

**CITY OF ITHACA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 19, 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. Councilperson Koppleberger gave the invocation.

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

Additional staff present were Treasurer Barbara Fandell and Lt. Roy McCollum.

Absent was Councilperson Clark Hubbard and Attorney Jeff Arnold.

Audience in attendance was Sean Beckman with Rowe PSC.

**Moved by Koppleberger, second by Jerome to excuse Councilperson Clark Hubbard who was out of town. Motion carried.**

**Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held on April 5, 2022. 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 Koppleberger to approve the Agenda, including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.**

**Public Comment**

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None was offered.

**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 SME, Rowe PSC, Seasonal Help, Point Broadband, ARPA Funds, West Center Street Resurfacing Project.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #48126-48157, #1011A, and Payroll Checks #16489-16495, DD #2168-2178, EFT #1424-1427 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: Magnet and Library Minutes**

**Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:**

**Ayes: (6) Jerome, Koppleberger, Andrew, Baublitz, Gruesbeck and Schafer**

**Nos: (0) None**

**Absent: (1) Hubbard**

**Department Reports**

Lt. McCollum reported on the activity of the Ithaca Unit for March 2022. The department has new software which will provide new stats and reporting style going forward.

**Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to receive the Ithaca Unit Report for March 2022. Motion carried.**

Treasurer Fandell reported on the state of finances for the quarter of January through March of 2022.

**Moved by Koppleberger, second by Jerome to receive the Financial Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and place on file. Motion carried.**

**City Manager Comments**

Manager Conn reported that SME was onsite to determine the test well locations at the landfill. Rowe PSC has advertised the Lead and Copper Service Project, with a bid opening date of May 10, 2022.

Manager Conn reported that Point Broadband has requested a third cabinet location for their fiber installation project. The best location will be the southwest corner of South Main and Webster Street. The current antenna contract on file is with Casair who was purchased by Point Broadband. Their General Manager has agreed to open that contact for negotiations.

Manager Conn announced that the County Commissioners awarded the city \$110,000 in additional ARPA funds, to be used towards the purchase of the new sewer truck.

Manager Conn informed Council of the estimated increase in the resurfacing project on West Center Street. Discussion will be held under new business.

**Unfinished Business**

There was none

**New Business**

Sean Beckman with Rowe PSC, reported that 80% of the engineering has been completed for the West Center Street resurfacing project. That represents an investment of \$12,000 from the city towards the project. Materials have increased 14% since the initial estimate. This results in the increase of the local match to \$31,000. Mr. Beckman presented the benefits of moving forward along with the potential results of waiting another year(s) to resurface the street. After discussion, Mr. Beckman requested direction from the Council.

**It was the consensus of the Council to proceed moving forward with the West Center Street Resurfacing Project.**

Manager Conn reported that discussion had been held with the County Road Commission regarding the acquisition of the city's old sewer truck. With the recent award of \$110,000 (to be used towards the purchase of a new sewer truck) in ARPA funds by the County Commissioners, the city agreement was to offer the sale of the old sewer truck to the County Road Commission for \$1 (one dollar).

**Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to sell the old sewer truck to the Gratiot County Road Commission for \$1 (one dollar). Motion carried.**

Mayor Schafer presented Resolution 2022-05: Street Administrator Designation.

**Moved by Andrew, second by Koppleberger to adopt Resolution 2022-05: Street Administrator Designation. Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:**

**Ayes: (6) Jerome, Koppleberger, Andrew, Baublitz, Gruesbeck and Schafer**

**Nos: (0) None**

**Absent: (1) Hubbard**

Treasurer Fandell presented the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget for introduction and requested a public hearing be set.

**Moved by Koppberger, second by Baublitz to introduce the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget and set the public hearing for May 17, 2022 at 7:00pm or soon thereafter as the agenda allows. Motion carried.**

**Mayor Schafer requested a committee meeting to review and discuss the draft budget. Mayor Schafer scheduled a Committee of the Whole meeting for Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.**

**Public Comment**

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council. Manager Conn inquired if the Council was okay with someone doing metal detecting in the city parks. There was no objection. The streetscape (red brick strips) within the right-of-way along Center Street are in poor condition. In the near future, a decision needs to be made to remove or preserve them.

**Moved by Gruesbeck, second by Baublitz to adjourn. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

*Approved 5-3-2022*

*Cathy Cameron*

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk