

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

April 17, 2019

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

(RC)

**Present:** Mayor Colin Read, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2) [*participated via Skype*] Elizabeth Gibbs (W3), Jeff Moore (W6)

**Absent:** Councilors Peter Ensel (W4) and Patrick McFarlin (W5)

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

**Mayor Read issued the following Proclamations:**

**WHEREAS**, the Plattsburgh State Women's Ice Hockey Team finished the 2018-19 season with a 29-2-0 record; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Women's Ice Hockey Team at Plattsburgh State defeated Hamline University, 4 – 0, in St. Paul, Minnesota, on Saturday, March 16, 2019, to win the NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Cardinals tradition of excellence continued with its eighth consecutive and 13<sup>th</sup> overall appearance in the Final Four national semi-final round; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Plattsburgh State Women's Ice Hockey Team continues to hold the distinction as the all-time leader in NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey with seven overall national championships; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That I, Colin Read, Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh do hereby congratulate the Plattsburgh State Women's Ice Hockey Team on its

***2019 NCAA DIII National Championship Title***

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Plattsburgh to be affixed.

Done in the City of Plattsburgh, New York this thirteenth day of  
April in the Year Two-Thousand Nineteen.  
Colin L. Read, Mayor

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**RESOLVED**, That I, Colin L. Read, Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh, proclaim this week to be Dedicated Employee Week in Honor of William Treacy and his team for their diligence and vigilance in protecting the ratepayers of the City of Plattsburgh.

At the height of Bitcoin mania in 2016, he was deluged with demands for Plattsburgh's power. Since then, he worked with us to tighten building codes and petition the Public Service Commission to protect our residents and ratepayers from those who would take our valuable natural resource of sustainable electricity and provide little in return. Even today, almost three years later, Mr. Treacy is working to protect us with every legal means possible.

The residents of the City of Plattsburgh are grateful for the effort of Mr. Treacy and his team.

The City thanks and honors Municipal Lighting Department Manager William Treacy and his team.

Done in the City of Plattsburgh, New York this seventeenth day  
of April in the Year Two-Thousand Nineteen  
Colin L. Read, Mayor

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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 11, 2019 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office

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

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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 17, 2019 in the amount of \$ 96,325.04 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 Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore  
(All in Favor/opposed)  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of April 9 - 15, 2019
- **COUNCILOR/DEPARTMENT CHAIR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Governance, Strategy, and City Operations-** Chair Councilor Armstrong would like to revisit Open.gov discussion.

**City Infrastructure** – Chair Councilor Moore no knew updates, paving plan for potholes.

**Finance and Budget** – Chair Councilor Kelly indicated met tonight thanked Councilor Moore for chairing and City Chamberlain Marks for reports.

**Public Safety** – Chair Councilor Gibbs indicated no new updates, meet next week.

**Plattsburgh Public Library** – Chair Councilor Ensel absent. Councilor Armstrong mentioned that the Plattsburgh Library Board meets next week.

**MLD - MLD Board President Councilor McFarlin** absent. Councilor Kelly indicated no new updates.

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

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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 19, 2019 in the amount of \$ 1,409,041.38 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 Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs  
(All in Favor/opposed)  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None**

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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, 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, Moore

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

Follow up Action:

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

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves North Country Food Co-op located at 25 Bridge Street to use **one** parking space in front of their establishment for outdoor dining, seating subject to appropriate licensing by NYS Liquor authority, and subject to City permits issued by Building Inspector. All permits must be received prior to barrier placement.

The City is asked to permit the licensee to install a wooden parklet structure. The requested dates are from May 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019.

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves SIP located at 14 Margaret Street to use **two** parking spaces in front of their establishment for outdoor dining seating, subject to appropriate licensing by NYS Liquor authority, and subject to City permits issued by Building Inspector. All permits must be received prior to barrier placement.

The City is asked to permit the licensee to use concrete barricades. The requested dates are from May 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore, the Common Council approves that the Mayor be authorized to sign Change Order No. 3 to the “Post Remediation Monitoring and Final Engineering Report” contract with C.T. Male in the amount of \$2,600.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**E. ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW P-4 OF 2019:** A local law to provide for the codification of the local laws, ordinances and certain resolutions of the City of Plattsburgh into a Municipal Code to be designated the “Code of the City of Plattsburgh.” This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Mayor and filing with the New York Secretary of State. The entire text of which has been distributed to and read by the members of the Common Council, is hereby enacted without the reading thereof and a copy of said local law is made part of the minutes of this meeting.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**F. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves adopting a refunding bond resolution for the purpose of creating savings in the City’s future debt service of the 2009 and 2011 serial bonds currently issued and outstanding. The anticipated savings are estimated at \$463,536 for the period beginning September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2030. The resolution form and the refunding issue projections are attached as supporting documentation for consideration of the bond resolution.

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None**

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**9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:**

**1. Request from Councilor Armstrong to adopt a Climate Smart Community Pledge**

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.**

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

**Councilor Armstrong** asked the Mayor when the advertising and roll out of the solar option would be.

**Mayor Read** we would like to put together a Plattsburgh Energy Plan.

[further discussion ensued]

**Mayor Read handed down the following appointment:**

**THE MAYOR HANDS DOWN THE APPOINTMENT OF SCOTT MATTHEWS FOR THE POSITION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR, LEVEL III MANAGER COMPENSATION AND LEVEL III BENEFIT POLICY, RANGE 5, STEP 5, SALARY SET AT \$55,400 FOR A MINIMUM OF 40 HOURS PER WEEK IN THE MAYOR’S OFFICE, EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2019.**

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**Councilor Armstrong** asked Mayor to explain how this office is going to operate.

**Mayor Read** gave background and explained duties.

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**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY TOPIC: None**

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Moore

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Gibbs, Moore

(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:52 pm**