

February 22, 2016

Monday – February 22, 2016 Council Meeting

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Sale of 4<sup>th</sup> Street properties – Ellicott Development Company  
Seth Piccirillo, Community Development, Director
2. Acceptance of the former Mehta properties  
Seth Piccirillo, Community Development, Director
3. Underground Railroad Interpretive Center  
Sara Capen, Executive Director - Niagara Falls National Heritage Area

---

**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE:**

None

Agenda Item #1

The following is a report of the licenses issued and collections made in the Office of the City Clerk during the month of January 2016.			
		<b>CONTROLLER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
A1255-001 A012	Vital Statistics	\$ 4,232.00	\$ 4,232.00
A1255-004 A013	Copies of Records	\$ 455.50	\$ 455.50
A1255-004 A013	Certificates of Marriage	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
A2501-011 A044	Peddler	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
A2501-014 A046	Electrician - Active	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
A2501-014 A046	Electrician - Inactive	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
A2501-016 A047	Stationary Engineers	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00
A2542-000 A053	Dogs/NYS Agr. & Mkts	\$ 217.00	\$ 217.00
A2542-000 A053	Additional Dogs	\$ 2,303.50	\$ 2,303.50
A2545-001 A054	Marriage License/NYSHD	\$ 450.00	\$ 600.00
A2501-024 A120	Ambulance - Vehicle	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
A1255-002 A123	Commissioners of Deeds	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
A2545-010 A128	Petroleum - Retail	\$ 420.00	\$ 420.00
A2545-010 A128	Petroleum - Storage	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
A2545-021 A316	Vending	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00
A2545-023 A318	Hunters/NYS DEC RAU	\$ -	\$ -
A2545-023 A318	Hunters Fees	\$ -	\$ -
A1255-003 A499	Notary Fee	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
A1255-005 A528	Dog Release	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
TA63008 A597	Marriage Performance	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$ 667.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,081.00</b>
			<b>\$ 11,748.00</b>
Check #	17781	NYS Dept.of Arg. & Mkts	\$ 217.00
Check #	17757	NYS Health Department	\$ 450.00
Check #	ET	NYS DEC RAU	\$ -

Agenda Item #2

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF AWARD FOR ON-STREET PARKING METER INSTALLATIONS DOWNTOWN NIAGARA FALLS - PHASE 1**

The following were the result of bids received on February 2, 2016 for the above referenced project:

<b><u>CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>BASE BID</u></b>	<b><u>ALT.1</u></b>	<b><u>ALT.2</u></b>
Ber-National Automation, Inc.	\$257,950.00	\$58,580.00	\$38,660.00
1137 East Main Street			
Rochester NY 14609			
 T2 Systems	\$312,672.72	-	-
 Cale America	\$349,032.00	\$64,798.26	\$38,880.40

After a thorough review of all the participants' proposals, qualifications and submittal information, it was determined that the firm Ber-National Automation, Inc. was the lowest qualified and responsible bidder. To that end, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to Ber-National Automation, Inc. at their total bid of \$355,190.00. Funding will be made available from Casino funds to a dedicated capital code entitled: Parking Meter Program H1316.2013.1316.0449.599.

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

Agenda Item #3

*RE: 250 Rainbow Boulevard – Approval of Encroachment*

Council Members:

A restaurant is proposed to open on the ground floor of the Jefferson apartment building located at the corner of Rainbow Boulevard and Third Street. Shawn Weber, one of the owners of the building, is cooperating with the operator of the restaurant, and wishes to install a sign on the building which will encroach into the City right-of-way. Attached are diagrams showing the location of this sign. During its meeting on February 10, 2016, the Planning Board recommended approval of this encroachment request. Attached hereto is a copy of the Planning Board recommendation. Conditions are attached to the Planning Board's recommendation.

Will the Council so approve this request with the conditions imposed by the Planning Board?



# City of Niagara Falls, New York

P.O. Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

February 10, 2016

## NIAGARA FALLS PLANNING BOARD

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL  
Encroachment in City Right-of-Way

Pursuant to action taken by the Niagara Falls Planning Board on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 10, your request is hereby granted.

**NAME OF OWNER:** Shawn Weber

**ADDRESS OF ACTION:** 250 Rainbow Blvd.

**PURPOSE:** To allow installation of a sign on the northeast side of the building

This application is hereby recommended to City Council with the following conditions:

- 1) The owner/applicant will add the City of Niagara Falls as an additional insured on its liability insurance policy for any and all such encroachments approved by City Council
- 2) The owner/applicant will agree to defend and indemnify the City from liability related to the encroachment
- 3) The City can revoke the license for the encroachment on sixty (60) days' notice
- 4) The owner/applicant shall 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
- 5) The owner/applicant must obtain all applicable permits and inspections and shall comply with the National Electrical Code

DATE: February 10, 2016

  
Tony M. Palmer, Chairman  
Niagara Falls Planning Board



Agenda Item #4

*RE: Carpeting in MIS Department*

Council Members:

The Director of MIS advises that it is necessary to replace the carpeting in their offices, as it is worn and poses a safety issue.

Three estimates were obtained and Paynes Carpeting was the lowest estimate. This estimate is in the amount of \$4,785.00. Funding is available from casino interest.

Will the Council so approve?

Agenda Item #5

*RE: Funding for development of new City web site*

Council Members:

The Director of MIS is requesting that the sum of \$32,000.00 be transferred from phone system account line item H1517.2015.1517.0449.599 to MIS department account A.1680.0000.0449.599. The purpose of this transfer is to help pay the cost of the development of the new City web site. Casino revenues were utilized to fund the phone system account and therefore it is requested that the Council approve the transfer of these casino revenues to the MIS department code mentioned above.

Will the Council so approve?

Agenda Item #6

*RE: Backstop and fencing for Maple Avenue baseball diamond*

Council Members:

The Acting Director of Public Works advises that it is necessary to remove the existing fence, backstop and dugout concrete and replace those items. Bids were solicited and there were two (2) responses. It is recommended that the City enter into a contract with Davidson Fence Inc. to perform the required work for a total price of \$19,650.00. Attached is the estimate from Davidson Fence Inc.

Funding is available from Tourism Fund Balance.

Will the Council so approve?

# Davidson

## FENCE INC

Building Fences That Last!

1675 New Road • Niagara Falls, NY 14304

(716) 283-2843 Telephone

(716) 283-2845 Telefax

836-4247 Atc Low

NAME Maple Aveschool

PHONE 285-8109

DATE 12/29/08

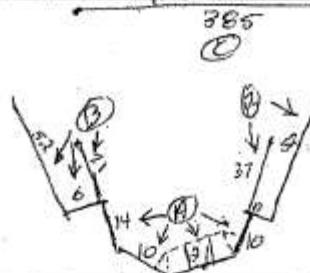
ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP

ERECT AT OR SHIP TO

SECTION	LINE	TYPE	DIAM. FT	FABRIC	SEAL	LIN. POST.	TOP RAIL
①	76	Brick Stop/2x4	12	2x8x144	3"	156	
②	174	Chainlink	6'	2x8x72	81/2	156	
③	385	Barbed Wire	51	2x8x62	-	-	



SIZE	WIDTH X HEIGHT	FRAME
WALK		
WALK		
WALK		
TERMINAL POST		
END	O.D.	
CORNER	O.D.	
GATE	O.D.	
ESTIMATED START DATE		
ESTIMATED FINISH DATE		

NOTES:

- All wire to be core bonded for strength
- Dog ears to have composite/steel foot in angle for run off
- All fence to have bottom rail to prevent bottom cup?
- Job 13: preventing Wayne
- All excess clift + debris to be hauled away

Thirty percent (30%) of first estimated materials will be used the next business day to purchase materials relating to this job. Extra charges may apply due to unforeseen hard digging. Balance of job price is due and payable immediately upon completion of work unless otherwise set forth. Owner agrees to pay a three percent (3%) recharge for orders placed as credit card. Owner, upon signing this contract, represents and warrants that he/she/he is Owner of the above-mentioned premises and that he/she/he has read this Agreement, as on both its dual pages. It is further agreed this Contract is not subject to cancellation except by written consent of both parties. CANCELLATION BY OWNER: THE OWNER MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT UP TO MIDNIGHT OF THE 3RD BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE DAY ON WHICH THE OWNER HAS SIGNED THIS CONTRACT.

OWNER'S SIGNATURE	SALESMAN	TERMS: NET UPON COMPLETION
<i>Maple Aveschool</i>	<i>Davidson</i>	ADDED PRICE BASED ON ABOVE FOOTAGE \$ 19,650. Lump Sum
TYPE OR PRINT OWNER'S NAME	ACCEPTED FOR DAVIDSON FENCE	DEPOSIT \$
		BALANCE (DUE UPON COMPLETION) \$

SUBJECT TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON REVERSE SIDE  
A SERVICE CHARGE OF 1.00% PER MONTH WILL BE CHARGED IF NOT PAID WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF PAYMENT DATE. THIS RATE IS AN STANDING  
PERCENTAGE RATE OF 10%.

ANY CHARGES TO THIS CONTRACT  
MAY RESULT IN PRICE CHANGE.



Agenda Item #7

**RE: Acquisition of:**

**550 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York**  
**557 Third Street, Niagara Falls, New York**  
**565 Third Street, Niagara Falls, New York**  
**571 Third Street, Niagara Falls, New York**  
**569 Third Street, Niagara Falls, New York**

**Council Members:**

The above referenced properties are presently owned by Malina P. Mehta, wife of Praven Mehta, M.D. Praven Mehta was a medical doctor and has pled guilty to various counts of unlawful distribution of controlled substances and has been sentenced to jail and a fine of \$500,000. As part of the plea negotiations entered into by and between the United States Attorney's Office and Dr. Mehta's attorney, Malina P. Mehta has agreed to forfeit the above referenced properties and deed them directly to the City of Niagara Falls for no consideration.

Title work is being done to make certain that title to the above referenced properties is clear. Attached are copies of surveys for most of the parcels as well as information on file in the City Assessor's Office.

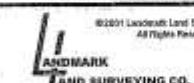
The City has a strong interest in advancing the greater good of the community, protecting the public health, safety and environment and ensuring that neighborhoods are places where people want to live and business owners wish to invest. The above properties are in an important location in the City. Much state, local and private sector investment has taken place in the Third Street area in recent years where these properties are located including public realm infrastructure improvements. This area is undergoing a concerted urban revitalization effort by the City and its state and local partners and is expected to drive significant private sector commercial and residential development. Recently, local developers have purchased nine (9) vacant properties which represent in excess of 1.7 million dollars in acquisition and renovation investment. In addition to revived commercial spaces, the area has seen over twenty (20) new market rate apartments made available on Third Street.

Upon taking title to these properties, it would be the City's intention to solicit requests for proposals to seek private sector individuals and/or entities to develop some or all of these properties while possibly retaining one or more for municipal purposes.

The City has not sought appraisals on these properties. The assessed values total \$184,500. There are unpaid School, County and City taxes as well as unpaid water bills which total approximately \$8,000.00. This City is responsible to pay these unpaid bills as well as incidental closing costs which will total approximately \$3,000.00. The Business Development Director, the Director of Community Development, as well as the Acting Director of Planning and Economic Development believe this is money well spent to acquire these properties which are prime development properties.

The Planning Board reviewed this request for acquisition during its meeting on February 10, 2016 and recommended that the City Council approve the acquisition of these properties.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents required to acquire these properties which are in form and content acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?



Onondaga County (716) 731-4988 > Fax (716) 731-4989

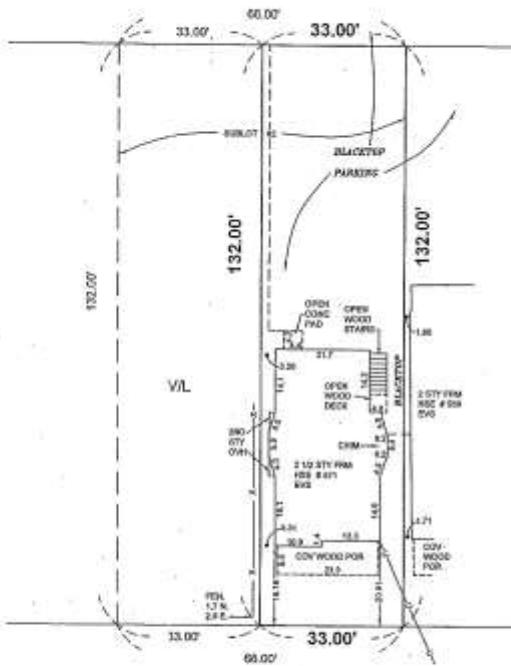
**Successor to the Records of:**

Pauline

4 18280 Landmark Land Surveyors Co. All Rights Reserved		Successor to the Records of C. Newton Land Surveying, Est. 1895 Walter C. Newton, Owner Newton, WI Poyer, F.J. Covell, J.B. Rosen, J. Bussell, L.B. Davlin, J. Kuster, A. Kuster, G. Fins, 1984	
LANDMARK LAND SURVEYING CO. P.O. Box 582 • Gambier, NY 14832		Residential & Commercial Utilized in the State of New York and Florida	
Hilliard County (719) 731-4908 Erie County (716) 854-0338		>Fax (719) 1721-4888	
CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS		COUNTY OF NIAGARA	
PART OF LOT - 40 M.R.		MAP REF. (NY0002) 12TD FILED 04/09/1980	
PART OF SUBLOT 52 & 70		MAPCOVER 151	
		REF. DEED L-2271, PG 154	
SHL #	202-21-14-0	SCALE 1" = 20'	JOB # 1230337
		DATE: 07/08/2013	



ALLEY (16.5' WIDE)

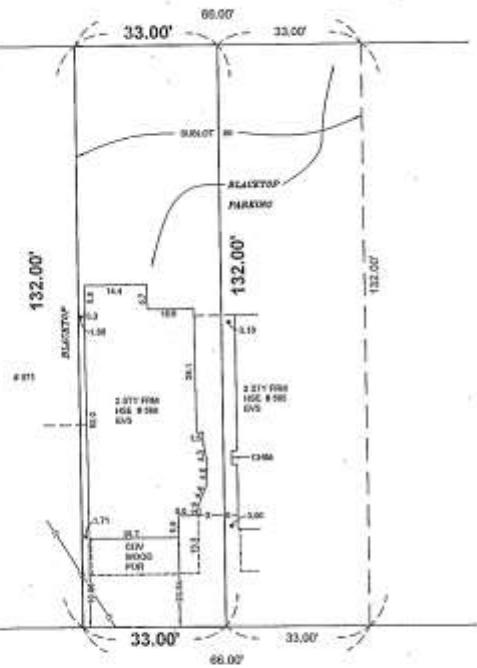


THIRD (66' WIDE) STREET

NOTE: THIS MAP IS NOT VALID ONLY FOR THE DATED DATE  
MAP IS NOT VALID AND VENDEURS CAN NOT MAKE ANY USE OF THIS DOCUMENT  
ALTERATION AND ADDITION TO THIS MAP IS NOT ALLOWED  
ONE PROFESSIONAL COPY IS MADE FOR EACH PROPERTY OWNER

©2001 Landmark Land Surveying Co. All Rights Reserved		Successor to the Records of: Kenton Land Surveying: Kenton, F. _____ Est. 1888 Kenton, W. J. _____ Est. 1888 Payne, F. J. _____ Est. 1888 Clegg, J. S. _____ Est. 1898 Baird, C. L. _____ Est. 1898 Baird, L. G. _____ Est. 1898 Davlin, J. _____ Est. 1848 Kettler, A. S. _____ Est. 1822 Hedden, G. _____ Est. 1894
<b>LANDMARK</b> <b>LAND SURVEYING CO.</b> PO Box 162 - Senbon, NY 14132 <small>Niagara County (716) 731-4056 -&gt; Fax (716) 731-4499 Erie County (716) 654-6538</small>		<small>Residential &amp; Commercial Licensed in the State of New York and Florida</small> <small>THIS SURVEY WITNESSED AND APPROVED BY THE SURVEYOR LANDMARK LAND SURVEYING CO.</small>
CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS <small>PART OF LOT - 40 M.R.</small>		COUNTY OF NIAGARA <small>MAP RSF. (R400E) 1619 FILED D400/1825</small>
<small>SLY. 1/2 SL.62</small>		<small>MAPCOVER 151</small>
<small>SSL # 169.21-1-67</small>		<small>RSF. DEED L-2421, PG 39</small>
<small>SCALE 1"=20'</small>		<small>JOB # 2196333</small>
<small>DATE: 07/09/2012</small>		

**ALLEY ( 16.5' WIDE )**



**THIRD ( 66' WIDE ) STREET**

NOTE: THIS SURVEY PLAN IS VALID ONLY FOR THE SHOWN EXTENT  
AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSES OTHER THAN  
THE SHOWN EXTENT. THIS SURVEY PLAN IS SUBJECT TO ANY STATE OF FACTS THAT  
MAY BE REVEALED BY AN EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.

NOTE: THIS SURVEY PLAN IS VALID ONLY FOR THE SHOWN EXTENT  
AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSES OTHER THAN  
THE SHOWN EXTENT. THIS SURVEY PLAN IS SUBJECT TO ANY STATE OF FACTS THAT  
MAY BE REVEALED BY AN EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.

©2001 Landmark Land Surveying Co. All Rights Reserved.		Successor to the Records of: Newton Land Surveying Whites, M.P. Ext. 1888 Bull, J.J. Ext. 1888 Prayer, P.J. Ext. 1890 Conney, J. E. Ext. 1895 Baldwin, L.S. Ext. 1895 Dentil, J. Ext. 1845 Kuster, A.S. Ext. 1870 Houlihan, J. Ext. 1844	
<b>LANDMARK</b> <b>LAND SURVEYING CO.</b> PO Box 182 - Seneca Falls, NY 14812 Niagara County (716) 731-4840 > Fax (716) 731-4499 Erie County (716) 854-6338		Registered & Licensed Licensed in the State of New York and Florida 1000 Main Street, Suite 100 Seneca Falls, NY 14814 (601) 569-1000	
CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS		COUNTRY OF NIAGARA	
PART OF LOT - 40 14 R.		MAP REF. (RHOODES) 1829 FILED 04/03/1980	
N. 1/2 SL. 83		MAP COVER 151 REF. DEED L-2307, PG 136	
SBL # 199-21-1460		SCALE 1" = 20' JOB # 2130034 DATE : 07/06/2012	



File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

169.21-1-46 291100 Niagara Falls Active RVS-1 School Niagara Falls  
 Mohita Malini P. Roll Year 2016 Next YR Det row bldg Land AV. 3,800  
 556 Main St Land Size 38.80 x 78.45 Non-Homestead Total AV \$3,300 

Total 2 Used As Codes. To open, click the appropriate row (Right Click to Add)

Used As Code	Portable	No of Units	Unit Description	Total
AB7. External opt.	SOFT	0		
AB8. Internal opt.	SOFT	0		
E83. Professional	SOFT	0		

Site No: 1 Use No: 2

Used As Code: AB7. External opt. Total Eff / 1 Bed Soft:

Visitation Dist:  No of Units:

Portable Soft:  Annual Rev/Unit:

Unit Description: Apartments Total 2 Bedroom Soft:

No of Units:  No of Units:

Time Rent:  Annual Rev/Unit:

Rent Type:  Total 3 Bedroom Soft:

Lease Begin:  No of Units:

Lease Length:  yrs. Annual Rev/Unit:

Prints the screen



File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

169.21-1-63 281100 Niagara Falls Active P/S 1 School Niagara Falls  
 Mehta Malini P Post Year 2014 Next Yr 1 Fasly Res Land Av 1,800  
 587 3rd St Land Size 33.80 x 97.90 Homestead Total Av 11,800



Print(169.21-1-63)  Notes  History  Assessment  Spec Data  Description  Owner(s)  Images  Gis  Site (1) Res  Land(s)  Bldg  Valuation  Sales(18/15)  Sales(1)Res  Land(s)  Bldg  Valuation  Sales(28/20)  Sales(5/14/06)

Owner Tax Bill Mailing Address 3rd Party Address Bank

Total 1 Owners To open click this expand/collapse row (Right Click to Add)  
 Mehta Malini P

Owner Name / Company: Mehta Malini P First Name: Last Name: MI: Jr. Sr. etc:

Attention To/In Case Of: Additional Address:

Street No: Prefix Or: Street / Pseud Name: Suffix: Post Dir: Unit Name: Unit No:  
 121 - Markay Dr

Box No: City/Town: State: Zip Code:  
 Getzville NY 14840

Country: after 1st digit USA Bar Ctr: Ownership: e.g. Life Use: Owner Type:  
 P = Primary

Owner's Primary Residence: No

Prints the screen 

File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

281100 Niagara Falls Active R/S: 1 School: Niagara Falls

159-21-1-63 281100 Niagara Falls Active R/S: 1 School: Niagara Falls

Mohita Mehm P. Rec Year: 2010 Rec Yr: 3 Family Rec: Land AV: 1,800

557 3rd St Land Size: 33'00 x 87'00 Homestead Total AV: 11,800



**Parcel 159-21-1-63**

Notes  
 History  
 Assessment  
 Spill Data  
 Descriptor  
 General  
 Images  
 GIS  
 Site List Rec  
 Land(s)  
 Building  
 Valuation  
 Sales 01/01/15  
 Sales 01/01/00  
 Sales 03/25/01  
 Sales 05/14/06

**Building**

Site No: 1  
 Bldg Style: 08 Old style  
 No. of Stories: 2.0  
 Est Wall Mat: 01 Wood  
 Acq'g Yr Built: 1933  
 Est Yr Built:  
 Yr Remodeled:  
 No. Kitchens: 3  
 Kitchen Qual: 1 Poor  
 No. Baths: 1 No. Half Baths: 1  
 Bath Qual: 1 Poor  
 No. Bedrooms: 3  
 No. Rooms: 6  
 No. Fireplaces: 0  
 Fire Type:  
 Hot Type: 2 Hot air  
 Fuel Type: 2 Natural Gas

Central Air:  1st Story: 1495  
 Dmt Type: 3 Partial 2nd Story: 752  
 Bldg Grp Cap: 0 Add Story:  
 Overall Cond: 1 Poor 1/2 Story:  
 Exterior Cond: 1 Poor 3/4 Story:  
 Interior Cond: 1 Poor Fan Over Gd:  
 Constr Grade: C Average Fan Attic:  
 Grade Adjust: 105 Fan Basement:  
 Fund Opt: 105 Units 1/2:  
 Units 2/3:  
 Units 3/4:  
 Units Pm:  
 Units Dm:  
 Units Over Car:  
 RPS410 Edt: 47 BFLA: 2248  
 RCL: 148,201 RCLD: 35,568 Fir. Pct. Smt:

Run RPS410 Edt: 47

Print the screen



File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

153.21-1-65 291100 Niagara Falls Active RS-1 School Niagara Falls

Mehita Maimi P. Poll Year: 2016 Next Yr 1 Family Res. Land AV: 2,188  
565 3rd St Land Size: 33.00 x 132.00 Homestead Total AV: 25,600

Owner Tax Bill/Mailing Address 3rd Party Address Bank

Total 1 Owners To open, click the appropriate row. (Right Click to Add)

Last Name / Company First Name M.F. Jr. Sr. etc.

Mehita Maimi P. Abington Co./In Cam Ct Additional Address:

Street No Prefix Dr. Street / Route Sufix Post Dir. Unit Name Unit No.

131 Markley Dr. -

Po Box No. City/Town State Zip Code

Getzville NY 14063

Country other than USA Bed Ctr. Ownership e.g. Live Use Owner Type

P = Primary

Owner's Primary Residence

Prints the screen

File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

159.21-1-67 28100 Niagara Falls Active RG 1 School Niagara Falls  
Mehra Mehm P. Plat Year 2015 Next Yr 3 Family Rmt Land AV 2,100  
571 3rd St Land Size 33.00 x 132.00 Homestead Total AV 29,200



Parcel 159.21-1-67

History  
 Assessment  
 Spec Dmtr  
 Description  
 Owner(s)  
 Images  
 Ctr  
 Site (1) Ras  
 Land(s)  
 Bldg  
 Improve(s)  
 Valuation  
 Sale 2010/15  
 Sale (1) Pas  
 Land(s)  
 Bldg  
 Improve(s)  
 Valuation  
 Sale 12/27/02  
 Sale 2011/13

Owner Tax Bill Mailing Address 3rd Party Address Bank

Enter Owner To open click the appropriate row (Right Click to Add)  
Mehra Mehm P. 28100 Niagara Falls

Legal Name / Company: Mehra Mehm P. First Name: M. Jr., Sr., etc.

Address To / In Case Of: Additional Address:

Street No: 121 Pmt Dir: Street / Rural Route: St. Suffix: Post Dir: Unit/Room: Unit No:  
Markley Dr

Po Box No: City/Town: State: Zip Code:  
Getzville NY 14068

Country: Enter if not "USA" Bar Cd: Ownership: e.g. Life Use Owner Type:  
P = Primary

Owner's Primary Residence: No

Print the screen



File Edit View Toolbar Window Help

159.21-66 291100 Niagara Falls Active P/S: 1 School: Niagara Falls  
Muhta Molin P Ref Year: 2014 Next Yr: 2 Family Res Land AV: 2,100  
568 3rd St Land Size: 33.00 x 132.00 Homestead Total AV: 35,200

Parcel 159.21-66

Notes  
 History  
 Assessment  
 Spec Data  
 Description  
 Owner(s)  
 Images  
 Gis  
 Site (T) Res  
 Land(s)  
 Building  
 Improvements  
 Valuation  
 Sales/Off/BL

Owner Tax Bill/Mailing Address 3rd Party Address Bank

Total 1 Owners: To open, click the appropriate row. (Right Click to Add)  
Muhta Molin P

Last Name / Company: First Name: M.I. Dr. Sr. Jr.  
Muhta Molin P

Attention To / In Care Of: Additional Address:

Street No. Prefix Dir. Street/Rural Route State Post Dir. Unit Name Unit No.  
121

Po Box No. City/Town: State Zip Code:  
Gettysville NY 14858

County:  not "USA" Bar Cd. Ownership: e.g. Lft Use Owner Type:

Owner's Primary Residence:

Prints the screen

File Edit View Toolbar Window Help



# City of Niagara Falls, New York

P.O. Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

February 10, 2016

## NIAGARA FALLS PLANNING BOARD

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL  
Real Property Acquisition

Pursuant to action taken by the Niagara Falls Planning Board on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, your request is hereby granted.

**NAME OF OWNER:** Malina P. Mehta

**ADDRESS OF ACTION:** 550 Main Street, 557 Third Street, 565 Third Street, 571 third Street, 569 Third Street

**PURPOSE:** Proposal by Malina P. Mehta to forfeit properties and deed them directly to the City

This application is hereby recommended to City Council.

DATE: February 10, 2016

  
Tony M. Palmer, Chairman  
Niagara Falls Planning Board

224 11 0391





Agenda Item #8

**RE: AGENDA ITEM: Sale of 428, 432, 446, 460 and 462 4th Street – Ellicott Development Co.**

The administration requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of the sale of the following city owned parcels to Ellicott Development Company (EDC):

<b>Properties</b>	<b>Assessed Value</b>	<b>EDC Proposed Price</b>
460-462 4th St.	\$3,700	\$30,000
428-432 4th St.	\$3,600	\$9,000
446 4th St.	\$1,400	\$5,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,700</b>	<b>\$44,500</b>
Less: Consideration for demolition and asbestos/lead abatement (460 4th St.)		(\$27,000)
<b>NET PURCHASE PRICE</b>		<b>\$17,500</b>

The Niagara Falls Planning Board unanimously recommended the sale of these parcels to the Niagara Falls City Council at its January 11, 2016 meeting. EDC is a property management, leasing and development firm that is responsible for the management of over 1,500,000 square feet of office space in Downtown Buffalo, over 1,000,000 square feet of retail space throughout New York and Western Pennsylvania, eight major hotels in the Western New York, as well as over 550,000 sq. ft. of residential apartments, condominiums and townhomes in the Buffalo/Niagara region. EDC's local holdings include the Giacomo Hotel at 222 1st Street and 473 3rd Street, 606 6th Street, in addition to new purchase activity.

EDC is investing in the 3rd Street Commercial District, and the purchase of these ancillary properties will strengthen potential economic impact. In 2015, EDC purchased the former Niagara Gazette Building (310 Niagara Street) which includes the parking lot at 418-426 4th Street. EDC then created an agreement to relocate the Niagara Gazette offices to 473 3rd Street, which is also owned by EDC. This ensures that approximately 40 Niagara Gazette employees remain in downtown Niagara Falls.

EDC is requesting to purchase these parcels to support both the renovation/development of 310 Niagara Street and business operations at 473 3rd Street. EDC will convert 460-462 4th Street to off-street parking for employees/customers of 473 3rd Street. 428, 432, and 446th Street will be maintained as part of the larger development of 310 Niagara Street (former Niagara Gazette Building). **EDC has also agreed to include public parking access at 418-424 4th Street, off peak hour public parking access at 460-462 4th St and landscaping the 4th Street frontage of all aforementioned parcels as part of this sale agreement.** Upon Niagara Falls City Council approval, the City of Niagara Falls Legal Department will draft a sales agreement that outlines the city's expectations of EDC for both parking access and

**landscaping. The sale agreement will not be presented to the Mayor for execution until the Niagara Falls Legal Department is satisfied with the material terms included in the sale agreement.**

Public and residential parking is a pressing issue on both the 400 and 500 blocks of 3RD Street. As new businesses open and market rate apartments are added, available on-street and parking lot spaces diminish. This problem is compounded during an ever expanding tourism season. Off street parking along the 3rd / 4th Street alley is a logical and preferred solution. The City of Niagara Falls purchased 425 3rd Street, with Niagara Falls Planning Board approval, earlier this year to act as a pedestrian connection between the 3rd Street Commercial District and off street parking. EDC's purchase proposal will provide public parking access at 418-424 4th Street, which is already lit and paved, as well as a new parking option at 460-462 4th Street. In addition to returning five city owned properties to the tax roll and eliminating blight, this transfer offers a forward thinking and cost effective solution to some of the district's parking concerns.

The sale of these properties is part of larger, and vitally important, development initiatives in the downtown core. In 2012, the City of Niagara Falls Community Development Department was awarded a Western New York Regional Economic Development Council grant for the Downtown Niagara Falls Stabilization Project. Targeted demolitions of blighted structures on 4th Street, bordering the 3rd/4th Street alleys, was a grant component. The City of Niagara Falls demolished these blighted structures in order to support the private sector's purchase and renovation of vacant and under-utilized buildings along 3rd Street. Simply put, the strategy is working. In the past four years, 435 3rd Street, 444 3rd Street, 451 3rd Street, 460 3rd Street, 463 3rd Street, 231 Ferry Avenue and 539 Main Street have been purchased and renovated by local developers for market rate residential/commercial use. The addition of EDC as the developer of 310 Niagara Street, with its impressive renovation/management track record at the Giacomo Hotel, only adds to the ongoing success of the 3rd Street Commercial District. Based on contract review, the City of Niagara Falls deems the \$27,000 estimate for the demolition of 460 4th Street to be fair and reasonable. The Niagara Falls Community Development's average per structure demolition cost, including asbestos abatement, is \$24,000. Analysis of the 2013 demolition contract that included 4th Street demolition determined that dollar amount.

The City of Niagara Falls has a responsibility to address parking, pedestrian access, blight clearance and neighborhood walkability in a responsible and timely manner. Focusing on private sector partnership, the administration presents the sale of 428, 432, 446, 460 and 462 4th Street as a needed and valuable solution. The administration also requests the opportunity to give a presentation to the Niagara Falls Planning Board on this topic when it is included on the agenda. Thank you.

**Will Council vote to so approve and the sale of 428, 432, 446, 460 and 462 4th Street and authorize the Mayor to enter into subsequent legal agreements, once the aforementioned material items are satisfied?**

Agenda Item #9

**SUBJECT:** Bid #2016-01 Removal of Abandoned Vehicles

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

TO: Satarian Auto Parts

4250 Witmer Road

Niagara Falls, NY 14305

FOR: Removal of abandoned vehicles within the City of Niagara Falls, New York

\$101.00/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 eight (8) vendors. Two (2) bids were received. In addition to Satarian Auto Parts, Pages Automotive & Towing, Inc. submitted a bid (\$100.00 per vehicle) to be paid to the City. After reviewing each bid we determined that Satarian Auto Parts submitted the highest price to be paid to the City.

Will the Council so approve?

Agenda Item #10

SUBJ: Approval of budget amendment to realign staff in the Assessor's Office

A Retirement of the Real Property Appraiser has allowed for the reallocation of job duties and the following changes are proposed in the Assessor's Office expense account A1355.0000.0110.00.

Assessor Administrative Aide, currently a grade 12 at a salary of \$38,589.28  
Proposed grade 13 with a salary of \$39,674.49.  
Difference of \$1,085.21

Assessor Technician position with a 2015 budgeted salary of \$34,506.56.  
Proposed stipend of \$2,500 stipend.

Senior Assessor Data Clerk, currently a grade 9 at a salary of \$36,918.58.  
Proposed grade 10 with a salary of \$37,821.33.  
Difference of \$902.75.

The realignment will result in an increase of \$5,549.00 annually, inclusive of all fringe costs.  
Funding is available through A.1990.7630.0449.599 Contingency A/C

Will Council so approve?

## Agenda Item #11

**SUBJECT:** **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

## **INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE IN FRONT OF 2433 WOODLAWN AVENUE**

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

Submitted By: Joanne Artymowicz, on behalf of her mother, Nancy Dinardo,  
2433 Woodlawn Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #12

**SUBJECT:**                    **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 538 MEMORIAL PARKWAY**

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

Submitted By:                    Helga Hickman, 538 Memorial Parkway

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #13

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 3022 ORLEANS AVENUE**

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

Submitted By:            Jean Stewart, 3022 Orleans Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #14

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 2473 CUDABACK AVENUE**

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

Submitted By:            Mae Stallworth, on behalf of her mother, Pearl Lewis, 2473  
Cudaback Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item # 15

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 1129 LASALLE AVENUE**

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

Submitted By:            Sarah Handley Turk, 1129 Lasalle Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #16

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE  
IN FRONT OF 529 16<sup>th</sup> STREET**

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

Submitted By:            Margaret Mitchell, 529 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 1

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #17

**SUBJECT:**                    **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL “NO STANDING ANYTIME” RESTRICTION ON 56<sup>TH</sup>  
STREET, WEST SIDE, FROM GOODYEAR DRIVE TO  
APPROXIMATELY 80’ NORTH**

This will allow for increased sight distances for tractor trailers exiting Goodyear's facilities of southbound traffic on 56<sup>th</sup> Street.

Submitted By:                    Richard Collins, Manager of Engineering, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Niagara Falls Plant, 5500 Goodyear Drive

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #18

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL ON HIGHLAND AVENUE: A) A “15 MINUTE PARKING” RESTRICTION ON THE WEST SIDE BETWEEN CENTER AVENUE & EASTON DRIVE; AND ON THE EAST SIDE BETWEEN GARDEN AVENUE & CALUMET AVENUE; B) “NO STANDING ANYTIME” RESTRICTION ON THE EAST SIDE BETWEEN CENTER AVENUE & GARDEN AVENUE.**

Part A of this item was submitted as a CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) recommendation to assist with crowd control and loitering in this area. Although the Commission had some concerns with the recommendations affect on area business, the Police Department is confident it will provide a deterrent to crime in the area and the 15 minute time limit will be adequate for the in and out type of businesses that are located here. The Niagara Falls Housing Authority, who owns Jordan Gardens, in addition to various area residents are in support of this.

Part B of this item will assist with building security and safety for the new Community Health Center of Niagara located here.

Submitted by: Bryan DalPorto, Superintendant of Police, Niagara Falls Police Department

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #19

**SUBJECT:**                    **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL OVERNIGHT PARKING ON FERRY AVENUE BETWEEN 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET & MEMORIAL PARKWAY (SOUTH SIDE ONLY) WITH “NO PARKING TUESDAY 7 AM TO 1 PM” RESTRICTION**

The New York State Department of Transportation has agreed to allow overnight parking on this roadway as long as it satisfies the City's requirements.

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 67% signatures.

Submitted By:                    Colleen & Michael Pembleton, 1005 Ferry Avenue, Apt.1 and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #20

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON LINDBERGH  
AVENUE BETWEEN 71<sup>st</sup> STREET & 72<sup>nd</sup> STREET**

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 100% signatures.

Submitted By:        Peter DiFrancesco, 501 71<sup>st</sup> Street and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #21

**SUBJECT:**                    **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON MADISON AVENUE  
BETWEEN DORCHESTER ROAD & VanRENSSELAER AVENUE**

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 80% signatures.

Submitted By:            Kenny Tompkins, 3009 Madison Avenue and  
                                  Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #22

**SUBJECT:**            **AGENDA ITEM:**

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON 68<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
BETWEEN EDISON AVENUE & STEPHENSON AVENUE**

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 73% signatures.

Submitted By:        Brenda Williams, 242 68<sup>th</sup> Street, Joan Wahler, 247 68<sup>th</sup>  
                         Street and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

Agenda Item #23

**SUBJECT:**                    **AGENDA ITEM:**

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 9, 2016 the Commission recommended **APPROVAL** of the following item:

**INSTALL “NO STANDING ANYTIME” RESTRICTION EFFECTIVE  
6:30 AM TO 8 AM & 2 PM TO 3:30 PM, MONDAY THRU FRIDAY  
IN FRONT OF 1885 LINWOOD AVENUE**

This will provide curb access for the safe pickup/drop-off of an autistic child by mini bus.

[Physician verification of the child's condition has been received]

Submitted By:                    Etta Zacher, on behalf of her daughter, Marie Schear, 1885 Linwood Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation.

## Agenda Item #24

SUBJECT: Commissioner of Deeds

The following have requested City Council approval for Commissioner of Deeds for a term from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2018.

This is in accordance with provision of the Niagara Falls City Charter, Article II, Section 7, Subdivision 5.

Kim Bradberry Human Resources

Brook D'Angelo DPW

Leonard Lapp City Clerks Office

Rosanna Lively DPW

Kelly Cook 1026 92<sup>nd</sup> St., NF NY 14304

Lisa Kaczor 7050 Lakeside Dr., NF NY 14304

Larry Kensinger 496 23<sup>rd</sup> St., NF, NY 14303

Teresa M. Kurilovitch 9311 Niemel Dr., NF NY 14304

Jaclyn Pendola 620 28<sup>th</sup> St., NF NY 14301

Carletta Tyson 1744 Tennessee Ave., NF N

Agenda Item #25

*RE: In Rem Properties*

Council Members:

We have been contacted by the attorney for the former owner of Ward 12 Pro 3673, which the City took title to in the recent In Rem proceeding.

It was anticipated that this property would be included in the upcoming home ownership auction being conducted by the Community Development Department. The prior owner had health issues which prevented him from redeeming the property during the regular period to do so. The attorney has in his trust account, enough funds to cover all outstanding City, School and County taxes and other fees associated with the property.

Based upon this, it is recommended that the Council approve the reconveyance of the property to the former owner, upon the payment of all outstanding taxes and fees as well as any recording fees and authorize the Mayor to execute a deed in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel.

At the January 25, 2016 Council Meeting, you voted to reject the bids on Ward 5 Pro 1607 and Ward 9, Pro 2797 due to the bidder having outstanding housing inspection issues on another property. We have been informed by the Department of Code Enforcement that these are recent violations and that the bidder normally resolves any such issues in a timely manner, but has been unable to proceed quickly on this property due to issues with the tenant. Based on this, it is recommended that the Council vote to accept the bids and authorize the Mayor to execute deeds in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel.

Will the Council so approve?

Agenda Item #26

RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO AMENDING CHAPTER 171 OF THE CODIFIED  
ORDINANCES ENTITLED "BENEFITS OF EMPLOYEES NOT COVERED BY  
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS"

BY:

Council Member Ezra P. Scott, Jr.

Council Member Kenny Tompkins

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council 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 by amending Section 171.05 to read as follows:

171.05 HEALTH INSURANCE

d. City Council members first elected after January 1, 2016, or re-elected after January 1, 2016 following a separation from service, will not be entitled to receive health insurance "opt-out" payments as provided for under Section 4 of the City's "Health Care Memorandum of Understanding", agreed to by the City's Health Care Committee and adopted by the City Council January 17, 2006.

Bold and Underlining indicate **Additions**.

Bold and Brackets indicate [Deletions].

Agenda Item #27

**RELATIVE TO GOLF COURSE FEES AND RELATED FEES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016**

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

**WHEREAS**, the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works has reviewed the Golf Course Fees and Related Fees that were in effect during the 2015 calendar year; and

**WHEREAS**, this City Council believes that certain Golf Course fees and Related Fees should be increased in order to compare with fees charged at other public golf courses in the area; and

**WHEREAS**, a schedule of proposed Golf Course fees and Related Fees for calendar year 2016 is attached hereto; and

**WHEREAS**, this City Council is in agreement with the proposed increases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the attached schedule of Golf Course fees and Related Fees for calendar year 2016 is hereby adopted.

**Proposed 2016  
Golf Rates**

Season Ticket - Resident	\$475
Season Ticket - Non Resident	\$600
Season Ticket - Senior Resident (60 and older)	\$350
Season Ticket - Senior Non Resident (60 and older)	\$500
Season Ticket - Junior (17 and under)	\$250
Season Ticket - Disability Pass (Monday through Friday)	\$600
Season Ticket Golf Cart (Monday through Friday)	\$550
Season Ticket Golf Cart (7 Day)	\$750

*Season ticket prices listed above are valid for tournaments in 2016.*

Season Pass Tee Time (Valid from May 1, 2016 through October 31, 2016) \$30

Red 9	\$9
Daily 9	\$12
Daily 9 Senior (60 and older) & Disability	\$10
Daily 18	\$18
Daily 18 Senior (60 and older) & Disability	\$14

*Prices above valid Monday through Friday until 3:00 pm.*

Weekend/Holiday 9 \$14  
Weekend/Holiday 18 \$22

Golf Cart 9 Hole	\$12
Golf Cart 18 Hole	\$22
Golf Cart Rider	\$5
Locker	\$50
Pull Cart 9	\$3
Pull Cart 18	\$5
Club Rental 9	\$8
Club Rental 18	\$12
Daily Tee Time	\$2

Twilight Rate (Golf and Cart) \$25

Driving Range	
Small Bucket	\$6
Large Bucket	\$8

Winter/Spring 18 Hole \$10  
Winter/Spring Cart \$10

RELATIVE TO PARKING RATES IN CITY LOTS AND RAMP

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

**WHEREAS**, the Administration and Council desire to modify the fee schedule for the City's parking lots and ramp;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that:

1. The daily parking fee for parking in City-owned parking lots and the parking ramp is increased from \$15.00 to \$20.00 during the high tourist season (May 1 – October 31).
2. The daily parking fee for parking in City-owned parking lots and the parking ramp will remain at \$10.00 during the low tourist season (November 1 – April 30).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that these fee increases be effective beginning May 1, 2016.

## **HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**BY:**

Council Chairman Andrew Touma  
Council Member Kristen Grandinetti  
Council Member Ezra P Scott, Jr.  
Council Member Kenny Tompkins  
Council Member Charles Walker

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who worked in the Kentucky coal mines as a child, was the son of former slaves. He enrolled in high school at the age of 20. Dr. Woodson went on to graduate from Berea College, later receiving his master's degree from the University of Chicago and earned a Ph.D. from Harvard University; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Carter G. Woodson was one of the first scholars to study African-American history. In 1926, Dr. Woodson proposed and launched a weeklong celebration of the individuals and occasions having a significant impact on African American History in America, and has since been known as the father of Black History; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Woodson chose the month of February to conduct this commemoration because the birthdays of two men whose actions have significantly affected African Americans in this country, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1976, Former President Gerald Ford extended it to the entire month of February.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Niagara Falls City Council does hereby recognize February's observance as Black History Month and encourage the great citizens of Niagara Falls, New York, and our great Country, United States of America to recommit themselves, not only in February but throughout the year, to an ideal city where equality and justice will always prevail, and to the principals of love, wisdom, and compassion towards one another.

## **HONORING THE MEMORY OF REVEREND WADE THOMAS**

BY:

Council Chairman Andrew Touma  
Council Member Kristen Grandinetti  
Council Member Ezra P Scott, Jr.  
Council Member Kenny Tompkins  
Council Member Charles Walker

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Wade Thomas was born in Montgomery Alabama on November 11, 1924. He was the youngest son and fifth child born to Rayfield and Mary Thomas; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1947, Mr. Thomas moved to the city of Niagara Falls after his marriage to the former Miss Lola Mae Paige, they were blessed with two children. First born was a daughter named Ms. Juliette M. Thomas and later a son, Nelson W. Thomas; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Wade Thomas served in the United States Army from 1942 to 1945, his service helped protect the City of Niagara Falls and the whole United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Wade Thomas was ordained into ministry in 1955 by Pastor William White, Sr. of the Bethesda Full Gospel Church in Tonawanda, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, in the fall of 1957, through prayer and the study of god's word, became the roots of "Bethlehem Revival Temple;" Reverend Wade Thomas, Mother Lola Thomas, Deacon Joseph Bowns, and Sister Nazzie Ree Bowns. The group matured and eventually moved from the homes to the basement edifice that was located at 1912 Maryland Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, the group continued to grow and the first church building was built May 17, 1963, at 2010 Virginia Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York. As the lord added to the congregation, Reverend Thomas was lead to add an additional church building, built in 1975 at this location. The "Church in the Basement" was becoming more visible as he stayed true to his mandate; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his ministry, Reverend Wade Thomas became the first African American to broadcast in this area. The radio and television broadcast was called "Good News". Reverend Thomas was also the founder of a quartette group called *The Songs of Joy*, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Thomas was a member of the Ministerial Council of Niagara Falls, New York. Reverend Thomas helped out with many youths in the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby honor the memory of Reverend Wade Thomas and his many contributions to our great city through his ministerial work.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that signs saying "Reverend Wade Thomas Way" be placed underneath the street signs at Virginia Avenue & 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Hyde Park Boulevard & Virginia Avenue, in honor of Reverend Wade Thomas.