

**CITY OF ITHACA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 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 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 Councilpersons James Andrew and Attorney Jeff Arnold.

Audience in attendance was George Bailey.

**Moved by Hubbard, second by Koppleberger to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 21, 2023. Motion carried.**

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

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

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

**Public Comment**

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. George Bailey reported on the County Commissioners agenda items and updates.

**Consent Agenda**

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

- **City Manager’s written report, which included updates and information on Verizon Tower, Planning Commission, Rebranding Progress, SME, Agri-Fit Challenge, Good Morning Gratiot and Community Celebration.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #48851-48863, W/S Bond Debt Checks #22(A)-23(A) and Payroll Checks #16687-16692, DD #2453-2463, EFT #1581-1590 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: GACC Minutes and Chamber Event**

**Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:**

**Ayes: (6) Endter, Gruesbeck, Hubbard, Jerome, Koppleberger, and Baublitz**

**Nos: (0) None**

**Absent: (1) Andrew**

**Committee Reports**

There was none.

**City Manager Comments**

Manager Conn updated Council on the negotiations with Verizon on rental space for a tower North of the cemetery. It appears that they are wanting to build the tower and sell it to a tower company which would in turn solicit companies to rent space on their tower, essentially creating a competitor for ourselves. Discussion was held. The Planning Commission approved ZFS to add four additional grain storage bins. Manager Conn reported that EGLE is looking for the city and SME to test off-site ground water run-off from the west landfill property on Washington Road. There are a few neighboring properties that have been sent letters seeking permission to access their properties for testing. Upcoming events, Good Morning Gratiot and Chamber Community Celebration were highlighted.

**Unfinished Business**

There was none.

**New Business**

Manager Conn presented the Union Street Reconstruction cost opinion from ROWE PSC. The cost opinion includes replacement of sanitary sewer, storm sewer, water main, sidewalk, ADA ramps and roadway. The section from Center Street to Westwind Lane came in at a grand total of \$4,977,000. There was an option of narrowing the roadway from 38' wide travel lane to 24' wide travel lane, with a savings of \$452,000. Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Council to keep the width of the roadway as is. The narrowing cost savings was not substantial enough versus the benefit of having street side parking on this length of roadway. This project will be on hold until funding can be secured.

**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 Koppleberger to adjourn. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

*Approved 3-21-2023*

*Cathy Cameron*

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk