

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019  
CITY OF PLATTSBURGH COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MINUTES  
4:30PM**

**Roll Call:** Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read

**Others Present:** Councilor Armstrong, Councilor Kelly, Councilor Moore, Councilor McFarlin arrived after Roll Call at 4:32pm

**Absent:** None

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**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

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**2. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSSION WITH COUNCILORS:**

1. Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for January 2019

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**3. AGENDA ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM DEPARTMENTS TO BE APPROVED BY COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:**

1. Request from Director of Community Development Matthew Miller that the ‘Pre-Demolition Asbestos Survey’ contract for the former Glens Falls National Bank building and associated structures be awarded to KAS, Inc. Payment shall be made from the Parking Fund.
2. Request from Department of Public Works Superintendent Mike Brodi that the Mayor is authorized to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Clinton County Public Transit (Clinton County Department of Planning) to establish a formal mechanism for payment by Clinton County Public Transit (CCPT) to the City of Plattsburgh, New York Department of Public Works for the removal of obsolete bus stop signs.
3. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter for a Police Department employee to attend “2019 Annual State of New York Juvenile Police Officer Conference Training” from August 26-30, 2019 in Lake George, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$1,619 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund.
4. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter for two Police Department employees to attend “NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services Initial Response to Active Shooters Training” from May 5-7, 2019 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$290 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund. The lodging and training will be provided by the Department of Homeland Security.

5. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter for a Police Department employee to attend “NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services FBI Crisis Negotiation Course Training” from April 15-20, 2019 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$296.25 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund. The lodging and training will be provided by the Department of Homeland Security.
6. Request from Police Chief Levi Ritter for two Police Department employees to attend “NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services Officer Survival Tactics Training” from May 8-10, 2019 in Oriskany, NY. The total cost will not exceed \$290 and will be expensed out of the Asset Forfeiture Fund. The lodging and training will be provided by the Department of Homeland Security.
7. Request from Fire Chief Scott Lawliss for two Fire Fighters to attend “Crude by Rail Emergency Response Training course” March 24-30, 2019 in Pueblo, CO. The NYS FEMA program covers travel, room, board and meals. The total cost is approximately \$400 to pay for travel meals, ferry, parking and baggage fees.

By Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Gibbs  
 (RC) Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read

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**4. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Councilor Gibbs** spoke about Animal Control officer and contract language and asked to review with Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller and possibly have a DEC officer for Animal Control officer. Asked Chief Ritter about foot patrol officer’s downtown area.

**Councilor Ensel** asked if we have had any interested applicants for Livable Committee. He has spoken to SUNY and they are requesting SUNY Police Chief Pat Rascoe serve on the committee.

**Mayor Read** indicated 5 applicants.

**Councilor Gibbs** mentioned there are structural issues and upgrades needed at Fire Department Building 2 and that she reached out to Assemblyman Billy Jones to see if there is any grant money to help with that.

**Mayor Read** indicated 5 applicants.

**Mayor Read** mentioned this is the time of year they are doing goal setting with each of departments asked Police Chief Ritter, Fire Chief Lawliss or Building Inspector McMahon if they wanted to share any of those with the council.

**Chief Ritter** mentioned one of his department goals is an overhaul of their department’s general orders which haven’t been reviewed in about 10 years.

**Chief Lawliss** mentioned reviewing costs, etc of running second ambulance.

**Building Inspector McMahon** mentioned reviewing laws on vacant buildings and rental registration.

**Mayor Read added the following Resolution:**

Whereas, by resolution dated January 31, 2019 the Common Council advanced its intention to serve as Lead Agency for a Type 1 SEQRA review for the City's impending Petition for Annexation because it was best suited to complete this review; and

Whereas, thereafter the City served its notice to serve as Lead Agency on other potentially involved parties; and

Whereas, while several respondents indicated they had no objection to the City's intention to serve as Lead Agency, the Town of Plattsburgh adopted a Resolution on February 21, 2019 advising that it does not consent to the City's request for Lead Agency status and stated its intention to establish itself as Lead Agency in this matter.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.6(b)(5), the Common Council authorizes and directs the Corporation Counsel for the City to submit a request, with supporting information, that a lead agency be designated by the DEC Commissioner, specifically the City of Plattsburgh, on notice to the involved agencies.

**Motion to move resolution to regular agenda**

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Ensel  
(RC) Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read

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**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**At 5:02pm Public Safety Committee was paused to hold Public Hearing to receive public comments on a proposed local law P-2, a local law Renaming, amending and restating in its entirety Chapter 241, Section 5 of the City Code of the City of Plattsburgh. (Regulating the use of tobacco products upon public property)**

**At 5:20p Public Safety Committee meeting resumed.**

**At 5:20 pm a Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss medical condition of a particular person and potential litigation on Webb Island Bridge.**

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Ensel  
Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read  
(All voted in the affirmative)

Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Moore, McFarlin and Building Inspector Joe McMahon were invited to attend Executive Session

**Returned at 5:35pm Mayor Read stated returned from Executive Session discussed medical condition of a particular person and potential litigation on Webb Island Bridge.**

**The following decision was made:**

**Reviewed Henry Kuhn appeal, motion to waive fine**

By Councilor Gibbs; Seconded by Councilor Ensel

Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**Appeal granted for Henry Kuhn, 90 Pine Street:**

1. Receipt of Sidewalk Shoveling Appeal application for fine imposed on Henry Kuhn, 90 Pine Street.

**No action was taken on potential litigation on Webb Island Bridge**

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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Ensel; Seconded by Councilor Read  
(RC) Roll call: Chair Councilor Gibbs, Councilor Ensel and Mayor Read  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:35 pm