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JANUARY 9, 2017

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

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	5
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:

Depository Name	Maximum Amount	Officer
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

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. 25th 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
Nay	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
Nay	0

APPROVED

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

CONTRACT: 72ND STREET FIREHOUSE, REPLACEMENT OF APPARATUS FURNACE, SCHAEFER SUPPLY

Agenda Item #6

The Fire Chief advises that the apparatus furnace at the firehouse on 72nd 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
Nay	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 th 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 nd 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>REAPPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Chris Ciccone 1220 Brandi Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Yea Nays	12/31/2019 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 th 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 th Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
Ron Droege 300 3 rd Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303	12/31/2017
Jeffery Flach 723 3 rd 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 rd 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.

• • •

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:

• • •

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.

• • •

**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
Yea	
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker	
Nay	
Touma	

TABLED

RESOLUTION: ST. JOHNS AME GOSPEL CHORUS 90TH 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 90th 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

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 45th president of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 20th, 2017 Mary Anne made the trip to the capital representing Niagara Falls and the State of New York at the 45th, 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

5
0

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	5
Nay	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	5
Nay	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
------	---

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 th 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, 24TH & 25TH 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 24th and 25th 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

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 24th 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
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	
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: 70TH 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 1st 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

37TH 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 37TH 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 - 37TH 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

90TH 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 90TH 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 - 90th 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 4TH 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 4TH 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

5
0

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 rd 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 th 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 th 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 th 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 th 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

5
0

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

5
0

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 th 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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0

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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0

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 th 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 20th 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 6TH ST. RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO 543 6TH 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 6th Street right-of-way adjacent to 543 - 6th 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

5

Nays

0

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 24th and 25th 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 24th and 25th 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 24th and 25th 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 6, 2017

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the March 6, 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: Acting Mayor, Chief Brian DalPorto, 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 February 21, 2017.

Yea
Nays

5
0

APPROVED

Seth Piccirillo gave a presentation on the Community Development Draft Action Plan. Seth Piccirillo gave details regarding renovation, demolitions and improvements regarding the 2016 Action Plan. He explained there have been 11 public meetings and presentations. He discussed public participation, surveys and summaries. This included home renovations, home buyers, park improvements, and city-wide housing renovations.

Councilman Touma commented on the number of people attending the CD Meetings. "It shows that the public is participating in the process".

Council Chair Walker inquired about participation in the first time Home Buyer program.

The City Administrator discussed the 2017 Zoom Program. He gave a history of the program, its current state, budget, employees, and the procedures followed by the Zoom Team staff. He also discussed the process for compliance in codes and ordinances regarding clean neighborhoods.

Councilman Touma asked about the program to install GPS systems in city vehicles.

Councilwoman Grandinetti discussed the fact that MIS needs to increase their staff levels. She stated this is a key department. Any updates, changes and improvements to systems in order to better serve the public is done by MIS.

Security cameras were also discussed by the City Administrator. Councilman Touma inquired about the Taxi Cab Ordinances. He stated that the solution to some of the issues might be to release more Medallions.

A discussion took place about Taxi/Livery drivers and the regulations regarding both. The Corporation Counsel spoke about the charter and the consequences of releasing more medallions.

Councilman Touma spoke about the importance of enforcement and inspections of vehicles that transport citizens and tourists.

At 6:10 Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson requested the council to move to executive session. Councilwoman Kristen Grandinetti moved to come out of executive session at 6:21.

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 Touma and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council Chairman Walker announced a Special Order of Business, a Public Hearing relative to the abandonment of a portion of the 6th Street Right-Of-Way adjacent to 543-6th Street and asked if there were any speakers relative thereto.

THERE WERE NO SPEAKERS ON THE PUBLIC HEARING.

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

Ron Anderluh	Discussed the incident at Gill Creek Park. Camera operation and safety
Ken Hamilton	Discussed camera systems, technical updates, taxi's, Zoom Team and parking
Jackline Pryor	Zoom Team issues
Jamie Caldwell	Engineer, Lodge on Goat Island. Councilman Touma suggested that Mr. Caldwell should arrange a meeting with the new engineer. Councilwoman Grandinetti suggested keeping the pressure on the Goat Island issue

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIM 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: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, 3 MONTH EXTENSION, STOHL ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC

Agenda Item #2

The City awarded contracts for asbestos services (demolitions) and environmental services (housing rehabilitation) to Stohl Environmental, LLC through February 28, 2017. We have not finalized the RFP for longer term contracts.

It is requested that Council approve a 3 month extension of each contract, through May 31, 2017. This should be sufficient time to prepare new RFP's, evaluate the proposals and bring a recommendation to Council.

Stohl's performance under the contracts has been excellent. The maximum amount approved for each contract was \$25,000.00. No additional funds will be necessary for the extension.

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

URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY, APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #3

Pursuant to General Municipal Law §593, the Niagara Falls Urban Renewal Agency is governed by a board of directors consisting of the Mayor and City Council, "together with four members to be appointed by the mayor with the concurring approval of the city council."

Janet Markarian has resigned as NFURA director. I hereby appoint Douglas Mooradian to replace Ms. Markarian. If appointed, Mr. Mooradian will also serve, *ex officio*, as a director of N.F.C. Development Corp. As you can see from the attached resume (on file in the City Clerk's Office), Mr. Mooradian is well qualified to serve in this capacity.

Will the Council vote to approve the appointment of Douglas Mooradian as a director of the Niagara Falls Urban Renewal Agency?

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

Yea

5

Nay

0

APPROVED

Councilwoman Grandinetti mentioned that this was a great choice for the Urban Renewal Board.

ENGINEERING DEPT.: CONSULTING SERVICES, CONTINUATION FOR 2017

Agenda Item #4

The City has now hired a City Engineer who is anticipated to begin work on March 6, 2017. As you know, the City has utilized the engineering consulting firm of Clark Patterson Lee ("CPL") to provide engineering services on behalf of the City during the past three (3) years. CPL has done a fine job of overseeing and tracking projects involving the Engineering Department and is familiar with pending projects that it is working on.

In order to ensure a successful transition, it is requested that CPL be retained for the balance of calendar year 2017 to assist the new City Engineer. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a communication from CPL describing its approach to the transition and detailing its hourly rates.

It is anticipated that CPL's fees for assisting in this transition will not exceed \$40,000.00. Funding is available from an open purchase order with sufficient funds.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute any engineering consulting services agreements provided the same are satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

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

Yea

1

Grandinetti

Nay

4

Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker

DEFEATED

Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that these were funds already allocated. Councilman Touma stated that the new engineer could pick up these extra tasks.

AQUARIUM, FUNDING, GRANT INCREASE

Agenda Item #5

During its meeting on March 30, 2015 the City Council approved a \$150,000.00 grant to The Niagara Aquarium Foundation, aka Aquarium of Niagara in connection with its project to construct a new exhibit space for the Aquarium's colony of Humboldt Penguins. The cost of the project is approximately \$3.3 million. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of the City Council Resolution.

The Aquarium has now requested that the City provide an additional \$25,000.00 in grant money toward the project due to unanticipated expenses.

Funds are available from the State Finance Law Section 99-h funds (casino revenues) on hand.

Will the Council so approve and 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

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG, ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR, CIR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION CORP.

Agenda Item #6

The following two were the result of bids received on January 17, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASEBID</u>
CIR Electrical Construction Corp. 400 Ingham Ave. Buffalo NY 14218	\$74,600.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder CIR Electrical Construction Corp. at their total bid of \$74,600.00. Funding is available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway 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

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, GENERAL CONTRACTOR, WALTER S. JOHNSON BLDG. CO. INC.

Agenda Item #7

The following two were the result of bids received on January 17, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
Walter S. Johnson Building Co. Inc. 6638 Mooradian Drive Niagara Falls NY 14302		\$131,770.00
Sicoli Construction Co. Inc.		\$169,700.00
Scrufari Construction Co. Inc.		\$181,000.00
Sicoli & Massaro Co. Inc.		\$228,500.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder Walter S. Johnson Building Co., Inc. at their total bid of \$131,770.00. Funding is available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway 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

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS,
MECHANICAL CONTRACTOR, DWC MECHANICAL INC.

Agenda Item #8

The following two were the result of bids received on January 17, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
DWC Mechanical Inc. 100 John Glen Drive Amherst NY 14210		\$26,200.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder DWC Mechanical Inc. at their total bid of \$26,200.00. Funding is available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway 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	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: STONE COMFORT BLDG., ICE RINK, RESTROOM RENOVATIONS, PLUMBING CONTRACTOR, PCS PLUMBING & HEATING

Agenda Item #9

The following two were the result of bids received on January 17, 2017 for the above referenced project:

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE</u>	<u>BID</u>
PCS Plumbing & Heating One Carter Street Buffalo NY 14220		\$36,630.00
J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc.	\$36,630.00	\$58,880.00
Mollenberg Betz Inc.		\$62,300.00
Willett Builders Inc.		\$98,448.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder PCS Plumbing & Heating at their total bid of \$36,630.00. Funding is available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant and Greenway 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	5
Nays	0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS, APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #10

The following have requested City Council approval for Commissioner of Deeds for a term from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019.

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

David E. James 4660 Perry Ct. Lewiston, NY 14092
Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yea

5

Nays

0

APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: NATIONAL FUEL GAS DISTRIBUTION CORP.

Agenda Item #11

Date Claim Filed:	September 27, 2016
Date Action Commenced:	N/A
Date of Occurrence:	August 31, 2016
Location:	In front of 2167 North Avenue
Nature of Claim:	Property damage during excavation
City Driver:	N/A
Status of Action:	Claim Stage
Recommendation/Reason:	Best interests of City to pay claim.
Amount to be Paid:	\$129.67
Make Check Payable to:	National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation
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

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADCVISORY BOARD, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-24

Agenda Item #12

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

<u>REAPPOINTMENT:</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES:</u>
Traci L. Bax 8654 Hennepin Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017

Dominick Colucci, III 2220 Pine Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2017
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Willie A. Price 91 Deuro Drive Niagara Falls, NY 14304	12/31/2017
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Yea	5
Nays	0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: MARRIAGE OFFICERS, APPOINTMENT, 2017-25

Agenda Item #13

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls has an international reputation as "The Honeymoon Capitol"; and

WHEREAS, couples arrive at the City Clerk's Office from all over the world to obtain a marriage license; and

WHEREAS, many couples are unfamiliar with those who may solemnize their marriage; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous for the City and convenient to the couple to be married to have these marriages solemnized within the confines of the City of Niagara Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that in accordance with Section 11-c of the New York State Domestic Relations Law the following employees in the City Clerk's Office be appointed as Marriage Officers for the City of Niagara Falls for a term of four years each: Lisa A. Vitello and Kari Pokoj; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fee for such marriage service shall be \$100.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fees for all marriages performed by said Marriage Officers during normal business hours be deposited to the credit of the City of Niagara Falls.

Yea	5
Nays	0

ADOPTED

Councilman Touma stated that these appointments were a great idea. It will give those who wish to marry in Niagara Falls much more flexibility in regards to time.

RESOLUTION: NTCC BRAND LAUNCH, WAIVE PARKING FEES, 2017-26

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation ("NTCC") is hosting its brand launch event at the Niagara Falls Convention and Event Center on March 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, hospitality and tourism partners as well as elected officials and other community leaders from across Niagara County have been invited to this event to share in the excitement of introducing NTCC's new brand which will be marketed to the entire world; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has been asked by the NTCC (letter on file in the City Clerk's Office) to waive the daily parking charges at the City owned parking ramp and open lots in the vicinity of the Conference Center in order to facilitate parking options for attendees at this event; and

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to create a business friendly environment in connection with this event.

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 daily parking rates on March 14, 2017 for attendees of the NTCC's brand launch event and that such fee waivers will apply to the City owned parking ramp as well as all City owned open lots on that day.

Yea

3

Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker

Nay

2

Grandinetti, Tompkins

ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:25 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello
City Clerk

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