

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 7, 2023
7:00 PM**

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

Present were Mayor Brett Baublitz, Councilpersons James Andrew, Rob Endter, James Gruesbeck, Clark Hubbard, Alison Jerome and Rick Koppleberger. Staff present was City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Absent was Attorney Jeff Arnold.

Audience in attendance was none.

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Hubbard to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 17, 2023. Motion carried.

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

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

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. There was none.

Consent Agenda

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

- **City Manager’s written report, which included updates and information on V&V Assessing, Scraper Truck, Tim Stratton, GESA, Heroes Center Grand Opening and Volunteer work.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #48791-48824, 1018(A) and Payroll Checks #16675-16680, DD #2431-2441, EFT #1562-1571 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: Library Minutes**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

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

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Committee Reports

There was none.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn informed Council that V&V Assessing has decided to terminate our assessing contract due to health reason, while providing us more than a sixty-day notice as required under our contract. Discussion was held. There was damage done to one of our scraper trucks, during snow storm clean up, and is currently at Shults Equipment awaiting direction from the insurance adjuster. Congratulations to our own Tim Stratton for passing the state tests and receiving his water and sewer licenses. Manger Conn reported that the Church of God has

offered to provide their annual spring clean-up of Woodland and Atkinson Park. Thank you to the church congregation for volunteering their time to help keep our parks beautiful!

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

Manager Conn reminded Council of the LCR Downtown Project bid results from June 2022. At that time two bids were received with the lowest bid being more than 200% over the engineer's estimate. The engineer's recommendation to Council was to reject all bids and re-bid the project in the fall/winter for a planned construction date being in 2023 or 2024. Council agreed with the rejection of bids and re-bid recommendation. Manager Conn presented a City Charter excerpt of *Chapter XI; Contracts, C.3.; if after competitive bidding, no bids are received or such bids as were received were not satisfactory to the Council, the Council may either endeavor to obtain new competitive bids or may authorize the City manager to negotiate for a contract in the open market.* Manager Conn requested permission from the Council to negotiate for a contract in the open market. Discussion was held.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Endter to authorize Manger Conn to negotiate for a contract in the open market for the LCR Downtown Project as allowed by City Charter, Chapter XI, C.3.; by a vote of five or more members of the Council.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

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

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. There was none.

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

Moved by Hubbard, second by Jerome to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Approved 1-14-2023

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk