

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

April 25, 2019

**5:30 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Elizabeth Gibbs (W3), Peter Ensel (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

**Absent:**

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on April 17, 2019 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_  
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

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**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending April 24, 2019 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_  
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

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**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of April 16-22, 2019
- Minutes from the Finance and Budget Committee held on April 17, 2019
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for March 2019
- Minutes from the City Infrastructure Committee held on April 11, 2019
- Minutes from the Governance, Strategy & City Operations Committee held on April 4, 2019

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

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Armstrong

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor Ensel

**MLD - MLD Board President** Councilor McFarlin

**RESOLVED:** That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and any written reports are placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

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**4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

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**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending April 26, 2019 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

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**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

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

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

**A. COMPENSATION AND BENEFIT POLICY FOR LEVEL IV MANAGERS OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH**

This Compensation and Benefit Policy for Managers shall replace and supersede all prior resolutions, policies, procedures, salary schedules, promises and agreements containing the terms and conditions of employment of Managers who were hired by the City on or after April 11, 2019 (hereafter referred to as “Level IV Managers”). No City representative shall have the authority to offer any Level IV Manager any benefit not consistent with this policy. This policy may be modified or revoked at any time.

APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY

This Compensation and Benefit Policy for Level IV Managers shall apply to all full time employees of the City of Plattsburgh occupying titles not represented by a recognized or certified employee organization as that term is defined in NYS Civil Service Law Article 14, but only where such Managers were hired as “managers” by the City on or after April 11, 2019. Such persons are referred to herein as “Level IV Managers.” This Compensation and Benefit Policy shall not apply to part time, seasonal and temporary employees or elected officials or any Manager hired prior to April 11, 2019.

WAGES

There shall be no salary schedule for Level IV Managers and the salary of each Level IV Manager shall be set by the City every year. At the time of a hire of a Level IV Manager, the Mayor shall recommend a specific salary which must be confirmed by the Common Council. Annually, the Mayor shall recommend a salary for each Manager for the following year in his proposed budget. The Common Council shall set the salary of each Manager as part of the budget approval process. There shall be no salary schedule for Level IV Managers and Level IV Managers shall not receive any longevity payments.

OTHER BENEFITS

Other than the Wages section described above, Level IV Managers shall receive the same benefits currently provided to “Level III” Managers as described in the Resolution of the Common Council approved on or about November 29, 2019, including any amendments thereto.

EFFECTIVE DATES

This policy shall be effective immediately for any person who begins serving as a Manager on or after April 11, 2019.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**B. WHEREAS,** the City of Plattsburgh Common Council (hereinafter “ Common Council”) understands that climate change poses real and increasing threats to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, *adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:*

- 1) **Build a climate-smart community.**
- 2) **Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.**
- 3) **Decrease energy use.**
- 4) **Shift to clean, renewable energy.**
- 5) **Use climate-smart materials management.**
- 6) **Implement climate-smart land use.**
- 7) **Enhance community resilience to climate change.**
- 8) **Support a green innovation economy.**
- 9) **Inform and inspire the public.**
- 10) **Engage in an evolving process of climate action.**

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore, the Common Council approves an agreement with Ron Santor for 2019 Police Academy Director/Training Director Services. The total cost is \$20,000 no increase in cost from 2018.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**D. WHEREAS,** Plattsburgh Plaza, LLC and HMC Nominee, LLC (“Petitioners”), filed Article 7 Real Property Assessment Review cases against the City challenging the 2017 and 2018 assessments on real property located at 316 Cornelia Street and 284 Cornelia Street, Plattsburgh, New York, and identified as the three following Tax Map Parcel Nos.: 207.17-1-15.2-1, 207.17-1-15.2-2 and 207.17-1-15.3; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the best interests of the City to avoid the significant costs that would result if the litigation continues to Trial; and

WHEREAS, the following settlement terms have been negotiated with Petitioners; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby approves the proposed settlement of the tax assessment cases filed by Petitioners for 2017 and 2018 as follows:

- 1) The combined assessed value for the three Tax Map Parcels will be reduced as follows:

Assessment Year	Combined Assessed Value	Combined Reduced Assessed Value	Reduction Amount
2017	\$10,034,000	\$7,750,000	(\$2,284,000)
2018	\$10,034,000	\$7,750,000	(\$2,284,000)

- 2) The combined reduced assessed value shall be allocated among the three Tax Map Parcels at the Assessor's discretion;
- 3) The reductions in assessed values shall also apply to the 2019, 2020 and 2021 assessment rolls pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 727; and
- 4) All Proceedings challenging the assessments will be discontinued and refunds will be issued based upon the assessment reductions; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that unless otherwise ordered by the Court, refunds based upon the assessment reductions shall be paid without interest provided they are paid within sixty (60) days after Petitioners serve a copy of the filed Stipulation and Order of Settlement on the City and other municipal taxing authorities; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the Common Council further authorizes and directs the Mayor, City Assessor, Corporation Counsel and/or its Special Counsel to execute settlement documents and take any additional steps necessary to effectuate the settlement in accordance with the terms of this Resolution.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**8. TRAVEL REQUEST:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore, the Common Council approves one Police Department employee to attend "Trauma Management Training" from May 7-9, 2019 in Watervliet, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$433.75 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore, the Common Council approves two Police Department employees to attend "Glock Armorer's Course Training" on June 25-26, 2019 in Herkimer, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$846.00 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.

By Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion:

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_ Tabled \_\_\_\_\_

Follow up Action:

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**9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None**

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**10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:**

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

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_; Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Ensel, McFarlin, Moore

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** \_\_\_\_\_