

CITY OF ITHACA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 5, 2010  
7:00pm

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council, held at 129 W. Emerson Street, Ithaca, Michigan, was called to order by Mayor Bailey at 7:00pm and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Bailey opened with prayer.

Present were Mayor George Bailey and Councilpersons, Brian Henderson, John Thomas, Cathy Timmons, Larry Trexler and City Attorney Jefferson Arnold. Staff present was City Manager Chelsey Foster, Deputy Clerk Cathy Cameron, Police Chief Steve Lytle and DDA Director Becky Roslund.

Absent were Councilpersons L.D. Hollenbeck and Alice Schafer.

Audience in attendance was Representative Paul Opsommer and Mike McDonald.

A motion was made by Councilperson Timmons, second by Councilperson Henderson to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

***Public Comment***

Mayor Bailey asked to receive public comments.

Representative Opsommer informed the Council that the Budget Estimating Conference would be held Monday morning, January 11, 2010.

Councilperson Alice Schafer entered the meeting at 7:05pm.

***Committee Reports***

Mayor Bailey reported that the Personnel Committee met for DPW Union negotiations. There are no recommendations at this time.

***Department Reports***

Police Chief Lytle reported that the department responded to 72 complaints in December 2009. The patrol car mileage was 4,756 for the month. Chief Lytle reported on the tickets issued and arrest made and officer training. The department participated in the Santa Parade downtown.

Police Chief Lytle gave the 2009 Annual report. He reported that the department responded to a total of 1259 complaints for the year compared to 1156 during 2008. The cumulative patrol car mileage for the calendar year was 53,384 and the police bike was in service for 147 miles. Chief Lytle reported that there were 419 traffic stops which generated 181 citations, 39 warning tickets, 199 verbal warnings. The department investigated a total of 64 accidents during the year. Arrests were down from last year with a total of 65 for 2009. Chief Lytle reported on new programs being implemented, department training and the events that were covered during the year.

Chief Lytle stated that there is a Homeland Security Grant available for reconstruction and/or restoration of Emergency Operations Centers offered as a direct FEMA grant to cities that have an EOC. He suggested that the Fire Hall/Police/Community Center building be listed as an Emergency Operations Center to become eligible for some of the grant funds available.

A motion was made by Councilperson Trexler, second by Councilperson Thomas to receive the Police Chief's monthly and annual reports. Motion carried.

DDA Director Roslund expressed her appreciation to Chief Lytle for the department's assistance with all the events held this past year. Director Roslund provided members with a calendar of events for 2010 and the DDA newsletter. She reported on the 3/50 project which encourages residents to shop local. Many positive comments have been received on the website which now provides a space for business profiles.

Director Roslund informed members that the Ithaca Promotional Committee has offered to replace the speaker system downtown, at a cost of \$13,000.

Director Roslund reported on the construction progress of Pioneer Hi-Bred, Dollar General and Apple Hill Cider Mill and the relocation of Ithaca Therapeutic & Sports Massage and the Flamingo Hair Salon.

A motion was made by Councilperson Thomas, second by Councilperson Trexler to receive the DDA Director's report. Motion carried.

***Resolutions***

Mayor Bailey presented Resolution 2009-19 Designation of Street Administrator. Councilperson Timmons questioned the Resolution number with the start of the new year. Mayor Bailey requested the document number be changed Resolution 2010-01. City Manager Foster stated DPW Director Bob Studt was named the designee during the vacancy of the City Manager and the responsibility should be designated to the manager.

Councilperson Timmons moved to adopt Resolution 2010-01, second by Councilperson Thomas, stating: Whereas, Section 13(9) of Act, Public Acts of 1951 provided that each incorporated city and village to which funds are returned under the provision of this section, the "the responsibility for street improvements, maintenance, and traffic operations work, and the development, construction, or repair of off-street parking facilities and construction or repair of street lighting shall be coordinated by a single administrator to be designated by the governing body who shall be responsible for and shall represent the municipality in transactions with the State Transportation Department pursuant to the act."

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Honorable Body designate Chelsey A. Foster, City Manager as the single Street Administrator for the City of Ithaca in all transactions with the State Transportation Department as provided in Section 13 of the Act. Motion carried.

***City Manager Report***

City Manager Foster gave an overview of the projects that were completed during the 2009 calendar year. City Manager Foster reported on the Countywide Master Plan progress with plans to finalize the future land use map and zoning map by the end of this month.

Manager Foster reported that the City received a rejection letter for the DNR/Soccer field grant; the City can re-apply after April 1, 2010. Manager Foster reported that additional random homes will have to be surveyed for the CDBG Household Income Survey because of under-represented areas within the city.

Manager Foster will meet with the City Assessor to review the tentative taxable values for next year. He anticipates a decrease in SEV and a slight increase in taxable value.

City Manager Foster further reported on the proposed FEMA high risk flood area map and expressed concern for certain areas that have been designated within the city. Manager Foster, along with other government officials from the county; will be attending a meeting with a FEMA representative this week.

A motion was made by Councilperson Trexler, second by Councilperson Schafer to receive the City Manager's report. Motion carried.

***Payroll and Warrants***

A motion was made by Councilperson Schafer, supported by Councilperson Trexler to approve the claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Clerk-Treasurer Fandell and recommended to say Committee for payment; Accounts Payable Checks #35027-35081, Water Sewer Bond Construction Check #1129-1130 and Payroll Checks #7954-8061 as listed in the Check Register Book. Motion carried.

***Public Comment***

Mayor Bailey asked to receive Public Comments. None were given.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.