

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 4, 2022
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, James Gruesbeck, Clark Hubbard, Alison Jerome and Rick Koppleberger. Staff present were City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Absent was Attorney Jeff Arnold.

Audience in attendance was George Bailey.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Baublitz to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held on December 21, 2021. Motion carried.

Mayor Schafer asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Andrew, second by Hubbard to approve the Agenda, including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. George Bailey wished everyone a happy new year.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Jerome to approve the consent agenda items as listed:

- **City Manager's written report, which included updates and information on snow plowing, water bills, community center cleaning, county millage's and mowing contract.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #47959-47978, Grant Check #1213 and Payroll Checks #16419-16433, DD #2074-2092, EFT #1380-1386 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: DBOR Minutes**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

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

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn reported that the new COVID policy was in effect as previously agreed upon by Council. Although the doors were closed to the public, office staff made a few accommodations for residents to enter as necessary. Our first quarter of outstanding water bill disconnection of service was enacted with most residents understanding of reason. Manager Conn reported that a third party has been contracted to perform a deep clean of the community center once a month.

Manager Conn reported that the county has enacted a millage review process that is looking at their county wide millage's to ascertain whether the dollars are being used as originally intended. Manager Conn requested County Commissioner George Bailey to elaborate on the scope of the review. Commissioner Bailey stated that the

County Commissioners are reviewing millage's to see if the amount collected is sufficient for operations. Noting that a millage rate set ten/twenty years ago may not be enough for current time operational costs as initially intended. They are working with the fund recipients to review if the monies collected are covering operations, providing a surplus, or not meeting the financial budget. In addition to how the monies are being utilized and if changes need to be made. The goal is to ensure fiscal responsibility for the taxpayers.

Manager Conn informed Council that the lawn mowing services contract for the next two seasons with Mid-Michigan Turf Pro's had been signed. The owners agreed to the city option of adding two years upon successful review and are excited to be working with the city.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

There was none.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None was given.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council. Mayor Schafer presented the new Committee Assignments of the Council.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Approved 1-18-2022

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk