

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
November 5, 2007
7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR JEFFREY E. GRAHAM PRESIDING

PRESENT: **COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY
COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH
COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH
MAYOR GRAHAM**

ALSO PRESENT: **CITY MANAGER MARY M. CORRIVEAU
ATTORNEY ROBERT J. SLYE**

City Manager Corriveau presented the following reports to the Council:

- 1 - Approving Pole Attachment Agreement, National Grid
- 2 - Approving the Agreement With the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation for a 2007 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant
- 3 - Approving Production Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Steve Weed Productions
- 4 - Approving Lease Agreement Between the City of Watertown and the Greater Watertown Red and Black, Inc.
- 5 - Approving Lease Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Watertown Sports Ventures
- 6 - Approving the Cooperative Services Agreement Between The City of Watertown and the United States Department Of Agricultural, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services, to Establish and Administer A Crow Roost Management Program
- 7 - Approving Consulting Agreement Between Fox Lawson & Associates and the City of Watertown
- 8 - Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into and Execute The Project Agreement for a \$367,500 Grant Through The New York State Department of State for the Completion of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
- 9 - Authorizing An Application to the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program – Phase 4
- 10 - Authorizing the Renaming of City Center Drive to Black River Parkway
- 11 - Amending City Municipal Code Chapter 293, Vehicles And Traffic
- 12 - Amending City Municipal Code Chapter 293, Vehicles And Traffic
- 13 - Amending City Municipal Code 293-52, Schedule IV: One-Way Streets
- 14 - 7:30 p.m. – Resolution Authorizing Non-Exclusive Cable Franchise Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Time Warner Entertainment Advance/Newhouse Partnership
- 15 - Sidewalk Project Update Report

COMPLETE REPORTS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 2007 and the adjourned meeting of October 22, 2007 was dispensed with and accepted as written by motion of Councilman Clough, seconded by Councilman Smith and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minutes were received from the library's board meeting.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

From Riverside Gardens concerning the sale of vacant property known as Gardner Avenue and a portion of Salisbury Avenue.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

From Pat & Francine Hanlon, 139 Coleman Ave., opposing the proposed increase in the franchise fee.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

From Deborah A. Vink, on behalf of North Country Transitional Living Services, Inc., to protest the name change of City Center Drive to Black River Parkway.

ABOVE PLACED ON FILE

Mayor Graham interrupted the regular course of business to welcome Boy Scout Pack 26 from Fort Drum and Pack 496 from Knickerbocker in Watertown.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Marty Lamon, Ward Street, reiterated to Council, as he has done so in the past, his concern about the Mr. Moot's property and requested that Council be more proactive concerning the condition of the Moot residence.

Mrs. Corriveau gave Council and the public an update on work at Mr. Moot's home; in particular work on a support beam and plumbing, which is ninety-percent complete. She said work on the kitchen floor needs to be completed. This past weekend she stated that two tickets were issued to Mr. Moot for an uninspected vehicle and for unlicensed operation of a vehicle.

Council continued to discuss the issue.

Wayne Zimmer, Katherine Street, addressed Council regarding the dog depot on Lansing Street.

S.G. Gates, Dorsey Street, addressed Council stating that he is working hard to bring a dog park to the City but feels there is much resistance from Council. He added that he thinks great things happen when this community pulls together. Mr. Gates said there will be a fundraiser on December 1, 2007 from 1pm – 5pm called Mia’s Holiday Costume Party.

Deborah Vink, on behalf of North Country Transitional Living Services, addressed Council regarding the renaming of City Center Drive to Black River Parkway. She referred to the spreadsheet she made citing the various costs that would be incurred for such a change.

PUBLIC HEARING

AT 7:30 P.M. MAYOR GRAHAM ASKED THE CITY CLERK TO READ THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AUTHORIZING NON-EXCLUSIVE CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WATERTOWN AND TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT – ADVANCE/NEWHOUSE PARTNERSHIP.

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING OPEN.

Mark Wright, Regional Manager from Time Warner Cable, addressed Council saying that the current franchise is expiring and the new agreement is before Council this evening.

MAYOR GRAHAM DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 7:35 P.M.

RESOLUTIONS

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to display holiday decorations throughout the community, and

WHEREAS National Grid, owners of the street lighting system, wishes to permit civic organizations and/or municipal corporations to temporarily attach seasonal decorations, announcements and special-event notifications to their facilities, and

WHEREAS National Grid has asked the City to approve a Holiday Decoration Attachment Agreement to cover the use of their facilities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown approves the Holiday Decoration Attachment Agreement, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Watertown hereby agrees to defend and indemnify National Grid from and against any and all claims for personal injury or property damage arising from the negligence of any of its officers or employees occurring in connection with the use of their facilities in accordance with this Agreement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Mary M. Corriveau is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS by resolution adopted March 5, 2007, the City Council authorized an application to the Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program to secure funding for the rehabilitation of the Franklin Building, and

WHEREAS by letter dated September 25, 2007, the City was notified that its application was funded in the amount of \$650,000, and

WHEREAS it is necessary to enter into a formal agreement between the City of Watertown and the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation, represented by the Office for Small Cities, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby approves the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Agreement between the City of Watertown and the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation, represented by the Office for Small Cities, for the 2007 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$650,000, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey E. Graham, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement and any other certifications or documents required to accept the Grant and administer the program.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

Prior to the vote on the resolution, Councilman Smith asked who will administer the loans.

Mr. Mix replied that they would be through the Watertown Local Development Corporation.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

WHEREAS the City of Watertown meets every month for City Council Meetings and Work Sessions, and

WHEREAS the meetings are open to the public and the City Council wishes to have them recorded and available for public viewing on public access television and internet, and

WHEREAS Steve Weed Productions has recorded City Council meetings in the past and is willing to continue providing their services to the City, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown wishes to continue to have these services provided by Steve Weed Productions, and

WHEREAS a new Agreement has been negotiated with Steve Weed Productions with a one year term commencing on December 1, 2007 and terminating on November 30, 2008,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Production Agreement between the City of Watertown and Steve Weed Productions, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCILMAN CLOUGH AND COUNCILMAN SMITH WHO VOTED NAY.

Prior to the vote on the resolution, Councilman Clough commented that Mr. Weed does an excellent job but questioned whether the City was still going to use its own equipment to record meetings.

Mr. White said that he has made recommendations to Council and equipment would cost about \$5,000. He said that his concern would be staff time needed to produce the final product and said someone would have to be hired to do such work. In addition, he said that no other board has requested that their meetings be video recorded.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

WHEREAS the City is a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York and, as such, owns a facility known as the Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds

within the City of Watertown, and the Fairgrounds are a community recreational facility, and

WHEREAS the City desires to promote future recreational activities at the Fairgrounds for the valid public purpose of the benefit, recreation, entertainment, amusement, convenience and welfare of the people of the City, and

WHEREAS in pursuit of that public purpose, the City desires to contract for the use, operations, management and maintenance of the Fairgrounds multi-purpose field and all football-related activities, and

WHEREAS the Greater Watertown Red and Black, Inc. owns and operates a football team as a member and franchise of the Empire Football League, and

WHEREAS Greater Watertown Red and Black, Inc. desires to have its team, Red and Black, play football games within the confines of the Fairgrounds,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown approves the Lease Agreement between the City of Watertown and the Greater Watertown Red and Black, Inc., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH

WHEREAS the City of Watertown owns a facility known as the Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds and the Fairgrounds are a community recreational facility, and

WHEREAS the City desires to promote future recreational activities at the Fairgrounds for the valid public purpose of the benefit, recreation, entertainment, amusement, convenience and welfare of the people of the City, and

WHEREAS in pursuit of that public purpose, the City desires to contract for the use, operation, management and maintenance of the Fairgrounds baseball facilities and all baseball-related activities, and

WHEREAS Watertown Sports Ventures, Inc. owns and operates a summer collegiate baseball team as a member and franchise of the New York Collegiate Baseball League, and

WHEREAS Watertown Sports Ventures, Inc. desires to have its team play baseball games within the confines of the Fairgrounds baseball fields and is in a unique

position to contract to use, operate, manage and maintain the Fairgrounds baseball facilities, and

WHEREAS the City has undertaken a substantial capital improvement project for the Fairgrounds in furtherance of the public purpose of keeping baseball in the City for the recreation, entertainment and welfare of the people of the City, including the economic benefit such a team can bring,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Lease Agreement between the City of Watertown and Watertown Sports Ventures, Inc, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Mary M. Corriveau is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Lease Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has investigated alternatives to help alleviate the nuisance of crows within the City, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has been in contact with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services (WS) for professional services to administer a non-lethal crow roost management program, and

WHEREAS the USDA will use various harassment methods such as pyrotechnics, recorded distress calls and hand held lasers, and

WHEREAS by using this strategy, the crows should relocate to an alternate, more suitable roosting site reducing local conflicts associated with urban roost,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Cooperative Services Agreement between the City of Watertown and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Wildlife Services (WS) to establish and administer a non-lethal crow roost management program, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby authorizes and directs City Manager Mary M. Corriveau to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

WHEREAS the City of Watertown desires to complete an Employees Classification and Compensation Study, and

WHEREAS the City has issued a Request for Proposal to eligible firms to conduct said study, and

WHEREAS Fox Lawson & Associates has been selected by both the City and the Civil Service Commission as the contracting agency, and

WHEREAS the parties desire to enter into a Consulting Agreement with Fox Lawson,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate and execute a Consulting Agreement with Fox Lawson on behalf of the City of Watertown.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCILMAN SMITH AND MAYOR GRAHAM VOTING NAY.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH

WHEREAS the New York State Department of State, Division of Coastal Resources, has announced that the City of Watertown has been awarded a \$367,500 grant under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund to complete Local Waterfront Revitalization Program projects for the Black River within the City, and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to revitalize the waterfront along the Black River, and

WHEREAS the City must enter into a Project Agreement with the New York State Department of State for this project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown approves the Agreement with New York State Department of State, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey E. Graham, is hereby directed to enter into and execute the Project Agreement on behalf of the City Council of the City of Watertown, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to act on behalf of the City Council in all further administrative matters related to this project.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

Council and Mrs. Hoffman discussed aspects of this project including signage and the path around Marble Park.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York desires to revitalize the Black River waterfront within the City, and

WHEREAS the State of New York has announced that funds are available for implementing a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program through Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York that the City Manager, Mary M. Corriveau, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funding from the New York State Department of State in accordance with the provisions of Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 to implement the City's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program in an amount not to exceed \$825,000, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the City Council in all matters related to this financial assistance.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH

WHEREAS the City Council wishes to rename City Center Drive so that its name reflects its relationship to the Black River and the adjacent park, Veterans Memorial Riverwalk,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that the street now known as City Center Drive is renamed Black River Parkway.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN STEPHEN J. BRADLEY

Prior to the vote on the resolution, Councilman LaBouf stated that he was prepared to support the resolution until he was made aware of the negative affects it would have on NCTLS.

Mayor Graham stated that the Planning Department was asked to do outreach to businesses in the City Center Drive area and would be willing to take recommendations from the Watertown Trust.

Councilman Clough said it is not the City's responsibility to reimburse NCTLS the money it would cost to change their business information.

Attorney Slye commented that Council could adopt an Ordinance to take effect in six months.

Ms. Vink replied that it would not matter when it takes effect, NCTLS would still have to incur the costs.

Councilman LaBouf said he suggests funding be put in place for NCTLS.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN LABOUF TO TABLE THE RESOLUTION. THERE WAS NO SECOND

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR, VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCILMAN LABOUF VOTING NAY

THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NON-EXCLUSIVE CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WATERTOWN AND TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT-ADVANCE/NEWHOUSE PARTNERSHIP WAS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL (Introduced on October 15, 2007, public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety on page 246 of the 2007 Minutes Book)

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA EXCEPT COUNCILMAN LABOUF AND MAYOR GRAHAM WHO VOTED NAY

ORDINANCES

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN PETER L. CLOUGH

BE IT ORDAINED that Chapter 293 of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to add the following:

§ 293-49. Schedule I: Traffic Control Signals

Intersection

Coffeen Street and Black River Parkway and North Meadow Street

Mill Street and Black River Parkway

§ 293-52. Schedule IV: One-Way Streets

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Direction of Travel</u>	<u>Limits</u>
J.B. Wise exit drive	----	At Black River Parkway

§ 293-59. Schedule XI: Yield Intersections

<u>Yield Sign on</u>	<u>Direction of Travel</u>	<u>At Intersection of</u>
Mill Street entrance ramp	West	Black River Parkway

§ 293-62. Schedule XIV: No Stopping

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
Black River Parkway	Both	Entire length

and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Chapter 293 of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to delete the following:

§ 293-49. Schedule I: Traffic Control Signals

Intersection

Coffeen Street and City Center Drive and North Meadow Street

Mill Street and City Center Drive

§ 293-52. Schedule IV: One-Way Streets

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Direction of Travel</u>	<u>Limits</u>
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State Street North side from a point 120 feet east of Public Square to a point 40 feet west of Polk Street.

§ 293-61. Schedule XIII: Parking Prohibited at All Times

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Street	North	From Public Square to a point 120' east thereof
State Street	North	From Polk Street to a point 20' east of Michigan Avenue
State Street	South	From Public Square to city limits

and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Chapter 293 of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to read as follows:

§ 293-61. Schedule XIII: Parking Prohibited at All Times

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Street	North	From a point 90 feet east of Michigan Avenue east to city limits

§ 293-67. Schedule XIX: Restricted Time Limit Parking

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Restricted Time Limit; Hours/Days</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Street	North	10 min.; 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.	From a point 20 feet east of Michigan Ave. to a point 70 feet east thereof

and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Chapter 293 of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to delete the following:

§ 293-37. Two-hour Parking Limit Zones Designated

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Street	North side from Public Square to a point 60 feet west of Polk Street
State Street	South side from Armstrong Place to a point 60 feet west Parker Street

§ 293-61. Schedule XIII: Parking Prohibited at All Times

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Street	South	From Park Drive East to city limits
State Street	South	From a point 60 feet west of Parker Street to a point 80 feet east of William Street
State Street	South	From Public Square east to Armstrong Place

and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this amendment shall take effect as soon as it is published once in the official newspaper of the City of Watertown, or printed as the City Manager directs.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

UNANIMOUS CONSENT MOVED BY COUNCILMAN CLOUGH, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LABOUF AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Councilman Smith asked if no parking would be from Polk Street to the City limits.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that no parking would be allowed to Michigan Avenue.

Councilman Smith asked what businesses should do who are in this affected area.

Mr. Hauk told Council that concerns should have been brought up at public meetings on the topic.

Mrs. Corriveau said that signage is already in place along State Street and that she has already received positive comments.

Councilman Smith stated that he was not aware there was talk of no parking on State Street.

Mr. Hauk reminded Council that they passed a resolution on the design report which included the parking plans.

Mr. Mix told Council that parking lots are supplied in return for no parking on streets in commercial areas only.

Mrs. Corriveau asked if it was the desire of Council and Staff to do outreach to businesses.

MOTION TO TABLE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN SMITH, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING YEA, EXCEPT COUNCILMAN CLOUGH WHO VOTED NAY

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY R. LABOUF

BE IT ORDAINED that Chapter 293 of the City Code of the City of Watertown is amended to add the following:

§ 293-52. Schedule IV: One-Way Streets

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Direction of Travel</u>	<u>Limits</u>
Polk Street	North	From State Street for a distance of 240 feet

and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this amendment shall take effect as soon as it is published once in the official newspaper of the City of Watertown, or printed as the City Manager directs.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JEFFREY M. SMITH

UNANIMOUS CONSENT MOVED BY COUNCILMAN LABOUF, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SMITH AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Councilman Smith said he believed that making Polk Street one-way would negatively impact several businesses. He added that he spoke with a business owner who concurred.

Mrs. Corriveau explained that vehicles will still be able to enter Polk Street from State Street.

Councilman Clough told Council he spoke with one business owner who was not aware that Polk Street could be made one-way. He also asked about the width of the street.

Mr. Hauk stated that Polk Street is 14 feet wide and that an average size street has 10 feet per lane.

Council reviewed the provided report.

Councilman Bradley commented that the current configuration is a safety issue.

Mrs. Corriveau said that there had been discussions about making the entire street one way. She said that for Mr. Beasley's property there is access from both State and Factory streets.

Mayor Graham asked if Mr. Beasley has weighed in on this issue.

Mrs. Corriveau said she has not spoken with him.

MOTION TO TABLE THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN CLOUGH, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Sidewalks

Mayor Graham asked whether it would be worth it to try to catch up sidewalk work with a private contractor.

Council reviewed the report.

Mr. Hauk told Council that there has been tremendous turnover in trying to keep a crew.

Councilman Smith inquired about hiring private contractors to help crews.

Mr. Hauk said it depends on the amount of money the City wants to subsidize.

Mrs. Corriveau added that it comes down to funding as long as work by union employees is not being eliminated.

Councilman Clough asked if the City can come up with some proposal to get caught up.

Mr. Hauk suggested bidding the amount of work that needs to be done.

Meetings for Next Week

Mrs. Corriveau told Council there would not be a meeting on November 12 as City Hall is closed for Veteran's Day. On Tuesday the DEC is holding a meeting regarding the New York Air Brake at North Elementary School. A meeting regarding Ten Eyck Street will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 14. Mrs. Corriveau suggested the joint meeting between the City and Town of Watertown be held on Thursday the 15th. She added that Mr. Bartlett said that Thursdays are the best night for his board to meet.

Councilman Smith said he would not be able to attend the meeting on the 15th.

Mrs. Corriveau replied that she would contact the Town to see if they could meet on Nov. 29.

Overhead Lights on State Street

Councilman LaBouf asked about the status of the overhead lights on State Street.

Mrs. Corriveau said the plan is to take those lights down and put ornamental lights in their place.

Mr. Hauk said the overhead lights were being used as temporary lighting during construction. He added that new ornamentals are being ordered which will be 14 feet tall instead of 12 feet, but passersby will not be able to notice a substantial difference.

Mayor Graham said that National Grid believes cobra lights are better for visibility and asked if the issue is total visibility or illumination on homes.

Mr. Hauk questioned if adding shields to the part of lights facing residences will block illumination to the sidewalk.

Volunteer Dinner

Councilman LaBouf suggested hosting a volunteer appreciation dinner for the many board members who volunteer their time.

Mayor Graham wondered about the logistics of such an event.

Councilman LaBouf suggested Mr. White look into the possibilities.

Councilman Bradley said that the Library Board has a picnic they do on their own.

Union Street

Councilman Smith commented that Union Street looks nice but there are no curbs.

Mr. Hauk said that sidewalk placement was looked at but there would have been encroachment onto private property. He added that for delivery trucks, making the turn onto that street could prove to be very difficult if there were sidewalks.

Councilman Clough asked if Mr. Hauk would be able to meet with Council members for further explanation.

ADJOURNMENT

AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR THE MEETING WAS DULY ADJOURNED AT 8:52 P.M. BY MOTION OF COUNCILMAN CLOUGH, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BRADLEY AND CARRIED WITH ALL VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF.

Amanda C. Lewis
Deputy City Clerk