maintained amongst all.

(d) It is also found that reasonable standards and regulations relating to the number of taxicabs and livery vehicles, the number and location of taxicab stands and the condition and appearance of the taxicab and livery vehicles and drivers are needed to assure fairness and to promote the public health, safety and welfare.

#### 365.01 DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, have the meanings as set out herein:

(a) "Person" means and includes an individual, a corporation or other legal entity, a partnership and any incorporated association.

(b) "Street" means and includes any street, avenue, alley, court, bridge or public thoroughfare within the City.

(c) "City" means the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

(d) "Taxicab" means a motor vehicle regularly engaged in the business of carrying passengers for hire, having a seating capacity of less than seven persons and not operated on a fixed route.

(e) "Livery" means every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or a bus, used in the business of transporting passengers for compensation. Livery shall also include ride sharing services such as UBER and LYFT, unless local regulations are specifically preempted by the State of New York. However, it shall not include vehicles which are rented or leased without a driver.

[(e)] (f) "Cruising" means the driving of a taxicab on the streets of the City in search of or soliciting prospective passengers for hire.

[(f)](g) "Taxicab and livery registration permit" means the permit issued by the Superintendent of Police to a taxicab medallion owner and livery owner which evinces that the operating taxicab or livery has fulfilled the annual inspection and registration requirements as mandated by this Ordinance.

[(g)](h) "Driver's license" means the permission granted by the City to a person to drive a taxicab or livery upon the streets of the City.

[(h)](i) "Taximeter" means a meter instrument or device attached to a taxicab which measures mechanically the distance driven and the waiting time upon which the fare is based.

[(i)](j) "Waiting time" means the time when a taxicab is not in motion from the time of acceptance of a passenger or passengers to the time of discharge, but does not include any time that the taxicab is not in motion if due to any cause other than the request, act or fault of the passenger or passengers.

[(j)](k) "Open stand" means a public place alongside the curb of a street in the City which has been designated by the City as reserved exclusively for the use of taxicabs.

[(k)](l) "Owner" means any person owning or having control of the use of a taxicab or livery or both upon the streets of the City.

[(l)](m) "Manifest" means a daily record prepared by a taxicab or livery driver of all trips made by such driver showing time and place of origin, destination, number of passengers and the amount of fare of each trip.

[(m)](n) "Rate card" means a card issued by the Superintendent of Police for display in each taxicab which contains the rates of fare then in force.

[(n)](o) "Medallion" means the plate issued by the City of Niagara Falls which represents the privilege given to the possessor to operate a taxicab in the City of Niagara Falls.

365.02 TAXICAB MEDALLION AND REGISTRATION PERMIT REQUIRED; LIVERY REGISTRATION AND PERMIT REQUIRED.

No person shall operate or permit a taxicab owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire upon the streets of the City without having first obtained a taxicab medallion for each vehicle desired to be operated and a taxicab registration permit affixed to each such vehicle. No person shall operate or permit a livery owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire within the City without having first obtained a livery registration permit affixed to each such vehicle.

365.03 APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER.

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to the operation of a taxicab or a livery upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare, or place where the passenger is picked up, begins within the corporate limits of the City, regardless whether the point of destination is within or without the City.

The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to the operation of a taxicab or a livery upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare begins outside the corporate limits of the City regardless of whether the point of destination is within the City.

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365.06 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB MEDALLIONS AND DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR TAXICAB AND LIVERY

(a) An application for any available taxicab medallion shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and shall be verified under oath and shall furnish the following information:

(1) Name, address, age and whether applicant is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date and if a corporation the name, address, age and whether each officer, director and shareholder is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date.

(2) Experience of applicant in the transportation of passengers.

(3) Number of taxicab medallions desired by the applicant.

(4) The financial status of the applicant, including the amounts of all unpaid judgments against the applicant arising out of the use of a motor vehicle.

(5) The name or names of persons not an applicant, or, if a corporate applicant not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation having an interest, financial, proprietary or other, direct or indirect, in the taxicab or the business to be licensed, or having made any loan to an applicant for such taxicab or having any lien or mortgage on such taxicab, setting forth the names and addresses of such person or persons, the nature of the interest and the date acquired.

(6) The name of any person not an applicant herein, or, if a corporate applicant, any person not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation who shares or will share on a percentage basis, or in any way in the receipts, losses or deficiencies of the operation of the taxicab, to any extent whatsoever other than by fixed salary, setting forth the names and addresses of such persons, the nature and percentage of the share and the date acquired.

(7) Whether the applicant has previously held a taxicab medallion from any locality or a former "taxicab permit" from the City of Niagara Falls and if such medallion or permit has ever been suspended or revoked, and if so, for what cause.

(8) Such further information as the Superintendent of Police of the City of Niagara Falls may require. (Adopted 7/13/88.)

(b) No person shall be issued a taxicab and/or livery driver's license unless such person meets the following qualifications:

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#### 365.10 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 herein, no taxicab or livery shall be operated on the streets of Niagara Falls unless it has been issued a taxicab or livery registration permit. Each vehicle issued a permit under this Chapter shall affix a decal, supplied by the City of Niagara Falls, to the lower right hand corner of the rear window. The permit decal must be visible at all times and not placed on tinted windows/glass. Said decals shall be issued in a distinctively different color each year as proscribed by the Superintendent of Police. Taxicab and livery registration permits shall be non-transferable and must be renewed annually.

#### 365.11 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT FEES.

The annual cost of a taxicab registration permit shall be Seventy Dollars (\$70.00). The annual cost of a livery registration permit shall be Forty Dollars (\$40.00). No taxicab or livery registration permit decal shall be issued until such fee is paid. The taxicab or livery registration permit shall be issued between and including the dates of June 1 and June 15 of each year and all of such permits shall expire on the anniversary date in the next calendar year, unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any owner to whom a permit is issued during the permit year shall pay the full amount of the annual permit fee. All revenues generated by the collection of taxicab or livery permit fees shall be budgeted for the administration and enforcement of the taxicab and livery ordinance. [Permits expiring between April 1 and April 15, 1998 are hereby extended for sixty (60) days and will expire between June 1 and June 15, 1998].

365.12 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

An application for a taxicab or livery registration permit shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and such application shall contain the following information:

(a) Make, model type and vehicle identification number of the vehicle to be registered.

(b) Year of manufacture and seating capacity of each vehicle.

(c) New York State license number of each vehicle to be registered.

(d) The color scheme and insignia to be used to designate each vehicle.

In addition to the application and filing fee, [a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months and] proof of liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance, if required in accordance with Section 365.13, must be submitted at the time of application; and in the case of a taxicab, a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months.

The Superintendent of Police shall keep records of all vehicles registered pursuant to this chapter. Said records shall include the date of original vehicle inspection and shall record any subsequent inspections of the vehicle as well as any vehicle equipment and vehicle condition violations.

365.13 LIABILITY AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIRED.

(a) No taxicab or livery permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the minimum amount of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for bodily injury to any one person; in the minimum amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for injuries to more than one person which are sustained in the same accident, and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for property damage resulting from any one accident. Such policy or policies shall insure to the benefit of any person who shall be injured or who shall sustain damage to property proximately caused by the negligence of a holder, his servants or agents. Such policy or policies shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police shall have at least fifteen days' written notice of such cancellation, which requirement shall be conspicuously placed on said policy or policies and any Certificate evidencing such insurance.

(b) No taxicab or livery permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a worker's compensation insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the statutory minimum amount. This provision may be waived if the taxicab or livery owner can produce a letter from the State of New York within the last twelve (12) months confirming that the taxicab or livery owner does not need worker's compensation insurance.

365.14 INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

Prior to the use and operation of any vehicle and the issuance of a taxicab or livery registration permit under the provisions of this chapter, such vehicle shall be thoroughly and carefully examined and inspected by the Police Department and must be found to comply with such reasonable rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Superintendent of Police. These rules and regulations shall be promulgated to provide safe and comfortable transportation and shall specify such safety equipment and regulatory devices as the Superintendent of Police shall deem necessary therefor.

In addition to periodic inspections by the Police Department, at such intervals as shall be established by the Superintendent of Police, taxicab and livery vehicles are subject to on-the-spot "no notice" inspections by police officers. Inspections shall not be instigated nor take place while a fare is present. Such inspections shall require, but are not limited to, the following vehicular standards:

(a) All vehicles shall have current New York State Inspection Certificates.

(b) The exterior of the vehicles shall be generally clean and free from rust and damage.

(c) The vehicle paint must be applied in a professional manner. Automobile make insignias and vehicle chrome shall not be painted over.

(d) Vehicles must be completely assembled and shall not be structurally altered from the manufacturer's design including, but not limited to, having the lights, exhaust system, fenders and bumpers properly attached.

(e) Any lettering or company logo applied to the exterior of the vehicle must be professionally air-brushed or neatly stenciled upon the vehicle. A decal insignia shall be considered an acceptable substitute for the above requirement.

(f) The interior of the vehicle must be kept clean and sanitary, and shall be free of all litter and debris.

If a vehicle has been involved in an accident causing physical damage so as to violate the above vehicle standards, it shall not be automatically excluded from service, if the vehicle can still be operated safely. The taxicab or livery owner shall have 24 hours to have the vehicle evaluated by the Police Department, in order to determine if the vehicle should be taken out of service or to determine the exact date repairs will be made. If a vehicle is taken out of service on account of the police inspection of damage, the taxicab or livery owner shall be notified in writing.

(g) A violation of any of the above vehicle standard requirements will be punishable by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each offense. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

#### 365.15 EMERGENCY TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMITS.

The Mayor may, in case of a declared public emergency or necessity, waive or modify any or all of the requirements of this chapter and may issue a temporary permit for the operation of any vehicle defined in this chapter upon the streets of the City without a public hearing, such permit to be revocable at any time with by the Mayor or his designee.

#### 365.16 SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR TAXICABS; DISPLAY.

There shall be displayed in the passenger's compartment of each taxicab in full view of the passengers, a card not less than four inches by six inches in size, which shall have plainly printed thereon the name of the owner or the [fictitious] name under which such owner operates the business, the address and telephone number of such owner and a correct schedule of the rates to be charged for conveyance in such vehicle. Such card shall be approved as to form by the Superintendent of Police before being so displayed. A true and correct copy of the card, as approved, shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police.

#### 365.17 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF MEDALLION AND TAXICAB REGISTRATION PERMIT OR LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

A taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit issued under the provisions of this chapter, may be revoked or suspended by the City Administrator, if the owner thereof has:

(a) Violated any material provisions of this chapter.

(b) Falsified any information on the application or failed to notify the Superintendent of Police of any material change of status from that indicated in the application.

(c) Abandoned the taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit. The medallion or permit shall be deemed abandoned when a taxicab assigned a medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery issued a livery registration permit has not been regularly operated as a taxicab or livery for a period of six (6) months, or

(d) Conducted himself in a manner indicating he is not a fit and proper person to hold such an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit.

In the event any person to whom an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit is issued has such medallion or permit suspended on three separate occasions, such medallion or permit shall be revoked. Whenever any medallion shall be revoked, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police.

If the medallion is suspended, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police and retained by him until the suspension period expires. In the case of suspension or revocation of the taxicab registration permit or livery registration permit, the identifying decal shall be immediately removed.

Prior to suspension or revocation, the owner shall be given written notice of the proposed action to be taken together with a statement of the basis therefor and shall have an opportunity to be heard by the City Administrator within two weeks of receiving said written notice. No suspension or revocation shall be effective until a written decision of the Administrator is filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

365.18 TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 of this Chapter, no person shall operate a taxicab for hire or livery upon the streets of the City and no person who owns or controls a taxicab or livery shall permit it to be so driven, and no taxicab or livery licensed by the City shall be driven at any time for hire unless the driver of such taxicab or livery shall have first obtained and shall have then in force a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license issued under the provisions of this chapter. This prohibition shall not apply to a taxicab or livery driver who is returning a fare to a destination outside the corporate limits of the City which fare originated outside the corporate limits of the City, provided the return fare is made within 24 hours of the drop off of the originating fare.

365.20 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

An application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police on forms provided by the City, and such application shall be verified under oath and shall contain the following information:

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Any false statements made by the applicant on the application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be sufficient cause for the refusal of the issuance of a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license to such applicant, or shall be sufficient cause for the revocation or suspension of a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license after the issuance of same.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a taxicab driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendent of Police, on forms provided by the City, a livery driver's license. Provided the taxicab driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a livery driver's license shall be issued for no additional fee.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a livery driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendent of Police, on forms provided by the City, a taxicab driver's license. Provided the livery driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a taxicab driver's license shall be issued upon the payment of an additional fee in the amount of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00).

365.21 EXAMINATION OF APPLICANT.

Before licensing, all taxicab drivers and livery drivers must undergo a local orientation program of up to two hours coordinated by [the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation (NTCC)] Prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each driver must successfully complete a test of the information covered during the program.] Destination Niagara USA. The applicant is responsible to pay any fee incurred by [the NTCC] Destination Niagara USA for administering the [test] program. Such program shall include, but is not limited to, the geography of the City, traffic laws and regulations and public relations and appearance.

365.22 POLICE INVESTIGATION OF APPLICANT.

The Police Department of the City shall conduct an investigation of each applicant for a taxicab driver's license and livery driver's license, and a report of such investigation and a copy of the traffic and police record of the applicant, if any, shall be attached to the application for the consideration of the Superintendent of Police.

365.23 CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION.

The Superintendent of Police shall, upon consideration of the application and the reports and certificate required to be attached thereto, in his discretion, approve or reject the application. If the application is rejected, the applicant may request a personal appearance before the Superintendent of Police to offer evidence why his application should be reconsidered.

365.24 ISSUANCE OF LICENSE; DURATION AND ANNUAL FEE.

Upon approval of an application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license, the Superintendent of Police shall issue a license to the applicant which shall bear the name, address, age, signature and photograph of the applicant, issuance number, date of expiration and the name of the owner for which such driver is authorized to operate a vehicle. Such license shall be valid only so long as the driver continues in the employ of such owner. Upon the termination of any driver's employment, the owner by whom such driver has been employed shall immediately give the Superintendent of Police written notice of such termination, the reasons therefor, and shall forthwith surrender the driver's license to the Superintendent of Police for cancellation.

Such license shall be in effect for the remainder of the calendar year. A taxicab driver's license for every calendar year thereafter shall be issued upon the payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), unless the license for the preceding year has been revoked. A livery driver's license fee for every calendar year thereafter shall be issued upon the payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00), unless the license for the preceding year has been revoked.

365.25 LICENSE PERIOD.

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be issued as of January 1st in each year and shall be valid to and including December 31st of that same year unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any driver to whom a license is issued during the license year shall pay the full amount of the annual license fee.

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365.27 DRESS, BEHAVIOR AND GROOMING OF TAXICAB DRIVERS AND LIVERY DRIVERS AND USE OF RADIO FREQUENCY BY TAXICABS ONLY.

(a) Each driver shall make a presentable appearance while operating taxicabs and liveries in the City of Niagara Falls, and shall be clean, well-groomed, neatly dressed, and conduct himself or herself in a professional, courteous manner. Every driver shall be required to wear a shirt with a collar.

(b) Each taxicab driver shall be permitted to use only the radio frequency that is used by the company the driver is affiliated with. The monitoring of another cab [or livery] company's frequency is strictly prohibited and will lead to sanctions against the driver and/or company the driver is affiliated with. Liveries and livery operators are not permitted to use radio frequencies.

365.28 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE.

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license may be suspended for the following reasons:

• • •  
No driver or operator whose license has been revoked shall be eligible to be licensed as a taxicab driver or livery driver in the City for a period of three (3) years, unless otherwise prohibited by Section 365.19 of this Chapter.

365.29 NOTICE TO DRIVER.

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be deemed to be suspended or revoked as of the third day after the Superintendent of Police shall cause to be deposited in the United States Post Office within the City, a registered letter giving notice of such revocation or suspension, and directed to the person named and to the address given on the application pursuant to which such license was issued. In the event a person has both a taxicab driver's license and a livery driver's license, a suspension or revocation of one license has the effect of suspending or revoking the other license.

365.30 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CITY, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.

Every driver licensed under this chapter shall comply with all City, State and Federal laws. Failure to do so will justify the suspension or revocation of a license.

365.31 DESIGNATION OF TAXICAB.

The taxicabs of every owner operating a taxicab within a City shall be of a color scheme and bear the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia which are clearly and easily distinguishable from the color scheme, owner's trade name, monogram or insignia used on the taxicabs of any other owner's already operating under this chapter. No change whatever in the color scheme or distinguishing characteristics of any taxicab shall be made without written permission from the Superintendent of Police, and it shall be unlawful for any person soliciting patronage from any vehicle described in this chapter to represent by word, sign or insignia that the vehicle for which he is soliciting such patronage is a vehicle owned or operated by other than the actual owners.

Every taxicab operated within the City shall bear the following identification: the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia, together with a cab number and the owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the metal portion of the outside of each side of the taxicab and the cab number and owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the outside rear panel of the taxicab. All lettering mentioned in this paragraph shall be not less than two and one-quarter inches in height and not less than five-sixteenths inch stroke. In addition to the identification hereby required, taxicabs may bear the following signs or advertisements:

(a) A metal sign bearing the words "For Hire", and being no larger than six inches by nine inches;

(b) A sign attached to the top of the cab bearing the word "Vacant" and being no larger than two and one-half inches by nine inches, and

(c) Advertisements not exceeding twelve square feet in total area, subject to the rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Police.

If, after a permit has been issued for a taxicab hereunder, any portion of this section is violated in such a manner as to be misleading or deceiving to the public, the Superintendent of Police in his discretion, may suspend or revoke the permit of the owner covering such taxicab or taxicabs.

(d) This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City.

365.32 TAXIMETER REQUIRED.

All taxicabs operated under the authority of this chapter shall be equipped with taximeters fastened in front of the passengers, visible to them at all times day and night; and, after sundown, the face of the taximeter shall be illuminated. Such taximeter shall be operated mechanically by a mechanism of standard design and construction, driven either from the transmission or from one of the front wheels by a flexible and permanently attached driving mechanism. No taximeter shall be operated from any wheel to which power is applied. They shall be sealed at all points and connections which, if manipulated, would affect their correct reading and recording. Each taximeter shall have thereon a flag to denote when the vehicle is employed and when it is not employed, and it shall be the duty of the driver to throw the flag of such taximeter into a non-recording position at the termination of each trip. The taximeters shall be subject to inspection from time to time by the Police Department. Any inspector or other officer of the Police Department is hereby authorized either on complaint of any person or without such complaint, to inspect any meter and, upon discovery of any inaccuracy therein, to notify the person operating such taxicab to cease operation. Thereupon, such taxicab shall be kept off the streets, until the taximeter is repaired and in the required working condition.

This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City.  
[Notwithstanding the foregoing, the owner of a livery operating under the authority of this chapter may, at the option of the owner, equip the livery so owned with a taximeter. In the event the owner equips the said livery with a taximeter, all applicable provisions of this chapter pertaining to taximeters shall apply. In addition, the owner, prior to installation of the taximeter in the livery vehicle, agrees to immediately give written notice to the Superintendent of Police of the installation of the taximeter.]

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365.35 OPEN STANDS ESTABLISHED; USE AND PARKING.

The Traffic Engineer is hereby authorized and empowered to establish open taxi stands for the exclusive use of taxicabs in such places upon the streets of the City as he deems necessary. In creating an open stand, the Traffic Engineer shall take into consideration the need for such stands by the taxicab owners and the convenience to the general public. He shall prescribe the number of taxicabs that shall occupy such open stands. The Traffic Engineer shall not create an open stand in front of any place of business where the abutting property owners object to the same or where such open stand would tend to create a traffic hazard. Such open stands shall be designated by appropriate signs or curb markings as the Traffic Engineer shall determine.

Open stands shall be used by the different drivers on a first come, first serve basis. The driver shall pull into the open stand from the rear and shall advance forward as the vehicles ahead pull off. A driver shall be in attendance at every taxicab parked in an open taxi stand. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as preventing a passenger from boarding the vehicle of his choice that is parked at an open stand.

No owner or driver of a taxicab shall stand or park such vehicle at any place on a public street other than an open stand, except for the purpose of discharging or receiving passengers.

No person shall park or stand any vehicle other than a taxicab in an open taxi stand.

Liveries may not utilize open taxi stands for parking or for any other purpose.

365.36 SOLICITATION, ACCEPTANCE AND DISCHARGE OF PASSENGERS.  
No driver shall solicit passengers for a taxicab except when sitting in the driver's compartment of such taxicab or while standing immediately adjacent to the curb side thereof. No driver of a livery may solicit passengers for a livery. The driver of any taxicab shall remain in the driver's compartment or immediately adjacent to his vehicle at all times when such vehicle is upon the public street, except that, when necessary, a driver may be absent from his taxicab for not more than ten consecutive minutes, and provided further that nothing herein contained shall be held to prohibit any driver from alighting to the street or sidewalk for the purpose of assisting passengers into or out of such vehicle.

No driver shall solicit patronage in a loud or annoying tone of voice or by sign or in any manner annoy any person or obstruct the movement of any persons, or follow any person for the purpose of soliciting patronage.

Drivers of taxicabs and liveries shall not receive or discharge passengers in the roadway but shall pull up to the right hand sidewalk as nearly as possible, or in the absence of a sidewalk, to the extreme right hand side of the road, and there receive or discharge passengers, except upon one-way streets where passengers may be discharged at either the right or left hand sidewalk or side of the roadway, in the absence of a sidewalk.

No driver shall cruise in search of passengers, except in such areas and at such time as shall be designated by the Traffic Engineer. Such areas and times shall only be designated when the Traffic Engineer finds that taxicab cruising would not congest traffic or be dangerous to pedestrians and other vehicles.

No driver, owner or operator shall solicit passengers at the terminal of any other common carrier, not at any intermediate points along any established route of any other common carrier.

No driver shall permit any other person to occupy or ride in such taxicab unless the person or persons first employing the taxicab shall consent to the acceptance of an additional passenger or passengers. No charge shall be made for an additional passenger except when the additional passenger rides beyond the previous passenger's destination, and then only for the additional distance so traveled.

No driver shall permit more persons to be carried in a taxicab as passengers than the rated seating capacity of his taxicab, as stated in the permit for such vehicle. A child in arms shall not be counted as a passenger.

No driver shall refuse or neglect to convey any orderly person or persons, upon request, unless previously engaged or unable or forbidden by the provisions of this chapter to do so.

It shall be a violation of this chapter for any driver of a taxicab to solicit business for any hotel, or to attempt to divert patronage from one hotel to another. Neither shall such driver engage in selling intoxicating liquors or soliciting business for any immoral purpose, or use his vehicle for any purpose other than the transporting of passengers.

365.37 RECEIPTS.  
The driver of any taxicab or livery shall, upon demand by the passenger, render to such passenger a receipt for the amount charged, either by a mechanically printed receipt or by a specially prepared receipt on which shall be the name of the owner, license number or motor number, amount of meter reading or charges, and date of transaction.

• • •

365.41 MANIFESTS.

Every driver of a taxicab and livery shall maintain a daily manifest upon which are recorded all trips made each day, showing the time and place of origin, the destination of each trip and amount of fare, and all such completed manifests shall be returned to the owner by the driver at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The forms for each manifest shall be furnished to the driver by the owner, and shall be of a character approved by the Superintendent of Police.

Every owner of a permit shall retain and preserve all drivers' manifests in a safe place for at least the calendar year next preceding the current calendar year, and such manifests shall be available to the Superintendent of Police.

365.42 SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTS.

It shall be mandatory for all owners to file with the Superintendent of Police, copies of all contracts, agreements, arrangements, memoranda or other writings relating to the furnishing of taxicab or livery service to any hotel, theater, hall, public resort, terminal or other place of public gathering, whether such arrangement is made with the owner or any corporation, firm or association with which the owner may be interested or connected. Failure to file such copies within seven days shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of a permit of any offending owner or the cancellation of any cab stand privileges.

• • •

365.44 APPEAL.

If any person is aggrieved by any act or failure to act on the part of the Superintendent of Police either in issuing, failure to issue, suspending or revoking any owner's permit or driver's license, such aggrieved party may file with the City Clerk a statement addressed to the [City Administrator] Niagara Falls City Council, setting forth the full facts and circumstances in connection with the action or failure of action on the part of the Superintendent of Police. Such appeal must be filed within ten days after commission or omission of the act by which the appellant claims to have been aggrieved.

The [City Administrator] Niagara Falls City Council shall call [a meeting] for a public hearing not less than [ten] thirty days from the date on which such appeal shall have been filed with the City Clerk, shall hear the appellant and his witnesses and determine the merits of the appeal, and the [ruling of the City Administrator] decision by a majority vote of the Niagara Falls City Council thereon shall be final.

(C66 S39, adopted 1-13-69; amended 12/29/11.)

• • •

Bold and Underlining indicate Additions.  
Bold and Brackets indicate [Deletions].

Yea

Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker

4

Nay

Touma

1

TABLED

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to Table the Item.

Councilman Scott seconded the motion.

Council Members discussed the NYS regulations for Uber-Lyft.

RESOLUTION: WATER BOARD JOINT MEETING, 2017-39  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Council Members call for a joint meeting with the Niagara Falls Water Board, open to the public, to discuss issues relevant to our city as well as its rate payers; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interests of the residents of the City for the Council and Water Board to discuss issues throughout the city as a whole; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby requests a joint meeting with the Niagara Falls Water Board at a time and date of mutual convenience.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: MARCHISELLI PROGRAM, BUFFALO AVE., CAYUGA DR.

TO 102<sup>ND</sup> ST. 2017-40

BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, TOUMA, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #19

WHEREAS, a Project for the Buffalo Ave. (Rt. 384); Cayuga Drive to 102<sup>nd</sup> Street, P.I.N. 5761.57 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of Buffalo Ave. (Rt. 384); Cayuga Drive to 102<sup>nd</sup> Street, Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI) phase.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVE, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$50,000.00 is hereby re-appropriated from Buffalo Avenue Phase 1 and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER NETWORK EVENT, FEES WAIVED, 2017-41  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City School District Focus on Families Program is sponsoring a "Walk to Promote Awareness to Child Abuse Prevention" on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 between the hours of 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the walk will begin and end at the Oasis near the volleyball nets; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that it is important to bring awareness to this issue and take a stand against child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the City is requested to waive certain fees in connection with this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, this City Council does hereby waive any fees customarily charged for the use of the Oasis and that the City's bandstand be utilized for this event and any fees in connection with the use of the bandstand and the utilization of any ancillary materials such as a podium and a public address system be waived.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, RECOGNITION, 2017-42  
BY: COUNCILWOMAN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #21

Amendment is to have the Agenda Item being moved to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-43  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Tony Poletti 712 E. Market Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017

Yea  
Nays

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0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-44  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #23

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Assessment Review Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Robert W. Burns 8955 W. Rivershore Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14304	9/30/2019

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS, AMENDING CHAPTER 1328, 2017-45  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS TOMPINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #24

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended that Chapter 1328 of the Codified Zoning Ordinances be amended by adding a new subdivision 13; and

WHEREAS, the City Council called for a Public Hearing to be held on April 17, 2017 on this amendment; and

WHEREAS, said Public Hearing was held on April 17, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 1328 of the Codified Ordinances be amended by adding a new subdivision 1328.13 "Short-Term Rental Units" to read as shown on the attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: GREAT LAKES/ST. LAWRENCE FEDERAL RESTORATION FUNDING, 2017-46

By: COUNCILWOMAN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #25

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin (the Basin) represents approximately 20% of the world's surface fresh water and 84% of North America's surface fresh water; and

WHEREAS, over 48 million people depend on the Basin as a source of drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the Basin is the foundation for a \$5.8 trillion USD regional economy; and

WHEREAS, water contamination, harmful algal blooms, invasive species, and climate change pose threats to the integrity of the resource and prosperity of the Basin; and

WHEREAS, Canada and the United States have worked cooperatively on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence for over 100 years under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972, as most recently amended in 2012; and

WHEREAS, significant progress has been made over almost 50 years in restoring and protecting the Basin based on a shared responsibility for the resource and significant investment from all orders of government in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, local governments in Canada and the United States have invested over \$15 billion USD annually in protection and restoration efforts according to a 2008 study; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Federal Government has provided more than \$2 billion USD since 2010 for Great Lakes protection and restoration through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Canadian Federal Government has invested more than \$250 million CAD in Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River initiatives since 2010; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States proposed eliminating the entire \$300 million USD in funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the 2017-2018 budget; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Canadian budget proposes approximately \$114 million CAD over five years to support water protection and restoration but has no line item dedicated to the Basin at the magnitude necessary; and

WHEREAS, these budgets do not adequately address the urgent needs of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin and will slow down or halt critical restoration and protection efforts and economic recovery in the region; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Congress appropriate the full \$300 million USD authorized for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the 2017-2018 budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Canadian Federal Government work collaboratively with provinces, local governments, First Nations and Metis, and other stakeholders to develop a common strategy and to increase funding for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin to match the significance of the resource and the magnitude of the challenges;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all orders of government must share the responsibility for the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin and recognize the importance of the resource in their budgets; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Canada, the Governors of the eight Great Lakes States, the Premiers of Quebec and Ontario, the Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD, TAXICAB/TAXICAB DRIVERS, 2017-47  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #26

WHEREAS, during its consideration of certain amendments to Chapter 365 of the City Ordinances entitled "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" this City Council was alerted by members of the public to issues which may exist pertaining to the City's issuance of taxicab medallions; and

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to undertake a review of Chapter 365 as concerns the issuance of taxicab medallions to make certain the medallion issuance process, including the number of authorized medallions, is fair and equitable; and

WHEREAS, prior to making any amendments to Chapter 365, it is desirable for the Niagara Falls City Council to have a thorough understanding of the medallion issue generally and whether or not public convenience and necessity requires an increase in the number of taxicab medallions and taxicabs and whether existing transportation is adequate to meet the public need and the probable effect of increased service on local traffic conditions; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate this, the City Council has determined that it would be prudent to solicit the advice and recommendations from a body consisting of involved City Department Heads and those outside City government to provide it with assistance as to these matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3.6(a) of the City Charter, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby create a "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body to compliment the effectiveness of this City Council by providing it with advice and recommendations about the number of taxicab medallions which are presently issued, the number of taxicabs operating, and examine the necessity for the issuance of additional medallions as well as any other issues which may arise during the review of the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body shall consist of no more than seven (7) members to be comprised of the Superintendent of Police or his designee, the Corporation Counsel or his designee, as well as five (5) members of the community who will be selected by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council, for a period ending no later than December 31, 2017 or upon presentation to the City Council of a report of its recommendations or upon like evidence of the attainment of the purpose for which it was established, whichever occurs sooner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this advisory body will not be compensated for their services on the advisory body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body will provide advice and recommendations only and be required to submit the same to the City Council as requested by the City Council. The panel will have no formal decision making role, and will have no access to confidential, supervisory or other confidential information.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**MAY 1, 2017**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the May 1, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, Acting City Administrator Anthony Vilardo, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Touma moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of April 17, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

A presentation was given by Michael DiCenzo, President of American Niagara Hospitality.

His video was about the plans for the City and the challenges ahead. Mr. DiCenzo stated he renovated the Sheraton Hotel, developed the Rainforest Café and reinvested in The Days Inn, which was completely gutted and renovated.

He discussed future developments including construction of the Daredevil Waterpark, a couple of hotels, Beach Club and other projects. He said the Canadian and American Hotels represent luxury brands, specializing in Theme Restaurants.

The Sheraton Inn would have a Hotel stacked atop with a Rooftop Bar, Infinity Pool and a Celebrity Restaurant. This will result in a Four Star Luxury Hotel. The cost would be 50 million dollars.

Mr. DiCenzo said the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the development would be a Daredevil Indoor Water Park. It would cost 70 million dollars for the Hotel and Water Park.

Council Woman Grandinetti asked if the name brand companies encouraged other companies to invest and also said that Mr. DiCenzo should go through the RFP process.

Council Woman Grandinetti asked if there was a similar project in Niagara Falls Ontario and if that would be in competition with Niagara Falls, New York.

Michael DiCenzo said he has attempted numerous times to go through Empire State Development and that he should be treated fairly and they have not. He wants to continue to reinvest in Niagara Falls, New York.

Council Member Tompkins asked if things can be done to get people here in the off season and NTCC has been helpful bringing people here. He also said that with 800 employees, it is one of the largest employers in Niagara Falls, NY. He asked how we, as a City, can help you more.

Mr. DiCenzo said the City is limited with funds and we need a unified voice. He would like to sit down and talk with officials and work together. We need a local solution. He also said he hasn't received anything about commitments and he has cancelled contracts for the Water Park due to this.

In the Administrative Update, Mayor Dyster and Acting City Administrator, Anthony Vilardo said there was a travel advisory until Midnight. He gave a list of the streets closed due to flooding. City Administrator, Nicholas Melson, Director of Public Works, John Caso & Police Chief Bryan DalPorto were at the flooded areas.

Mayor Dyster said he has been in contact with the Water Board on the pumping of the streets. He will keep the public updated on the travel advisory.

Council Woman Grandinetti asked if there is anything the City can do to help recede the water, especially on Cayuga Island. Mayor Dyster replied that the Water Board is working on this. He also said the Water Board started this afternoon on pumping the water and he will monitor the situation.

Council Member Tompkins wanted to take a moment to recognize Brook D'Angelo, an employee of the Department of Public Works, who represented the United Steel Workers and the City at a recent conference in Mexico.

Brook thanked everyone and brought a gift for the Mayor, Administrator and the Council.

This session ended at 5:40 PM

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:02 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Tompkins and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #2, #6, #7
Bill Carroll	Agenda Item #5
Andrea Czopp	Agenda Item #5-discussion followed with Andrea and Council Member Tompkins
Ron Anderluh	Gave invites and information to several events

#### THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: HYDE PARK PAVILION, REFRIGERATION CONTROL/POWER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT, MOLLENBERG BETZ INC.

##### Agenda Item #1

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Mollenberg Betz Inc., 300 Scott Street, Buffalo, NY, on June 6, 2016 in an amount of \$253,942.00.

At the time of award, the City elected not to accept an alternate bid for a new ammonia detection system which is required by code, but instead undertook repairs to the existing system and completed it at a substantial savings.

Additional issues were encountered requiring repair that were not originally included in the project's scope of work. These items are necessary to the project and were done while a certified contractor was under contract. Below is a list of the items that comprise this Change Order:

- Install pump check valve
- Replace chiller float switch
- Repair compressor unloader solenoids
- Install remote HMI screen
- Install new 60hp pump check valve
- Repairs to existing piping

The cost associated with all the items listed is \$20,381.00. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$20,381.00 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$274,323.00. Funding is available through the existing open Bond Resolution for the Ice Pavilion.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Change Order #1 in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

Council Member Touma stated that he was not happy with the Change Order but is voting Yes.

CONTRACT: CONSULTANT SERVICES, BUFFALO AVENUE PHASE 3, CHA CONSULTING INC.

Agenda Item #2

Based on the New York State Department of Transportation mandated merit selection process, please be advised that CHA Consulting Inc. has been selected as the City's consultant on the above noted project.

The Council previously approved resolutions appropriating funding which is federally reimbursable and also eligible for State Marchiselli funding. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that the scoping and design phases of this project be awarded to CHA Consulting Inc. at a not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000.00. Funding is available in Code H0610, representing available funding from the Buffalo Avenue Phase 1 project.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: PINE AVENUE, 1821, AWNING ENCROACHMENT

Agenda Item #3

The owner of the above referenced property has applied for an entrance awning encroachment into the City's right-of-way.

This has been reviewed by the appropriate City departments and the Planning Board recommends that it be granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The minimum height above the sidewalk is eight (8) feet.
2. The owner will add the City of Niagara Falls as an additional insured on its liability insurance policy.
3. The owner will defend and indemnify the City from liability related to the canopy encroachment.
4. The City can revoke permission for the encroachment on three (3) months' notice.

Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: WILLOW AVENUE, 1118, SALE, ROSCOE DAUGHERTY

Agenda Item #4

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$8,000.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of this premises for this price in an "as-is" condition and of the requirement the closing be performed within 30 days and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NTCC, EXTENSION

Agenda Item #5

The City's Agreement with the NTCC expires on May 31, 2017. The NTCC's Agreement with the County of Niagara has been extended from an expiration of May 31, 2017 through May 31, 2020. The NTCC must have an agreement with the County of Niagara in order for it to enter into an agreement with the City.

Inasmuch as the NTCC and the County have entered into an agreement, it is recommended that the City extend its agreement with the NTCC through May 31, 2020. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of a proposed extension Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an extension Agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Tompkins moved that the communication be Tabled.

Yea	3
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Council Members Scott, Tompkins, Touma

Nay	2
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Council Woman Grandinetti, Chairman Walker

TABLED

Council Member Tompkins moved to table the Item

Council Member Scott seconded the motion to Table the Item

Council Member Touma has questions for John Percy and needs answers

Council Member Tompkins asked Andrea Czopp if John Percy would be able to attend the next meeting and she will check on this.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: GLUCK PARK IMPROVEMENTS, PICNIC TABLES/BENCHES

Agenda Item #6

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department recommends reprogramming a total of \$53,402.83 of 2012 (\$18,402.83) and 2013 (\$35,000) United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) housing rehabilitation funds to the purchase of upgraded playground and park equipment for Gluck Park and ADA compliant picnic tables and benches for use in city parks. All equipment will be purchased through the New York State Office of General Services Playground Equipment, and Related Products Statewide Contract. Specifically, the purchase will be made via GAMETIME Playground Equipment, a qualified vendor as part of the statewide contract (NYS CONTRACT PC 66669). The equipment will be installed by the City of Niagara Falls Department of Public Works. Improvements at Gluck Park and ADA compliant park seating is consistent with the adopted 2012 Niagara Falls Parks Master Plan.

Reallocation of these housing rehabilitation funds does not negate or delay any current renovation projects. CD has selected to use funds allocated in federal fiscal years 2012 and 2013 to ensure that CDBG timeliness is met. While reallocation of this dollar amount does not require City Council action, CD is listing the item on an official agenda because improvements at Gluck Park, and ADA compliance in public spaces, have been a topic of community interest in recent weeks.

Will Council vote to approve the reallocate \$53,402.83 of HUD CDBG to the aforementioned purchases?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: ESG FUNDS, REALLOCATION

##### Agenda Item #7

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department recommends the reprogramming of \$10,000 in United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) funds as follows:

\$5,000 - YWCA Carolyn's House (street outreach)  
\$5,000 - Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc. (emergency shelter)

The \$10,000 allocation was originally made to The Fellowship House as a component of the approved 2015 Niagara Falls Community Development Action Plan for emergency shelter (\$5,000) and street outreach (\$5,000). Since the approval of the action plan, operation of The Fellowship House has ended. Reallocation of these funds, to two organizations that provide essential services that include emergency shelter and street outreach, is a responsible way to re-purpose these funds within ESG guidelines. It is important to note that funds can only be reallocated to other approved ESG projects within the approved action plan.

Will Council vote to approve the reallocate \$10,000 of ESG funds?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti stated that she can't think of 2 more deserving organizations as Community Missions and Caroline House for these funds.

Council Member Tompkins agreed with Council Woman Grandinetti on this.

#### PURCHASE: SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE (POOLS), RIVERSIDE CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.

##### Agenda Item #8

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Riverside Chemical Company, Inc.  
871 River Road PO Box 197  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

FOR: The purchase of sodium hypochlorite and hydrochloric (muriatic) acid  
For City of Niagara Falls pools. \$10,997.50

Prices for each item can be referenced on the enclosed tally sheet (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to five (5) vendors. Three (3) bids were received. The above referenced company submitted the lowest bid.

Funds for this expenditure are in A.7146.0200.0419.009.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: MEDIANS, LANDSCAPING, VILLANI'S LAWN & LANDSCAPE, LLC.

Agenda Item #9

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Villani's Lawn & Landscape, LLC  
6405 Packard Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

FOR: Landscaping and maintenance of the medians along Niagara Street, John B. Daly Boulevard, Rainbow Boulevard and the Traffic Circle (see attached item list and prices): \$ 59,999.44

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to fifteen (15) vendors. Two (2) bids were received. The above referenced company submitted the lowest bid (on file in the City Clerk's Office). A bid was also received from Gardenville Landscape & Nursery, LLC (\$81,695.00)

Funds for these expenditures are available from casino funds.

Will the Council so approve this expenditure?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Council Member Touma stated it is important to get the Medians done before Memorial Day.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT, MAYOR'S APPROVAL

Agenda Item #10

Please be advised that Mayor Paul A. Dyster, on April 18, 2017, duly approved the following:

Resolution 2017-45, relative to Amending Chapter 1328 of the Codified Ordinances by adding a new Subdivision 1328.13 entitled "Short-Term Rental Units" which was approved by Council on April 17, 2017.

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA DISCOVERY SHUTTLE, 2017-2018 FTA SECTION 5311 FORMULA GRANTS FOR RURAL AREA PROGRAM APPLICATION, 2017-48  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #11

WHEREAS, the NYS Department of Transportation offers a Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program, under 49 U.S.C 5311, which among other things provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to support public transportation in areas with populations of less than 50,000; and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area has begun operating the Discover Niagara Shuttle public transportation service, on a fixed route, from May through October in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the National Heritage Area does intend to secure additional Discover Niagara Shuttle buses and operate as a year-round shared-ride transportation service, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area seeks 5311 Formula Program funding, from the New York State Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$674,497.00 to secure the additional equipment and operating funds necessary to establish the shuttle service expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Subrecipient/Sponsor for the 5311 Formula Program Grant must be a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls does not offer and will not provide funding associated with this grant application or its implementation, and;

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area is fully responsible to provide \$296,193 of matching funds under this grant application, or any amount otherwise required or associated with the execution of the application for funding and/or the implementation of the grant award; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls, as grant subrecipient, is agreeing to act as a pass-through between the NYS-DOT and the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area only;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby approves this application to the New York State Department of Transportation and authorizes the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to this project and is further authorized to execute any and all documentation related to this project.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 6:32 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**MAY 15, 2017**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the May 15, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Touma moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of May 1, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

Chris Schoepflin introduced the Uniland Presentation regarding the Wonderfalls Project. This is a \$200 million dollar investment. Kellena Kane discussed what has been done to date in preparation for this development project. She gave an update stating that survey and title work has been completed as well as market overviews, business planning and feasibility studies. This is the largest investment in Niagara Falls to date. This will ultimately be a Legacy Project. It will be a catalyst for tourism in Niagara Falls.

This resort will be a family friendly attraction. The resort will have 14 floors with 300 rooms. It will also have retail space. The water park will follow the European model. It will include an adult section and provide a truly unique experience. The entire resort will encompass 400,000 square ft. The estimated attendance is 300,000. Uniland is currently interviewing potential operators and seeking lenders and investors.

A video presentation of the Wonderfalls project was presented by Ms. Kane.

A presentation by Fidelis Healthcare was given. The presentation included the renewal process for Medicaid enrollment.

A presentation was given by Sam Castiglione and Jeremy Hoeltke, Co-Founders of WNY Disc Golf Club on the benefits of disc golfing at the Hyde Park Golf Course.

Seth Piccirillo gave an update on the procedures for fighting Zombie Properties. A power-point presentation was given explaining the process of acquiring Zombie properties.

Christine Marino outlined the challenges and successes of the project.

Mr. John Percy, CEO of Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation answered questions from Council Members.

Councilman Tompkins posed questions about marketing the area during winter and what plans the NTCC has for marketing in the off season.

Mr. Percy explained that marketing is done on an 8 month cycle. The NTCC does make an effort to market outdoor adventure activities including fishing and other outdoor activities.

Councilman Touma stated that marketing local businesses is extremely important to our local community. Tourists search for a local, authentic experience.

Chairman Walker stressed the need for a Tourism position in city government that would promote the local businesses and connect the entire city with the downtown business core. Chairman Walker stated that this position is necessary to market the entire city as a tourism destination and not just the downtown core. Councilman Walker stated that the NTCC does a great job on a grand scale but it is important for the city to have an individual in place that can connect our local business with the grand scale marketing done by the NTCC.

**Administrative updates:**

City Administrator Nick Melson informed the Council of plans to deal with tourism issues including traffic control. The administrator announced that traffic plans would include electronic boards which would redirect traffic to less crowded routes.

The Administrator also addressed changes at the parking ramps. Employees will now adhere to a dress code. They will also receive city ID badges, training through NTCC (Destination Niagara) and have better access to technology.

The ramps will now accept credit cards making it much easier for tourists as well as traffic movement.

Councilman Tompkins asked about better lighting for the metered areas.

Councilman Touma asked about O'Laughlin Drive and the timetable for removal of heavy equipment to clear the street for the tourist season.

Councilman Scott inquired about materials used for street repair.

The Mayor discussed the on-going efforts regarding tree removal and road repairs with a focus on Lockport Road.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson stated that there is an Item to be removed from the Table and added to the Agenda relative to the extension of Agreement with Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation (NTCC) Councilman Touma moved to remove this from Table (originally from the Meeting of May 1, 2017).

Yea

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Nay

0

Motion to Remove from the Table Approved  
The Item was added to the Agenda as #16

This Session ended at 6:40 P. M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:55 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Touma and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ron Anderluh	Agenda Items #8, #14
Jim Roscetti	Agenda Item #14
Richard Soluri	Agenda Items #8, #14
Paul Grenga	Agenda Item #8

Angelo Tecchio	Agenda Item #8
John Helms	Agenda Item #8
Frank D'Augustino	Agenda Item #8
Lynn Oswald	Agenda Item #16
Nina Brown	Agenda item #16
William Krier	Agenda Items #8, #14
Brett Stewart	Agenda Item #16
Diane Tattersall	Agenda Item #16
Robert Ventry	Community Issues; roads
T. Green	Community Issues
Jamie Caldwell	Community Issues

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2017

Agenda Item #2  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: ABANDONED VEHICLES REMOVAL, FUNDING, SATARIAN AUTO AND TOWING

Agenda Item #3  
We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Satarian Auto and Towing  
4250 Witmer Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14305  
FOR: Removal of abandoned vehicles within the City of Niagara Falls,  
New York  
\$126.00 per vehicle to be paid to the City

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to fourteen (14) vendors. Three (3) bids were received; however one bid was withdrawn. Please reference the attached tally sheet (on file in the City Clerk's Office) for bid submission details.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

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Nay

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APPROVED

CONTRACT: TREE REMOVAL & STUMPING SERVICES, FUNDING, BENTLEY TREE CARE, LLC

Agenda Item #4  
We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Bentley Tree Care, LLC  
P.O. Box 841  
Ripley, NY 14775  
FOR: Tree Removal Services at forty-three locations throughout the city: \$ 80,408.00

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to ten (10) vendors. Two (2) bids were received. The other bid, from AJ's Tree Service, was rejected for failure to comply with the bid specifications.

Funds for this expenditure are available in: H1515 (\$ 57,276.00) and H1316 (\$ 23,132.00).

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma discussed the importance of this service and community safety.

#### CONTRACT: CITY AND THE POLICE CAPTAINS AND LIEUTENANTS ASSOCIATION

Agenda Item #5

Attached, (on file in the City Clerk's Office) please find the proposed 2014 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Niagara Falls Police Captains and Lieutenants Association. This proposed agreement is an extension of the party's collective bargaining agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

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APPROVED

Councilman Touma thanked both sides for their continued dedication in working toward this important agreement.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT: GUN INVOLVED VIOLENCE ELIMINATION GRANT

Agenda Item #6

The Superintendent of Police advises that the Niagara County law enforcement agencies, including the City of Niagara Falls Police Department ("NFPD"), have been awarded a Gun Involved Violence Elimination ("GIVE") grant in the amount of \$696,871.00 to support targeted firearm and violent crime reduction efforts. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a communication from the DCJS outlining the details of this GIVE grant. The NFPD's share of this grant is \$371,994.00 and will be spent as per the attached budget (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Will the Council accept this grant and authorize the Mayor to execute any required documentation and/or agreements in order to accept the grant provided the same are in form and content acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

#### CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS: CREDIT CARDS, UTILIZATION

Agenda Item #7

The City presently has credit card agreements in place with American Express, Home Depot and Sam's Club. The City is in the process of discontinuing the utilization of those credit cards for various reasons. It is therefore recommended by the City Controller that the City have only one credit card arrangement in place for a Visa card issued through M&T Bank. There is no annual fee associated with the utilization of this credit card and no upfront costs either.

The City customarily pays the balance due each month on its credit card arrangements so as to eliminate the accumulation of interest.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor and/or City Controller to execute any documents required by M&T Bank in order to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

#### INTERIM TRANSIT HUB: CREATION, MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

##### Agenda Item #8

The City and representatives from State Parks have had several meetings regarding efforts that may be made in order to ease the traffic congestion in the downtown area during the high volume tourist season. Interim plans have been discussed pending the development of a more permanent solution.

For the short term, it is desirable to utilize the east side of Old Main Street as a motor coach bus pick up and drop off area and provide other places in the downtown area for the parking of motor coach buses. Utilizing the east side of Old Main Street for a motor coach bus pick up and drop off area will necessitate the elimination of a Taxi Stand at that location. It is also possible that the west side of Old Main Street be utilized for this purpose as well.

An additional ingredient in this interim plan is to prohibit motor coach buses from entering or using Prospect Street as well as the western ends of Old Falls Street and Mayor O'Laughlin Drive. It is predicted that this will do much to eliminate congestion. New signage will be installed, as appropriate, as well as pavement, striping and other minor pavement repairs including curb cuts, as needed.

State Parks and NFPD will cooperate to control traffic. State Parks and the City will work jointly to secure third party funding to pay for the services of a professional consultant in order to develop a long term plan to solve the vehicle congestion in the downtown area during tourist season in the future.

A Memorandum of Understanding is in development which will address the details of this cooperative effort.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding in form and substance acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Tompkins moved that the communication be Tabled.  
Yea  
Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker  
Nays  
Grandinetti, Touma

TABLED

Councilman Scott seconded the motion to Table.

Councilman Tompkins asked about the cost of the Traffic Plan.

Councilman Tompkins also stated that any changes in this temporary plan would return to Council.

Councilman Touma discussed the importances of this item, stating "We cannot have tourists sitting in traffic for hours. We must create a positive experience."

#### CONTRACT: CENTENNIAL CIRCLE WATERMAIN RELOCATION, CHANGE ORDER #1, YARUSSI CONSTRUCTION, INC.

##### Agenda Item #9

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Yarussi Construction Inc., 5650 Simmons Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York on January 31, 2017 in the amount of \$184,560.00

Shortly after the start of the project, issues related to field locations of the multiple mains in the immediate vicinity of the intersection and adjacent, pre-existing sewer failures forced the contractor to perform tasks and incur delays that were not included nor anticipated in the initial scope of the project. Additionally, City-requested alterations of the vehicular detour and the installation of a small valve assembly to facilitate future hydrant operations were also performed by the Contractor as a portion of this project. The cost of the additional tasks, lost time and materials in conjunction with actual bid item overruns/underruns totals only \$7,320.50 - or 3.97% of the original total - bringing the new contract total to \$191,880.50. Funding is available in the Centennial Circle Project code.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a change order in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: 2017 SIDEWALK REPLACEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, VALERI CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Agenda Item #10

The following is the result of bids received on April 18, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>
Valeri Concrete Construction, Inc.	\$398,850.00
6655 Errick Road	
North Tonawanda NY 14120	

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this contract be awarded to the sole bidder, Valeri Concrete Construction, Inc. at the base bid amount referenced above at \$398,850.00.

Presently, the funding for the 2017 Sidewalk Replacement Project is obtained from two distinct sources: \$200,000.00 from the funds provided by the NYS CHIPS reimbursement program, and the remaining \$198,850.00 is available from Account Code H0621.2006.0449.599. This will allow for an award of \$398,850.00 at this time.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for the City Of Niagara Falls portion of this work, in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: 2017 DRAINAGE STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT/REPAIR PROJECT, YARUSSI CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Agenda Item #11

The following was the result of bids received on April 12, 2017, for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>
Yarussi Construction Inc.	\$330,496.50
5650 Simmons Ave.	
Niagara Falls NY 14304	
Mark Cerrone Inc.	\$372,000.00
Scott Lawn Yard	\$558,540.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder Yarussi Construction, Inc. at their Base Bid of \$330,496.50. Please note that this amount is funded by a combination of both CHIPS (\$226,478.00) and Casino Revenue (\$104,018.50) sources. The funding codes will be H0317 and H0621, which represents CHIPS funding to be received for 2017 projects and funds previously reserved for drainage structure projects.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE CO., A/S/O PAUL & PATRICIA BIRMINGHAM

Agenda Item #12

Date Claim Filed:	December 5, 2016
Date Action Commenced:	
Date of Occurrence:	November 10, 2016
Location:	206 61 <sup>st</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	City owned tree fell on residence.
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$1995.97
Make Check Payable to:	Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: DETERS, DONNA

Agenda Item #13

Date Claim Filed:	July 7, 2014
Date Action Commenced:	October 27, 2014
Date of Occurrence:	May 14, 2014
Location:	Curb at 4321 Crescent Drive
Nature of Claim:	Fell from curb while stepping on it. It was damaged after a tree was removed.
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$45,000.00
Make Check Payable to:	Donna Deters and Walsh, Roberts & Grace, as Attorneys.
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: BUS ZONES, RESCINDING CHAPTER 501.15, 2017-49  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #14

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 501.15 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Bus Zones in the Downtown Area is hereby amended by repealing Sections 501.15 and 501.15A and adopting the new Sections 501.15 and 501.15A attached hereto.

Bold and underlined indicate Additions  
Bold and brackets indicate [Deletions]

501.15 – DESIGNATED MOTOR COACH BUS ZONES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

A. Definition

Motor Coach Bus. A self-propelled, rubber-tired road transit vehicle, designed to seat 18 persons or more for charter, tour, and/or excursion purposes, and with enough internal headroom to allow passengers to stand upright after entering the vehicle. This definition shall include "school bus" vehicles that seat 18 persons or more being used for charter, tour, and/or excursion purposes, but would not include: 1) public transit vehicles operated by the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority; or 2) smaller-capacity road transit vehicles (i.e., with capacity of less than 18 persons), often without full headroom and commonly referred to as "shuttle vehicles", "vans", "limousine vans", and/or "executive vans."

B. Description and Purpose

Motor Coach Bus operators provide an important service for tourists and visitors that travel to Niagara Falls. The following is intended to reduce traffic congestion and promote safety, while contributing to a more positive visitor experience for tourists in the City's downtown area.

In order to permit the loading and unloading of passenger Motor Coach Buses, there are hereby established designated curbside locations, which are located in the downtown area, and as shown on the map in Section 501.15.F. of this chapter.

Designated curbside locations shall be for general use by Motor Coach Bus Operators, only when such Motor Coach Buses are situated parallel to the curb and at no more than the legal distance therefrom, and only for the purpose of unloading (drop-off or alight) or loading (pick-up or board) passengers, and for no more than ten minutes at a time in either instance.

It shall be a violation for Motor Coach Buses to park, load, or unload passengers in any area other than the designated curbside locations shown on the map in Section 501.15F.

Each year, from May 1 through and including September 30, it shall be unlawful for Motor Coach Buses to utilize any portion of Prospect Street for any purpose, inclusive of Motor Coach Bus operation.

Each year, from May 1 through and including September 30, it shall be unlawful for Motor Coach Buses to utilize any portion of Old Falls Street and/or Mayor Michael C. O'Laughlin Drive for the purpose of accessing Prospect Street.

C. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall be permissible for Motor Coach Buses to park only at the following street locations:

- East & West-sides of 2nd Street, between Niagara Street and Ferry Ave.;
- South-side of Niagara Street, between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street;
- North-side of Rainbow Blvd., between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and John B. Daly Blvd.

Providing all such parking is in accordance with applicable state laws and the other provisions of this chapter. A standing vehicle that is not loading or unloading passengers as defined herein is considered to be "parked" regardless of whether the engine is running or not.

Incidental to motor coach parking, the unloading or loading passengers is also permitted at the street locations designated in this Sub-section.

D. Designated curbside locations shall be in addition to those curbside locations specifically established by the Niagara Falls Planning Board, as part of an approved Hotel Site Plan, which are established to allow the boarding and alighting of vehicles within the public right of way (or any part thereof), including Motor Coach Bus passengers for the exclusive use of the adjacent Hotel, or as otherwise approved.

Approved Hotel vehicle boarding and alighting areas are as indicated on the map in Section 501.15.F.

E. The City Administrator shall cause the necessary signs and markings to be erected to carry out the provisions of this section and may provide further regulations concerning the designated curbside locations described above. No person shall violate the provisions of any such accessory regulations.

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prevent the ordinary and normal lawful loading and unloading of passengers by any Motor Coach Bus owned, funded, chartered, or operated by the City of Niagara Falls, NY, the State of New York or any subsidiary thereof, or the public transportation authority along their respective designated routes.

F. MAP OF MOTOR COACH BUS ZONES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA

Map attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea  
Nays

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0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: OASIS RENTAL, WAIVER OF FEE, SPCA GOLF TOURNAMENT, 2017-50  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, the Niagara County SPCA wishes to do its part in helping to aid the sick, injured, strayed and unwanted animals in our community; and

WHEREAS, with proper funding, animals brought into the SPCA are able to receive services that will enhance their quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this council does hereby waive rental fees of \$105.00 for the Oasis at Hyde Park, for the Niagara County SPCA - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Saturday, September 2, 2017 (request on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea	4
Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Grandinetti	

ADOPTED

CONTRACT: EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT WITH THE NIAGARA TOURISM AND CONVENTION CORPORATION (NTCC)

Agenda Item #16

The City's Agreement with the NTCC expires on May 31, 2017. The NTCC's Agreement with the County of Niagara has been extended from an expiration of May 31, 2017 through May 31, 2020. The NTCC must have an agreement with the County of Niagara in order for it to enter into an agreement with the City.

Inasmuch as the NTCC and the County have entered into an agreement, it is recommended that the City extend its agreement with the NTCC through May 31, 2020. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of a proposed extension Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an extension Agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk

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May 19, 2017

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

---

May 16, 2017

Members of the City Council  
and  
Lisa Vitello, City Clerk

Council Members and Madam:

You are hereby notified of a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York called pursuant to Section 3.9.b of the City Charter, to be held on Friday, May 19, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York for the following purpose:

1. Reconsider Resolution relative to rescinding Chapter 501.15 "Bus Zones" in the Downtown Area and replacing with new definitions and language "Designated Motor Coach Bus Zones in the Downtown Area".
2. Remove from the table item regarding "Creation of Interim Transit Hub".

Respectfully submitted,

---

Charles Walker, Council Chair

The May 19, 2017, Special Meeting of the Niagara Falls City Council was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 4:35 PM.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins and Andrew Touma.

Also Present: Mayor Paul Dyster, Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Woman Kristen Grandinetti was absent

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed an item to be added to the agenda. The communication was an item requesting funding for the Wallenda Event.

Councilman Tompkins stated this was the first he had heard of the event and was not prepared at this time to add the item to the agenda.

Councilman Touma moved to have the item added to the agenda.

Councilman Scott seconded the motion.

Yea	3
Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Tompkins	
Absent	1
Grandinetti	

The item failed to be added to the agenda

Councilman Tompkins stated that he would like more information and the Item could possibly be added to the agenda for the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Tompkins stated he wanted more information explaining what the funds would be used for.

#### THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

RESOLUTION: RESCINDING CHAPTER 501.15 "BUS ZONES" IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA,  
2017-51

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

##### Agenda Item #1

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 501.15 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Bus Zones in the Downtown Area is hereby amending Section 501.15A and Section 501.15B as noted below. The map showing Motor Coach Bus Zones in the downtown area is also amended.

Bold and underlined indicate Additions  
Bold and brackets indicate [Deletions]

#### 501.15 – DESIGNATED MOTOR COACH BUS ZONES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

##### A. Definition

Motor Coach Bus. A self-propelled, rubber-tired road transit vehicle, designed to seat [18] 36 persons or more for charter, tour, and/or excursion purposes, and with enough internal headroom to allow passengers to stand upright after entering the vehicle. This definition shall include "school bus" vehicles that seat [18] 36 persons or more being used for charter, tour, and/or excursion purposes, but would not include: 1) public transit vehicles operated by the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority or any such similar public entity; or 2) smaller-capacity road transit vehicles (i.e., with capacity of less than [18] 36 persons), often without full headroom and commonly referred to as "shuttle vehicles", "vans", "limousine vans", and/or "executive vans."

##### B. Description and Purpose

Motor Coach Bus operators provide an important service for tourists and visitors that travel to Niagara Falls. The following is intended to reduce traffic congestion and promote safety, while contributing to a more positive visitor experience for tourists in the City's downtown area.

In order to permit the loading and unloading of passenger Motor Coach Buses, there are hereby established designated curbside locations, which are located in the downtown area, and as shown on the map in Section 501.15.F. of this chapter.

Designated curbside locations shall be for general use by Motor Coach Bus Operators, only when such Motor Coach Buses are situated parallel to the curb and at no more than the legal distance therefrom, and only for the purpose of unloading (drop-off or alight) or loading (pick-up or board) passengers, and for no more than ten minutes at a time in either instance.

It shall be a violation for Motor Coach Buses to park, load, or unload passengers in any area other than the designated curbside locations shown on the map in Section 501.15F.

[Each year, from May 1 through and including September 30, it shall be unlawful for Motor Coach Buses to utilize any portion of Prospect Street for any purpose, inclusive of Motor Coach Bus operation.]

Each year, from May 1 through and including September 30, it shall be unlawful for Motor Coach Buses to utilize any portion of Old Falls Street and/or Mayor Michael C. O'Laughlin Drive for the purpose of accessing Prospect Street.

C. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall be permissible for Motor Coach Buses to park only at the following street locations:

- East & West-sides of 2nd Street, between Niagara Street and Ferry Ave.;
- South-side of Niagara Street, between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street;
- North-side of Rainbow Blvd., between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and John B. Daly Blvd.

Providing all such parking is in accordance with applicable state laws and the other provisions of this chapter. A standing vehicle that is not loading or unloading passengers as defined herein is considered to be "parked" regardless of whether the engine is running or not.

Incidental to motor coach parking, the unloading or loading passengers is also permitted at the street locations designated in this Sub-section.

D. Designated curbside locations shall be in addition to those curbside locations specifically established by the Niagara Falls Planning Board, as part of an approved Hotel Site Plan, which are established to allow the boarding and alighting of vehicles within the public right of way (or any part thereof), including Motor Coach Bus passengers for the exclusive use of the adjacent Hotel, or as otherwise approved.

Approved Hotel vehicle boarding and alighting areas are as indicated on the map in Section 501.15.F.

E. The City Administrator shall cause the necessary signs and markings to be erected to carry out the provisions of this section and may provide further regulations concerning the designated curbside locations described above. No person shall violate the provisions of any such accessory regulations.

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prevent the ordinary and normal lawful loading and unloading of passengers by any Motor Coach Bus owned, funded, chartered, or operated by the City of Niagara Falls, NY, the State of New York or any subsidiary thereof, or the public transportation authority along their respective designated routes.

F. MAP OF MOTOR COACH BUS ZONES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA  
Map attached (On file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea	4
Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nays	0
Absent	1
Grandinetti	

ADOPTED

INTERIM TRANSIT HUB: CREATION, MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Agenda Item #2

The City and representatives from State Parks have had several meetings regarding efforts that may be made in order to ease the traffic congestion in the downtown area during the high volume tourist season. Interim plans have been discussed pending the development of a more permanent solution.

For the short term, it is desirable to utilize the east side of Old Main Street as a motor coach bus pick up and drop off area and provide other places in the downtown area for the parking of motor coach buses. Utilizing the east side of Old Main Street for a motor coach bus pick up and drop off area will necessitate the elimination of a Taxi Stand at that location. It is also possible that the west side of Old Main Street be utilized for this purpose as well.

An additional ingredient in this interim plan is to prohibit motor coach buses from entering or using Prospect Street as well as the western ends of Old Falls Street and Mayor O'Laughlin Drive. It is predicted that this will do much to eliminate congestion. New signage will be installed, as appropriate, as well as pavement, striping and other minor pavement repairs including curb cuts, as needed.

State Parks and NFPD will cooperate to control traffic. State Parks and the City will work jointly to secure third party funding to pay for the services of a professional consultant in order to develop a long term plan to solve the vehicle congestion in the downtown area during tourist season in the future.

A Memorandum of Understanding is in development which will address the details of this cooperative effort.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding in form and substance acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Tompkins moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Absent	1
Grandinetti	

APPROVED

CONTRACT: WALLENDA EVENT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #3

On June 15, 2017 Nik Wallenda and his wife will be staging an event over Niagara Falls to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nik Wallenda's walk across the Falls. The Niagara County Legislature adopted a resolution agreeing to contribute the sum of \$35,000.00 toward the cost of this event and requested that the City do the same.

The funding of \$35,000.00 to the cost of this event is requested because of the positive publicity this generates for the City. This is based upon studies that found very favorable publicity and economic impact for the City from Nik Wallenda's 2012 wire walk across the Falls and projects a similar amount of positive publicity and economic impact for the City from this upcoming event.

Funding is available from Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve this \$35,000.00 contribution to Wallendas Inc. and authorize the Mayor to execute a funding agreement in form and substance satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	3
Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Tompkins	
Absent	1
Grandinetti	

DEFEATED

Item was defeated.

Councilman Tompkins stated he was not ready to walk this item on to the Agenda due to the lack of information. He also stated he wanted to know what the funds were being used for.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 5:10 PM.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**MAY 30, 2017**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the May 30, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:10 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Nelson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of May 15, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

Mr. Willie Price gave a presentation on the Niagara Track & Field Club. Mr. Price is currently a volunteer assistant track coach at Niagara Falls High School. Mr. Price gave the following update to the City Council concerning the club's activities. The club is USATF certified. It offers opportunities in the sport of track and field to participants 14 and over. Many volunteers have stepped forward to help with the operation of the club. Funding sources and sponsors have also helped to insure the success of the club.

Members will be participating in the Jr. Olympic trials in Rochester.

Councilman Touma asked about the cost of the trip to Rochester.

Councilwoman Grandinetti suggested that residents may want to sponsor some of the children who may wish to participate in the club. Councilman Touma asked about the number of participants. Councilwoman Grandinetti inquired about future fundraising efforts. Councilman Tompkins asked if their organization was a non-profit group.

Mr. Seth Piccirillo gave an update on the home ownership auction.

Mr. Piccirillo explained that the method used in home ownership auction could also be used in the In-Rem Auction.

Councilman Touma inquired about the success of the program. Mr. Piccirillo gave a breakdown of the renovation schedule once a home is purchased. The program has been very successful.

Mr. Piccirillo also discussed the Gill Creek restroom project as well as an update on additional city park improvements.

City Administrator Nick Nelson gave updates on Power outages on 11<sup>th</sup> street, the new traffic plan for the downtown core, and safety issues.

Mayor Dyster discussed fishing, hunting and forestry programs as well as a timetable for the installation of the new art piece.

Deputy Corporation Council Thomas O'Donnell submitted an item to be added to the agenda and an amended item.

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to have the item added to the agenda.

Councilman Touma seconded the motion.

Yea

Nay

5

0

The item was added as # 17

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to amend item # 10 to add names for  
Commissioner of Deeds  
Councilman Touma seconded the motion.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nays	0
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

Item # 10 was amended

Session ended at 6:10 pm

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:25 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Chairman Walker and also led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Item #8
Ron Anderluh	Buffalo Avenue lighting; Memorial Day Parade; National Grid; traffic; restrooms Gill Creek
Beth Hosey	Sidewalks/trees
Jamie Caldwell	Council Information

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: WALNUT AVENUE HOMES PROJECT, GRANT DISBURSEMENT

Agenda Item #1

On May 12, 2014, the Council approved a grant of \$300,000.00 of CDBG funds for the Walnut Avenue Homes project. This grant and a grant of \$150,000.00 of NFURA CDBG funds were used for a portion of the approximately \$12 Million in project costs.

The project is now substantially complete. The ribbon cutting took place on May 1. Most of the 41 units have certificates of occupancy or completion, and many are occupied.

The grant agreement had a December 31, 2016 deadline for project completion and final disbursement of grant funds. We will be reviewing the prevailing wage rate documentation, final certificates of occupancy or completion and cost documentation before the final disbursement can be made.

In order to facilitate the final disbursement, an extension of the date for project completion and final disbursement of grant funds to July 31, 2017 is requested. We have been holding \$50,000.00 of CDBG funds for the final disbursement. On May 8, the NFURA board approved extending the disbursement date for the NFURA grant.

Will the Council vote to approve the extension of the date for project completion and final disbursement of grant funds for the Walnut Avenue Homes project to July 31, 2017, and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the extension?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: NIAGARA ST., 1216-1218, SALE

Agenda Item #2

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$1,000.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the conditions attached to the Planning Board approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

PUBLIC WORKS: IN-HOUSE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT, TREE REMOVAL, FUNDING

Agenda Item #3

As the Council is aware, City trees have been severely impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer and there are many trees in need of removal.

It is requested that the Council appropriate \$200,000.00 from casino funds to fund a tree removal program.

Funds are available for the 2017 In-House Paving Program from the non-discretionary portion of casino revenue pursuant to 99-H of the State Finance Law in the amount of \$1,316,241.00.

There will be an additional amount of CHIPS funding available in the amount of \$1,477,114.00.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

Councilman Tompkins suggested that the City should keep some of these funds in reserve in light of possible budgetary issues next year. The City Administrator explained that if the City waits the condition of the roads scheduled for repair would worsen creating a more expensive situation next year.

Councilman Touma stated that these funds could only be used for road repairs.

Chairman Walker also stated that these funds could only be used for road repair.

CONTRACT: WALLENDA EVENT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #4

On June 15, 2017 Nik Wallenda and his wife will be staging an event over Niagara Falls to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nik Wallenda's walk across the Falls. The Niagara County Legislature adopted a resolution agreeing to contribute the sum of \$35,000.00 toward the cost of this event and requested that the City do the same.

The funding of \$35,000.00 to the cost of this event is requested because of the positive publicity this generates for the City. This is based upon studies that found very favorable publicity and economic impact for the City from Nik Wallenda's 2012 wire walk across the Falls and projects a similar amount of positive publicity and economic impact for the City from this upcoming event.

Funding is available from Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve this \$35,000.00 contribution to Wallendas Inc. and authorize the Mayor to execute a funding agreement in form and substance satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

4

Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker

Nay

1

Tompkins

APPROVED

Councilman Tompkins questioned what the funds would be used for. He stated that this was a marketing event that should be funded by Destination Niagara (NTCC).

Councilman Touma stated that these funds were allocated from bed tax dollars and therefore were an appropriate use of these funds.

Councilman Tompkins asked for a breakdown of fees for this event, questioning what the return would be on an event held on a Thursday morning.

Councilman Tompkins again stated this should be paid for by Destination Niagara (NTCC).

CONTRACT: RETIREE GROUP HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM, BPAS, ACTUARIAL CONSULTANT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #5

The City Controller is recommending that the City retain the services of BPAS to perform actuarial services required pertaining to the City's retiree group health benefits program. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is the Service Agreement outlining the program which will be in effect through December 31, 2017. Attached is the fee schedule for these services which shows a fee due of \$2,250.00.

Funding is available in the City Controller's budget.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the service agreement provided the same is acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: 15<sup>TH</sup> St., 1617, MICHIGAN AVE, 1511 SALE

Agenda Item #6

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned properties for a total of \$600.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition and of the requirements the closing be performed within 30 days and the properties amalgamated and with the standard precondition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: BRIDGE WASHING AND DECK SEALING, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, HUNTING VALLEY CONSTRUCTION

Agenda Item #7

The following was the result of bids received on May 17, 2017, for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID
Hunting Valley Construction Inc. 825 Rein Road Cheektowaga, NY 14225	\$104,639.80
Jim's Trucking & Paving, Inc.	\$192,276.30

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to Hunting Valley Construction, Inc. at its Base Bid of \$104,639.80. Funding is available under funding code H112.

Our design consultant CHA Companies, Inc. has reviewed the bid package and recommended award of this project to the above-referenced contractor. Similarly, the New York State Department of Transportation has reviewed the proposal package and has also found the bid award package acceptable. Please note that this award is 80% federally reimbursable, costing the City 20% of the total contract cost.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVENUE, 3625, BUSINESS PARK, ADDITIONAL ELECTRICAL WORK, CIR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION, FUNDING

Agenda Item #8

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to CIR Electrical Construction Corp., 400 Ingham Avenue, Buffalo, NY, on August 15, 2016 in an amount of \$129,000.00

The two remaining items in this change order are for CO2 detectors required by code and exterior building wall lights which we tried to repair but ended up being replaced. Wall light replacements cost are based on previous contractual bid unit pricing.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #2 in the amount of \$2,975.00 be approved, bringing the new contract total to \$169,670.00. Funding for this change order is available from casino revenue.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

MAYOR'S APPROVAL: RESOLUTION 2017-49

Agenda Item #9

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS: APPOINTMENTS

Agenda Item #10

The following have requested City Council approval for Commissioner of Deeds for a term from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019. This is in accordance with provision of the Niagara Falls City Charter, Article II, Section 7, Subdivision 5.

Thomas Arist	NFPD
John Caso	DPW
Patrick Clifton	NFPD
Roger Freeman	NFPD
Victoria Gemuend	Engineering
Amy Giuliani	NFPD
Thomas Licata	NFPD
Nicholas A. Melson	Administration
Linda Roulley	Law Department
Ezra P. Scott	Council
Kenneth M. Tompkins	Council
Michael Trane	NFPD

Tina Aronne	609 22 <sup>nd</sup> St., NF, NY 14301
Leo Benevento	1406 Hyde Park Blvd., NF, NY 14305
William S. Carroll	4420 Lewiston Rd., NF, NY 14305
Barrie Cosimano	2722 Willow Avenue, NF, NY 14304
Ryan Garrow	750 Seymour Ave., NF, NY 14305
Barbara Gonzalez	2412 North Ave., NF, NY 14305
Erin R. Jankowiak	2427 Lake Mead Rd., NF, NY 14304
Tiffanie S. Jones	2906 Hope Blvd., NF, NY 14305
Cindy-Lou Joyce	2744 Thornwoods Dr., NF, NY 14304
Renae Kimble	3302 Hyde Park Blvd., NF, NY 14305
Vincent M. Mamelia	462 77 <sup>th</sup> St., NF, NY 14304
Eugene Ochal	6117 Stephenson Ave., NF, NY 14304
Lakea Perry	2565 Falls St., NF, NY 14303
Matthew M. Peunic Jr.	2805 Frontier Ave., NF, NY 14304
Frederick Pucci	2991 McKoon Ave., NF, NY 14305
Denise M. Salada	621 71 <sup>st</sup> Street, NF, NY 14301
Risky Sanabria	927 90 <sup>th</sup> St., NF, NY 14304
Chris Sharp	536 28 <sup>th</sup> Street, NF, NY 14301
Kathleen Steinman	2242 Grand Ave., NF, NY 14301
Alysia Welch-Chester	9860 NF Blvd., NF, NY 14304
Dorothy Lee West	245 71 <sup>st</sup> Street, NF, NY 14304
Jason A. Zona	3927 Washington St., NF, NY 14305
Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.	
Yea	3
Grandinetti, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	2
Scott, Tompkins	

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: SPANBAUER, MARY VICTORIA

Agenda Item #11	
Date Claim Filed:	February 8, 2012
Date Action Commenced:	July 3, 2012
Date of Occurrence:	November 16, 2011
Location:	Porter Road entrance to Niagara Falls High School
Nature of Claim:	Injuries sustained while a passenger in a prisoner transport vehicle while on school field trip. The door was not latched closed and while turning a corner crushed Mary's hand.
City Driver:	Officer Michael Corcoran
Status of Action:	Pre-Trial Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$117,500.00 (The Niagara Falls School District is also paying \$12,500.00.)
Make Check Payable to:	Mary Victoria Spanbauer and Harris Beach PLLC as attorneys.
Conditions:	Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Touma	

APPROVED

CLAIM: FEAGIN, GLENDA

Agenda Item #12

Date Claim Filed:	December 14, 2015
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	December 1, 2015
Location:	Lockport & Niagara Avenue
Nature of Claim:	Automobile damage sustained when hit pothole.
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$670.06
Make Check Payable to:	Glenda Feagin
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CLAIM: ABUSALAH, NICOLE

Agenda Item #13

Date Claim Filed:	February 28, 2017
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	February 27, 2107
Location:	in front of 437 82 <sup>nd</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	Automobile damage when large branch fell striking vehicle
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$2664.95
Make Check Payable to:	Nicole Abusalah
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: BLOCK PARTY PERMITS, 2017-52  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls City Clerk's office has promulgated rules and regulations pertaining to block parties that are community-based events hosted by a group of neighbors, a not-for-profit organization or an association on a City street requiring a closing of a portion of the street for a portion of a particular day; and

WHEREAS, time is spent by the City Clerk's office in processing these block party requests; and

WHEREAS, time is spent by the Department of Public Works when it conducts a follow-up inspection at the close of the block party to be certain that no public property has been damaged or destroyed as a result of the block party being conducted; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that it is fair and reasonable for a processing fee to be imposed by the City Clerk's office in order to process the paperwork involved; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the schedule of fees charged by the City Clerk's office is hereby amended to include a \$25.00 fee for the processing and issuance of a block party permit; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations from time to time pertaining to block parties and amend the same from time to time.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: BOOK CORNER, CONGRATULATING, 2017-53  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBER GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, the Book Corner located at 1801 Main Street, Niagara Falls N.Y. will celebrate their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in business on Thursday, June 1, 2017. The celebration will take place on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12pm to 5pm at the bookstore; and

WHEREAS, the Book Corner is one of the oldest and largest bookstores in Western New York, established in 1927 by Marie Fleming; and

WHEREAS, the Book Corner is currently owned and operated by Parke "Pete", Jeff & Tereza Morrow. They continue to sponsor local author's book signing and stock local author's books as well as an extensive collection of literature about and from Niagara Falls and Western New York; and

WHEREAS, the Morrows have taken on an ambitious renovation project that includes opening up the second floor loft space for community venues; and

WHEREAS, the Morrows and their staff continue to serve the community, always willing to go the extra mile to provide exemplary service.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that the Book Corner on Main Street in Niagara Falls has been a vital asset to the community through the years and we congratulate them on their anniversary of 90 years of business.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: LASALLE EDUCATIONAL CLUB, SCHOLARSHIP, 2017-54  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, the LaSalle Educational Club will hold its 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship and Awards Program on June 9, 2017, at Antonio's Restaurant and Banquet Center; and

WHEREAS, the LaSalle Educational Club is proud to have chosen the following individuals for their outstanding work in the city and in education:

HELEN COLEMAN  
ANNETTE HOLMES  
VANESSA SCOTT  
TOM SAUVAGEAU

WHEREAS, the LaSalle Educational Club strongly believes that "education is the key" for student success and survival. Every year for the past 48 years, the Club has awarded scholarships to deserving seniors from the city of Niagara Falls.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, on behalf of the citizens of this great city, we congratulate all the honorees and we thank you for your work in making Niagara Falls a better place for us all. We would also like to congratulate all the scholarship winners and the LaSalle Educational Club on another successful year.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

PURCHASE: CITY MARKET, IMPROVEMENTS

Agenda Item #17

During the City Council meeting held on July 25, 2016 the City Council approved setting aside the sum of \$15,000.00 from tourism fund balance in order to make various improvements at the City Market. It is therefore requested that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$500.00 to the Town of Niagara Business & Professional Association Inc. for the purchase of hanging basket planters and hooks (see attached invoice) (on file in the City Clerk's Office) and also approve the expenditure of \$250.00 to the Cornell Cooperative Extension for a new banner and signage for the street. The total cost is \$500.00. Cornell Cooperative Extension is paying the balance.

Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the item approved by the City Council at its July 25, 2016 meeting.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



JUNE 12, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the June 12, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Special Council Meeting of May 19, 2017 and the Council Meeting of May 30, 2017.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

Mr. Jared Steffin gave a presentation regarding Participatory Budgeting.

This process seeks public input from multiple locations as to how funding should be used. This process is very successful and is used in countries and cities all around the globe.

Mr. Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, gave a presentation about the success of the Homeownership Auction.

369 properties renovated  
18 on-going renovation  
626 homeowners assisted

Mr. Piccirillo suggested that Council reach out to Federal and State officials to protect Community Development in light of deep cuts by the Trump Administration.

Mayor Paul A. Dyster gave a presentation about the Great Lakes/ St Lawrence Initiative. The City received an award for the restoration of Hyde Park Lake.

Mayor Dyster was named the new Chair of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

City Administrator, Nicholas Melson, discussed the paving list and updates for Zipper projects.

Councilman Touma thanked the Department of Public Works for their outstanding efforts. Councilman Touma also stated that the matter of Casino dollars is a pressing one. He discussed that the State must be aware and they must be prepared to step up and provide support if this situation becomes a long term issue.

Councilman Scott inquired about the CSX fencing and it's possible replacement.

Councilman Tompkins asked for an update concerning the City Charter. He also asked about the basketball courts at Jerauld Avenue.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 2 items to be added to the agenda and one item to be amended.

1. Adding to the agenda an item relative to waving parking fees for the Niagara Falls High School Graduation and rehearsal.  
Motion was made by Councilwoman Grandinetti to add the item to the agenda. Second by Councilman Touma  
yeas 5  
nays 0

APPROVED

Item is added to the Agenda as Item #17

2. Adding to the agenda an item relative to recognizing Dorothy Parmer for service to her church.

Motion was made by Councilman Touma to add item to agenda. Second by Councilwoman Grandinetti.

Yea 5  
Nays 0

APPROVED

Item is added to the Agenda as Item #18

Motion made by Councilwoman Grandinetti to amend item #14 to be added to the Committee of the Whole Meeting. Second by Councilman Touma

Yea 5  
Nays 0

APPROVED

Item #14 is added to the Committee of the Whole Meeting

This Session ended at 6:15 P. M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ron Anderluh	Agenda Item #9
Tim Huether	Agenda Items #2, #4, #6
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Item #17
Ken Hamilton	CSX; Basketball Courts
Dan Davis	Hyde Park Lake; streets paving
Beth Hosey	Sidewalks; trees
Ken Cosentino	General Concerns
Bill Kennedy	General Concerns
Jamie Caldwell	Various Issues
Isaiah Lynch	General Concerns

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: BRIDGE WASHING AND DECK SEALING, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, HUNTING VALLEY CONSTRUCTION INC.

Agenda Item #2

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Hunting Valley Construction Inc., 825 Rein Road, Cheektowaga NY, on May 30, 2017 in an amount of \$104,639.80.

Prior to bidding, the City's bridge consultant CHA Companies Inc. identified a serious deficiency on Porter Road Bridge over CSX Railroad.

The concrete around the existing pier joint of the west-bound lane is completely missing, and is in imminent danger of falling out. Since it would be the responsibility of the City to repair, we negotiated a price under this contract with Hunting Valley to perform the out of scope work. The total cost is under the original budgeted amount and is 80% federally reimbursable.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$30,305.00 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$134,944.80 funding is available under funding code H112.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG. ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, PCS PLUMBING & HEATING (PLUMBING CONTRACT)

Agenda Item #3

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to PCS Plumbing & Heating, One Carter Street, Buffalo, NY on March 6, 2017 in an amount of \$36,630.00.

During the course of work, the contractor identified additional repair work that was not known before construction started. The additional cost amount to \$1,301.12, increasing the contract total to \$37,931.12.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$1,301.12 be approved by City Council.

Sufficient funds presently exist through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway Funds.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVENUE, 3625, ASBESTOS FLOOR TILE ABATEMENT, REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOLITION, INC.

Agenda Item #4

Quotes were submitted to the City Engineering Department for Asbestos Floor Tile Abatement on June 6, 2017.

CONTRACTOR	QUOTE AMOUNT.
Regional Environmental Demolition Inc. 6281 Wendt Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14304	\$21,800.00

Mark Cerrone Inc.	\$33,600.00
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Metro Environmental	\$37,257.00
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It is the recommendation of the undersigned that a Purchase Order for this work be awarded at their quote of \$21,800.00. Funding is available from Casino Funds for the Highland Avenue Business Park Project.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: CONSULTANT SERVICES, PARKING LOT #31 THIRD STREET, SOIL BORINGS AND GEOTECHNICAL SURVEY, GLYNN GROUP ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE

Agenda Item #5

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the firm Glynn Group Engineering & Architecture, LLC perform the requisite review and approvals for above-referenced program at a not to exceed amount of \$2,865.00. Funding is available in the Engineering Department's Consultant services budget line.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: WATER SERVICES REPLACEMENT PROJECT, INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, YARUSSI CONSTRUCTION

Agenda Item #6

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Yarussi Construction, Inc. 5650 Simmons Ave. Niagara Falls NY on September 14, 2016 in the amount of \$76,200.00.

Subsequent to the start of the project, the City was approached numerous times by residents who were not included in the 2015 listing of homes having experienced the inconvenience of a frozen water service. In order to accommodate as many taxpayers as possible while on-site/in the neighborhood, all those with documentation of past weather-related issues were also replaced. This amounted to an additional six (6) water service replacements at an additional cost of \$37,589.11 per competitively-obtained item prices. This brought the contract total to \$113,789.11. Casino funds will be source of funding.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a change order in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

STATE PARKS: TEMPORARY LICENSE, INTERIM TRANSIT HUB

Agenda Item #7

As part of the interim transit hub on Old Main Street, State Parks is requesting a temporary license in order to allow it to proceed to make certain improvements in the right-of-way. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) hereto is a form of license prepared by State Parks.

Will the Council authorize the Mayor to execute this temporary license in order to allow the work to be commenced by State Parks to proceed?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

Agenda Item #8

Please be advised that, Mayor Paul A. Dyster, on May 30, 2017, duly approved the following:

Resolution 2017-51, relative to Amending Chapter 501.15 of the Codified Ordinances entitled "Designated Motor Coach Bus Zones in the Downtown Area"

Section A. "Definition"

Section B. "Description and Purpose"

Section F. "Map of Motor Coach Bus Zones in the Downtown Area"

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE ASSESSOR

HOMESTEAD AND NON-HOMESTEAD PROPORTIONS

Agenda Item #9

In accordance with Section 1903 of the Real Property Tax Law, the City Council must certify the attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) referenced percentages and proportions.

Assessing units using Article 19 Homestead option must certify percentages and proportions when final class equalization rates are established by the Office of Real Property Services.

The certification is now due and the attached represents the necessary certifications.

Will Council certify the attached percentages and proportions?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: CRAYTON, SHAVONE L.

Agenda Item #10

Date Claim Filed: January 26, 2006

Date Action Commenced: January 25, 2007

Date of Occurrence: December 11, 2005

Nature of Claim:

Negligent and careless manner by police investigating, in issuing a warrant and placing Plaintiff's photo in the Niagara Gazette.

N/A

City Driver:

Pre Trial Stage

Status of Action:

Best interests of City to pay claim.

Recommendation/Reason:

Amount to be Paid:

\$15,000.00

Make Check Payable to:

Viola, Cummint and Lindsay, LLP as attorneys and Shavone L. Crayton

Conditions:

Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: CARTER, JR., WILLIAM

Agenda Item #11

Date Claim Filed: March 20, 2017

Date Action Commenced:

N/A

Date of Occurrence:

March 8, 2017

Location:

1007 Centre Avenue

Nature of Claim:

City owned tree fell and tore all of the electric wires off of the house.

City Driver:

N/A

Status of Action:

Claim Stage

Recommendation/Reason:

Best interests of City to pay claim.

Amount to be Paid:

\$735.00

Make Check Payable to:

William Carter Jr.

Conditions:

General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: CHUTE, DONNA ROSEMARY

Agenda Item #12

Date Claim Filed:

March 17, 2017

Date Action Commenced:

N/A

Date of Occurrence:

March 17, 2017

Location:

500 Block of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

Nature of Claim:

Automobile damage when City plow struck the parked vehicle.

City Driver:

N/A

Status of Action:

Claim Stage

Recommendation/Reason:

Best interests of City to pay claim.

Amount to be Paid:

\$1424.37

Make Check Payable to:

Donna Rosemary Chute

Conditions:

General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CLAIM: GEICO, A/S/O HAWKINS, LAWRENCE

Agenda Item #13

Date Claim Filed:	January 31, 2017
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	December 19, 2016
Location:	Niagara Falls Blvd & 80 <sup>th</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	City vehicle hit another vehicle in the rear.
City Driver:	Joseph S. Urso
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$1535.69
Make Check Payable to:	GEICO Direct as subrogee of Lawrence Hawkins
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: COMMUNITY MEMBERS, RECOGNIZING, COMMUNITY PROJECTS  
THROUGHOUT THE CITY, 2017-55  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls wishes to recognize three Niagara Falls Teacher's Community Service Award recipients for their dedication and hard work; and

WHEREAS, Richard Clark started the First Annual Gaskill Preparatory School Turkey Trot, encouraging both the staff and students who never ran before to try it out on a smaller scale. Mr. Clarke also participated in the Niagara Falls "My School Color Run", a unique event hosted by high seniors, the community and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Marc Daul has been a volunteer with the Police Athletic League (PAL) since the tender age of 10, he began playing football for the PAL Knights and PAL National Travel Basketball Team, later becoming a Volunteer Coordinator, Member of the Board of Directors, and Coordinator for the PAL/NFCSD Elementary Basketball League; and

WHEREAS, Robert Lynch, Art Alley, Historic Chilton Block Club, Chilton Corner Gardens are just a few community projects that Mr. Lynch has been involved in. With great collaborations with Greenprint, Tom Lowe & Seth Piccirillo, Mr. Lynch has been able to create Lilac Park and the Art Alley, turning both into tourist destinations. Mr. Lynch is an embodiment of turning blight into beauty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby recognize these individuals for their contributions and inspiration of helping others as well as the City of Niagara Falls. We appreciate these individuals for continuing the cycle of giving back to our community.

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

Amend was to add Item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting

RESOLUTION: FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES, SPLASH PAD, WAIVER OF RENTAL FEE, FESTIVAL OF FATHERS EVENT, 2017-56  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, the Family & Children's Services of Niagara will celebrate its Eighth Annual Festival of Fathers event on June 23, 2017 from 12pm - 2pm at the Hyde Park Splash Pad; and

WHEREAS, the Festival of Fathers event, encourages positive father-child interaction by providing an opportunity for fathers to interact with their child (ren) in unique ways; and

WHEREAS, this event is free and open to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby waive fees in the amount of \$150.00 for the rental of the Hyde Park Splash Pad for Family & Children's Services of Niagara for their Eighth Annual Festival of Fathers Event scheduled to take place on June 23, 2017 from 12pm-2:00pm (letter requesting waiver on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: GERALDINE J. MANN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SPLASH PAD RENTAL FEE WAIVER, END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATIONS FOR PRE-K CLASSES, 2017-57  
BY: All COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City School District - Geraldine J. Mann Elementary and Hyde Park Elementary School Pre - K classes would like to celebrate the end of the year at the Hyde Park Splash Pad on June 19, 2017 from 10:15a.m. - 1:15p.m. and on June 16, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m., respectively; and

WHEREAS, due to funding limitations, they are requesting that fees of \$150.00 for the rental of the Splash Pad be waived.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby waive fees for the rental of the Hyde Park Splash Pad for the Niagara Falls City School District - Geraldine J. Mann Elementary School and Hyde Park Elementary School, for the end of the year celebration for Pre-K classes on June 19, 2017 from 10:15a.m. - 1:15p.m. and June 16, 2017 from 11:00a.m. - 2:00p.m., respectively.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated she would like to see a history of how many times and for what reasons fees are waived,  
Councilman Touma stated that there is a partnership between the City and the School District.

RESOLUTION: GRADUATION/REHEARSAL, WAIVER OF PARKING FEES, 2017-58  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls High School will hold its 2017 Graduation ceremony on Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m., and its rehearsal ceremony on Friday, June 23, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby waive parking fees in the Third Street city parking lot and downtown parking ramp for persons attending the Niagara Falls High School graduation and rehearsal events, scheduled for Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., and Friday, June 23, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., respectively.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: PARMER, DOROTHY, MISSIONARY, RECOGNIZING, REFUGE TEMPLE OF CHRIST CHURCH, 2017-59  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

WHEREAS, Missionary Dorothy Parmer currently serves at Refuge Temple of Christ Church, Niagara Falls, N.Y., under the leadership of Elder Gordon Sweat. She has dedicated her life to serving God and humanity; and

WHEREAS, Missionary Dorothy Parmer was born to the Parents of Johnny and Minnie Hammond. She is the youngest of five children; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 1963, Missionary Dorothy Parmer married Henry C. Parmer. This union is 54 years young. From this union came three beautiful children: Cedric Parmer of Birmingham, Alabama; Felicia Holland of Syracuse, New York; and Henry Parmer (Felicia Searcy) of Atlanta, Georgia and carrying on this blessing with eleven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Missionary Dorothy Parmer truly has a servant heart. She serves as the Mother of the Church, Superintendent of Sunday School, President of the Missionary Department at Refuge Temple of Christ, Niagara Falls. She is also the District Missionary over the Diocese in Western New York. Missionary Parmer is passionate about serving the community. Beyond the four walls she ministers at Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home, Niagara County Jail, and also ministers to the lost, sick and shut-in; and

WHEREAS, Missionary Parmer is gifted and very creative. She was a Licensed Hair Beautician and currently a Floral Designer, as well as a good cook; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby recognize Missionary Dorothy Parmer for her many contributions to her church and our great city through her ministerial work.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:15 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**JUNE 26, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the June 26, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, was Acting Mayor.

Council Member Tompkins moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of June 12, 2017.

Yea	5
Nay	0
APPROVED	

Chairman Walker moved to amend the agenda to honor Geraldine "Geri" Mondi and to present her family with a proclamation honoring her service to the City.

Motion to amend by Councilwoman Grandinetti, second by Councilman Touma

Yea	5
Nay	0

The amendment was to move item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion to approve the Item by Councilwoman Grandinetti, second by Councilman Touma

Yea	5
Nay	0

The item was approved

**RESOLUTION: MONDI, MRS. GERALDINE "GERI", COMMEMORATING, 2017-60**  
**BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Agenda Item #10**

WHEREAS, Mrs. Geraldine "Geri" Mondi was a diligent, intelligent, wise, hard working woman. Geri wore the most beautiful thing any woman would want and that was confidence. Geri was a breath of fresh air, she embraced everyone and always spoke from her heart; and

WHEREAS, Geraldine "Geri" Mondi, born on May 10, 1950, to the proud parents of Gerald C. and Evelyn (Villella) Polizzi. She was the oldest of ten children: seven sisters - Anette Polizzi, Cynthia Polizzi, Mary Ann Powell, Susan Honadle, Theresa Nation, Patty Polizzi, Loretta Polizzi, and two brothers, Manny Polizzi and Frank Polizzi (predeceased); and

WHEREAS, on February 7, 1970, Geri married her childhood sweetheart, Anthony "Tony" Mondi, he has been her beloved husband for 47 years; they were blessed with two children, Christina (James Jr.) Hymiak and Anthony Mondi, Jr., and two grandsons; Austin James Hymiak and Jared Anthony Hymiak; and

WHEREAS, Geri was equally successful in her career, volunteerism and community work. She was the devoted Secretary to the City Council from 2002 until she retired in 2013. She was the past member of the Niagara Falls City Democratic Committee, New York State Democratic Committee, Business & Professional Women of Niagara, Niagara Gazette Advisory Board, Niagara Falls Firefighter Christmas Toy Fund Telethon, Lords Day Dinner volunteer, serving thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter dinners to the needy of Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, Geri was honored and awarded for her great community work, she received the following awards: Pine Avenue Business Association - Employee of the Year, Business and Professional Women of Niagara - Women of the Year, TOPS and WHLD Radio - "Good Neighbor Award", Niagara Falls Block Club Council "Outstanding Service Award" and the NFFD Christmas Toy Fund Award - 20 years of service to the telethon was awarded to Geri and Tony.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby acknowledge and appreciate Geraldine "Geri" Mondi for all that she has done for the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

Amendment was to move Agenda Item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

City Clerk, Lisa Vitello, read the Proclamation. Councilwoman Grandinetti and Chairman Walker spoke about Geri Mondi's dedication to the City and to the community at large.

A Presentation was given by the World Weather Center Group.

The 2016 Financial Statement Audit Results were given by the Bonadio Group.

Councilman Touma asked how 2015 compared to 2016 report.

Councilman Tompkins asked how a zero fund balance will affect our bond rating. Councilman Tompkins also asked how the group feels our finances are at this point. Councilman Tompkins stated that we set a policy in 2007 that we would not drop below a 5 percent fund balance. Councilman Tompkins questioned the Controller about the current financial situation.

Councilman Touma stated that the city already has increased the fund balance with the In-Rem sales.

Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, addressed the budget process for Community Development.

City Administrator, Nick Melson, discussed the Restructuring Board recommendations.

Daniel Morello, City Controller, stated departments are holding the line on their budgets.

Councilman Touma discussed UBER regulations. Police Chief DalPorto reviewed the requirements regarding background checks for all drivers/companies.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 3 items to be added to the agenda.

1. A resolution Contracting Legal Services for the Zombie Fight Project.

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to add the item to the agenda, second by Councilman Touma.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

Motion to add item was approved

The item was added to the Agenda as #12

2. A resolution to accept A Cities Rise Grant  
Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to add item to the agenda, second by  
Councilman Touma

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

Motion to add item was approved

Item was added to the Agenda as #13

3. A resolution to support a Grant Application for the NF Waterboard.  
Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to add item to the agenda, second by  
Councilman Touma.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

Motion to add item was approved

Item was added to the Agenda as #14

This session ended at 6:30 P.M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:45 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Scott and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ken Hamilton	Agenda Item #6
Hannah Tillman	Agenda Item #6
Willie Price	Agenda Item #6
Nicholas Turney	Agenda Item #6
Ron Anderluh	4th of July comments; 2018 Budget
Dr. William Feder	Point of Interest
Bill Kennedy	General Concerns
Ken Cosentino	General Concerns
Ken Hamilton	General Issues
Tracy Greene	General Concerns
Amber Hill-Donhauser	General Concerns
Brett Biro	General Concerns
Jamie Caldwell	General Concerns
Roy McDowell	Various; UBER
Mary Richardson	General Concerns
Vincent Anello	Various Issues

Council Chairman Walker reminded speakers to have respect for the Community when voicing their concerns.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CITY PROPERTY: 81<sup>ST</sup> STREET, 437, SALE

Agenda Item #2

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$500.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the conditions attached to the Planning Board approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days of the resident being informed of Council approval, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax (if applicable) and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: ROYAL AVENUE, 3314, JEFFREY HILLMAN, SALE

Agenda Item #3

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$2,000.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the conditions attached to the Planning Board approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days of the resident being informed of Council approval, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax (if applicable) and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: HIGHLAND AVE., 2919, CALUMET AVE., 1216, PASTOR GARY JACKSON, SALE

Agenda Item #4

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned properties for the sum of \$625.00 total.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the conditions attached to the Planning Board approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days of the resident being informed of Council approval, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2016-2017 School Tax (if applicable) and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: LOCKPORT STREET RECONSTRUCTION WORK, AGREEMENT WITH NFWB

Agenda Item #5

The City has a contract in place to accomplish certain resurfacing work on Lockport Street. The City Engineer advises that in discussions with the NFWB, it has been determined that a section of waterline running from Lockport Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street is in poor condition and is in need of replacement. This was revealed subsequent to the award of the contract.

The NFWB has requested that the City coordinate the replacement of this section of waterline as part of its contract for the Lockport Street resurfacing project and has requested that the City engage its contractor to perform the required work. The NFWB has estimated the cost of this work to be approximately \$75,000.00 and has authorized the expenditure of that sum of money to the City by way of reimbursement in order to accomplish this work. It is therefore requested that the City and the NFWB enter into a municipal cooperation agreement which memorializes this in writing. The City Engineer further advises that at some point it may be necessary to issue a change order with the contractor in this regard, but it is premature to do so at this time.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Municipal Cooperation Agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilman Tompkins inquired about the amount and location.

CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS TRACK AND FIELD CLUB, FUNDING

Agenda Item #6

The City has been requested by the Niagara Falls Track and Field Club to provide funding in the amount of \$3,540.00 in order to assist the club in providing bus transportation for track meets in Rochester, NY and possibly other destinations. This contribution will facilitate bus service to be provided by First Student Bus Service. Attendance by the club at these track meets will enable the club to represent the City of Niagara Falls. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a description of the club as well as a completed application for public funds.

Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a funding agreement in form satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Tompkins moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Item was amended to change amount funded to \$2500.00

Councilman Tompkins asked if this is a non-profit Organization.

GOOD NEWS GOSPEL FESTIVAL/HEALTH FAIR, CONTRIBUTION

Agenda Item #7

The City has been requested by Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center to once again be a sponsor of the Hospital's annual Good News Gospel Festival/Health Fair. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the request. The City has been asked to contribute the sum of \$2,500 toward the expenses of the event, which will be held on July 15, 2017.

Funding is available from Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Touma	
Nay	0
Abstained	1
Chairman Walker	

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA RIVERVIEW TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS-53<sup>RD</sup> STREET AREA, MARK CERRONE INC

Agenda Item #8

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Mark Cerrone Inc. on November 30, 2015, in the amount of \$237,000.00.

While this project was under construction, a portion of the excavated material was found to have a slight odor, and soils tests were ordered. While the test results were found to be acceptable and the contractor able to continue, the time lost led to a winter shutdown. As new solar light poles were already delivered, it was found necessary to safely store the light poles to prevent damage over the winter season. The total cost of the testing, extra handling and storage container rental is \$5,260.00. However, existing underruns in actual bid item quantities will allow this requested change without an increase in the contract total.

Will the Council vote to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a change order in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: A. CENTRAL INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O BEAHEN, NICOLE A.

Agenda Item #9

Date Claim Filed:	February 16, 2017
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	February 10, 2017
Location:	Orchard Parkway & Whirlpool St
Nature of Claim:	A city plow struck a parked vehicle.
City Driver:	David J. Robertson
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$2515.21
Make Check Payable to:	A. Central Insurance Company
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: MONDI, MRS. GERALDINE "GERI", COMMEMORATING, 2017-60  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #10

Amendment was to move Agenda Item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-61  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory, effective immediately, to fill the unexpired term, due to a recent resignation.

<u>APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
--------------------	---------------------

Roscoe Naguit	12/31/2017
225 Old Falls Street at Third Street	
Niagara Falls, NY 14303	

Yea

5

Nay

0

ADOPTED

CONTRACT: ZOMBIE FIGHT PROJECT, LEGAL SERVICES

Agenda Item #12

The City of Niagara Falls was awarded a Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) in 2016 for the ongoing NF Zombie Fight Project, targeting vacant properties stuck in the bank foreclosure process. This grant includes bringing court action against mortgage servicers, in accordance with the newly enacted New York State Zombie Property and Foreclosure Prevention Law. Per the LISC grant application and our Niagara Falls City Council presentation on May 15, 2017, we are dedicating grant funds to contracted legal services, in order to process these cases in New York State Supreme Court. This agenda item does not require municipal funds or have a budgetary impact on the City of Niagara Falls.

This month, Niagara Falls Community Development (CD) solicited proposals from an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of New York to assist the department on an as-needed basis in pursuing claims against banks and loan servicers pursuant to the recently adopted 2016 Zombie Property and Foreclosure Prevention legislation, with proposals due June 20, 2017. In short, this attorney will be suing mortgage servicers on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls in New York State Supreme Court, with a contractual upset amount of \$25,000, per the grant application.

CD recommends entering a contractual agreement with Hodgson Russ, with a legal team led by Michael B. Risman. Mr. Risman has extensive experience dealing with distressed properties from the municipal perspective including zombie homes, unsafe structures, demolitions, Housing Court prosecutions from his nineteen (19) years of service as City of Buffalo Corporation Counsel and Senior Deputy Corporation Counsel and as Town of Niagara Town Attorney for the past ten (10) years. Hodgson Russ also provides a full range of legal services to municipal clients throughout New York State. Our municipal law team is multidisciplinary in nature, involving lawyers who regularly counsel clients in the areas of labor and employment law, public finance law, zoning and land use, environmental law, general municipal law, construction projects, and litigation and litigation avoidance, among others. (Hourly Rate: \$281)

Will the Council vote to authorize the Mayor to execute the contractual agreement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.: CITIES-RISE GRANT

##### Agenda Item #13

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department successfully applied for, and was awarded, a Cities for Responsible Investment and Strategic Enforcement (CitiesRISE) grant from Enterprise Community Partners (Enterprise) and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). This grant opportunity was funded by the same banking settlement that funded the LISC Niagara Falls Zombie Fight Project, and was negotiated by New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. The grant was officially awarded on June 14, 2017. Final documentation was received after the City Council Agenda Item, necessitating a walk on item, as the signed contract needed to be transmitted by June 27, 2017. This grant requires no general fund dollars, has no budgetary impact on the City of Niagara Falls and requires no acceptance of funding.

As a grantee, the City of Niagara Falls will receive a two-year subscription to a data platform designed to integrate and analyze data such as code enforcement records, tax liens, fire and police data. CitiesRISE partnered with Tolemi (formerly known as OpportunitySpace), a social enterprise that created BuildingBlocks, a platform designed to integrate housing and code enforcement related data, and was selected for this program following significant research and consultation with numerous industry experts.

Additionally, the city will receive capacity building support from Spruce Technology, and the program will be guided by a Senior Advisory Team made up of issue area experts specializing in community revitalization and engagement. The Senior Advisory Team includes Alan Mallach, Senior Fellow at Center for Community Progress, Betsy MacLean, the Executive Director of Hester Street Collaborative, Ira Goldstein, the President of Policy Solutions at the Reinvestment Fund, and Joseph Schilling, Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute.

Will the Council vote to so approve grant acceptance and authorize the Mayor to execute the grant agreement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACT, GRANT APPLICATION, BOLLIER AVENUE, 2017-62  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, TOUMA

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Water Board will submit a grant application to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), the agency charged with the administration of The Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017; and

WHEREAS, under the Clean Water Infrastructure Act, approximately \$112 million is being made available state-wide in 2017 as grant funding to assist municipalities in carrying out water quality infrastructure projects for the replacement or repair of aged and obsolete water distribution infrastructure and meeting other relevant environmental objectives; and

WHEREAS, the project which is the subject of the grant is for the replacement of the water main and lead component residential service connections on Bollier Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY from 82nd Street to Military Road; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is estimated at \$400,000, with 40%, \$160,000, being eligible for re-imbursement if the grant is approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby support the Niagara Falls water Board's grant application to the new York State Environmental facilities Corporation agency for consideration and approval under the clean water infrastructure act of 2017.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: WATER SHUT-OFF NOTICES, WATER BOARD, 2017-63  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, TOUMA

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Water Board delinquent customers currently receive a water shut-off notice when accumulated arrears reach the amount of \$150.00; and

WHEREAS, this City Council is mindful of the fact that many customers of the Niagara Falls Water Board experience cash flow difficulties; and

WHEREAS, this City Council requests that the threshold be increased to \$250.00, before a water shut-off notice is issued.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby request that the Niagara Falls Water Board increase the amount of arrears a customer of the Niagara Falls Water Board must accumulate before a water shut off notice is issued from \$150.00 to \$250.00.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:30 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**JULY 10, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the July 10, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell, City Controller Daniel Morello and Community Development Director Seth Piccirillo.

Council Member Touma moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of June 26, 2017.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

Presentation: Hazard Mitigation Plan

Chief Colangelo and Jonathan Schultz Emergency Services and Fire Coordinator gave a presentation regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chairman Walker moved to add an item to the agenda, Honoring Beverley Feder for her dedication to the community regarding the 50 Year Anniversary of the Greater Niagara Ballet Company.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

The item was added to the Agenda as Item #24

Chairman Walker then made a motion to amend the agenda to move the Item to the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

The item was moved to the Committee of the Whole Meeting Chairman Walker moved to vote on the item honoring the Greater Niagara Ballet Company.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

**RESOLUTION: FEDER, BEVERLEY A., RECOGNIZING, 2017-69**  
**BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Agenda Item #24

WHEREAS, Beverley A. Feder, Founder of the Greater Niagara Ballet Company will unveil 'RE'VER'ONCE' a ballet performance that is fifty years in the making. The performance will take place at the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center in Niagara Falls, NY on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm; and

WHEREAS, Beverley A. Feder was born and raised in the Niagara Region, she began her dancing career at the age of ten when she started taking classes from Jean Spear of Niagara Falls, while also training at the National Ballet of Canada and the Imperial Society of Dance in England; and

WHEREAS, Beverley later met and married her husband Bill Feder, a college education professor and long-time Niagara County legislator. They have three children and seven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Beverley has dedicated her life to ballet, learning an appreciation for the art that is the basis of most formal dance. She pioneered the use of dance and music to empower disabled children as they were featured in a special dance presentation; and

WHEREAS, over the past fifty years, Beverley has established organizations such as the Niagara Civic Ballet Company, the Niagara Ballet Chamber Orchestra, Founder of the Feder School of Classical Dance and the Greater Niagara Ballet Company. Beverley attended three international ballet organizations, achieving the highest teaching certification in the Cecchetti Method, which is a style of ballet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby recognize and congratulate Beverley A. Feder for her dedication to the Niagara Falls community through dance and art.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

The resolution was read by the City Clerk, Lisa Vitello, honoring Beverley Feder for her dedication to the community and her commitment to the art of ballet.

Presentation folder was then given to Beverley A. Feder by all of the Council Members.

#### Administrative Update:

Mayor Dyster gave an update on road paving and repair. Chairman Walker inquired about the progress on Lockport Road. John Gerlach, City Engineer, stated that there is currently a dispute between Accadia Contracting and National Grid over the removal of manhole covers in the project area. This dispute is causing a temporary delay in construction.

Chairman Walker asked about the Isiah 61 project.

Councilman Touma and Councilman Tompkins asked Mayor Dyster for an update regarding the Seneca Nation compact. Mayor Dyster stated that it is the Governor's ambition to solve this issue without disrupting the relationship between the State and the Seneca Nation. Councilwoman Grandinetti stated, that despite reports to the contrary, the Governor's Office is currently working to solve this dispute.

Councilman Tompkins and Councilman Touma asked the Corporation Counsel if our municipality could negotiate with the Seneca's separately from the State. The Corporation Counsel stated that this was not possible.

Councilman Touma stated that the State of New York needs to address the issue of increased aid to the City.

Councilman Touma stressed the need to enforce traffic laws.

Councilman Tompkins asked for an update regarding lease agreements at the Train Station and the situation with the Carriage House at Deveaux Woods State Park. The State is contemplating demolishing the Carriage House due to deterioration of the structure. Councilman Tompkins suggested the State release more details concerning this plan.

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that the residents are very concerned with past and current plans to alter the landscape in State Parks. She sighted resident concern over the plan to build a lodge on Goat Island. She cautioned the State to be aware of these concerns and to take them into account when making any decisions in our State Parks.

This Session ended at 5:45 P.M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Tompkins and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ken Hamilton	Agenda Item #20
Ron Anderluh	Traffic Downtown; gridlock
Lakea Perry	Driver's License Scofflaw; taxi
Roderick Haslip	Taxi
Ken Hamilton	Taxi
Cheryl Johnpier	Taxi
Cynthia Robins	Taxi
Carlos Saez	Taxi

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: 2017 HOME OWNERSHIP AUCTION HOUSES, SALE

Agenda Item #2

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department (CD) hosted the 2017 Niagara Falls Community Development Home Ownership Auction on June 15, 2017. All five houses were successfully bid on, with corresponding purchase prices listed below. The Niagara Falls Planning Board unanimously recommended the sale of all five properties to the Niagara Falls City Council on June 28, 2017.

Auction Lot	Address	Bid Price
1	240 70th Street	\$ 5,700
2	410 S. 91st Street	\$ 7,100
3	515 25th Street	\$ 7,000
4	2238 Lasalle Avenue	\$14,400
5	3543 Ferry Avenue	\$18,600
Total		\$52,800

Average bid price: \$10,560 (\$2,190 increase from the 2016 average bid price).

The 2017 Home Ownership Auction follows the same key guidelines as the April 2016 Home Ownership Auction, as presented to the Niagara Falls City Council in 2016:

- Successful bidders must agree to own and live in the home as prime occupant for no less than five years and pay all applicable property taxes.
- Successful bidders must submit a renovation plan, designating work to be completed by the owner and/or contractors, as well as possess the financial ability to execute the renovation prior to completing the sale agreement with the City of Niagara Falls.

- If the above terms are not met after the purchase of the property, ownership will revert back to the City of Niagara Falls.
- Successful bidders were required to pay a bidder's fee and a bidder bond of \$500. The bidder bond is to only be returned upon the completion of the renovation. Successful bidders also paid 10 percent of the successful bid price to the auctioneer, Auctions International, financing the costs of the auction. The City of Niagara Falls' only auction costs were \$400 in advertising.

CD provided a copy of the auctioneer booklet and terms of sale to the Niagara Falls City Council with this agenda item memo. All Home Ownership Auction properties are required to receive sale recommendation from the Niagara Falls Planning Department and sale approval from the Niagara Falls City Council.

CD Staff has already conducted the post auction meeting with all five successful bidders, all of whom paid the bidder bond and auctioneer fee. In order to process sale closings during the construction season, and prior to the August City Council recess, CD requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of these properties as a group.

Will the Council vote to approval the sale of these properties and allow the Mayor to execute related the contractual agreements?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: 2017 RFP PROPERTIES (631 CHILTON AVE., 424 MEMORIAL PKWY., 445 SIXTH ST.) SALE

Agenda Item #3

City Council recess, CD requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of these properties as a group.

On April 9, 2017, the Niagara Falls Community Development Department (CD) advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the purchase and renovation of the following vacant and tax foreclosed properties, with proposals due back to CD on May 26, 2017.

- 631 Chilton Avenue
- 424 Memorial Parkway
- 445 Fourth Street
- 519 Fourth Street
- 473 Fifth Street
- 445 Sixth Street
- 456 Sixth Street

The RFPs were advertised in the Niagara Gazette legal section for three consecutive weeks, on [www.nf-cd.org](http://www.nf-cd.org) and featured Niagara Gazette and Buffalo Rising news articles. CD received two proposals for 631 Chilton Avenue, two proposals for 424 Memorial Parkway and one proposal for 445 Sixth Street. Proposals were reviewed by CD based on the following guidelines, as stated in the RFPs for all of the properties:

- The highest and best use of building. Preference will be given to proposals that emphasize prime occupancy and/or on-site property management.
- Total investment and proposed property enhancement.
- The ability of the ownership/management team to accomplish the proposed project based upon past development history, financial strength and demonstrated expertise in operations similar to the proposed development.
- Date of completion of renovation. Earlier completion will be favored. Provide information to document the ability to perform in conformity with your timetable. Renovation should commence no later than October 1, 2017.
- Price to be paid to the City. Proposals that provide the highest total investment, including purchase price will be favored.

Based on proposal review, and discussion at the June 28, 2017 Niagara Falls Planning Board meeting, CD requests that the Niagara Falls Planning Board recommend sale of the following properties to the selected proposals:

Address	Proposal	Bid	Proposed Renovation	Proposed Units
		Amount	Amount	
631 Chilton Avenue	Mile and a Half to Go, LLC	\$4,000	\$110,000	4
424 Memorial Parkway	Ryan P. Cali and Mathew B. Melcher	\$1,000	\$70,000	1 (Prime Occupant)
445 Sixth Street	Denise Mejia	\$2,000	\$50,000	1 (Prime Occupant)

The Niagara Falls Planning Board unanimously recommended the sale of 631 Chilton Avenue and 445 Sixth Street to the proposed bidders... There was in-depth conversation about the competing 424 Memorial Parkway proposals, and CD requested that the recommendation be tabled. After discussions with both bidders, CD is recommending Cali and Melcher based on the prioritization of home ownership versus property management.

Will the Council vote to approval the sale of these properties and allow the Mayor to execute related the contractual agreements?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

Chairman Walker inquired about ownership of 424 Memorial Pkwy.  
Councilman Tompkins inquired about length of stay.

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, CIR ELECTRICAL COMSTRUCTION CORP., ELECTRIC CONTRACT

Agenda Item #4

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to CIR Electrical Construction Corp., 400 Ingham Avenue, Buffalo, NY, on March 6, 2017 in an amount of \$74,600.00.

New York State building codes regulate fire protection required for the occupancy of this building to the extent that the existing Hyde Park Ice Rink system had to be updated to accommodate the new occupied spaces. The fire alarm system and minor scope changes bring the additional cost amount to \$12,340.00, increasing the contract total to \$86,940.00.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$12,340.00 be approved by City Council.

Sufficient funds presently exist through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway Funds.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, DWC  
MECHANICAL INC., MECHANICAL CONTRACT

Agenda Item #5

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to DWC Mechanical Inc., 100 John Glenn Drive, Amherst, NY, on March 6, 2017 in an amount of \$26,200.00.

A clerical error left off the Alternate work for new Unit Heaters which would have been included in the original "letter of award". The contractor was willing to honor his original bid in the amount of \$13,100.00. These unit heaters replace 35 year old heaters that have become hazardous to operate (carbon monoxide fumes).

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$13,100.00 be approved by City Council.

Sufficient funds presently exist through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway Funds.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL, NIAGARA ST., BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION, CONTRIBUTION

Agenda Item #6

The Niagara Street Area Business and Professional Association will be holding its annual International Festival on July 19, 2017 at Gill Creek Park. The City is being asked to contribute the sum of \$2,500.00 toward the cost of this festival. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of a letter of request.

Funding is available through the Tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a funding agreement satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY ASSESSOR

ASSESSOR: 2017 GENERAL ASSESSMENT ROLL

Agenda Item #7

Listed below are the taxable totals of the General Assessment Roll for the City of Niagara Falls, New York, as now constituted and completed by the Board of Assessment Review for the year 2017 and was filed with the City Clerk on July 1, 2017.

Also, attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office), please find the exemption summary for the 2017 roll.

Total Taxable Assessed Value	\$1,283,365,480
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Homestead	\$875,117,853
Non-Homestead	<u>408,247,627</u>

Total	\$1,283,365,480
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THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION

RIVERSIDE DRIVE BETWEEN BUFFALO AVE. AND HOLLY PLACE, INSTALL OVERNIGHT PARKING

Agenda Item #8

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL OVERNIGHT PARKING ON THE NORTH (RESIDENTIAL) SIDE OF RIVERSIDE DRIVE BETWEEN BUFFALO AVENUE AND HOLLY PLACE

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 100% of signatures.

Submitted By: Lynn Ligammar, 606 Riverside Drive and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CENTRE AVE., BETWEEN BLONEVA BOND ST. (9<sup>TH</sup> STREET) AND 10<sup>TH</sup> ST., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING

Agenda Item #9

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON CENTRE AVENUE BETWEEN BLONEVA BOND STREET (9<sup>TH</sup> STREET) AND 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 100% of signatures.

Submitted By: Kathleen Conolly, 901 Centre Avenue and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

24<sup>TH</sup> ST., 316, INSTALL A "NO STANDING ANYTIME" RESTRICTION ON BOTH SIDES OF DRIVEWAY (15' SOUTH OF DRIVEWAY & 20' NORTH OF DRIVEWAY)

Agenda Item #10

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A "NO STANDING ANYTIME" RESTRICTION ON BOTH SIDES OF DRIVEWAY (15' SOUTH OF DRIVEWAY AND 20' NORTH OF DRIVEWAY)  
AT 316 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET

This restriction will prevent cars from blocking and parking right up to his driveway which limit his access and sight distance when backing (especially with no margins on this section of 24<sup>th</sup> Street)

Submitted By: David Bieksza, 316 24<sup>th</sup> Street

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

29<sup>TH</sup> ST., FROM SENECA AVE, NORTH TO THE ALLEY, INSTALL OVERNIGHT PARKING, EAST SIDE

Agenda Item #11

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL OVERNIGHT PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF 29<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM SENECA AVENUE, NORTH TO THE ALLEY

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 100% of signatures.

Submitted By: Amanda Scarcelli, 2902 Seneca Avenue, Dana DeFazio, 2906 Seneca Avenue and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

WELCH AVE., 2209, INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #12

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 2209 WELCH AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Sandra Charles, 2209 Welch Avenue, Apt. 1

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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APPROVED

GRAND AVE., 2939, INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #13

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 2939 GRAND AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Edward Brierley, 2939 Grand Avenue, Upper

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

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APPROVED

23<sup>RD</sup> ST., 610, INSTALL HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #14

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 610 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Lawrence Cirrito, 610 23<sup>RD</sup> Street

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

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APPROVED

MICHIGAN AVE., 2956, INSTALL HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #15

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 2956 MICHIGAN AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Sharon Desso, on behalf of her son, David, 2956 Michigan Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

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APPROVED

NIAGARA AVE., 1864, INSTALL HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #16

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 1864 NIAGARA AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Belinda Vanderberg, 1864 Niagara Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

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Nays

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APPROVED

18<sup>TH</sup> ST., 427, INSTALL HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #17

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 427 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Robert Andrzejewski, 427 18th Street

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

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Nays

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APPROVED

NIAGARA ST., & 26<sup>TH</sup> ST., INSTALL PEDESTRIAN ACTUATED TRAFFIC SIGNAL,  
DENIED

Agenda Item #18

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on June 26, 2017,  
the Commission:

DENIED:

- 1) Request submitted by Mark Laurrie, Superintendent of Schools & Rocco Merino, Principal, Niagara Street Elementary School, School District of the City of Niagara Falls, NY to INSTALL A PEDESTRIAN ACTUATED TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF NIAGARA STREET AND 26<sup>TH</sup> STREET.

This area was studied using the Federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Device's (MUTCD) 9 warrants for the installation of a traffic signal. In particular, the most applicable warrants in this case: Pedestrian volume (warrant #4), School crossing (warrant #5) and Crash experience (warrant #7) all fell far short of the requirements. In addition, this crossing (and the other crossings at this school) are currently signed beyond MUTCD standards, and flashing "School Speed Limit 20 MPH" beacons exist in advance in both directions. Based on this location falling far short of the MUTCD criteria, and the safety measures already in place, the Commission denied this request. However, as part of regular maintenance, crosswalks will be re-striped with reflective pavement tape for additional visibility and the NFPD Traffic Division will continue to monitor this area for speeders once school is back in session.

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION, AND FUNDING IN THE FIRST INSTANCE 100% OF THE FEDERAL-AID AND STATE "MARCHISELLI" PROGRAM-AID ELIGIBLE COSTS, OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE FOR PIN 5761.44 ROUTE 384 OVER CAYUGA CREEK BRIDGE REPAIRS, 2017-64

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #19

WHEREAS, a Project for the Route 384 over Cayuga Creek Bridge Repairs P.I.N. 5761.44 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the Project's Construction/Construction Inspection phase of Route 384 over Cayuga Creek Bridge Repairs PIN 5761.44.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$42,000.00 is hereby appropriated from bond funds and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: DRIVER'S LICENSE SCOFFLAW REFORM INITIATIVE, 2017-65  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, a valid driver's license can be an important tool for an unemployed or underemployed individual to have when applying for gainful employment in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, some employers even require an unemployed or underemployed individual seeking gainful employment to have a valid driver's license as a precondition for employment either because driving is a part of the job or as a way to screen applicants for gainful employment, particularly in the construction industry and health care industry; and

WHEREAS, State legislation has authorized driver's license suspensions for non-driving offenses, including failure to pay child support and failure to pay parking fines; and

WHEREAS, many unemployed and underemployed individuals are not successful in seeking gainful employment because their driver's license has been suspended for non-driving offenses and those individuals lack the financial resources to pay the dollars required in order to obtain a restoration of driving privileges; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that its State Officials and Representatives should begin investigating and possibly create programs that would allow unemployed and underemployed individuals whose driving privileges have been suspended for non-driving offenses who lack the financial resources to pay the dollars required in order to obtain a restoration of driving privileges to in fact obtain a restoration of those driving privileges despite having no financial resources to do so; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that in order for unemployed or underemployed individuals to participate in any such program, there must be a documented demonstration of financial need as well as proof of low or no income.

NOW, THEREFORE, this City Council requests that State Officials and Representatives begin to investigate and possibly create programs which can be offered and made available to qualified individuals to participate in in order to obtain a restoration of driving privileges because their driving privileges have been suspended for non-driving offenses so as to facilitate the entry or re-entry, as the case may be, of those individuals into the workforce.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

Councilman Scott stated that this resolution would help with job retention.

Councilman Tompkins and Chairman Walker complimented Councilman Scott on his efforts.

RESOLUTION: NY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN, ADOPTION, 2017-66  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls, NY with the assistance from Witt O'Brien's, has gathered information and participated in the preparation of the Niagara County NY Hazard Mitigation Plan (the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls, NY is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Plan is available for review by the public in the office of the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls, NY City Council has reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, NY adopts the Niagara County NY Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.

ADOPTED this 10th day of July, 2017 at the meeting of the City Council.

Yea

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Nay

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: CANCER SCREENING POLICY, EXPANSION 2017-67  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

WHEREAS, according to the Niagara County Department of Health's 2014-17 "Community Health Assessment", Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Niagara County; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer (cancer of the colon and rectum) accounts for 13% of cancer cases and 10.8% of cancer deaths in Niagara County; and

WHEREAS, cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in Niagara County and has the fourth highest mortality rate among cancers in women worldwide, yet is the most preventable with routine screenings and follow-up; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the New York State Civil Service Law, the City of Niagara Falls currently provides employees with excused leaves of up to a maximum of four (4) hours annually for breast cancer screening and a maximum of four (4) hours leave annually for prostate cancer screening; and

WHEREAS, the elevated rate of incidences of colorectal and cervical cancer in Niagara County demonstrates a need for expanded coverage; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the City is aware that early detection through screening tests has proven to increase treatment options and save lives; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls hereby authorizes the expansion of the City's current cancer screening policy\* to include colorectal and cervical cancer screenings and providing an additional hour of leave to all of its employees for colonoscopies, believing that these measures will further reduce the onset of this disease and produce a healthier workforce.

\*This expansion of excused leave does not alter any existing negotiated benefits and have the same rules as applied to the current leave.

- Screenings must be scheduled during the employee's regular work hours. Employees who undergo screenings outside their regular work schedules do so on their own time.
- Employees are required to provide satisfactory medical documentation that the absence was for purposes of colorectal or cervical cancer screening which may include a physical exams and procedures, blood work, and colonoscopy. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a charge to accrued leave.
- Travel time is included in this 4/5 hour cap. Absence beyond the cap must be charged to leave credits.
- This leave is not cumulative, and expires at the close of business on the last day of each calendar year.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: LASALLE EDUCATIONAL CLUB'S CELEBRATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE PARTICIPANTS, WAIVER OF RENTAL FEE FOR OASIS, 2017-68  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #23

WHEREAS, the LaSalle Educational Club celebrated its 48th Annual Scholarship & Awards Program on June 9, 2017 followed by a celebration picnic at Hyde Park Oasis for all children on the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby waive fees for the rental of Hyde Park Oasis for the LaSalle Educational Club's celebration picnic (letter on file in the City Clerk's Office) that took place on June 9, 2017.

Yea  
Nays

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ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: FEDER, BEVERLEY A., RECOGNIZING, 2017-69  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #24

ITEM WAS ADDED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



JULY 24, 2017

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the July 24, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of July 10, 2017.

Yea

Nay

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APPROVED

**Presentations:**

1. Volunteer Hall of Fame Inductions and Awards
2. The Western NY Christmas Initiative
3. Proposed WIFI in Downtown Niagara Falls

**Administrative Update:**

Mayor Dyster discussed the stocking of fish in Hyde Park Lake. Thomas DeSantis, City Planner gave a presentation on new developers regarding labor agreements.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked for specifics regarding PLA's with current preferred developers.

Councilman Touma requested assurances regarding labor agreements with preferred developers.

Councilman Tompkins also asked for specifics regarding PLA's.

Nicholas Melson, City Administrator, answered several questions regarding labor agreements with new developers.

Chairman Walker stated that PLA's should be included in the Requests for Proposals (RFP's) and Requests for Qualifications. (RFQ's) Councilman Tompkins and Councilman Touma agreed that PLA's should be part of any designation given to developers.

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that moving forward it would be beneficial to include the PLA in any preferred developer designation. She questioned why it wasn't included for the current designation. The City Administrator addressed this issue.

Councilmembers discussed how to move forward in the future to make certain PLA's are included.

Police Chief Bryan DalPorto addressed safety concerns on W. Rivershore Drive.

Chairman Walker inquired about plans for D'Amelio Park.

Corporation Counsel, Craig Johnson, distributed items to be amended, Items #4 and #6.

A motion to amend item #4 was made by Councilman Tompkins, second by Councilwoman Grandinetti.

Amendment is to change the Bid Amount.

Yea  
Nays

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The item was amended

A motion to amend item #6 was made by Councilman Tompkins, second by Councilwoman Grandinetti.

Amendment is for stipend in Office of the City Clerk. Rate is to be paid on the basis of annual stipend in the amount of \$3000.00. Amendment is to change amount.

Yea  
Nays

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The item was amended

A motion to amend item #22 was made by Councilwoman Grandinetti, second by Councilman Touma.

Amendment is to add another person to the Youth Board list.

Yea  
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker  
Nay  
Touma

4  
1

The item was amended

Corporation Counsel, Craig Johnson, distributed items to be added to the agenda.

Relative to approval of MOU/ City Contribution with Niagara Global Tourism Institute for WIFI in the downtown area.

Yea  
Nays

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The item was added as #24

Relative to support for 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Golden Steps 4 Pediatric Cancer Awareness.

Yea  
Nays

5  
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The item was added as #25

This session ended at 6:55 pm

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 7:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Touma and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Dan Davis	Agenda Item #23
Bill Kennedy	Agenda Item #23
Ken Cosentino	Agenda Item #23
Billy Fortier	Agenda Item #23
Eric Fortier	Agenda Item #23

Zach Campbell	Agenda Item #23
Jacob Opyd	Agenda Item #23
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Item #23
Ron Anderluh	Thank you
Daniel Ray	Request for stage
Brooke D'Angelo	Dance of the Fireflys
Ken Hamilton	Open Government; sound system; charter
Tracy Greene	Good of the Community
Robert Ventry	Good of the Community
Ken Cosentino	Good of the People
Rick Williams	Various

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

Agenda Item #1

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: FEDERAL BUDGET FINALIZATION

Agenda Item #2

The City Council approved the draft Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Annual Plan in March 2017. The Consolidated Annual Plan included the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME, and Emergency Solutions Program (ESG); all funded through annual United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocations. These budgets were created via public participation and then presented to the City Council in draft form, using an estimate from the 2016 actual budget amount, to accommodate the city and federal governments' differing fiscal year budget schedules. HUD's final Fiscal Year 2017 allocations were released on June 15, 2017. Cumulatively, the city's final CDBG, HOME and ESG allocation is 4.9 percent lower than the 2,862,702 budget previously presented to the community and approved by the City Council. In comparison, the difference between the 2016 draft consolidated annual plan and the final federal allocation was cumulatively + 0.1 percent, with CDBG and ESG both being reduced by less than two percent and HOME being increased by six percent.

The individual programs are affected as follows:

*Draft vs. Actual*

<b>Source</b>	<b>Draft 2017 Action Plan</b>	<b>HUD 2017 Final Allocation</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>%Change</b>
CDBG	\$2,304,029	<b>\$2,184,219</b>	(\$119,810)	<b>-5.2</b>
HOME	\$356,799	<b>\$336,222</b>	(\$20,577)	<b>-5.7</b>
ESG	\$201,874	<b>\$200,224</b>	(\$1,650)	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,862,702</b>	<b>\$2,720,665</b>	(\$142,037)	<b>-4.9</b>

The Community Development Department proposes the following revisions to the 2017 Community Development Action Plan, to bring the budget estimate in line with the final allocations. The revised action plan was subject to a public comment period from July 6, 2017 to July 19, 2017, advertised in the Niagara Gazette and available at the department's website, [www.nf-cd.org](http://www.nf-cd.org). The proposed changes also reflect HUD's requirement that no more than 15 percent of CDBG funds be dedicated to public services programs and no more than 20 percent be dedicated to administrative costs.

*2017 Programmatic Changes*

Budgeted CDBG Program	\$ Change
Highland Community Revitalization Committee Fair Housing Program	(\$10,000)
Highland Community Revitalization Committee Demonstration Homes	(\$110,000)
Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative	(\$20,000)
Catholic Charities Family Service Center	(\$20,000)
Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers Boy's Breakfast Club*	(\$40,000)
Highland Community Food Access Project	\$18,152
CD Admin	\$7,962

\*Funding for the Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers Boy's Breakfast Club will be provided through unspent funding reprogrammed from the 2015 Action Plan.

HOME Budget	
Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative	(\$14,400)
City of Niagara Falls Administration	(\$2,260)
Niagara Falls Housing Collaborative Administration	(\$3,917)

ESG Budget	
YWCA of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. - Carolyn's House	(\$763)
Community Missions of Niagara Frontier, Inc.	(\$763)
City of Niagara Falls Administration	(\$124)

Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council. Will Council vote to so approve and authorize the Community Development Director to make the necessary budget adjustments?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: RENTAL/LAUNDERING OF UNIFORMS, BEDDING & TOWELS, UNIFIRST CORP.

Agenda Item #3

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Unifirst Corporation  
3999 Jeffrey Boulevard  
Buffalo, NY 14219  
Contact: Michelle Lawrence or Burke Donathan (716) 825-4252

FOR: Item #'s 1 through 20 as per the attached (On file in the City Clerk's Office) tally sheet. The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to nine (9) vendors. Unifirst Corporation submitted the only bid.

Funds for this expenditure are available in various requesting Departments' Laundry and Cleaning account code .0465.000.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: TREE REMOVAL & STUMPING SERVICES II, BENTLEY TREE CARE, LLC.

Agenda Item #4

We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Bentley Tree Care, LLC  
P.O. Box 841  
Ripley, NY 14775

FOR: Tree Removal Services at twenty-eight (28) locations throughout the city: \$ 64,157.00

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to twelve (12) vendors. One (1) bid was received (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Funds for this expenditure are available in: H1515.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

0

APPROVED

Amendment is to change the Bid amount.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC PROTECTION INITIATIVE, GRANT MONEY

Agenda Item #5

The Police Superintendent advises that the City will be receiving \$20,000.00 in grant money from the office of Senator Robert G. Ortt for utilization by the NFPD. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Senator's letter announcing this 2017 Public Protection Initiative. The Police Superintendent advises that he will utilize these funds for purchasing various pieces of safety equipment for police officers.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents required to accept this grant?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

5

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APPROVED

#### CITY CLERK: REORGANIZATION

Agenda Item #6

The City Clerk is requesting that an Account Clerk (Grade 7) position be reclassified to a Senior Clerk (Grade 10) position. The reason for this is that this employee has assumed additional duties due to a long term leave of absence of a temporary employee. While this will result in an additional salary cost of \$3,112.00 (as shown on the attached spreadsheet(On file in the City Clerk's Office) inclusive of FICA, there will be no additional cost to the City because of excess dollars available in the City Clerk's Temporary Payroll Line (A.1410.0000.0130.000).

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nays

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APPROVED

Stipend for employee in Office of the City Clerk. Rate is to be paid on the basis of annual stipend in the amount of \$3000.00.

#### CONTRACT: CULINARY INSTRUCTION

Agenda Item #7

The City is interested in providing summer vocational culinary training for students as part of programming on Old Falls Street. This training will be prepped and performed on Old Falls Street at a location to be worked out with the operator of the Conference Center. The provider of this vocational culinary training proposes to conduct sixteen (16) sessions on various dates to be determined during the summer of 2017. Up to forty (40) students may participate in the program at no cost to the students.

The cost of this program is \$6,500.00. Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for services provided the same is in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: CREDIT CARDS, MODIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT, M & T BANK

Agenda Item #8

Please recall that the City recently entered into an agreement with M & T Bank for the utilization of credit cards. That arrangement provided for a credit limit of \$40,000.00. M & T Bank has proposed to the City Controller a program modification to this agreement which will substantially increase the City's credit limit to an amount in the vicinity of \$600,000.00 which will allow the City to pay many of its various vendors from that line of credit to pay these vendors more quickly rather than issuing a check. The bank line of credit would be paid at the end of each month thereby eliminating the accrual of any interest. The advantage to the City of doing this is that M & T Bank is offering a rebate program which revolves around the annual charges paid pursuant to this program. The rebate to the City could be as high as 1.25% of the credit amount utilized which could equate to revenue to the City of between \$50,000.00 and \$65,000.00 annually.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the City Controller/Mayor to execute any agreements in order to finalize this new program?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: VACANT LOTS CLEARING, ADDITIONAL BRUSH/LOT CLEARING, K.J. SMITH ENTERPRISES, INC.

Agenda Item #9

A contract for the above reference project was awarded to K.J. Smith Enterprises, Inc. in 2016 for clearing of vacant lots & related services (2-year contract).

The City now requires brush clearing on the City-owned Highland Avenue Business Park site. Quotes were solicited, and the sole response was from K.J. Smith Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$2,180.00

Therefore, as the City already has a contract with this vendor for clearing of lots, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #2 to this contract for the needed work in the amount of \$2,180.00 be approved.

Existing funding is available through Casino Funds previously approved by City Council for the Highland Avenue Business Park project.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTIES: NIAGARA STREET, 610, 614, 616 AND 624 AND 414-428  
SEVENTH STREET (THE "PREMISES"), REDEVELOPMENT

Agenda Item #10

In February of this year, the Department of Economic Development circulated a Request for Proposals ("RFP") to redevelop the above referenced City properties. These properties were acquired by the City as a result of various In-Rem City Tax Foreclosure proceedings with the exception of 616 Niagara Street which was acquired by the City in an arms-length transaction with the former owner. This acquisition allowed the City to assemble the "footprint" of properties offered for redevelopment. A copy of the RFP is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Two proposals were received by the City in response to the RFP. Both were scored pursuant to the process described in the RFP. The proposal submitted by the Montante Group scored the highest and it is therefore requested that the City Council authorize the designation of the Montante Group as the "Preferred Developer" for the parcels. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the proposal submitted by the Montante Group together with an amendment to that proposal.

In addition to designating the Montante Group as the preferred developer, it is requested that the City Council authorize the Mayor to negotiate with the Montante Group the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement which will contain the terms of the development of the project. At such time as the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement with terms of development is finalized, that proposed agreement will be presented to the City Council for review with a request for authorization for the Mayor to execute it. A review and recommendation from the Planning Board will precede such a request.

The Montante Group has requested access to the Premises so that it may conduct its due diligence in an effort to move this project along. It is requested that the Council authorize such early access and authorize the Mayor to execute an early access agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel.

Will the Council approve the requests contained herein and authorize the Mayor to execute any agreements in this regard satisfactory in form and content to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be Tabled.

Yea	3
Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	2
Grandinetti, Tompkins	

TABLED

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, ICE RINK, WALTER S. JOHNSON BLDG., CO. INC., GENERAL CONTRACT

Agenda Item #11

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Walter S. Johnson Building Co. Inc., 6638 Mooradian Drive, Niagara Falls, NY, on March 6, 2017 in an amount of \$131,770.00.

During the course of work, the project required various additional work items that were unanticipated to accommodate the new occupied spaces.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$4,478.00 be approved by City Council.

Sufficient funds presently exist through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway Funds.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVE BUSINESS PARK, 3625, ACCESS GATE REPAIRS, FOX FENCE, INC.

Agenda Item #12

The following was the result of quotes solicited for the above reference project.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>
Fox Fence Inc. 2637 Lockport Rd. Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14305	\$3,840.80

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder Fox Fence Inc. at the bid price \$3,840.80. Funding from the City's Economic Department has been earmarked for this project from Casino Funds.

Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State Grant will offset some of the cost associated with this project.

Will the Council vote to approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVE., 3625, BLDGS. #1 & #3, MECHANICAL/HVAC SYSTEMS, INSTALLATION, J.R. SWANSON PLUMBING CO., INC.

Agenda Item #13

The following were the result of bids received on July 18, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>	<u>ALT#1</u>
J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc. 413 103 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls NY 14304	\$134,510.00	\$14,900.00
H.W. Bryk & Sons, Inc.	\$304,000.00	\$33,124.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc. at their base bid of \$134,510.00 plus Alternate #1 for a total of \$149,410.00.

Funding for this project will be from Tribal Revenue. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State Grant will offset some of the costs associated with this project.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	2
Grandinetti, Chairman Walker	
Nays	2
Scott, Touma	
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

THIS ITEM WAS **NOT** APPROVED

Council Member Touma questioned the bid process  
Both Approve and To Table failed

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK: COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS, APPOINTMENTS

Agenda Item #14

The following have requested City Council approval for Commissioner of Deeds for a term from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2019.

This is in accordance with provision of the Niagara Falls City Charter, Article II, Section 7, Subdivision 5.

Eric Barlow	NFFD
Jeff Benjamin	NFFD
Shaun Bielec	NFPD
Carlton Cain	NFPD
Kimberly Carter	Engineering
Patrick Ciccarelli	Code Enforcement
Latricia Herbert	City Clerk's Office
Daniel Jones	NFPD
Kevin Maluchnik	NFPD
James Reynolds	NFPD
Ezra P. Scott Jr.	City Council
Owen Steed	NFPD
Paul Warmington	NFPD

Douglas Goodnick	241 84 <sup>th</sup> St., Niag. Falls, NY 14304
Andrea M. Hilliard	3924 Macklem Ave., Niag.Falls, NY 14305
William Kennedy II	1834 Ontario Ave., Niag.Falls, NY 14305
Caralie Raymond	8421 Munson Ave., Niag.Falls, NY 14304
Victoria Shank	1839 Niagara Ave., Niag.Falls, NY 14305
Diane M. Ward	151 Buff.Ave., #1011, Niag.Falls, NY 14303

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORP., D/B/A NATIONAL GRID

Agenda Item #15

Date Claim Filed:	February 27, 2017
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	November 28, 2016
Location:	in front of 500 block of 78 <sup>th</sup> Street
Nature of Claim:	Front end loader hit a metal plate and damaged a telephone pole.
City Driver:	David Robertson
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim as City is responsible for damages.
Amount to be Paid:	\$13,122.99
Make Check Payable to:	Niagara Mohawk D/B/A National Grid
Conditions:	General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: AMBULANCE ORDINANCE, AMENDING CHAPTER 302, 2017-70

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 302 of the Codified Ordinances entitled "Ambulance Ordinance" is hereby amended to read as follows:

302.01 DEFINITIONS.

• • •

(b) "Ambulance Service/Provider"

• • •

[(g) "Health Officer" means the Niagara County Health Officer or his designated representative.

(h) "License Officer" means the Fire Chief of the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

(i) "Medical Emergency Technician" means:

(1) An individual certified by the Department of Health of the State of New York for a period of three years as being qualified in all phases of medical emergency technology including, but not limited to, communications, first aid, equipment maintenance, emergency room techniques and procedures, patient handling and positioning, and knowledge of procedures and equipment used for obstetrical, respiratory and cardiac emergencies who has passed an examination in the regular and advanced American Red Cross first aid courses or has had equivalent training as may be prescribed from time to time by the Commissioner of Health of the State of New York and has satisfactorily completed a State approved course in medical emergency technology of not less than 36 hours.

(2) Renewal of certification shall require satisfactory completion of a refresher course once every three years. Attendance at the first class and in addition five three-hour sessions of a New York State approved course in emergency medical care technology or attendance at 18 hours of such courses approved by the Department of Health of the State of New York shall be deemed fulfillment of this requirement.]

(g) "License Officer" means the Fire Chief of the City of Niagara Falls, New York or his/her designee.

(h) "Emergency Medical Technician" (EMT) means: A person who responds to emergency calls, performs certain medical procedures and transports patients to hospital in accordance with protocols and guidelines established by physician medical directors. They may work in an ambulance service. EMTs are trained to assess a patient's condition, and to perform such emergency medical procedures as are needed to maintain a patient airway with adequate breathing and cardiovascular circulation until the patient can be transferred to an appropriate destination for advanced medical care. Interventions include cardiopulmonary resuscitation, defibrillation, control of severe external bleeding, shock prevention, body immobilization to prevent spinal damage, and splinting of bone fractures. EMTs are trained in BLS, or basic life support. They must take an initial New York State EMT certification class by a certified course sponsor. Certification is good for three (3) years; prior to the expiration to keep their certification, the EMT must take a refresher class and pass the New York State EMT certification exam again to keep their certification.

(i) "Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate" (EMT-I) means: A mid-level provider of pre-hospital emergency medical services in the United States. The EMT-1 is not intended to deliver definitive medical care, but rather to augment pre-hospital critical care and provide rapid on-scene treatment. EMT-Intermediate is most commonly employed in ambulance services, working in conjunction with EMT-Basics and EMT-Paramedics. The EMT-Intermediate is typically authorized to provide more advanced medical treatment than the EMT-Basic and is typically authorized to provide advanced life support. The minimal psychomotor scope of practice at the national level for an advanced EMT includes all EMT level skills, basic airway management and the insertion of supraglottic airways, suctioning of an already intubated patient, patient assessment, and several pharmacological interventions beyond the EMT level. They must take an initial New York State EMT certification class by a certified course sponsor and pass the class and New York State certification exam for EMT. They must also attend an Intermediate Certification class by a certified course sponsor, passing the class and the New York State certification exam. The certification is good for three (3) years. Prior to the expiration of their certification, the EMT Intermediates need to take an EMT-Intermediate refresher course and pass the New York State certification exam again to keep their certification.

(j) "Paramedic" means: A healthcare professional who works in emergency medical situations. Paramedics provide advanced levels of care for medical emergencies and trauma. The majority of Paramedics are based in the field in ambulances, emergency response vehicles, or in specialist mobile units. Paramedics provide out-of-hospital treatment and some diagnostic services. They must take an initial New York State Paramedic certification class by a certified course sponsor. Certification is good for three (3) years. Prior to the expiration of their certification, the Paramedic needs to take a Paramedic refresher course and pass the New York State certification exam again to keep their certification. The scope of practice includes performing semi-automated external defibrillation, interpretation of 4-lead or 12-lead ECG's depending on the area, administration of symptom relief medications for a variety of emergency medical conditions (these include but are not limited to oxygen, epinephrine, glucagon, ASA (aspirin and nitroglycerine), performing trauma immobilization (including cervical immobilization), and other fundamental basic medical care. Primary Care Paramedics may also receive additional training in order to perform certain skills that are normally in the scope of practice of Advanced Care Paramedics. This is regulated both provincially (by statute) and locally (by the Medical Director), and ordinarily entails an aspect of medical oversight by a specific body or group of physicians. This is often referred to as Medical Control, or a role played by a base hospital. They must take an initial New York State EMT certification class by a certified course sponsor and pass the class and New York State certification exam for EMT. They must also attend a Paramedic Certification class by a certified course sponsor, passing the class and the New York State certification EMT-P exam. The certification is good for three (3) years. Prior to the expiration of their certification, they need to take an EMT-P refresher course and pass the New York State exam to keep their certification.

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302.02 **LICENSE REQUIRED**

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[(b) No ambulance shall be operated for ambulance purposes, and no individual shall drive, attend or permit it to be operated for such purposes on the streets, alleys, or any public way or place of Niagara Falls, New York unless it shall have in attendance on each call a minimum of a driver at least 18 years of age and one medical emergency technician at least 18 years of age.]

(b) No ambulance shall be operated for ambulance purposes, and no individual shall drive, attend or permit it to be operated for such purposes on the streets, alleys, or any public way or place of Niagara Falls, New York unless it shall have in attendance on each call a minimum of a one Emergency Medical Technician that will be the driver, and one Emergency Medical Technician will be the attendant for a BLS (basic life support) response. For an ALS (advance life support) response each unit will have one emergency medical technician that will be the driver and one Paramedic that will be the attendant. Each must be a least 18 years of age.

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(c) Each such application shall be accompanied by a license fee of [\$25.00] two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each ambulance to be operated.

Body here

## [302.04 STANDARDS FOR AMBULANCE LICENSE

(a) A license hereunder shall not be issued unless the License Officer determines that the ambulance service is or will be staffed and equipped in accordance with the requirements of this section; provided, however, that, where an existing ambulance service does not meet said requirements, the License Officer may modify the applicability of such requirements with respect to equipment and training of personnel for periods of time specified in the license.

(b) Requirements: Each ambulance service holding a license pursuant to Section 302.03 hereof, shall:

(1) Submit, in a form prescribed by the License Officer, a semiannual report including calls received and service performed, number and types of vehicles operated and listings of all personnel employed.

(2) Provide each ambulance with the following items of equipment or their equivalent:

Communication Equipment Hand light powered from vehicle Rear door permitting free access (trouble light) to interior for loading Flashlight (explosion proof) stretchers, wheel-litters or Tool kit, pinch bar, lug wrench, other patient-carrying devices auto jacks (2) Level floor at least 12" longer Battery jumper cables than a patient-carrying device Cot or bench

Headroom of at least 39" from floor to center point of ceiling Folding stretcher Short (4") & Long (61/2') back

Attached seat suitably situated boards with three 2" straps

for attendance on patient en route Folding stair chair

Seat belts on all seats Emesis basin

Recording tachmeter Pillows (3)

Siren Bed linen, 2 sets

Flashing red roof light Blankets,

wool

Fire extinguisher, 10 lb. dry Hinged

Keller-Blake half ring powder or ABC type (Thomas

type) leg splint with

2 padded boards, 4½' x 3") stockinette

2 padded boards, 3' x 3") 3 or 4 ply,  
½" thick

2 padded boards, 15" x 3")

Portable oxygen cylinder (medical D12 triangular  
bandages

size) with single stage regulator, 12" x 12"  
sterile pads

a mask and other proper attachments Universal

dressing, 10" x 38" (2)

3"	A QM, EE or Y oxygen cylinder with Elastic bandage, regulator, flow meter, two outlets, tongue blades	1	doz.
	masks and other proper attachments	Safety pins,	
large	Transparent bag-mask, capable of being attached to oxygen (ambulance or other)	Bandage	
scissors		Towels (4)	Rubber or plastic
gloves, small	Portable aspirator (Hand, foot or motor powered) with catheters,	and large	Umbilical
tape, sterile	small and regular sizes	Sterile	
sanitary pads	Mouth-to-mouth 2-way resuscitation gauze pads	12	pkg. sterile
	airways, adult, child and infant sizes	2" x 2", 4" x 4"	
tape		1" and 3"	adhesive
	Oropharyngeal airways, small and regular		
	Bandages, 1", 2", 3" (Kling type),		
	12 of each		

It is advisable to have sufficient fracture equipment to avoid disturbance of patient upon delivery to hospital.

(3) Have in attendance on each call a minimum of a driver at least 18 years of age and one medical emergency technician at least 18 years of age.

(4) Maintain in good working order in each ambulance a means and treatment of sick, injured or disabled persons.

(5) Maintain each ambulance and its equipment in a clean and sanitary condition and, when an ambulance has been utilized to transport a patient known to the owner of the ambulance service or his agents to have a communicable disease other than the common cold, cleanse the vehicle with a disinfectant before transporting the next case.

(6) Permit designated representatives of the License Officer and the Niagara County Health Officer to conduct periodic inspections of vehicles, procedures, materials, staff, equipment and facilities.

(7) Comply with all applicable laws, federal, state and local, relating to health, sanitation and safety.

(c) Each licensed ambulance, its equipment and all records relating to its maintenance and operation as such, shall be open to inspection by the Health Officer and/or the Fire Chief or their designated representatives during usual hours of operation.

(d) Any change of ownership of a licensed ambulance shall terminate the license and shall require a new application and a new license and conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing. No ambulance license may be sold, assigned, mortgaged or otherwise transferred without the approval of the License Officer and a finding of conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing. Application for transfer of any ambulance license to another or substitute vehicle shall require conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing.

(e) No official entry made upon a license may be defaced, removed or obliterated.]

302.04 STANDARDS FOR AMBULANCE LICENSE.

(a) A license hereunder shall not be issued unless the License Officer determines that the ambulance service is (or will be) staffed and equipped in accordance with the requirements of this section; provided, however, that where an existing ambulance service does not meet said requirements, the License Officer may modify the applicability of such requirements with respect to equipment and training of personnel for periods of time specified in the license.

(b) Requirements: Each Ambulance Service/Provider holding a license pursuant to Section 302.03 hereof, shall:

(1) Submit (in a form prescribed by the License Officer) an annual report of the number and types of vehicles operated, and listings of all personnel employed.

(2) Be equipped with the following:

(a) Patient transfer equipment consisting of:

(i) wheeled ambulance cot capable of supporting the patients in the Fowlers position;

(ii) a device capable of carrying a second recumbent patient;

(iii) a device enabling ambulance personnel to carry a sitting patient over stairways and through narrow spaces where a rigid litter cannot be used. This requirement may be satisfied by use of one combination device capable of both operations;

(iv) all litters and cots used to transport patients shall be secured using crash resistant fasteners. The ambulance shall be equipped with securing devices such that two patient carrying devices can be simultaneously secured; and

(v) ambulance cots and other patient carrying devices shall be equipped with at least two, two-inch wide web straps with fasteners to secure the patient to the device and the cot.

(b) Airway, ventilation, oxygen and suction equipment consisting of:

(i) a manually operated self-refilling adult-size bag valve mask ventilation device capable of operating with oxygen enrichment, and clear adult-size masks and air cushions;

(ii) four (4) oro-pharyngeal airways in adult sizes;

(iii) portable oxygen with a minimum 350 liter capacity (medical "D" size) with pressure gauge, regulator and flow meter and one spare cylinder, medical "D" size or larger. The oxygen cylinders must contain a minimum pressure of 1000 pounds/in<sup>2</sup>;

(iv) an in-ambulance oxygen system with a minimum 1200 liter capacity (two medical "E" size) with yoke(s), or CDC fitting, pressure gauges, regulators, and flow meters capable of delivering oxygen to two patients at two different flow rates of up to 15 liters per minute simultaneously.

(v) four (4) of each size, non-rebreather oxygen masks, and four (4) nasal cannulae;

(vi) portable suction equipment capable, according to the manufacturer's specifications, of producing a vacuum of over 300 millimeters of mercury when the suction tube is clamped. This will meet the 800.24(b) (7) requirement if equipped to operate off the ambulance electrical system;

(vii) installed adjustable suction capable of producing a vacuum of over 300 millimeters of mercury when tube is clamped; and

(viii) two (2) plastic Yankauer-type wide bore pharyngeal tips individually wrapped.

(c) Immobilization equipment consisting of:

(i) one (1) full size (at least 72 inches long and 16 inches wide) backboard with necessary straps capable of immobilizing the spine of a recumbent patient;

(ii) one (1) half-length spinal immobilization device with necessary straps capable of immobilizing the spine of a sitting patient;

(iii) one (1) traction splinting device for the lower extremity; and

(iv) two (2) of each of the following size padded boards, with padding at least 3/8 inches thick:

- 4 1/2 feet by 3 inches or equivalent device
- 3 feet by 3 inches or equivalent device
- 15 inches by 3 inches or equivalent device

(v) one (1) set of rigid extrication collars capable of limiting movement of the cervical spine. The set shall include large, medium and small adult-size rigid extrication collars which permit access to the patient's anterior neck; and

(vi) a device or devices capable of immobilizing the head of a patient who is secured to a long backboard.

(d) Bandage and dressing supplies consisting of:

(i) twenty-four (24) sterile gauze pads 4 inches by 4 inches;

(ii) three (3) rolls adhesive tape in two or more sizes;

(iii) ten rolls of conforming gauze bandages in two or more sizes;

(iv) two sterile universal dressings approximately 10 inches by 30 inches;

(v) ten large sterile dressings 5 inch by 9 inches minimum;

(vi) one pair bandage shears;

(vii) two sterile bed-size burn sheets;

(viii) six triangular bandages;

(ix) one liter of sterile saline in plastic container(s) within manufacturer's expiration date

(x) roll of plastic or aluminum foil or equivalent sterile occlusive dressing.

(e) Emergency childbirth supplies in a kit, consisting of the following sterile supplies:

(i) disposable gloves;

(ii) scissors or scalpel;

(iii) umbilical clamps or tape;

(iv) bulb syringe;

(v) drapes; and

(vi) one (1) individually wrapped sanitary napkin.

(f) Miscellaneous and special equipment in clean and sanitary condition consisting of:

(i) linen and pillow on wheeled ambulance cot and spare pillow, two (2)sheets, two (2) pillow cases, and two (2) blankets;

(ii) four (4) cloth towels;

(iii) one (1) box facial tissues;

(iv) two (2) emesis containers;

(v) one (1) adult size blood pressure cuff with gauge;

(vi) stethoscope;

(vii) carrying case for essential emergency care equipment and supplies;

(viii) four (4) chemical cold packs;

(ix) one (1) male urinal;

(x) one (1) bed pan;

(xi) two (2) sets masks and goggles or equivalent;

(xii) two (2) pairs disposable rubber or plastic gloves;

(xiii) one (1) liquid glucose or equivalent;

(xiv) six (6) sanitary napkins individually wrapped;

and

- (xv) one (1) penlight or flashlight.
- (g) Safety equipment consisting of:
  - (i) six (6) flares or three U.S. Department **of** Transportation approved reflective road triangles;
  - (ii) one (1) battery lantern in operable condition; and
- (iii) one (1) Underwriters' Laboratory rated five-pound ABC chemical fire extinguisher or any extinguisher having a rating of 10BC.
- (h) Pediatric equipment consisting of:
  - (i) pediatric bag valve mask, equipped with oxygen reservoir system;
  - (ii) clear face masks in newborn, infant and child sizes, inflatable rim (or mask with minimal under-mask volume) to fit above;
  - (iii) two (2) each nasal cannula, and two each oxygen masks including non-rebreather in the pediatric size;
  - (iv) two (2) each oro-pharyngeal newborn, infant and child size airways;
  - (v) sterile suction catheters, two each in sizes 5, 8 and 10 french;
  - (vi) two (2) sterile DeLee type suction catheters #10 or modified suction traps, or two (2) small bulb syringes;
  - (vii) one (1) sterile single use disposable oxygen humidification setup;
  - (viii) child and infant size blood pressure cuffs with gauge(s);
  - (ix) one (1) rigid extrication collar in pediatric size;
  - (x) one (1) pediatric stethoscope (interchangeable type acceptable);
  - (xi) one (1) commercially prepared infant swaddler.
- (3) All Medic/Supervisor Emergency Vehicles (Fly Cars) used by the current Ambulance service shall be equipped with:
  - (a) emergency care equipment consisting of:
    - (i) twelve (12) sterile 4 inch x 4 inch gauze pads;
    - (ii) adhesive tape, three (3) rolls, assorted sizes;
    - (iii) six (6) rolls conforming gauge bandage, assorted sizes;
    - (iv) two (2) universal dressings, minimum 10 inch x 30 inch;
    - (v) six (6) 5 inch x 9 inch (minimum) sterile dressings or equivalent;
    - (vi) one (1) pair of bandage shears;
    - (vii) six (6) triangular bandages;
    - (viii) sterile normal saline in plastic container (0.5 liter minimum) within the manufacturer's expiration date;
    - (ix) one (1) air occlusive dressing;
    - (x) one (1) liquid glucose or equivalent;
    - (xi) disposable sterile burn sheet;
    - (xii) sterile obstetric [O.B.] kit;
    - (xiii) blood pressure cuff (sphygmomanometer) in adult and pediatric sizes with stethoscope;
    - (xiv) three rigid extrication collars capable of limiting movement of the cervical spine. These collars shall include small, medium and large adult sizes; and
    - (xv) carrying case for essential equipment and supplies.
  - (b) Oxygen and resuscitation equipment consisting of:
    - (i) portable oxygen with a minimum 350 liter capacity pressure gauge, regulator and flow meter medical "D" size or larger. The oxygen cylinder must contain a minimum of 1000 pounds per square inch.

(ii) manually operated self-refilling bag valve mask ventilation devices in pediatric and adult sizes with a system capable of operating with oxygen enrichment and clear adult, and clear pediatric size masks with air cushion

(iii) four (4) individually wrapped or boxed oropharyngeal airways in a range of sizes for pediatric and adult patients

(iv) two (2) each: disposable non-rebreather oxygen masks, and disposable nasal cannulae (individually wrapped);

(v) portable suction equipment capable (according to the manufacturer's specifications) of producing a vacuum of over 300 mmHg when the suction tube is clamped and including two plastic large bore rigid pharyngeal suction tips (individually wrapped); and

(vi) pen-light or flashlight.

(c) A two-way voice communications enabling direct communication with the agency dispatcher and the responding ambulance vehicle on frequencies other than citizens band.

(d) Safety equipment consisting of:

(i) six flares or three U.S. Department of Transportation approved reflective road triangles;

(ii) one battery lantern in operable condition; and

(iii) one Underwriters' Laboratory rated five-pound ABC fire extinguisher or any extinguisher having a UL rating of 10BC.

(e) Extrication equipment consisting of:

(i) one (1) short backboard or equivalent capable of immobilizing the cervical spine of a [sitting] seated patient. The short backboard shall have at least two inch by nine foot long web straps with fasteners unless straps are affixed to the device; and

(ii) one (1) blanket.

(4) The Ambulance Service/Provider shall:

(a) maintain in good working order in each ambulance a means for treatment of sick, injured or disabled persons.

(b) maintain each ambulance and its equipment in a clean and sanitary condition, and when an ambulance has been utilized to transport a patient, proper decontamination must be performed before transporting the next case.

(c) permit designated representatives of the License Officer to conduct periodic inspections of vehicles, procedures, materials, staff, equipment and facilities.

(d) comply with all applicable laws, federal, state and local, relating to health, sanitation and safety.

(5) Each licensed ambulance, its equipment and all records relating to its maintenance and operation as such, shall be open to inspection by the License Officer or his designated representatives during usual hours of operation.

(6) Any change of ownership of a licensed ambulance shall terminate the license and shall require a new application and a new license, in conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing. No ambulance license may be sold, assigned, mortgaged or otherwise transferred without the approval of the License Officer and a finding of conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing. Application for transfer of any ambulance license to another or substitute vehicle shall require conformance with all the requirements of this Ordinance as upon original licensing.

(7) No official entry made upon a license may be defaced, removed or obliterated.

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(1) For injury to or death of individuals in accidents resulting from any cause for which the owner of said vehicle would be liable on account of liability imposed on him by law, regardless of whether the ambulance was being driven by the owner or his agent in the amount of not less than [\$100,000.00] one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the injury or death of any one person and [\$300,000.00] two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for the injury or death of any number of persons in any one accident; and

• • •

[302.06 APPLICATIONS FOR DRIVERS' AND TECHNICIANS' LICENSE.

(a) Applications for drivers' and medical emergency technicians' licenses hereunder shall be made upon forms provided by the License Officer and shall contain such information as the License Officer and Ambulance Service Board shall deem reasonably necessary, in addition to meeting the following requirement and qualifications:

(1) Each applicant for a license as a medical emergency technician shall a) submit a letter of approval from the Superintendent of Police and shall b) submit a current certificate showing that applicant had satisfactorily completed both the required American Red Cross First Aid Courses or accepted equivalent training and the New York State approved class instructed course in Medical Emergency Technology of not less than 36 hours.

(2) Each applicant for a driver's license shall a) submit a letter of approval from the Superintendent of Police and shall b) submit evidence of a current, valid New York State license.

(3) Each applicant for a driver's or medical emergency technician's license must, upon examination by a duly licensed physician, be found to have the following minimum qualifications at the time of application and by re-examination within each thirty-six (36) months thereafter; no mental, nervous, organic or functional disease, likely to interfere with safe driving or attending an ambulance; no loss of fingers; no impairment of use of foot, leg, fingers, hand, or arm or other structural defect or limitation likely to interfere with safe driving or attending an ambulance; visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye either without glasses or by correction with glasses; ability to distinguish colors, red, green, and yellow; hearing of not less than 10/20 in the better ear for conversational tones without a hearing aid. Such findings shall be attested to by the examining physician on forms provided by the License Officer.

(4) Attained a minimum age of eighteen (18) years.

(5) Is able to speak, read and write the English language.

(6) Each such application shall be accompanied by a license fee of \$10.00.

(b) A license as driver or medical emergency technician issued hereunder shall not be assignable or transferable.

(c) No official entry made upon a license may be defaced, removed, or obliterated.]

302.06 APPLICATION FOR DRIVER/ATTENDANTS LICENSE

(a) Applications for driver/attendants license hereunder shall be made upon forms provided by the License Officer and shall contain such information as the License Officer and Ambulance Service Board shall deem reasonably necessary, in addition to meeting the following requirements and qualifications:

(1) Each applicant for an ambulance driver / attendants license shall submit a current certificate showing that applicant had satisfactorily completed both the required American Red Cross or American Heart CPR Course for Health Care Providers and possess their current New York State Emergency Medical Technician or higher certification card.

(2) Each applicant for a driver/attendant license shall submit evidence of a current, valid New York State driver's license.

(3) Each applicant must not have been charged or convicted of any crime, misdemeanor offense or any other violation of the law. A background check will be performed by the City's Police Department to verify.

(4) The driving record for each applicant will be provided by the Superintendent of Police, and must not have any major traffic violations or license suspensions on their record in order to qualify to be an ambulance driver.

(5) Each applicant for a driver/attendant license must not have one of the following conditions: epilepsy, vertigo, heart disease, defective vision (must be at least 20/40 corrected each eye with ability to distinguish colors), defective hearing (must be at least 10/20 in better ear without hearing aid), no impairment of use of feet, legs, fingers, hands or arms or other structural defect or limitation, mental, nervous, organic or functional disease that is likely to interfere with safe driving or attending an ambulance.

(6) Applicant must have attained a minimum age of eighteen (18) years.

(7) Applicant must be able to speak, read and write the English language.

(8) Each such application shall be accompanied by a license fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(b) A license as driver/attendant issued hereunder shall not be assignable or transferable.

(c) No official entry made upon a license may be defaced, removed or obliterated.

302.07 DUTIES OF LICENSE OFFICER.

• • •

(b) The City Clerk, upon written approval by the Licensing Officer shall issue a license hereunder for a specified ambulance, to be valid for a period of one (1) calendar year unless earlier suspended, revoked or terminated, when he finds:

(1) That each such ambulance and its required equipment has been certified by the [Health] License Officer.

(2) That the applicant is a responsible and proper person to conduct or work in the proposed business based primarily upon the information contained in his application.

(3) That only duly licensed [drivers and medical emergency technicians] drivers/attendants are employed in such capacities.

(4) That all the requirements of this Ordinance and all other applicable laws, federal, state or local have been met.

(c) The City Clerk, upon written approval by the Licensing Officer, shall issue a license to a [driver, or medical emergency technician] driver/attendant hereunder, valid for a period of one calendar (1) year, unless earlier suspended, revoked or terminated, when he finds that the applicant:

• • •

302.08 AMBULANCE SERVICE BOARD: POWERS AND DUTIES.

(a) The Ambulance Service Board shall consist of [five (5)] six (6) members who shall be the City [Manager] Administrator, the Corporation Counsel, the Superintendent of Police, the [Niagara County Health Officer or his designee] Medical Director for the Niagara Falls Fire Department, [and one citizen who shall be a resident of the City of Niagara Falls for a term of one year to serve without compensation. It is recommended herein that the Mayor make every effort to appoint a citizen to this said board who is either a physician or knowledgeable in the medical field; however, this recommendation is directive only and not mandatory.] the License Officer and the City Clerk. The powers and duties of the Ambulance Service Board shall be as follows:

• • •

(6) [Co-ordinate uniform ambulance charges by requiring ambulance owners to submit with the application for a license, the rates to be charged for said service in the City.] Any contract with an Ambulance Service/Provider must first be reviewed and approved, disapproved or denied by the Ambulance Service Board. If the contract is approved, it will be forwarded to the Mayor and City Council for final approval.

302.09 ISSUANCE OF AMBULANCE, [DRIVERS AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY TECHNICIAN] DRIVERS/ATTENDANTS LICENSES.

The License Officer shall, upon completion of his investigation, direct the City Clerk to issue such licenses upon the payment of the required license fee. Each such license shall be valid for the calendar year for which it is issued unless sooner revoked or suspended and shall expire on December thirty-first of the year for which it is issued. At any time after a license has been issued, the License Officer may make, or cause to be made further inspections, and if any ambulance is found by him to be in violation of this Ordinance, the License Officer may revoke or suspend such license or, if it is found that any licensee is violating any of the terms of this Ordinance, the License Officer may revoke or suspend such license.

302.10 LICENSE FEES.

(a) The fee for an ambulance license shall be [Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)] Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) payable annually to the City Clerk in advance. Separate licenses shall be required annually for each ambulance operated and they shall not be transferable except that a license issued for any vehicle belonging to the same licensee shall be transferred to another vehicle upon application therefor, duly verified and showing that the vehicle previously licensed is no longer to be used for the purpose herein contemplated.

(b) The fee for an ambulance [driver or medical emergency technician] driver/attendant, other than a physician or hospital intern, shall be [Twenty Dollars (\$20.00)] One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) payable annually, to the City Clerk in advance.

[302.12 DUTIES OF DRIVERS AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY TECHNICIANS.

Ambulance drivers and medical emergency technicians shall comply with the request of the patient and/or relatives for removal to a hospital of his choice within a reasonable distance, providing that in their judgment the condition of the patient will withstand extra travel. No person in charge of an ambulance shall refuse to take a wounded or ill or infirm, or injured person to a hospital after the need for hospitalization has been determined by a physician, or if made at the request of the police or fire department. When a person is found ill, or wounded, or infirm, or injured in the street or any public place, however seriously, he shall not be left in such location, but shall be removed to a hospital.

Ambulance drivers and medical emergency technicians shall:

(a) When they arrive at the scene of an accident or disaster, notify the Fire Department whether or not they are in need of additional ambulances and emergency medical attention.

(b) Take the injured person or the person in need of hospital services to the nearest hospital unless the patient or relative directs otherwise.]

#### 302.12 DUTIES OF DRIVERS/ATTENDANTS

(a) Ambulance drivers and attendants shall comply with the request of the patient and/or relatives for removal to a hospital of their choice within a reasonable distance, providing that in their judgment the condition of the patient will withstand extra travel. If State or local protocols deem that a patient with a certain condition be taken to a specific facility, the protocols will be followed. No person in charge of an ambulance shall refuse to take a wounded, ill, infirm, or injured person to a hospital after the need for hospitalization has been determined by a physician, or if made at the request of the Police or Fire Department. Anyone who is found ill, wounded, infirm or injured in the street or any public place (however seriously) shall not be left in such location, but shall be removed to a hospital. When they arrive at the scene of an accident or disaster, ambulance drivers and Emergency Medical Technicians shall:

1. Notify the Niagara Falls Fire Department whether or not they are in need of additional ambulances and Emergency Medical personnel.
2. Take the injured person or the person in need of hospital services to the nearest hospital unless the patient (or advocate/guardian) directs otherwise or type of injury or sickness as per New York State protocols directs them to bring the patient to a specialty hospital.

#### 302.15 PENALTIES.

(a) Any person, [driver or medical emergency technician] driver/attendant, violating, or failing to comply with, the provisions of this Ordinance and the applicable rules and regulations hereof, shall be deemed guilty of a [misdemeanor] violation and upon conviction thereof shall be fined an amount not less than \$25.00 and not exceeding \$500.00 or imprisoned for a period not exceeding six (6) months, or be both so fined and imprisoned, for each offense.

#### 302.17 ANNUAL FRANCHISE FEE

The Ambulance Service/Provider who enters into a contract with the City shall be under a duty and obligation to follow all items that were included in the most current Ambulance Service/Provider "Request for Proposal" and ambulance service contract agreement with the City regarding payment of an annual contract Ambulance Franchise Fee.

#### [302.17] 302.18 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective on [March 12, 1973] July 25, 2017.

Bold and Underlining indicate Additions.  
Bold and Brackets indicate [Deletions].

Yeas	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	
Nays	1
Touma	

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: LASALLE RECREATIONWAY TRAIL PROJECT, FUNDING APPLICATION, DEVELOPMENT, 2017-71  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls is submitting a Consolidated Funding Application- Environmental Protection Fund, for a LaSalle Recreationway Project as part of the implementation of a citywide network of multi-use trails (as identified under the Parks and Open Space Inventory/Parks Master Plan); and

WHEREAS, this LaSalle segment is an important new off-road hike and bike recreational path for LaSalle: connecting neighborhoods and parks, providing safe access between the east city line and LaSalle Waterfront Park, and serving as a vital link within the Niagara River Greenway and citywide trail system; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project's estimated total cost is approximately \$602,400, which will include New York State assistance of up to \$451,800, with the local/city share of up to \$150,600; and

WHEREAS, the required local/city matching funds will be available through the Host Communities Standing Committee distributing Power Authority Greenway funds; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project requires no commitment of City of Niagara Falls General or Casino funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby approves this grant application and authorizes the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the application and grant.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SOUTHEN DOWNTOWN GATEWAY REVITALIZATION, FUNDING APPLICATION, EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT, 2017-72  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls (City) is submitting a Consolidated Funding Application- through the State of New York's Regional Economic Development Council for the above referenced project; and

WHEREAS, the Project to assist private sector developers in revitalizing the South End Downtown Gateway, along Niagara Street, west of John B. Daly Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the City through tax foreclosure has possession of over 100 residentially zoned parcels in the city's Downtown/South End neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City identified this as one of seven "Big Moves" in its 2009 Comprehensive Plan and more recently made it a feature component in its application for assistance under the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Project has a total estimated cost of at least \$10,000,000, with State assistance of up to \$2,000,000, and the balance of the required local share being made up of the private-sector equity investments, as well as, supporting public improvements and/or property equity; and

WHEREAS, the Project investment will leverage renovation of existing structures and/or new construction infill, and facilitate the acquisition of properties, as necessary, to assemble viable development sites; and

WHEREAS, the City will solicit for competitive development proposals that can achieve the goals of, the 2009 Comprehensive Plan, the Core City Urban Renewal Plan, and the REDC Economic Development Plan, as well as, to ensure the qualifications of bidders and the viability of proposals; and

WHEREAS, a successful CFA and project proposal(s) will renew this important Gateway, it will create new housing and business opportunities and employment, raise property values, and increase local tax base and revenues for the City of Niagara Falls,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby approves this grant application and authorizes the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the application and grant.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: GILL CREEK TRAIL PROJECT, FUNDING APPLICATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND, DEVELOPMENT, 2017-73  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #19

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls is submitting a Consolidated Funding Application- Environmental Protection Fund, for the Gill Creek Trail Project as part of the implementation of a citywide network of multi-use trails (as identified under the Parks and Open Space Inventory/Parks Master Plan) that will link its system of parks and better connect neighborhoods to the waterfront; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project's estimated total cost is approximately \$700,000, which will include New York State assistance of up to \$525,000, with a local/city share of up to \$175,000; and

WHEREAS, the required local/city matching funds will be available through the Host Communities Standing Committee distributing Power Authority Greenway funds; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project requires no commitment of City of Niagara Falls General or Casino funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby approves this grant application and authorizes the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to this application and grant.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: HYDE PARK LAKE RESTORATION PROJECT, FUNDING APPLICATION, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND, 2017-74  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls is submitting a Consolidated Funding Application- through the State of New York's Environmental Protection Fund, for the Hyde Park Lake Restoration Project; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project's estimated total cost is approximately \$1,400,000; and

WHEREAS, the Project's funding sources will include the New York State Environmental Protection Fund assistance of up to \$1,050,000; and

WHEREAS, the Project's funding sources will also include funding made available through the Host Communities Standing Committee, distributing Power Authority Greenway funds, which will provide the local/city share of up to \$350,000; and

WHEREAS, the above referenced project requires no commitment of City of Niagara Falls general or Casino funds,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that it hereby approves this grant application and authorizes the Mayor to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to this application and grant.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SUMMERFEST AT THE SAL, WAIVER OF BANDSTAND RENTAL FEE,  
2017-75  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Firefighters Christmas Toy Fund is one of the city's well-known and beloved charities that serves many families throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2017 "Summerfest at the Sal" will take place at Sal Maglie Stadium from 12 noon to 7pm to benefit the Niagara Falls Firefighters Christmas Toy Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this council does hereby waive bandstand rental fees of \$550.00 for the Niagara Falls Firefighters Christmas Toy Fundraiser on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at Sal Maglie Stadium, Niagara Falls, NY (letter on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, APPOINTMENTS, 2017-76  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Tabitha Bernard 1331 Garden Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019

Mark Diodate 3028 Dorchester Road Niagara Falls, NY 14305 (to fill the unexpired term of Sanquin Starks)	12/31/2017
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------

Casey Walls III 718 60 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2019
Yea Nays	5 0

ADOPTED

Amendment was to add additional person to Youth Board

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA GORGE'S NATURE, PRESERVING, 2017-77  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #23

WHEREAS, the Niagara Gorge and the New York State Parks that align it are considered part of the Olmsted Park system and fall within the limits of the city of Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, the goal of Frederick Law Olmsted was to maintain the natural beauty and habitat of this area; and

WHEREAS, both Whirlpool State Park and Devil's Hole State Park have retained their natural state, including hiking and walking trails that are frequented by visitors from around the world, as well as local residents; and

WHEREAS, the city's cultural district, which is part of our city's 2009 Comprehensive Plan, runs from Cedar Avenue to the Niagara Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby request the State of New York to limit any new commercial development, including new attractions, to the cultural district and to allow the popular nature trails and paths along the Niagara Gorge, encompassing Whirlpool State Park and Devil's Hole State Park, to remain untouched so that Olmsted's early vision of natural beauty might be preserved for current visitors and future generations to enjoy.

Yea

5

Nay

0

ADOPTED

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: WI-FI, DOWNTOWN AREA, GLOBAL TOURISM INSTITUTE

Agenda Item #24

City officials have been in discussion with NGTI regarding a NGTI initiative to install Wi-Fi service in the downtown area. The availability of Wi-Fi is an important amenity in any City and especially in a tourist city such as Niagara Falls. The total capital cost of Phase 1 of the initiative is \$105,000.00. Soft costs for the startup and the 1<sup>st</sup> year of operation are \$45,000.00. NGTI has a NY Power Authority funding commitment of \$50,000.00 for the WIFI initiative. Niagara University is funding the NGTI annually in the amount of \$275,000.00. NGTI estimates its internal cost to advance the WIFI initiative so far at \$45,000.00 - \$50,000.00.

The remaining funding gap for this NGTI initiative is \$100,000.00.

The City has been asked to contribute \$50,000.00 to this initiative contingent upon NGTI raising the balance of the cost of the initiative from other stakeholder entities such as the Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation.

Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: GOLDEN STEPS 4 PEDIATRIC CANCER AWARENESS, 2017-78  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #25

WHEREAS, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golden Steps 4 Pediatric Cancer Awareness Walk will take place on Friday, September 1, 2017 at Niagara Falls State Park; and

WHEREAS, the event will feature a walk around Niagara Falls State Park led by baby Shawn hopefully will raise funds to aid in the cost to find a cure for this deadly disease; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that it is important for the public to be aware that pediatric cancer is a deadly disease and steps must be taken in order to combat this deadly disease and raise funds for research; and

WHEREAS, any funds raised from the Golden Steps 4 Pediatric Cancer Awareness Walk will provide much needed support to children with cancer and their families being treated locally as well as to help fund research to find cures.

WHEREAS, attached is an information sheet regarding the Golden Steps 4 Pediatric Cancer Awareness Walk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does support the Golden Steps 4 Pediatric Cancer Awareness Walk and as supporter, joins in this event as a co-sponsor of the event.

Yea

5

Nay

0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council,  
Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:30 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



AUGUST 7, 2017

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

---

August 4, 2017

Members of the City Council  
And  
Lisa Vitello, City Clerk

Council Members and Madam:

You are hereby notified of a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York called pursuant to Section 3.9b of the City Charter, to be held on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York for the following purpose:

1. Approval of Letter of Award for Installation of New Mechanical/HVAC Systems at 3625 Highland Avenue Buildings #1 and #3.
2. Approval of Consultant Services for Air Monitoring & Visual Inspection at 3625 Highland Avenue Business Park.
3. Approval of Amendment to Grant Agreement between the City and Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center regarding Cardiac Stroke Center Project.
4. Resolution relative to waiving rental fees for Willing Workers picnic.
5. Remove from the table Redevelopment of City Owned Properties located at 610, 614, 616 and 624 Niagara Street and 414-428 Seventh Street.
6. Vote on approval of Redevelopment of City Owned Properties located at 610, 614, 616 and 624 Niagara Street and 414-428 Seventh Street.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Charles Walker, Council Chair

The August 7, 2017 Special Meeting of the Niagara Falls City Council was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 4:00 PM.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins and Andrew Touma.

Also Present: Mayor Paul Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and Controller Daniel Morello.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVENUE, 3625, MECHANICAL/HVAC SYSTEMS, BUILDINGS #1 & #3, INSTALLATION, J. R. SWANSON PLUMBING CO., INC.

Agenda Item #1

The following were the result of bids received on July 18, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>	<u>ALT#1</u>
J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc. 413 103 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls NY 14304	\$134,510.00	\$14,900.00
H.W. Bryk & Sons, Inc.	\$304,000.00	\$33,124.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc. at their base bid of \$134,510.00 plus Alternate #1 for a total of \$149,410.00.

Funding for this project will be from Tribal Revenue. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State Grant will offset some of the costs associated with this project.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

APPROVED

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVENUE, 3625, BUSINESS PARK, CONSULTANT SERVICES, STOHL ENVIRONMENTAL

Agenda Item #2

Based upon a City contract previously award to Stohl Environmental for environmental services and approved by City Council, a contract for Project & Air Monitoring was secured. Two separate projects were performed by Stohl including review of certifications, compliance with regulations during abatement, air sampling, and visual inspection and laboratory fees for environment remediation at 3625 Highland Avenue.

Air monitoring and testing is required by State law and is in conjunction with Asbestos floor tile removals and the installation of new windows and doors contracts previously approved by City Council.

Funding for these environmental services is from Casino Funds previously earmarked by the City's Economic Development Department.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that funding be approved for Stohl Environmental under their previous agreed fee schedule in the amount of \$3,113.50

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NFMMC, CARDIAC STROKE CENTER PROJECT, GRANT AMENDMENT

Agenda Item #3

In 2014, the City approved a grant of \$250,000.00 of 99-h State Finance Law funds (casino revenues) to Niagara Falls Medical Center for the \$3.4 Million Cardiac Stroke Center Project. The grant agreement provided a schedule for drawing the funds. The first \$150,000.00 of Grant Funds released when fundraising was complete and construction contracts signed. The next draw of \$75,000.00 is to be released when \$2 Million in costs have been paid, and the final draw will be due on project completion. The grant agreement provided that the project was to be complete and all grant funds released by December 31, 2016.

The Project is progressing, with a November 31 completion date. It is proposed that the grant agreement be amended to provide that the second draw will be made when payment of \$1.65 Million of costs have been paid. The project completion and grant disbursement date will be amended to January 31, 2018, to give ample time for certification of project costs.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Touma	
Nay	0
Abstain	1
Chairman Walker	

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: WILLING WORKERS PICNIC, WAIVER OF FEES, 2017-79

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #4

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City Council wishes to do its part to foster the community bonds that are strengthened by the Willing Workers Senior Group of Mount Erie Baptist Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby waive the fee for rental of the Oasis at Hyde Park for the picnic scheduled to take place on Tuesday, August 8, 2017

Yea	5
Nay	0

ADOPTED

CITY PROPERTY: NIAGARA STREET, 610, 614, 616 AND 624 AND 414-428 SEVENTH ST., REDEVELOPMENT, MONTANTE GROUP, REMOVED FROM TABLE

Agenda Item #5

In February of this year, the Department of Economic Development circulated a Request for Proposals ("RFP") to redevelop the above referenced City properties. These properties were acquired by the City as a result of various In-Rem City Tax Foreclosure proceedings with the exception of 616 Niagara Street which was acquired by the City in an arms-length transaction with the former owner. This acquisition allowed the City to assemble the "footprint" of properties offered for redevelopment. A copy of the RFP (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is attached hereto.

Two proposals were received by the City in response to the RFP. Both were scored pursuant to the process described in the RFP. The proposal submitted by the Montante Group scored the highest and it is therefore requested that the City Council authorize the designation of the Montante Group as the "Preferred Developer" for the parcels. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the proposal submitted by the Montante Group together with an amendment to that proposal.

In addition to designating the Montante Group as the preferred developer, it is requested that the City Council authorize the Mayor to negotiate with the Montante Group the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement which will contain the terms of the development of the project. At such time as the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement with terms of development is finalized, that proposed agreement will be presented to the City Council for review with a request for authorization for the Mayor to execute it. A review and recommendation from the Planning Board will precede such a request.

The Montante Group has requested access to the Premises so that it may conduct its due diligence in an effort to move this project along. It is requested that the Council authorize such early access and authorize the Mayor to execute an early access agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel.

Will the Council approve the requests contained herein and authorize the Mayor to execute any agreements in this regard satisfactory in form and content to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be removed from the Table.

Yea	5
Nay	0

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE TABLE

CITY PROPERTY: NIAGARA STREET, 610, 614, 616 AND 624, 414-428 SEVENTH STREET, REDEVELOPMENT, MONTANTE GROUP, APPROVAL

Agenda Item #6

In February of this year, the Department of Economic Development circulated a Request for Proposals ("RFP") to redevelop the above referenced City properties. These properties were acquired by the City as a result of various In-Rem City Tax Foreclosure proceedings with the exception of 616 Niagara Street which was acquired by the City in an arms-length transaction with the former owner. This acquisition allowed the City to assemble the "footprint" of properties offered for redevelopment. A copy of the RFP (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is attached hereto.

Two proposals were received by the City in response to the RFP. Both were scored pursuant to the process described in the RFP. The proposal submitted by the Montante Group scored the highest and it is therefore requested that the City Council authorize the designation of the Montante Group as the "Preferred Developer" for the parcels. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the proposal submitted by the Montante Group together with an amendment to that proposal.

In addition to designating the Montante Group as the preferred developer, it is requested that the City Council authorize the Mayor to negotiate with the Montante Group the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement which will contain the terms of the development of the project. At such time as the terms and conditions of a sale and purchase agreement with terms of development is finalized, that proposed agreement will be presented to the City Council for review with a request for authorization for the Mayor to execute it. A review and recommendation from the Planning Board will precede such a request.

The Montante Group has requested access to the Premises so that it may conduct its due diligence in an effort to move this project along. It is requested that the Council authorize such early access and authorize the Mayor to execute an early access agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel.

Will the Council approve the requests contained herein and authorize the Mayor to execute any agreements in this regard satisfactory in form and content to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

Councilmember Touma thanked all involved in this Project.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 4:10 PM.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the September 5, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Touma moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of July 24, 2017 and the Special Meeting of August 7, 2017.

Yea

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Nay

0

APPROVED

Presentations:

Mr. Jason Jakubowski with Chief Bryan DalPorto gave an update on Niagara University off campus housing issues. Mr. Jakubowski explained what N.U. is doing to combat inappropriate behavior in off campus student housing especially in the Deveaux neighborhood.

Attorney Larry Rubin gave a presentation/update on the City Charter.

Administrative update:

Proclamation by the Mayor:

The Mayor awarded Toni Manzare a Citizenship Award for taking care of a child she found wandering and returning her safely home.

Councilwoman Grandinetti inquired about storm damage.

Councilman Touma inquired about the progress on Portage Road.

City Administrator Nickolas Melson gave an update stating the work should be completed in 2 weeks.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked for a presentation from the City Clerk regarding the new Vicious Dog Reporting Policy.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about the lack of enforcement with downtown metered parking.

Councilman Touma and Chairman Walker discussed tree removal efforts.

Councilman Scott inquired about the details of the Municipal Waste Contract and CSX property citing a lack of maintenance.

Councilman Tompkins joined by Councilman Touma asked if we could create a dialogue with CSX regarding their bridges and crossing which have fallen into a state of disrepair.

Councilman Tompkins stated that Buffalo Fuel has issues with waste disposal.

Councilman Touma asked Director of Community Development Seth Piccirillo for an update on parks projects and site plans.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of an item to be amended and two items to be added to the agenda.

Motion to amend item 20 (date changed to September 30<sup>th</sup>).

Motion to amend by Councilwoman Grandinetti. Second by Councilman Touma

Yea

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Nay

0

Motion made to add "Letter of award for Jerauld Park playground installation"

Motion by Councilwoman Grandinetti. Second by Councilman Touma.  
Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

The item was added as # 23

Motion made to add a Resolution of support for the "Texas in Our Hearts Event"

Motion made by Councilwoman Grandinetti. Second by Councilman Touma.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

The item was added as #24

This session ended at 5:50 p.m.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:20 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Gerald Skrlin	Agenda Item #21
Thomas Dane	Agenda Item #11
Ron Anderluh	Revenue suggestions
Pat Proctor	Tourism Advisory Board
Gerald Skrlin	"What is Truth"

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2017

Agenda Item #1  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2017

Agenda Item #2  
THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVENUE, 3625, MECHANICAL/PLUMBING ACTIVATION, CHANGE ORDER #2, J.R. SWANSON PLUMBING CO.

Agenda Item #3  
A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc., 413-103<sup>rd</sup> Street, Niagara Falls, NY on August 15, 2016.

This Change Request is to provide a new water service to office building #1. The original water line from the previous owner was installed at an improper depth causing it to freeze making it unusable. The original 'scope of work' did not include this unanticipated but necessary work required to complete the project and to allow for the City to obtain a certification of occupancy.

Funding for this Change Order is available from Casino Funds. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State ESD Grant is available to offset project cost.

220

09/05/2017

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #2 in the amount of \$11,150.00 be approved, bringing the new contract total to \$159,608.82.

Will the council vote to so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, ICE RINK LOCKER ROOM, CHANGE ORDER #2 (GENERAL CONTRACT), WALTER S. JOHNSON BUILDING CO

Agenda Item #4

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Walter S. Johnson Building Co. Inc., 6638 Mooradian Drive, Niagara Falls, NY, on March 6, 2017 in an amount of \$131,770.00 and on July 24, 2017 Change Order #1 was approved by City Council increasing the total to \$136,248.00.

Subsequent to the close out of the above reference project, the City requested quotes for new work not included under the present contract. This work involves the demolition and renovation of the original (4) locker rooms located in Rink #1. This work will complete renovations to the remaining untouched locker rooms and make possible new facilities for home team "Junior A Club" starting this fall.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #2 in the amount not to exceed \$120,000.00 be approved by City Council.

Sufficient funding remains in the original budget used for Stone Comfort Building project through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway Funds.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: LASALLE RECREATION WAY TRAIL, CONSULTANT SERVICES, PROJECT, CHA CONSULTING

Agenda Item #5

Based upon the New York State Department of State procedures for open competitive Request for Proposals (RFP), CHA Consulting has been selected as the City's consultant for the above referenced project.

Funding for the Design Engineering portion of this project is fully covered under a NY State grant and by Niagara River Greenway at 100%. Construction Inspection and Construction administration components will also be eligible for reimbursement.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the Project Proposal for the LaSalle Recreation Way Trail submitted by CHA Consulting Inc. be awarded at the proposed price not to exceed \$138,000.00.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

PURCHASE: WASHERS & DRYERS, FIREHOUSES, GEORGE'S APPLIANCES

Agenda Item #6

The Fire Chief advises that it is necessary to purchase washers and dryers for the Firehouses so that they can be used to clean linens as agreed with the bargaining units. Various vendors were solicited for estimates and the lowest came in from George's Appliances in the amount of \$4,640.00 inclusive of delivery. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of that estimate. It is also requested that an extra \$500.00 be made available for related electrical or plumbing supplies that may be necessary during installation for a total of \$5,140.00. Funds for this acquisition are available from the Firehouse Repair Capital Funds.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated she was pleased we used a local vendor.

CITY PROPERTY: VIRGINIA AVENUE, 2056, SALE

Agenda Item #7

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$1,000.00.

This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board with the conditions that the home and property be brought into code compliance within one (1) year from the transfer and that the purchaser(s) occupy the home for a minimum of five (5) years. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board's approval.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the conditions described above, the Planning Board approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days of the resident being informed of Council approval, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2017-2018 School Tax (if applicable) and all recording fees.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma stated that this is a very valuable program.

CONTRACT: NCCC, PARKING, RAINBOW RAMP

Agenda Item #8

The Development Agreement entered into by and between NCCC, the City and USA Niagara Development Corporation dated November 30, 2011 called for, among other things, that NCCC would receive parking in the Rainbow Ramp for up to four hundred (400) spaces per day for a five (5) year period of time at no cost to NCCC. This was in consideration of the donation by the college foundation of the ground lease in the Rainbow Mall property as well as 310 Rainbow Boulevard to the City. That five (5) year period of time has now expired.

The college has reevaluated its needs and it has found that it requires only up to two hundred (200) spaces per day during the months of September through May and that it requires only fifty (50) spaces per day during the months of June, July and August. In further consideration of the aforementioned transfers by the foundation to the City, NCCC is proposing that it pay to the City \$20.00 per space per month for the

utilization of the Rainbow Ramp as described. The term of this agreement is proposed to be two (2) years during which time the City and NCCC can reevaluate their respective needs going forward. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of a proposed draft agreement. NCCC and the City are continuing discussions about certain non-material provisions contained in this draft.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement provided the same is in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma stated that we need a long range parking plan.

CONTRACT: USC, COURT CLEANING/MINOR REPAIRS, RENEWAL

Agenda Item #9

It is requested that the City enter into a renewal period in a five year term agreement with the UCS for the UCS to reimburse the City for cleaning of the Courthouse and minor repairs. The amount of reimbursement for 2017-2018 totals \$378,370. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Letter of Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the annual renewal letter and budget?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL, NIAGARA FALLS/NIAGARA COUNTY, MOA, 2014-2024

Agenda Item #10

Attached, (on file in the City Clerk's Office) please find the proposed 2014 - 2024 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Niagara County Building Trades Council. This proposed agreement is an extension of the parties' Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NEW YORK LAND BANK, COUNTY OF NIAGARA, COUNTY OF ORLEANS, CITY OF LOCKPORT, CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, CITY OF NORTH TONAWANDA

Agenda Item #11

My understanding is that the Corporation Counsel has forwarded to City Council members detailed information about the recently enacted "Land Bank Act" as well as a copy of a proposed Intermunicipal Agreement to include the County of Niagara, the County of Orleans, the City of Lockport, the City of North Tonawanda and the City of Niagara Falls.

The purpose of a land bank is to aide local governments in their fight against vacant and abandoned properties which represent a danger to the health and safety of local residents which result in costs and loss of revenues to local governments. The Land Bank Act allows land banks to acquire, redevelop and improve tax delinquent, vacant or abandoned property, thereby providing a mechanism to acquire blighted properties and convert them into productive uses.

Pursuant to the Land Bank Act, it is necessary to adopt a resolution establishing the land bank on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls which will include the City of Niagara Falls and hopefully Niagara County, Orleans County, the City of Lockport, the City of North Tonawanda but not the requirement to include all of them as members. Each municipality will make its own determination. The Board of Directors of the land bank, if all municipalities participate, shall consist of seven (7) members as set forth in the most recent version of the proposed Intermunicipal Agreement provided to you by the Corporation Counsel subject to each member approving the Intermunicipal Agreement and joining the land bank.

It is therefore requested that the City Council authorize the Mayor to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Niagara and the other municipalities that may include the County of Orleans, the City of Lockport, the City of North Tonawanda and the City of Niagara Falls for the creation of the NORLIC, a New York land bank and it is further provided that the agreement shall only be executed after review and approval by the Corporation Counsel for terms, form and content which will be substantially the same as the proposed form of Intermunicipal Agreement forwarded to you by the Corporation Counsel on August 22, 2017 and it is further requested that the City Council approve the Certificate of Incorporation for the land bank which shall be in substantially the same form as is available for review at the Niagara County Clerk's office and provided the same is approved by the Corporation Counsel and that the City Council also approve the finalization and forwarding of the application for approval of the land bank to New York State.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

Councilman Tompkins, Touma and Chairman Walker stated that this program is beneficial for Quality of Life at no expense to the City.

CONTRACT: ACTUARIAL EQUIVALENCE TESTING, MILLIMAN, INC.

Agenda Item #12

The City Controller is recommending that the City retain the services of Milliman, Inc. ("Milliman") to perform actuarial equivalence testing in connection with the retiree drug subsidy. Milliman has much experience in this area and has worked in the past with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the engagement contract. The reports Milliman generates will likely result in the City receiving subsidy payments from the federal government. The cost of these actuarial services is \$5,000.00 for calendar year 2018. Funding is available from the City Controller's budget line number A.1315.0000.0451.000.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an engagement agreement in form satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NYSDOT, FEDERAL AID PROJECT CAYUGA DR., RESURFACING, CONSULTANT SERVICES, GREENMAN PEDERSEN, INC.

Agenda Item #13

Based upon the New York State Department of Transportation standard merit selection procedures, (GPI) Greenman Pedersen, Inc. has been selected as the City's consultant for the above referenced program.

Funding for this project will be typical 80% Federal and 20% Local reimbursement procedure. Although the 20% local share will be totally reimbursable by N.Y. State through New York State Pit Bonds.

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the Project Design Services be awarded to Greenman Pedersen, Inc. at a not to exceed cost of \$180,000.00.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: WORKER'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS, NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT, INC.

Agenda Item #14

Since 2005, the City's Workers' Compensation claims have been handled by the Public Employees Risk Management Association ("PERMA"). This includes both claims existing prior to 2005 and the claims that have arisen since joining PERMA in 2005.

The pre-2005 claims have been handled through PERMA's affiliated entity Northeast Association Management, Inc. ("NEAMI") as the third party administrator for the claims. Recent changes by the Workers' Compensation Board required that the City enter into a separate agreement with NEAMI to provide this service.

This is handled on a yearly basis beginning on September 1 of each year.

It is now time to enter into a renewal agreement with NEAMI for the September 2017 to September 2018 year. The claims will continue to be handled on the same basis and it is recommended that the Council authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with NEAMI in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

BLUES FESTIVAL, FUNDING

Agenda Item #15

The Niagara Festival & Entertainment Group is planning to promote and undertake its Annual Blues Festival scheduled to take place on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 on Old Falls Street. The City has been asked to contribute the sum of \$2,500.00 to the cost of this festival. Funds will be disbursed pursuant to a funding agreement prepared by the Corporation Counsel. Funding is available from Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a funding agreement approved by the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

All Councilmembers praised Toby Rotella for his continual commitment to this great event.

NFC DEVELOPMENT CORP, FUNDING

Agenda Item #16

The Director of the NFC Development Corp ("NFC") advises that NFC is in need of additional funds in order to continue its grant/loan program as concerns qualifying projects. The amount requested is \$250,000.00. Funding is available from the casino revenue account.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

Councilman Touma stated this funding creates jobs which are so beneficial.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

SECOND HAND DEALER LICENSE, APPROVAL, NIAGARA METALS

Agenda Item #17

Chapter 338 of the Codified Ordinances states: "338.03...City Council may grant a license to carry on the business of secondhand dealer within the City..."

The following has submitted an application for a secondhand dealer license. This application has been approved by the Niagara Falls Police Department.

Niagara Metals, LLC  
4861 Packard Rd  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

MAYOR'S APPROVAL: RESOLUTION 2017-70, AMBULANCE ORDINANCE, AMENDING CHAPTER 302

Agenda Item #18

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA RISES CHARITY EVENT, WAIVER OF BANDSTAND FEE  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBER TOUMA, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #19

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2017, Niagara Rises, a non-profit organization will be holding a one day event to benefit the charity, Dog Tags of New York; (request on file in the City Clerk's Office) and

WHEREAS, Dog Tags of New York is also a non-profit organization that pairs Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) with dogs from the local SPCA for training. The training makes the dogs adoptable and gives our Veterans a purpose and a support network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this council does hereby waive bandstand rental fees of \$750.00 for Niagara Rises - Tails, Troops & Tunes event, to be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 12 noon - 8pm at the Town of Niagara Veterans Memorial Community Park, 7000 Lockport Road, Niagara Falls, NY.

Yea

2

Touma, Chairman Walker

3

Nays

Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins

DEFEATED

RESOLUTION: "WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL" COMMUNITY EVENT, WAIVER OF RENTAL FEE, SHELTER D, 2017-80  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2017, Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc. (CAO) will hold a "welcome back to school" community event; (request on file in the City Clerk's Office" and

WHEREAS, this event will give parents a chance to get involved with their children, the school as well as job opportunities for parents in need of employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby waive fees for the rental of Hyde Park Shelter D in the amount of \$25.00 for CAO's "welcome back to school" event on September 30, 2017 from 10am - 12noon.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

Amend is to change date.

RESOLUTION: MAYOR'S COMPACT, COMBAT HATE, EXTREMISM & BIGOTRY, 2017-81  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21

WHEREAS, this City Council supports civil rights for all people and is strongly opposed to racism and discrimination of all kinds; and

WHEREAS, this City Council is appalled by the hatred and bigotry that was exhibited in Charlottesville, Virginia on Saturday, August 12, 2017 when a coalition of white supremacist groups clashed with anti-racist and anti-fascist protesters which resulted in the death of Heather Heyer who was killed in the violent confrontation along with Troopers Berke Bates and H. J. Cullen who died in a helicopter crash; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has reviewed the Mayors' Compact to Combat Hate, Extremism and Bigotry of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Anti-Defamation League, a copy of which is attached hereto (On file in the City Clerk's Office), which Mayor Dyster has signed on to support; and

WHEREAS, this City Council is supportive of the ten (10) key components of that compact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls endorses the Mayors' Compact to Combat Hate, Extremism and Bigotry; and

WHEREAS, this City Council supports the stance taken by mayors across the country in speaking out against racism, extremism, xenophobia, white supremacy and all forms of bigotry, and those who espouse such ideologies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this City Council will promote community conversations regarding these issues as needed.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS, CAYUGA DRIVE: TUSCARORA Rd. TO NIAGARA FALLS EAST CITY LINE, 2017-82  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

WHEREAS, a Project for the Cayuga Drive: Tuscarora Road to Niagara Falls East City Line P.I.N. 5761.62 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the Project's Preliminary Engineering (Design I - VI) phase of Cayuga Drive: Tuscarora Rd. to Niagara Falls East City Line PIN 5761.62.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVE, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Yea

5

Nay

0

ADOPTED

CONTRACT: PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION, JERAULD AVE., 4<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION CONST.

Agenda Item #23

The following was the result of bids received on August 9, 2017, for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>	<u>ALT. #1</u>	<u>ALT. #2</u>
4 <sup>th</sup> Generation Construction Inc.	\$108,900.00	\$6,075.00	\$3,800.00
5650 Simmons Ave.			
Niagara Falls NY 14304			

Titan Development Inc. \$119,650.00 \$6,390.00 \$1,820.00

Gardenville Landscape & Nursery \$123,200.00 \$10,920.00 \$7,280.00

Scott Lawn Yard \$129,900.00 \$13,200.00 \$12,000.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder, 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Construction Inc. at the combination of their base bid and alternate price of: \$118,775.00. Funding is available through Community Development.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO SUPPORT FOR THE "NIAGARA FALLS HAS TEXAS IN OUR HEARTS", 2017-83

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #24

WHEREAS, Hurricane Harvey recently caused much damage and destruction in Houston, Texas and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, countless people were left homeless and without the basic necessities as a result of the damage, destruction and flooding caused by this catastrophic storm; and

WHEREAS, various businesses and individuals in the City of Niagara Falls have joined together to stage a benefit concert for those adversely effected by Hurricane Harvey and are gathering donations of bottled water, hygiene products, diapers, non-perishable food items, cat and dog food as well as cleaning supplies all as described in the attached information sheet (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council does hereby support the "Hearts for Houston" benefit and encourages members of the City of Niagara Falls community to participate in this benefit to the best of each citizen's ability.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:15 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the September 18, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of September 5, 2017.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

**Presentations:**

A presentation was given by Ryan Undercoffer from Community Development regarding participatory budgeting and park improvements.

Councilman Touma inquired about the voting process used in participatory budgeting.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked about the status of parks that were not chosen in the voting process.

Chairman Walker inquired about weighted voting.

**Administrative update:**

Councilman Touma inquired about efforts to secure additional State Aid.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about the source of odors that are affecting parts of the city.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson presented an item to be amended and added to the agenda.

Councilman Touma moved to add a Resolution to the agenda honoring Toby Rotella for his outstanding commitment to the Blues Festival.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

The item was added to the Agenda as #18

Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to amend item # 18 to add additional names to the Resolution.

Yea

Nay

5

0

APPROVED

Chairman Walker moved to go into executive session at 5:50 pm  
The motion was seconded by Councilman Touma.

Yea

Nay

5

0

The council moved to executive session at 5:50 PM

Councilman Touma moved to come out of executive session at 7:01 pm  
Yea 5  
Nays 0

Executive session ended at 7:01 pm

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 7:01 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Scott and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Presentation Resolution Honoring Toby Rotella, Sherry Kushner and Mary Jo Zacher from the Blues Festival was given.

RESOLUTION: BLUES FESTIVAL, HONORING, 2017-90  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #18

WHEREAS, Toby Rotella was born in Niagara Falls and raised on Ferry Avenue; and, despite his roots in poverty, he graduated from Trott Vocational School where he studied mechanics, and soon owned a gas station before becoming a drag racer and an auto mechanic for Chrysler Plymouth Imperial; and

WHEREAS, Rotella began to attend blues festivals around the United States in the 1970s, making friends with musicians, in particular, Muddy Waters, who frequently visited the Rotella homestead to enjoy his mother's Italian cooking; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Rotella rehabbed a condemned 3<sup>rd</sup> Street building and opened a blues club named "The Imperial Garage," after working for Chrysler dealership, for the four years the club was open, he featured national blues musicians including Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, Greg Allman, and BB King, as well as other musical legends like Buddy Rich and Box Car Willie; and

WHEREAS, after the Imperial Garage closed, Rotella continued to host reunion shows at various venues in Niagara Falls; during one such event in 2007 featuring the Nighthawks, he told then mayoral candidate Paul Dyster, a Nighthawk fan that if Dyster became mayor, Rotella would host a blues musical festival; and in 2008, the festival was held for one day on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, before transitioning to Old Falls Street where it has since grown to a three-day event run by a dedicated handful of volunteers, including Toby Rotella, Sherry Kushner and Mary Jo Zacher.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby recognize Toby Rotella, Sherry Kushner and Mary Jo Zacher for creating and annually organizing the Niagara Falls Blues Festival, the largest of its kind in New York State.

Yea 5  
Nays 0

ADOPTED

Presentation was read by City Clerk Lisa Vitello.  
The Presentation was given by all the Council Members.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Bridgette Myles	Agenda Item #5
Lakea Perry	Agenda Item #5
Denise Mejia	Agenda Item #5
Ronald S. Cunningham	Agenda Item #5
Jamie Caldwell	Agenda Item #17
Gerald Skrlin	Various
Rick Williams	Agenda Item #5
Tim Huether	Agenda Item #5
Jim Briggs	Agenda Item #5
Harvey Albond	Various
Charles Morris	Garbage
Jamie Caldwell	Voting
Gerald Skrlin	Various

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2017

Agenda Item #1

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2017

Agenda Item #2

THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: FIRE CHIEF, TERMS/CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Agenda Item #3

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED, NO ACTION TAKEN

CONTRACT: POLICE SUPERINTENDENT, TERMS/CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Agenda Item #4

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED, NO ACTION TAKEN

CONTRACT: 2014-2024 MOA, CITY & UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 9434-00

Agenda Item #5

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office), please find the proposed 2014 - 2024 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the United Steelworkers Local 9434-00. This proposed agreement is an extension of the parties Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Scott moved that the communication be Tabled.

Yea	2
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Scott, Chairman Walker	
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Nay	3
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Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma	
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TO TABLE DEFEATED

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	3
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Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma	
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Nay	2
-----	---

Scott, Chairman Walker	
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APPROVED

CONTRACT: 2014-2024 MOA, CITY & UNITED STEELWORKERS LOFAL 9434-02

Agenda Item #6

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office), please find the proposed 2014 - 2024 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the United Steelworkers Local 9434-02. This proposed agreement is an extension of the parties Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
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Nay	0
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APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: CLEVELAND AVENUE, 1127, SALE

Agenda Item #7

The City has received a request to purchase the above referenced City owned property for the sum of \$6,500.00.

This property is on the agenda for the Planning Board's recommendations and approval at their meeting on September 13, 2017.

Will the Council approve the sale of these premises for this price in an "as-is" condition, subject to the Planning Board's recommendations and approval, the closing on this property be performed within 30 days of the resident being informed of Council approval, and with the standard pre-condition that the purchaser is not delinquent with any tax or water bill?

The purchaser will be responsible to pay both installments of the 2017-2018 School Tax (if applicable) and all recording fees and required to reside in the property for a minimum of five (5) years.

Will the Council further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

LASALLE FACILITY: NIAGARA FALLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH, UTILIZATION

Agenda Item #8

The Niagara Falls Christian Church (the "Church") has lost its ability to occupy the place it has called home for quite some time. The City has been asked to accommodate the Church on a temporary basis by allowing the Church to utilize the library room in Building A at the LaSalle Facility on a temporary basis to conduct its Sunday morning services as well as a small room in close proximity as the need arises. The utilization of some closet space for storage purposes is also requested.

The Church has offered to help beautify the premises with the planting of flowers etc. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a letter of request. The Church will also be required to pay the City the sum of \$100.00 to help defray administrative expenses and provide proof of insurance in accord with City requirements. The \$100.00 fee will be reviewed in January 2018 if this temporary use continues.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT

Agenda Item #9

The City has been contacted by the NYSDOT to request that the City renew its Shared Services Agreement with the NYSDOT which will enable the NYSDOT and the City to provide each other with equipment, materials, and manpower to benefit each other during times of need. During this past winter it was necessary for the City to request and receive such assistance from the NYSDOT. This is primarily focused on roads and highways. The term of this agreement would be a period of four (4) years but may be terminated by either party on 60 days prior written notice. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) hereto is a draft of a proposed agreement. Similar agreements have been executed by and between the NYSDOT and various other communities in Western New York.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Shared Services Agreement in form and substance satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CITY MARKET: LEASE, NON DISTURBANCE AND ATTORNMENT AGREEMENT

Agenda Item #10

The City's tenant at the City Market, Muto Development, LLC, has made an agreement with a third party entity to sublease a portion of the City Market premises. Pursuant to the City Market lease, Muto and has the right to sublet this portion of the premises. The subtenant will be providing a Certificate of Insurance naming the City as an additional insured as required in the lease. The new subtenant will agree to abide by all terms and conditions contained in the City Market lease as they pertain to it. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) hereto is a copy of the Recognition Non Disturbance and Attornment Agreement.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the attached agreement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

SECOND HAND DEALER LICENSES: APPROVAL, NIAGARA COIN & COLLECTABLES AND KASH PRO UNLIMITED

Agenda Item #11

Chapter 338 of the Codified Ordinances states: "338.03...City Council may grant a license to carry on the business of secondhand dealer within the City..."

The following has submitted an application for a secondhand dealer license. These applications have been approved by the Niagara Falls Police Department.

Niagara Coin & Collectables  
509 Third St  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Kash Pro Unlimited  
1818 Pine Ave  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: HOLIDAY COMMITTEE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, WAIVER OF PARKING FEES, 2017-84

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #12

WHEREAS, the Holiday Committee is planning events for the month of December and request that parking fees for three Saturdays in December be waived for residents and their families; and

WHEREAS, Families will be attending many of these events and the committee feels it would be a holiday gesture of good will, a gift to our residents, to suspend parking fees for three Saturdays in December.

WHEREAS, this incentive is something that is done in many communities during the holiday season for community events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby waive parking fees in the surface lots and metered parking for families attending community events on Saturday, December 2, 9, and 16, 2017 from 3pm - 11pm, respectively.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE, 2017-85

BY: COUNCIL CHAIRMAN CHARLES WALKER

Agenda Item #13

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby schedule Budget Meetings to commence at 5:00 PM in the City Council Chambers on:

October 4, 11, 18, 23 and 25, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby schedule Budget Amendment Meetings to commence at 5:00 PM in the City Council Chambers on:

November 6, 8, 15 and 20, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held on October 30, 2017 at 6 p.m. Daylight Saving Time in the Council Chambers of the City of Niagara Falls, New York pertaining to the adoption of the Proposed 2018 Executive Budget, at which time the Mayor, Administrator and Controller shall be present, at which time any person may be heard for or against the proposed budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution calling for a hearing, together with the budget summary, be published in the Niagara Gazette at least one week prior to the date of said hearing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of said proposed budget be made available for inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

Yea

5

Nays

0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF NIAGARA'S SAFE HARBOUR PROJECT, WAIVER OF PARKING FEES, 2017-86

BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara is hosting a training on *CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING - FROM SUSPICION TO DISCLOSURE* to be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at the Conference & Event Center, Niagara Falls, NY from 8:30am - 4:00pm; and

WHEREAS, the program will be presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby waive parking fees in the Third Street city parking lot and downtown parking ramp for persons attending the Child Advocacy Center of Niagara's training scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., respectively (request on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Yea

4

Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Touma

0

Nays

1

Abstain

Chairman Walker

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-87  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite her name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Lauren A. Falsetti 2737 Independence Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305 (to fill the unexpired term of S.Starks)	12/31/2017

Yea	5
Nay	0
ADOPTED	

RESOLUTION: OPPOSING ELIMINATION OF THE DEDUCTIBILITY OF STATE AND LOCAL TAXES, 2017-88  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, Congress is giving serious consideration to eliminating the federal income tax deduction for state and local taxes; and

WHEREAS, this deduction, which has been in place for more than 100 years, is heavily utilized by residents of the City of Niagara Falls and the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, New York residents already pay more into the federal treasury than the federal government returns to the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the State and Local tax deduction is a fundamental principle of federalism and without it our residents would be faced with double taxation as they would be forced to pay federal income taxes on the taxes they pay to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, this federal cost shift onto local governments would place extreme pressure on municipal budgets, including diminished revenue for essential local government investments, including public safety and public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, increased federal taxation and reduced municipal services will harm our local housing market, decrease home values and erode our local tax base.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York expresses its strong opposition to any tax reform proposal that would eliminate the State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction and urges Representatives Brian Higgins and Chris Collins to join us in publicly opposing any such proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Representatives Higgins and Collins; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution also be forwarded to the Niagara County Legislature.

Yea	5
Nay	0
ADOPTED	

RESOLUTION: BENEFITS OF EMPLOYEES NOT COVERED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS, AMENDING CHAPTER 171, CODIFIED ORDINANCES, 2017-89  
BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS, GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOUMA, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #17

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 171 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Benefits of Employees Not Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements is hereby amended to read as follows on the next page (on file in the City Clerk's Office):

Yea	4
Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nay	1
Tompkins	

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2017**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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September 25, 2017

Members of the City Council  
and  
Lisa Vitello, City Clerk

Council Members and Madam:

You are hereby notified of a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York called pursuant to Section 3.9.b of the City Charter, to be held on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York for the following purpose(s):

Presentation of Mayor Dyster's Proposed 2018 budget.

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles Walker, Council Chair

The September 29, 2017 Special Meeting of the Niagara Falls City Council was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins and Andrew Touma.

Also Present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig B. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Mayor Paul A. Dyster presented his Proposed 2018 Executive Budget. During his Presentation, he made the following comments:



# City of Niagara Falls, New York

PO Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

## MAYOR DYSTER DELIVERS 2018 EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Welcome, City councilmembers, city workers and fellow residents.

Thank you for joining me as I present the Mayor's Executive Budget for the 2018 fiscal year.

Dramatically different from the budget I had originally hoped to deliver, it comes at a time of continued conflict between the Seneca Nation and State of New York

It is a budget which, albeit narrowly, once again avoids layoffs as we continue to navigate the unfortunate situation in which we have been placed. It is a budget that our Controller, City Administrator and their teams spent many hours working to balance, seeking to minimize the potentially disastrous effects created by the revenue dispute, and to ensure that vital services are still being provided to our residents.

While some of what I present to you tonight may be difficult to swallow, I assure you it is a considerable improvement over some of the alternatives we have been forced to explore in the past weeks.

We begin things this evening with a history lesson of sorts. It is no secret that, in years past, casino revenues have been used to fund portions of our city's in-house paving program, for economic development projects, and for other worthwhile purposes. All uses of casino money are public information on the City's website, and all are approved on a case-by-case basis by City Council. Most notably, although not necessarily high-profile compared to the aforementioned types of projects, previous councils have voted to use casino revenues in an effort to hold down the tax levy, using those funds to avoid property tax increases, even when allowed under the tax cap.

In short, they used available casino revenues to keep money in the pockets of residents.

These charts show the homestead and non-homestead tax rates from 2011 through the present day. Despite the growing rate of inflation, and the hypothetical 2% maximum annual increase allowed under the tax cap, notice that the 2017 homestead tax rate is less than that of 2011, with only a small percentage increase for non-homestead approved in 2017. Similarly, since 2011, the tax levy has increased only \$987,496—or 3.5%—over the course of 6 years.

If previous councils had voted to optimize what was available under the tax cap, the city—while still fully tax cap compliant through 2018—would today be taking in approximately \$31 million in tax revenues. That's just slightly less than the levy we now propose for 2018. Had we, as an alternative, raised the levy to keep abreast of the rate of inflation, we would be taking in \$32.6 million, that's now \$1.1 million more than what we're proposing to raise in 2018.

So I have good news and bad news.

The good news is that, regardless of what anyone else thinks about the wisdom or sustainability of the policy, as a result of the past use of the available casino revenues, since 2012 about \$9.6 million that might otherwise have been collected as property taxes and gone into City coffers to help offset rising

expenses has instead remained in the pocketbooks and bank accounts of city residents. That's the good news.

The bad news is that I am here now to tell you that the party is over.

In an effort to bridge the gap created by the previous use of casino revenues and the uncertainty regarding their availability in the immediate future, and to recover going forward the revenue generating potential sacrificed by not going to the cap all these years, this budget proposes a 2.6% increase in the homestead tax rate from the 2017 rate—that's only a 2.5% total increase for residential payers since 2011. The budget includes an increase of 14% in the non-homestead tax rate from 2017. That sounds like a lot until you recognize that the non-homestead rate increased only 7% total from 2011 until 2017. Application of these new rates requiring a \$1.5 million override of the tax cap, results in a \$2.3 million increase in the tax levy, split about evenly between homestead and non-homestead payers.

However sobering to hear, neglecting to take these necessary steps would result in the discontinuation of essential city programming and services, while conservative estimates would place the total number of layoffs, from multiple departments, at 30 employees.

As previously mentioned, there are no layoffs included in this year's budget. However, as we have done in years past, vacant positions will be eliminated through attrition. This requires adjustment in the way work is done in just about every part of city government.

Many of these decisions, while difficult in the short-term, are projected to result in millions in savings for the City in the not-so-distant future. The successful settlement of our union contracts is just one example.

The settlement of outstanding collective bargaining agreements will yield long-term savings in healthcare costs in the millions of dollars in the coming fiscal years. This year alone, based on insurance costs for active employees, a total savings of \$491,945 is anticipated through these settled contracts, with increased savings as time goes on.

These savings are the result of a multi-year process of collective bargaining with our municipal unions, whom I commend for by-and-large taking a responsible stance in contract negotiations. But concessions don't come for nothing in the collective bargaining process. You have to give something to get something.

Continued discussions with the Financial Restructuring Board and recommendations provided through the State Comptroller's audit have provided us the opportunity to address structural consolidations in several city departments.

As part of the first phase of that process, the city's Department of Code Enforcement will operate under the umbrella of the Department of Community Development as of January 1 on an interim, trial basis. With these two organizations already working closely to address many of the same issues across our city, the move makes sense on policy grounds alone. From a budgetary perspective, it will yield more than \$100,000 in initial savings.

Additionally, we have entered into a shared services agreement with the Niagara Falls City School District for a School Resource Officer; this will yield another \$100,000 in savings. Moving forward, we will continue to explore opportunities for shared services with the school district and other potential partners.

Another restructuring effort for 2018 involves the city golf course. For years, the golf course has operated in the red, with more than \$400,000 from the city's general fund estimated to be transferred to the Hyde Park Golf Course in 2017 alone. Given the situation we face this year with casino revenues, it became apparent that this is something we could simply no longer afford to do.

Taking into account day-to-day duties at the course, and the increased need for maintenance at a growing number of other city parks, this budget will transfer approximately 6 full-time positions from the golf course to our parks department. With the greenskeeper remaining as the only full-time position, temporary workers will help to perform day-to-day maintenance duties on the golf course. As a result of this change, this budget will include, for the first time, a transfer of more than \$45,000 *from* the golf course *to* the general fund.

Make no mistake, these cost-saving measures are only the beginning of a multi-year process running through 2023 to reexamine the way we do business in order to increase revenues, decrease expenditures and reduce or eliminate reliance on casino revenues. Moving forward, my administration is prepared to continue working closely with the FRB to identify and implement future consolidations, restructurings or shared services where appropriate.

In addition to the cost savings mentioned, revenue taken in from sales and bed tax has seen significant increases in 2017. Averaging \$8.8 million and \$6.8 million annually since 2012, sales tax and Hotel, Restaurant and Utility (HRU) tax revenues for 2017 now stand at \$9.2 million and \$7.7 million, respectively. Moreover, I am proud to relay that throughout my tenure as Mayor, occupancy tax revenues received since 2008 have increased by 113%, a total of \$2.5 million in 2016.

Concurrent with the consolidation of the parking ramp, parking lot and parking meter funds, parking revenue to be budgeted in 2018 has seen a more than \$700,000 increase, for a total of \$1,702,184 in the coming fiscal year. Solid increases in these revenue streams reflect the overall success of our efforts in the field of economic development in recent years, including increased commercial and hospitality development and growth in tourism.

Other new revenue sources this coming budget year include the addition of the city's credit card rebate program—projected to bring in \$30,000 in new income—and, in time for the 2018 summer tourist season, the addition of permitted vendor sidewalk space in downtown Niagara Falls. Spearheaded by City Clerk Lisa Vitello and her staff, the initiative will include the creation of 38 designated spaces to provide increased retail offerings for the nearly 9 million visitors our downtown hosts annually, and will yield an additional \$70,000 in revenue from the department.

Despite a difficult and uncertain road ahead, it is important not to forget the many things we have accomplished and have yet to look forward to. Earlier this month, the city welcomed its 8th new hotel, the \$12.8 million Courtyard by Marriott situated along the upper Niagara Scenic Parkway, where work on the \$23 million project is soon to be complete, complementing the \$70 million of recent state investment in revamping the park itself and about \$40 million likely to be spent on the even larger Robert Moses Parkway North removal project.

The long-anticipated Hyatt Place Hotel project at 310 Rainbow Boulevard—a \$35 million project—is nearing completion this winter, with the \$100 million+ Wonderfalls project at the former Rainbow Mall across the street soon to follow.

Just down the road along the Niagara Street corridor, two separate, multi-million dollar development projects are underway set to provide multi-use residential, retail and commercial space in the heart of our downtown. One will play host to Community Beer Works, the city's first brewery, and the other will feature a tourism tech incubator run by Niagara University's Niagara Global Tourism Institute.

Housing Visions Walnut Homes project cut the ribbon this last year, renovations in support of BOCES relocation at 606 Walnut are expected to be completed by January, and we are awaiting word on the final details of a ribbon-cutting at the \$20 million+ Niagara Lofts development at the former South Junior High School.

In the coming days, we will welcome kids to play at the new D'Amelio Park, the city's 27th new or

significantly renovated park since Community Development's 2011 Community Action Plan and completion of a City Parks Master Plan in 2013.

There is a lot of very positive development taking place in the city right now, with lots more to come. It would be foolish of me, however, to attempt to conclude my presentation without returning once again to the 800-lb gorilla in the room: the issue of casino revenues.

There has been considerable speculation about how we would handle anticipated future casino revenues in the 2018 budget. We must walk a fine line. On the one hand, we want to book as receivables only those revenues we feel we are likely to receive and have available for use during the budget year in question. Under normal circumstances, the 2017 casino payments would fall into that category. However, these are not normal circumstances, and we are not comfortable booking these funds as available for 2018 budgeting. On the other hand, we have a responsibility to the people we represent to consistently and vigorously assert our legal right to receive casino revenues under the casino compact.

There is an arbitration process getting underway between the State and Seneca Nation that we believe will eventually result in an end to the current impasse. This could occur either through the arbitration process (including any ensuing legal actions) simply running its course, or, as last time, through a negotiated settlement, the reasonable terms for which become clearer to the parties as the arbitration process unfolds. In any case, the timetable is as yet unclear.

Perhaps I am simply an incurable optimist, but I continue to believe that the outlines of a negotiated settlement are not hard to discern. In part, this optimism is a product of my high regard for the statesmanship and concern for the interests of the people they represent of both Governor Cuomo and President Gates. Both are tough negotiators. The Senecas have asserted that the continuation of the exclusivity payments is not negotiable; that is obviously a non-starter for the State, as for the City. The State has asserted that the full amount of the exclusivity payment is non-negotiable, but it is certainly the case—as the City well knows—that slot machine revenues at the Seneca Niagara casino have declined as new competition has entered the market, increasing State gaming revenues. Governor Cuomo has made an unprecedented commitment to the revitalization of Niagara Falls. President Gates has often reminded us that the Seneca Nation, unlike some multi-national investment corporation, is bound to the land, and its future is tied to the success of Seneca Niagara casino and its other Western New York gaming facilities. Both share a common interest in the development of Niagara Falls. That's a lot of common ground, and all parties involved would benefit from the earliest possible settlement of the ongoing disagreement. So we're hopeful. But we're also uncertain.

Balancing these considerations, we have decided to book on our balance sheets at the end of this year an amount of casino revenue corresponding to what we believe we are owed, based on our best estimate of the Seneca Niagara casino's 2017 slot machine revenues, and assuming continuation of the formula for disbursement—from the Senecas to the State and from the State to the City—that was in place prior to the Senecas' announcement of their intention not to make further payments.

I want to thank all of my department heads and their staffs, the City Controller, the City Administrator and all those who helped to shape the Mayor's proposed 2018 budget – it was no easy feat. As we confront the continuing uncertainty about the resolution of the casino revenue issue, additional difficult decisions will likely need to be made. This is just the first step. We recognize the need to reduce our dependency on casino revenues, a process that will start for the 2019 budget as soon as the 2018 process is concluded. Together with the City Council, I am hopeful that we can take those steps together for the future of our great city and our fellow residents.

God bless you and keep working for and believing in a better tomorrow.

City Controller, Daniel Morello, distributed the Mayor's Proposed 2018 Budget to the Council Members.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 5:30 PM

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**OCTOBER 2, 2017**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** **NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The first session of the October 2, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Touma moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of September 18, 2017.

Yea	5	
Nay	0	
APPROVED		

Councilman Touma asked what the short and long term goals of the budget were. The City Administrator explained that the goal is to deliver the best services at the lowest cost.

There are cuts in operating expenses and the elimination of jobs through attrition which will avoid layoffs.

Councilman Touma inquired about the possibility of offering a retirement incentive.

Positive improvements at the Water board were discussed 152 hydrants were out of order, that number is down to 70.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about GPS systems on city vehicles.

Corporation Council Craig Johnson distributed copies of an item to be added to the agenda regarding the purchase of 681 Chilton Avenue. Council Member Grandinetti moved to add the Item to the Agenda.

Yea	5	
Nay	0	
APPROVED		

The item was added as # 10

Chairman Walker distributed copies of 2 items to be added to the agenda:

A Resolution welcoming the 81<sup>st</sup> annual Conference of the NAACP.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to add the Item to the Agenda.

Yea	5	
Nay	0	
APPROVED		

The resolution regarding the NAACP was added as # 11

A Resolution Honoring Dr. Hazel Dukes of the NAACP.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to add the Item to the Agenda.

Yea	5	
Nay	0	
APPROVED		

The resolution regarding Dr. Hazel Dukes was added as #12

This Session ended at: 5:20 P.M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Tompkins and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #1, #4
Jamie Caldwell	Financial Situation
Paul Chatmon	Parking; Public Library; Speeding
Robert Ventry	Financial Planning

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: PROSPECT STREET, TEMPORARY LICENSE, STATE PARKS, IMPROVEMENTS

Agenda Item #1

The City's cooperative initiative with State Parks to improve traffic conditions and congestion in the downtown area is continuing. Improvements are planned by State Parks for an area of Prospect Street near the entrance to the State Park. These improvements will involve a portion of the City's right-of-way and will involve the construction of a new sidewalk, curbing, benches etc. These improvements will be undertaken by State Parks and paid for by State Parks. In order to accomplish this, State Parks needs a license agreement with the City in order to work in the portion of the right-of-way that is owned by the City. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a draft grant of license for this purpose.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a temporary license agreement provided the same is in form and content acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

IN REM, PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF NIAGARA

Agenda Item #2

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a proposed Agreement with the County of Niagara for the current In Rem which sets forth the terms for the distribution of proceeds from the sale of properties acquired in the In Rem.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea	5
Nay	0

APPROVED

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, FUNDING AWARD

Agenda Item #3

The Superintendent of Police and I have been made aware that the DCJS has awarded the City continued funding in the amount of \$66,750.00 under the Federal Fiscal Year 2017 STOP Violence Against Women (VAWA) grant program. This funding will cover the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Attached hereto (ON FILE IN THE City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Letter of Award. There are applications which must be submitted and documents to be executed along the way.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents required to obtain this grant provided the same are in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HERITAGE COMMISSION, INC.,  
LEASE

Agenda Item #4

Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is the proposed lease agreement with NFURHC for the use of the new train station.

It is for an initial term of ten (10) years and is subject to NFURHC's option for four additional ten (10) year terms.

NFURHC is responsible for a pro rata share of certain expenses related to the building on the ratio of its use in the amount of 2,880 square feet of the total 46,430 square feet of the building (6.2%).

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Touma  
Nays  
Abstain  
Chairman Walker

4  
0  
1

APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: LOCKPORT ROAD, 2749, ENCROACHMENT/MODIFICATION OF  
ENCROACHMENT

Agenda Item #5

Sevenson Environmental Services Inc. ("Sevenson") has its principal place of business at 2749 Lockport Road. There is a City owned strip of right-of-way abutting Lockport Road that Sevenson presently utilizes for vehicle parking. This was apparently permitted in 1993 as an encroachment. The portion of City owned right-of-way involved is 85' long and 10' wide. Attached hereto is a sketch which also shows the building and the area in question. Attached hereto is a copy of the letter from Sevenson describing what it wishes to do with the area in question. As stated in the letter, the purpose of the Sevenson request is to facilitate the numerous deliveries it receives in an effort to increase public safety.

The Planning Board has recommended approval of this encroachment request. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the Planning Board approval. This encroachment is subject to the following conditions:

1. The owner/applicant must obtain all applicable permits and inspections.
2. The owner/applicant will add the City of Niagara Falls as an additional insured on its liability insurance policy.
3. The owner/applicant will agree to defend and indemnify the City from liability related to the encroachment.
4. The City can revoke the license for the encroachment on sixty (60) day's notice.
5. The owner/applicant must comply with any conditions imposed by the City Engineer with regard to sufficient space for pedestrian passage on the sidewalk right-of-way and to insure that no damage occurs to the City's right-of-way.

Will the Council so approve?  
Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM, PARTIAL REALLOCATING OF GRANT, CAROLYN'S HOUSE AND COMMUNITY MISSIONS, FUNDING

Agenda Item #6

The 2017 Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) budget contained a \$70,000 grant to Community Missions, Inc. and YWCA Carolyn's House to operate a Rapid Rehousing program for newly homeless people in Niagara Falls. After the 2017 ESG budget was approved by the City Council and submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for approval, the sub-recipients were awarded funding from an external source to operate a Rapid Rehousing program. At the suggestion of the sub-recipients, and after consultation with HUD on best practices, the decision has been made to fund YWCA Carolyn's House and Community Missions, Inc. to operate a Homelessness Prevention program.

It is proposed that the original amount reserved for Rapid Rehousing be reallocated to a Homelessness Prevention program to be operated by the same sub-recipients.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Touma moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

NORTH END FOOD ACCESS RFP, CDBG GRANT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #7

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has identified the Highland Avenue area of Niagara Falls as a food desert, a low-income area where a significant number or share of residents is more than 1 mile from the nearest supermarket. Health problems associated with limited access to fresh food are exacerbated when the people most affected by this issue also have limited transportation and financial resources.

It is proposed that funding be made available from unexpended 2015 and 2016 CDBG funds previously budgeted for the Highland Avenue area. A request for proposals for this project has been issued publicly for this purpose and applications have been received, though no funds will be awarded until this reallocation is approved. This amendment will allow us to address a serious need in the Highland Avenue area and to expend the CDBG funds in a timely manner.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

APPROVED

Council Member Scott said this is a positive action.

BOY'S BREAKFAST CLUB PROGRAM, CDBG GRANT, FUNDING

Agenda Item #8

The 2017 Community Development Block Grant budget contained a \$40,000.00 grant to Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers, Inc. to operate a boy's breakfast club program for boys aged 8-11 at 2616 Highland Avenue in Niagara Falls. With reductions in the 2017 Community Development grant to the City, it is proposed that the grant to the program be made from unexpended 2016 CDBG funds previously budgeted for the Highland Avenue area. This will allow us to fund a worthy program and to expend the 2016 CDBG funds in a timely manner.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea  
Nays

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0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

MAYOR'S APPROVAL

Agenda Item #9

Please be advised that Mayor Paul A. Dyster, on September 19, 2017, duly approved the following:

Resolution 2017-89 relative to Amending Chapter 171 of the Codified Ordinances Entitled "Benefits of Employees not covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements."

THIS ITEM HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND FILED

CITY PROPERTY: CHILTON AVENUE, 681

Agenda Item #10

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED  
NO ACTION TAKEN

RESOLUTION: NAACP, 81<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 2017-91  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #11

WHEREAS, the NAACP New York State Conference is celebrating the momentous occasion of their 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary, and

WHEREAS, the 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary will be held here in Niagara Falls, New York on October 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> with a dinner and ecumenical service at the New Hope Baptist Church on Friday, October 6, 2017, and other programs scheduled at the Niagara Falls Conference and Event Center, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Movement was founded in 1905 by a group led by W.E.B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter. The Movement was named for the Mighty Current of Change, the group wanted to effect and Niagara Falls was where the first meeting took place in July 1905, and

WHEREAS, the conference being held here in Niagara Falls is to reflect on the past successes and focus on the many challenges we all face in continuing the progress of being a champion for civil and human rights for all people.

NOW THEREFORE, we the Niagara Falls City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls, New York, do hereby welcome President Dr. Hazel Dukes and the many leaders and members of the chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York State Conference.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: DUKES, DR. HAZEL N., HONORING, 2017-92  
BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #12

WHEREAS, Dr. Hazel N. Dukes is President of the NAACP New York State Conference

and a member of the NAACP National Board of Directors, a member of the NAACP Executive Committee as well as an active member of various NAACP board subcommittees; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dukes is dedicated to human rights and equality as exemplified by her role linking business, government and social causes; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dukes is an active and dynamic leader who is known for her unselfish and devoted track record for improving the quality of life in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dukes is a member of the Assembly of Prayer Baptist Church where she served as Executive Assistant to the Pastor, is a member of the Board of Trustees and teaches the adult Sunday School; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dukes has received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Adelphi University and completed post graduate work at Queens College and was awarded as Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the City University of New York Law School at Queens College and in 2009 was conferred the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, New York and in 2012 was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harlem, New York; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dukes is a member of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc, and the National Black Leadership Commission on Aids, Inc. and is a recipient of numerous awards for her outstanding leadership activities; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP New York State Conference is celebrating its 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary in Niagara Falls, NY on October 6-8, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls does hereby welcome the NAACP New York State Conference and its President, Dr. Hazel N. Dukes, to the City of Niagara Falls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls congratulates Dr. Hazel N. Dukes on her many achievements and accomplishments in her many years of advocating for human rights and equality.

Yea  
Nays

5  
0

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 6:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk



**OCTOBER 4, 2017**

**BUDGET WORK SESSION**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

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The October 4 2017, Budget Work Session of the Niagara Falls City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members, Kenny Tompkins and Andrew Touma

Absent: Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr.

Also present: City Controller Daniel Morello

Councilmembers inquired about reduction in the City Clerk Budget. Councilmember Touma inquired about additional revenue sources.

There was a discussion regarding accepting passports in the office of the Clerk and a timeline for that process should it occur.

Chairman Walker inquired about the reduction in the vending enforcement officer's line item stating: it might not be wise to decrease that line. Enforcement is important in the case of vending revenue and code issues.

Acting Code Enforcement Director Lou Fontana guided the Council through his Budget Presentation. A lengthy discussion with all Councilmembers present took place regarding the merging of Code Enforcement with Community Development.

Councilman Tompkins discussed the wisdom of such a merger stating that the two departments are not cohesive enough for a merger. Councilman Tompkins inquired if Community Development had the expertise required.

The Councilmembers present thanked Mr. Fontana for his long service to the City of Niagara Falls.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Lisa A. Vitello  
City Clerk

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