

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 16, 2021
7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council held and conducted via Zoom Meeting in conformity with Open Meeting Act (Pubic Act 228 of 2020) was called to order by Mayor Schafer at 7:00 p.m. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Protem Koppleberger gave the invocation.

Present were Mayor Alice Schafer and Councilpersons James Andrew, Brett Baublitz, Scott Gray, James Gruesbeck, Clark Hubbard and Rick Koppleberger. Staff present were City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Absent was Attorney Jefferson Arnold.

Audience in attendance was Sean Beckman and Shannon McKnight.

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Baublitz to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of February 2, 2021. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer asked for approval of the Agenda and for Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Moved by Gray, second by Andrew to approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hubbard, second by Gray to approve the consent agenda items as listed:

- **Ithaca Unit Report – January 2021**
- **City Manager report which included updates and information on the DPW Superintendents positions, DPW Equipment Barn accident, Phase 1 Security, LED Sign, Pig Scramble, AT&T, and the Water/Sewer Rate Study.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #47200-47231, and Payroll Checks #16115-16123, DD1811-DD1820, EFT #1234-1238 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: MML Elected Officials Academy**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (7) Gray, Gruesbeck, Hubbard, Koppleberger, Andrew, Baublitz and Schafer

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Department Reports

There were no department reports.

City Manager Comments

City Manager Conn reported that two candidates applied for the DPW Positions and interviews have been scheduled with DPW Director Studt and himself. He provided an update on the accident that occurred at the equipment barn. City insurance will cover the damages and new alarms will be installed in the trucks to alert drivers that the box is up. The LED sign to keep trucks from traveling through downtown has arrived and will be installed soon. The Pig Scramble may have to be cancelled unless outdoor gathering numbers increase. City Manager Conn reported that he is working with AT&T about updating and installing new equipment on the water

towers. AT&T has finally agreed to follow the safety guidelines that were recommended by Suez. City Manager Conn reported that the City has received four proposals for the Water/Sewer Rate Study.

Mayor Schafer scheduled a Water & Sewer Committee meeting for Tuesday, February 23rd at 12:30pm via zoom to review and discuss the proposals of the water/sewer rate study.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Schafer stated there was none.

New Business

City Manager Conn presented the bids for the Phase 1 Security Project with Unified Network Consulting as lowest bidder in the amount of \$16,936.00 for the project. He reminded Council that the entire project was not budgeted but the budget can be amended if they decide to move forward now, or wait for the new fiscal year budget beginning July 1, 2021. City Manager Conn recommended the bid be awarded to Unified Network Consulting. Councilperson Hubbard (as co-owner of Unified Network Consulting) read aloud a memo of disclosure he submitted to the Mayor & City Manager as part of Act 317 of 1968. The vote shall be taken at a meeting of the official body held at least seven days after the meeting at which the disclosure is made, due to an elected official having a pecuniary interest. City Manager Conn suggested Council vote at the next scheduled council meeting. Mayor Schafer shared her opinion that there is no one who would take more pride in working for the city, would want it to be well done and would do their very best for the City of Ithaca than Mr. Hubbard. Discussion was held amongst the council.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments.

Sean Beckman stated that he is looking forward to meeting again in person and working with Bob's replacement on engineering projects, coordination, planning and is willing to offer assistance towards a smooth transition.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council.

Mayor Schafer reported that she sent thank you cards to Sue Meier for the kind bars, McDonalds for the gift cards and Beacon & Bridge for the PPE they have donated. She also sent a note of congratulations to Brandon Smith for obtaining a sewer license from the State of Michigan.

Mayor Schafer informed the Council that she attended a brownfield meeting.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Gray to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

Approved 3-2-2021

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk