

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK
OCTOBER 29, 2020
5:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

(RC)

Present: Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Mike Kelly (W2), Steve Brodi (W4), Patrick McFarlin (W5), Jeff Moore (W6)

Absent: **Councilor Ira Barbell (W1), Councilor Elizabeth Gibbs (W3)**

MAYOR’S COMMENTS: asking public to be vigilant against COVID 19, we have seen more cases in our community than we have for many months.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Common Council held on October 22, 2020 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk’s Office

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Brodi
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending October 28, 2020 in the amount of \$ 62,497.99 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 Moore; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
(All in Favor/opposed)

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report from the Building Inspector’s office for the week of October 27, 2020
- Minutes from the Public Safety Committee meeting held on October 22, 2020
- Reports from the Police Department dated October 26, 2020

COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Governance, Strategy, and City Operations- Chair Councilor Barbell absent. Councilor Brodi had nothing to report.

City Infrastructure – Chair Councilor Moore mentioned Public Works is working on leaf pickup and will get to them as soon as able.

Finance and Budget – Chair Councilor Kelly mentioned budget sessions continue tonight with MLD and Library.

Public Safety – Chair Councilor Gibbs and Councilor Barbell absent no report.

Plattsburgh Public Library – Chair Councilor McFarlin indicated nothing to report, Library continuing to offer pickup of materials.

MLD - MLD Board President Councilor McFarlin MLD Board met earlier.

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 Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Brodi
(All in Favor/opposed)
Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the week ending October 30, 2020 in the amount of \$ 2,556,169.71 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 Moore; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
(All in Favor/opposed)
Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves ARC Properties, LLC. to close Clinton Street between Margaret and Marion Streets on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 overnight beginning at 6pm to install water lines in to 15 Clinton Street.

By Councilor Moore; Seconded by Councilor Kelly
Discussion: Yes
Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves PMLD Bid #2020-8-1 “Brush Chipper” be awarded to Taylor Rental, Plattsburgh, NY in the amount of \$ 86,330.00.

Motion to waive reading and move Resolutions 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E

By Councilor McFarlin; Seconded by Councilor Brodi

(All voted in favor of waiving reading and move Resolutions 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E)

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to advertise for bids through the NY State Contract using the mini bids procedure for two Ford Rangers pickups to replace one that is 20 years old with transmission/engine failure, and the second one that is 19 years old and has a severe chassis/body rusting issue.

[See details under Item 7B]

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to advertise for bids through the NY State Contract using the mini bids procedure for a small dump truck to replace one that is 20 years old and the chassis has failed.

[See details under Item 7B]

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to write-off the following unpaid final bills from:

1. August 2019 in the total amount of \$3,749.28. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .32%. The recovered amount for this period is \$ 728.88.
2. September 2019 in the total amount of \$4,889.08. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .44%. The recovered amount for this period is \$1,108.26.
3. October 2019 in the total amount of \$1,563.08. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .14%. The recovered amount for this period is \$1,289.93.
4. November 2019 in the total amount of \$1,678.65. The percentage of write-offs for this period is

- .12%. The recovered amount for this period is \$904.28.
5. December 2019 in the total amount of \$2,851.96. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .14%. The recovered amount for this period is \$329.07.

[See details under Item 7B]

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. WHEREAS the General Fund budget of the City of Plattsburgh is funded in large part by taxpayer contributions;

WHEREAS the City of Plattsburgh understands and appreciates that most services would not occur or would be severely reduced without taxpayer contributions;

WHEREAS the City of Plattsburgh understands and appreciates that the greatest contribution that we can make to all of our citizens, taxpayers included, is quality service at low operating costs;

WHEREAS the Plattsburgh City Council endeavors to pass budgets each year by mid-November and lay the groundwork for the next year's spending;

WHEREAS the Plattsburgh City Council wishes to thank the taxpayers for funding the following improvements in the upcoming years;

(this is where we would list a few major spending items for the upcoming year)

WHEREAS the Plattsburgh City Council will henceforth endeavor to keep the City's tax rate competitive with neighboring cities;

RESOLVED, the Plattsburgh City Council declares the third Thursday in November of each year as Taxpayer Appreciation Day. This declaration shall remain in effect until changed and/or eliminated by the Plattsburgh City Council. While it is not necessary to re-declare Taxpayer Appreciation Day each year, it will be necessary to compile a list of taxpayer-funded initiatives each year and have these read publicly on the third Thursday of November.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None

10. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNCILOR REPORTS:

Councilor McFarlin spoke about closure of Finance Departments payment windows for walk in payments has received complaints from public.

City Chamberlain indicated they can't close the payment windows entirely since they receive payments for other things.

Mayor Read mentioned his budget does not include closing finance payment windows.

[further discussion ensued]

Councilor Brodi spoke about that he is in favor of Community Development office, keeping dispatchers at Police department, feels it is a mistake to vote against School Resource Officers, feels paying bills outside area isolated public from city. Feels it is wrong to make changes before new administration.

Councilor Kelly thinks we need to look for efficiencies.

Councilor Brodi mentioned need special assessment service fees.

Mayor Read indicated he agrees with him, however, it requires legislative approval in Albany and Governor has indicated he is not going to approve any special fees.

[further discussion ensued]

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC:

Unidentified Speaker feels it is important that people feel safe that live in the city.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Brodi; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Kelly, Brodi, McFarlin, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:43 pm

[Note: Council held 2021 Budget Sessions with Library and Municipal Lighting Departments after Council meeting adjourned]