

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 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. Mayor Schafer 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 Kasey Zehner (via zoom).

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held on July 20, 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 Seasonal Help to the agenda under New Business. Mayor Schafer placed it as item 10a.

Moved by Andrew, second by Baublitz to approve the agenda (as amended by adding item 10a. Seasonal Help), including 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:

- **City Manager’s written report, which included updates and information on AT&T Contract, SME, Backhoe, DPW Uniforms, IPC Event and Old US27 Motor Tour.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #47609-47630 and Payroll Checks #16292-16305, DD #1959-1967, EFT #1317-1321 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: None**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (7) Hubbard, Koppleberger, Andrew, Baublitz, Gray, Gruesbeck, 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. The Committee discussed the open positions in code enforcement and the rental inspection program. Recommendation was to combine both to create one part-time position (15-20 hours per week) at a pay rate of \$20.00 per hour.

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to approve the part-time position for code enforcement/rental inspector at a pay rate of \$20.00 per hour and authorize the City Manager to advertise the position. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the best use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that the City is receiving.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Koppleberger to use the ARPA funds as a portion of the lead/copper waterline replacement expense. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer reported that the drafted Library Agreement with the City will be sent to the Library Board for their review and then brought back to the Council.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn reported to Council that the AT&T contract had been finalized. The liability for any electrical and magnetic fields injury to tower workers is on AT&T. The city will be collecting a \$1,215 increase in monthly rental fees. Councilperson Gruesbeck inquired who the other cell companies were that have antennas on our water towers. Discussion was held.

Manager Conn reported that SME has submitted their field evaluation to EGLE for approval.

Manager Conn stated that we have an old backhoe in our fleet that is rarely used and requested authorization to sell it by way of sealed bids. Councilperson Baublitz suggested selling the backhoe via an online auction with Sherwood Auction Service. Councilperson Gray agreed it would be more beneficial to the city through auction. Mayor Schafer inquired what we would use for a backhoe. Manager Conn stated that the new piece of equipment we are purchasing from Ellen's Equipment comes with an attachment for that purpose. He further offered to include the cold patch machine and the wrought iron fence that was taken down at the cemetery. Councilperson Andrew suggested that we get one good section of fence and donate it to the Historical Museum. Everyone was in favor of the donation.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Gray to authorize Manager Conn to contact and acquire Sherwood Auction Services for sale of the backhoe, cold patch machine, cemetery fence and donate one section of fence to the Historical Museum. Motion carried.

Manager Conn reported that he had received a request from the DPW Union about shifting some of their clothing allowance to add shorts and lightweight hoodies. Councilperson Hubbard stated that he thinks sweatshirts are easier move around in while working and was in support of the request. Consensus of the Council was that this was an administrative decision, however shared their support in favor of allowing the change.

Manager Conn further reported that the IPC event "Rock the Block" went well, with approximately 250 in attendance. The US27 Motor Tour will be coming back to town on August 26th from 10:30am-12:30pm.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Schafer presented Resolution 2021-10: Approving Trident Manufacturing IFE. The IFE application was approved by motion at the regular meeting held July 20, 2021.

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to adopt Resolution 2021-10: Approving Trident Manufacturing IFE.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

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

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Manager Conn reviewed with Council the term options offered by Granger Waste Services. Discussion was held on the difference between the 5-year and 10-year option for trash removal. The curb side recycling program was discussed including the new requirement of an additional cart and charges for the service. The option is not

cost effective unless at least 150 residents participate. The bulk item pick-up service will continue, but will be offered on any Friday with the resident calling Granger for scheduling.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Baublitz to approve a ten (10) year contract with Granger Waste Services for residential service beginning September 1, 2021. Motion carried.

New Business

Manager Conn informed Council that the DPW seasonal workers will be done soon, as they will be going back to school August 23rd. Superintendent Smith has inquired on the possibility of replacing them with someone that could stay through November. Manager Conn requested that the hourly rate be increased to \$12 per hour.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Gray approve the hiring of one/two temporary full-time DPW seasonal workers at a rate of \$12 per hour. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council. Councilperson Andrew asked for an update on the property of interest by Ellen's Equipment. Manager Conn stated that City Attorney Arnold promised to have an answer for Council by the end of August. Manager Conn informed Council that Seifert Concrete will be working on the sidewalks this fall.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Approved 8-17-2021

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk