

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 15, 2021
7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council was called to order by Mayor Schafer at 7:00pm. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Councilperson 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.

Staff in attendance was City Treasurer Barbara Fandell and Water & Sewer Superintendent Jarred Waldron.

Audience in attendance was Rob & Lexi Endter.

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Gray to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held on June 1, 2021. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. City Manager Conn requested to add the Assessor Contract to the agenda under New Business. Mayor Schafer placed it as item 11d.

Moved by Gray, second by Hubbard to approve the Agenda (as amended by adding item 11d. Assessing Contract), including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Consent Agenda

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

- **City Manager’s written report which included updates and information on Planning Commission Meeting, Ribbon Cuttings, Cross Connection Ordinance, IPC Event, West Sanitary Landfill.**
- **Ithaca Unit Report for May 2021.**
- **Financial Report for April 2021.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #47487-47520 and 1003(A), and Payroll Checks #16229-16238, DD #1907-1915, EFT #1290-1295 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: MML Convention save the date**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Andrew, Baublitz, Gray, Gruesbeck, Hubbard, Koppleberger, and Schafer

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Committee Reports

Mayor Schafer reported that the Committee of the Whole had meet prior to the Council Meeting that evening. Mr. Scott Truman with Granger Waste Services gave a presentation of residential services and the costs associated with renewing their contract for waste collection and recycling. There are some changes with the recycling program, so Council requested more information before making a decision. The Committee reviewed a memorandum from Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone P.L.C.; regarding the roles and responsibilities relating

to the operation of the Library. Recommendation from the Committee, with Council direction to have Manager Conn draft an agreement defining the operational relationship between the Thompson Home Public Library and the City of Ithaca.

Councilperson Gruesbeck reported that the Senior Activity Board had met. They were approached by Al Fidler, whose family would like to purchase a memorial bench and have it installed at Atkinson Park. The board made note that the yellow lines in the parking lot were in need of a fresh coat of paint.

Mayor Schafer reported that the Library Board had met. She updated Council on the status of the new roof for the building. The summer reading program is starting soon and they have over forty kids that have signed up.

Department Reports

There was none to report.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn reported to Council that the Planning Commission had met and approved a new parking lot for Trident Manufacturing and an outdoor stairway for Rusted Roses at 129 East Center Street. He informed Council of two upcoming ribbon cuttings for new businesses; The Pink Cactus and Kingdom Tattoo Co.

Water & Sewer Superintendent Waldron reported that he had recently attended a conference regarding the Cross Connection directive from EGLE. He informed Council that by January of 2022 a written plan of action along with plan for compliance must be submitted to EGLE for all residential water service. Within three years, he is required to have 50% of these services inspected and in compliance with the new rules for cross connections as outlined by the State of Michigan. He further stated that within ten years (2032), the entire city must be completed and in compliance. Superintendent Waldron explained that the physical inspection covers all ports of water entry within a residence. Discussion was held.

Manager Conn stated that the IPC Event, Rock the Block is Thursday, June 26 from 4:00pm-9:00pm downtown.

He informed Council that SME has signed the agreement for the West Sanitary Landfill project and will be starting soon on the clean-up process.

Unfinished Business

There was none to discuss.

New Business

Treasurer Fandell presented the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget Amendments.

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Hubbard to approve the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget Amendments. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer introduced the memorandum from Clerk Cameron for Boards and Commission Appointments.

Mayor Schafer presented the application of Rob Endter to serve on the Board of Review.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Hubbard to re-appoint Rob Endter to the Board of Review with a term ending June 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer stated that no applications were received for the Downtown Development Authority. There are two positions open for a four-year term ending June 30, 2025.

Mayor Schafer presented the applications of Patrice Hornak and Chris Yonker to serve on the Library Board. She stated that the Library Board recommended Patrice Hornak for the position.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Gruesbeck to re-appoint Patrice Hornak to the Library Board with a term ending June 30, 2026. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer presented the application of Richard Teal to serve on the Planning Commission. There is one position open for a three-year term ending June 30, 2024.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Gray to re-appoint Richard Teal to serve on the Planning Commission with a term ending June 20, 2024. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer presented the applications of Jim Wideman, Rob Endter, George Bailey, and Steve Sigafoose to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Gray to re-appoint Jim Wideman, Rob Enter, George Bailey (alternate member) and Steve Sigafoose (alternate member) to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending June 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Manager Conn requested a closed session to discuss the City Clerk's review and the Assessing contract.

Moved by Koppkeberger, second by Hubbard to enter into closed session to discuss the City Clerk's review and the Assessing contract.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

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

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Entered into Closed Session at 7:37pm.

Moved by Gray, second by Hubbard to exit from closed session. Motion carried.

Exited from Closed Session at 7:57pm.

Moved by Clark, second by Gray to approve \$2,000 a year increase beginning July 1, 2021 for the City Clerk based on her performance of duties with an excellent review. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer requested a special council meeting be scheduled for further discussion on the assessing contract.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. Councilperson Hubbard inquired on a project over by the Catholic Church. Clerk Cameron stated that the residence had been issued a permit for installation of two egress windows. Councilperson Baublitz informed Council that Alma Transit is beginning public transportation in Ithaca on Thursday July 1, 2021. Councilperson Gray mentioned that he heard outside conversation about the possibility of fund raising for a splash park in the city.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council. There was none.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Approved 7-6-2021

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk