

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF WATERTOWN  
April 4, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

**Mayor Joseph M. Butler, Jr. Presiding**

**Present:** Council Member Cody J. Horbacz  
Council Member Stephen A. Jennings  
Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso  
Council Member Mark C. Walczyk  
Mayor Butler

**Also Present:** Sharon Addison, City Manager  
Robert J. Slye, City Attorney

**City staff present:** Matthew Roy, James Mills, Justin Wood, Michael Sligar, Michael Lumbis, Eugene Hayes, Jeffery Polkowski, Amy Pastuf, Brian Phelps, Erin Gardner, Police Chief Donoghue, Jeff Hammond

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Authorizing Assignment of City-owned Tax Sale Certificate on Parcel Number 12-04-203.000 Known as 521 Franklin Street To Thomas Germain
- Resolution No. 2 - Amendment No. 105 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan
- Resolution No. 3 - Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Police Vehicle
- Resolution No. 4 - Accepting Bid for Hydro Plant Excitation System Replacement Project, ABB, Inc.
- Resolution No. 5 - Accepting Proposal for Hydro Plant Operations and Maintenance, Ampersand/Upstate Testing and Controls
- Resolution No. 6 - Finding that the Huntington Street Sidewalk/Trail and Tree Planting and the Walker Avenue Sidewalk Extension Project Will Not Have a Significant Negative Impact on the Environment
- Resolution No. 7 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2015-16 General Fund Budget
- Resolution No. 8 - Re-Adoption of Fiscal Years 2015-16 through 2019-20 Capital Budget
- Resolution No. 9 - Finding That the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program: Phase 1 Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment
- Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$9,440,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Various Improvements to the City of Watertown Wastewater Treatment Plant, Constituting Phase 1 of the City's Sludge Disposal Modification Program, to be Undertaken in Two Sub-Phases, Phase 1A and Phase 1B, in and for Said City
- Arena Concession Stand
- Municipal Arena Naming Rights
- Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Draft 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and 2016 Annual Action Plan
- Sales Tax Revenue – February 2016

**Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk**

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and Mayor Butler asked that it be in remembrance of Nicholas Canale, lifelong member of the community.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 21, 2016, was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Stephen A. Jennings, seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

### **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Butler interrupted the regular course of business to proclaim April 10-16, 2016, as Week of the Young Child™ in Watertown and encouraged all citizens to work to recognize the importance of work being done today and the need for commitment to early childhood programs for the future in Watertown.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

No communications.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

No one spoke.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Resolution No. 1 – Authorizing Assignment of City-owned Tax Sale Certificate on Parcel Number 12-04-203.000 Known as 521 Franklin Street to Thomas Germain**

##### **Introduced by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

WHEREAS the City of Watertown is the owner of a certain tax sale certificate on a lot of land known as 521 Franklin Street as designated on the map of the Department of Assessment and Taxation of the City of Watertown, New York as Parcel No. 12-04-203.000, and

WHEREAS Thomas Germain has requested the assignment of the tax sale certificate from the City for the amount of the tax sale certificate plus the 2015-16 City tax, 2015-16 school tax and 2016 County tax plus applicable interest per City Charter Section 140,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the offer of \$2,783.68 submitted by Thomas Germain for the purchase of the tax sale certificate for Parcel No. 12-04-203.000, is a fair and reasonable offer therefore and the same is hereby accepted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Comptroller is directed to assign the City's tax sale certificate for the above parcel to Thomas Germain upon the Comptroller's receipt of certified funds in the amount of \$2,783.68.

##### **Seconded by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Macaluso asked if this property went to public auction.

James Mills, City Comptroller, explained this property was in the middle of the two-year redemption period and the City only owns the certification and not the property. He indicated this is a neighbor that is hoping to acquire the property in order to clean it up.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 2 – Amendment No. 105 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, hereby approves Amendment No. 105 to the Management and Management Confidential Pay Plan, for the position listed below, as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Planning and Community Development Director	\$68,605

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 3 – Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Police Vehicle**

**Introduced by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has a surplus vehicle at the City Police Department, the listing of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

WHEREAS this vehicle may have some value best determined by on-line auction, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that it hereby authorizes the sale, by on-line auction, of the surplus vehicle from the City Police Department, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that final acceptance of such bids shall constitute acceptance of the same by the City Council.

**Seconded by Council Member Cody J. Horbacz and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 4 – Accepting Bid for Hydro Plant Excitation System Replacement Project, ABB, Inc.**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Manager has advertised and received a sealed bid for the Hydro Plant Excitation System Replacement Project, as per City specifications, and

WHEREAS bid specifications were sent to eight (8) electrical firms with one (1) bid submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., the bid received was publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Amy M. Pastuf reviewed the bid received with Water Superintendent Michal Sligar and Engineer Jeff Hammond, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the bid submitted by ABB, Inc.,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the bid of ABB, Inc. in the bid amount of \$105,000 for the Hydro Plant Excitation System Replacement Project with Optional Price System Upgrade for only one (1) turbine to be completed in the 2016 calendar year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Sharon Addison is hereby authorized and directed to sign all contracts associated with implementing the award to ABB, Inc.

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Mayor Butler asked Water Superintendent Michael Sligar to provide more information on this.

Mr. Sligar explained the purpose of the excitation system in detail, mentioning that the City has three units in good working condition. However, he informed Council the components of the excitation unit will no longer be available within a year due to upgrades in equipment. He stressed the City would be put in a serious situation if a unit goes bad because one unit can produce \$7,000 - \$8,000 per day. He said getting one new excitation system now will allow the City to keep the old unit's parts in case one of the other two units needs repairs. He indicated there was only one bidder but they wanted the City to replace all three units within consecutive years, however, he was able to negotiate the proposal to the original plan.

Council Member Horbacz thanked Mr. Sligar for being proactive.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 5 – Accepting Proposal for Hydro Plant Operations and Maintenance, Ampersand/Upstate Testing and Controls**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

WHEREAS the City Purchasing Manager has advertised and received proposals for the Hydro Plant Operations and Maintenance, as per City specifications, for a three-year term with the option to renew for additional one, two or three year periods for a maximum term of 10 years, and

WHEREAS proposal information was sent to four (4) electrical firms with two (2) proposals submitted to the Purchasing Department, and

WHEREAS on Thursday, March 3, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., the proposals received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS City Purchasing Manager Amy M. Pastuf reviewed the proposals received with Water Superintendent Michal Sligar, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the proposal submitted by Ampersand/Upstate Testing and Controls,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts the proposal of Ampersand/Upstate Testing and Controls in the bid amount of \$710,100 for Hydro Plant Operations and Maintenance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Sharon Addison is hereby authorized and directed to sign all contracts associated with implementing the award to Ampersand/Upstate Testing and Controls.

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Walczyk said this firm comes well recommended.

Mayor Butler asked if this is the same firm that the City has been using.

Mr. Sligar replied this is the same company as before and it was just Upstate Testing and Controls but was bought out by Ampersand. He further explained this company has been the operator at the hydroelectric plant for over ten years and has an excellent performance record with the City. He stated that Ampersand came in with the lowest responsible bid but also has experience with the facility so he strongly recommends this contract.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 6 – Finding that the Huntington Street Sidewalk/Trail and Tree Planting and the Walker Avenue Sidewalk Extension Project Will Not Have a Significant Negative Impact on the Environment**

**Introduced by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, is considering the construction of approximately 450 linear feet of new sidewalk and 1350 linear feet of asphalt trail along Huntington Street, between the intersection with Michigan Avenue N and the Huntington Heights Apartment Complex, as well as extending the sidewalks along the east side of Walker Avenue by 50 feet as part of the City's 2015 Community Development Block Grant award, and

WHEREAS the City Council must evaluate all proposed actions in light of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto in order to complete the Environmental Review Record, and

WHEREAS the proposed project will constitute such an action, and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the proposed project is an “Unlisted Action” as that term is defined in 6NYCRR Section 617.2, and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment, Part 1 of a Short Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared by Staff, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that:

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form, in comparison with the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact on the environment is known and the approval of the proposed project will not have a significant negative impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Secoded by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 7 – Readopting Fiscal Year 2015-16 General Fund Budget**

**Introduced by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

WHEREAS on June 1, 2015 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16, of which \$41,085,325 was appropriated for the General Fund, and

WHEREAS the Adopted Fiscal Year 2015-16 General Fund did not contain funding for the Arena to operate an ice season or the concession stand,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the total amount of \$41,206,147 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that the following adjustments be included in the re-adopted General Fund Budget:

<u>Revenue and Appropriated Fund Balance</u>		
A.0000.2012	Recreation Concessions	\$ 11,000
A.0000.4389	Federal Aid – Public Safety Grant	\$ 162,098
A.0000.0909	Fund Balance	<u>\$ (6,286)</u>
Total Revenues and Appropriated Fund Balance		<u>\$ 166,812</u>

<u>Expenditures</u>		
A.3410.0465	Fire – Equipment < \$5,000	\$ 147,362
A.7265.0250	Arena – Equipment	\$ 2,500
A.7265.0430	Arena – Contracted Services	\$ 1,200
A.7265.0460	Arena – Materials and Supplies	\$ 14,250
A.7265.0430	Arena – Equipment < \$5,000	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 166,812</u>

**Seconded by Council Member Mark C. Walczyk**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Macaluso questioned the cost of the materials and supplies.

Erin Gardner, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, stated the opening date of the Arena had been unknown so nothing was budgeted in the original proposed budget. Now that the Arena is open, she said the expenses reflect the cost to keep the Arena open until June 30.

Mayor Butler asked if revenue from the few hours of unexpected ice time was reflected.

Mr. Mills replied that no projected ice time revenue was included, only expenses.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 8 – Re-Adoption of Fiscal Years 2015-16 through 2019-20 Capital Budget**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

WHEREAS on June 1, 2015 the City Council adopted the Fiscal Years 2015-16 through 2019-20 Capital Budget, and

WHEREAS City Council desires to accelerate the wastewater treatment plant sludge modification project phase 1A and 1B with an application to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for grant funding,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby amends the Fiscal Years 2015-16 through 2019-20 Capital Budget to increase the estimated cost of the wastewater treatment plant sludge modification project phase 1A to \$4,540,000 and to add the wastewater treatment plant sludge modification project phase 1B at an estimated cost of \$4,900,000 to the FY 2015-16 Capital Budget.

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Jennings questioned the grant proposal and asked if the City was in a good position to be awarded it.

Mr. Sligar replied he is more encouraged this year than previous submissions because the approach was changed for the advocacy for the grant by using a professional group, which can do the job significantly stronger with Albany. He discussed the project further, explaining that Phase 1A was included in last year's budget but it did not proceed because the grant to assist with funding was not obtained. Mentioning the Environmental Impact Statement included in the next resolution, he advised this is a very green project because it shuts down the incinerator which will achieve a significant positive impact in the carbon footprint of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated that over 500 tons per year of carbon dioxide equivalent was in that carbon footprint, which will be eliminated by shutting the incinerator down. In addition, he told Council that there will be more than a 5% reduction in the amount of kilowatt hours that is consumed at the Sewage Treatment Plant. He referred Council to the economic analysis provided by Mr. Mills, which was attached to the memo for this resolution, for further

examination of the savings in electrical consumption. He pointed out that if this grant was awarded then the net cost of the project (financing plus principal) when compared with the net saving in electricity would result in a plus net of \$1.1 million. He further discussed the positive impacts of this project in detail and possible future benefits, to include staffing.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

**Resolution No. 9 – Finding That the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program: Phase 1 Will Not Have a Significant Impact on the Environment**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, has before it an Ordinance for the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program: Phase 1 which will eliminate the sludge incineration program, enable the proper disposal by means of land application techniques, and enhance current sludge disposal capacity.

WHEREAS the City Council must evaluate all proposed actions submitted for its consideration in light of the State Environmental Review Act (SEQRA), and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and

WHEREAS the approval of the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program Phase 1 would constitute such an “Action,” and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program: Phase 1 is an Unlisted Action as that term is defined by 6NYCRR Section 617.2, and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program Phase 1 will have a significant impact on the environment, Part I of a Short Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that:

1. Based upon its examination of the Short Environmental Assessment Form and comparing the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6NYCRR Section 617.7, no significant impact is known and the adoption of the Sludge Disposal Process Modification Program Phase 1 will not have a significant impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized to execute the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council discussed the Short Environmental Assessment Form.

Mr. Sligar told Council the endangered species mentioned in Part I of the SEQRA form was a type of bat that lives in the caves along that section of the river. He also commented that this particular SEQRA deals with whether this project causes any changes from what was already there and he stressed that since the facility was already there, then whatever impact there is has already been evaluated and approved before.

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.**

## **ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance No. 1 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$9,440,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Various Improvements to the City of Watertown Wastewater Treatment Plant, Constituting Phase 1 of the City’s Sludge Disposal Modification Program, to be Undertaken in Two Sub-Phases, Phase 1A and Phase 1B, in and for Said City**

**Introduced by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings**

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital purposes hereinafter described, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act to the extent required, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. For the class of objects or purposes of paying the cost of various improvements to the City of Watertown Wastewater Treatment Plant, constituting Phase 1 of the Sludge Disposal Modification Program, to be undertaken in two sub-phases, Phase 1A and Phase 1B, in and for the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$9,440,000 bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is \$9,440,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$9,440,000 bonds of said City authorized to be issued pursuant to this bond ordinance; provided, however, that the amount of bonds ultimately to be issued will be reduced by the amount of any State and, or Federal aid or any other revenue received by the City from other sources for such class of objects or purposes.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is thirty years, pursuant to subdivision four of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. The faith and credit of said City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year.

Section 6. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Comptroller and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Clerk.

Section 7. The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as he shall deem best for the interests of the City, including, but not limited to, the power to sell said bonds to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, he shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of municipal bonds. The receipt of the City Comptroller shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8. The power to issue and sell notes to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation pursuant to Section 169.00 of the Local Finance Law is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 9. The City Comptroller is hereby further authorized, at his or her sole discretion, to execute a project financing agreement, and any other agreements with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, including amendments thereto, and including any instruments (or amendments thereto) in the effectuation thereof, in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the class of objects or purposes described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond, and, or note issue of said City in the event of the sale of same to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Section 10. The intent of this resolution is to give the City Comptroller sufficient authority to execute those applications, agreements, instruments or to do any similar acts necessary to effect the issuance of the aforesaid bonds and, or notes, without resorting to further action of the City Comptroller.

Section 11. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the City by the facsimile signature of its City Comptroller, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the City), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the City Comptroller. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the City not to impose and collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine.

- Section 12. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:
- (1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
  - (2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
  - (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 13. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 14. This ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary in the Watertown Daily Times the official newspaper, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

**Seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso**

**Motion for unanimous consent moved by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings, seconded by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

**At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and carried with all voting yea.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Draft 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and 2016 Annual Action Plan**

Mayor Butler reviewed the proposed uses and assigned dollar amounts listed in the memo, highlighting the benefits of the Backpack Program. He said he has received a lot of feedback regarding this program and he thinks people do not understand the amount of poverty that exists in the City. He explained this program sends children home on Friday with quality food to eat through the weekend. He encouraged more people to support this program in as many ways as possible.

**Municipal Arena Naming Rights**

Mentioning that she is in favor of this because it will help with the cost of the Arena, Council Member Macaluso commented that a lot of people want “Watertown” incorporated in the name. She said citizens do not want an individual’s name on it because they feel like the people of the City are paying for it so they would like “Watertown Municipal Arena” included.

Council Member Horbacz agreed, stating he has received the same feedback.

Council Member Walczyk stated he would like to see what the market has out there and then make a determination from that.

Mayor Butler said there is some enthusiasm from some local employers so he thinks there will be a response on this. Noting there was an issue with the size of the sign, he asked if a variance is needed.

Ms. Addison said she will present to Council what the limitations are and they will need to decide if there will be signage on the side of the building in addition to the front of it. She noted that only 200 square feet is the amount currently allowed.

Council Member Macaluso said the sign ordinance is very antiquated.

Mayor Butler stressed there is a purpose of the sign ordinance but in this particular case, it is an impediment to receiving an attractive bid from someone that wants to put their naming rights on it.

Attorney Slye advised waiting for staff’s recommendation because it may be just to change the sign regulation in this park zone as opposed to getting a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mayor Butler suggested discussing this further at the next work session.

**The following reports were available for review:**

**Arena Concession Stand**

**Sales Tax Revenue – February 2016**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Otter Exhibit at the Thompson Park Zoo**

Council Member Horbacz asked for a status update on the Otter Exhibit.

Michael Lumbis, Planning and Community Development Director, explained that a revised plan was submitted by GYMO, PC and this is going in front of the Planning Board tomorrow. He indicated that it should be approved.

**Northern New York Community Foundation Establishing Community Funds**

Mayor Butler reminded Council that fund accounts will be set up and said the Foundation offered a matching grant up to \$50,000 for the Community Fund and up to \$5,000 on the Specific Project Fund. He said he wrote a thank you letter to the Foundation and mentioned that elected officials cannot do any fundraising but will support their endeavors. He indicated one proposed project was the downtown fountain and restoring it to its original look with the wrought-iron fencing.

**NYS Budget Presentation**

Mayor Butler announced there will be a presentation on the state budget, which was recently enacted, on Wednesday. He said he issued a press release highlighting a few items of importance to the City of Watertown. He discussed the Downtown Revitalization initiative and the program, which dedicates approximately \$600,000 million to help fight the heroin epidemic. He stressed the City needs to find out how it can obtain some of this money.

**Water Main Break on Factory Street**

Mr. Sligar provided an update, stating this is a 24-inch water main. He said it was unfortunate and caused a lot of disruption in other water mains travelling a wide sector within the City. He said there were complaints from Thompson Boulevard as well as adjacent areas along the break. Pointing out that the damage was caused by the contractor on site, he stated the repair was done quickly but the flushing out of the discolored water within the main took longer. He confirmed that the contractor would be the one to pay for the damage that was caused.

**Anti-Poverty Initiative within the NYS Budget**

Mayor Butler mentioned there is approximately \$1 million earmarked for the City of Watertown for an anti-poverty initiative. He explained that it is in conjunction with local governments working together with nonprofit agencies to put a plan together. He stressed this needs to be followed up on.

**Planning and Community Development Director**

Mayor Butler announced Michael Lumbis' appointment as the Planning and Community Development Director and offered his congratulations.

**Motion was made by Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso to move into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining.**

**Motion was seconded by Council Member Cody J. Horbacz and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

Council moved into Executive Session at 7:57 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

**A D J O U R N M E N T**

**At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 9:25 p.m. by motion of Mayor Joseph M. Butler, Jr., seconded by Council Member Stephen A. Jennings and carried with all voting in favor thereof.**

*Ann M. Saunders*  
City Clerk