

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 6, 2024
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, Clark Hubbard, and Rick Koppleberger. Staff present was City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Absent were Councilpersons Alison Jerome and Kristyn Roethlisberger.

Additional Staff Present was City Treasurer Barbara Fandell, DPW Superintendent Brandon Smith and Water/Sewer Superintendent Jarred Waldron.

Audience in attendance was Shannon McKnight and Alex Korovich.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Koppleberger to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 16, 2024. Motion carried.

Moved by Andrew, second by Koppleberger to excuse Councilpersons Alison Jerome and Kristyn Roethlisberger due to personal obligations. Motion carried.

Mayor Baublitz asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Manager Conn requested to add Commercial Water Service Replacement Project to the agenda under New Business. Mayor Baublitz placed it as item 11c.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Koppleberger to approve the Agenda (as amended by adding item 11c. Commercial Water Service Replacement Project) including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

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

- **City Manager’s written report, which included updates and information on Trinity Truck & Trailer, Gratiot County Masterplan, Chamber Breakfast, Ithaca Fire Department, Commercial LCR and SRF Update.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #49577-49613, W/S Bond Debt #26(A) and Payroll Checks #16863-16867, DD #2764-2775, EFT #1756-1764 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received was none.**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (5) Koppleberger, Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (2) Jerome, Roethlisberger

Committee/Department Reports

The Committee of the Whole met with the Manager and Department Heads prior to this council meeting, to review projects and discuss goals for 2024 as part of the annual strategic planning.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn inquired if there were any questions regarding his written report. There was none.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

Manager Conn presented Resolution 2024-08: Authorizing Notice of Intent and Declaring Intent to Reimburse. This resolution and notice indicate the City’s intent to issue Water Supply System Revenue Bonds in an amount not to exceed two million (\$2,000,000) to pay for improvements to the water supply system of the city. The resolution authorizes the publication of a Notice of Intent (*exhibit A below*) relating to the City’s bonds to be issued through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program (DWSRF).

EXHIBIT A

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ITHACA
AND TO USERS OF THE CITY’S WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM
OF INTENT TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS AND THE
RIGHT OF REFERENDUM RELATING THERETO**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Ithaca, County of Gratiot, State of Michigan (the “City”), intends to issue and sell revenue bonds pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, in one or more series, in a total amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), for the purpose of paying all or part of the cost to acquire, construct, furnish and equip improvements to the City’s existing water supply system including watermains and lead service line replacements at various locations throughout the City, together with all necessary interests in land, rights-of-way, appurtenances and attachments thereto.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF REVENUE BONDS

THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE REVENUE BONDS SHALL BE PAYABLE primarily from the revenues received by the City from the operations of the water supply system (the “System”). The City expects the revenue bonds to be sold to the Michigan Finance Authority in connection with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program in which case the bonds sold to Michigan Finance Authority may also be payable as described below. The revenues will consist of rates and charges billed to the users of the System, a schedule of which is presently on file in the office of the City Clerk. The rates and charges may from time to time be revised to provide sufficient revenues to provide for the expenses of operating and maintaining the System, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and to pay other obligations of the System.

BOND DETAILS

THE REVENUE BONDS will be payable in not more than forty (40) years from the date of issuance of each series of bonds and will bear interest at the rate or rates to be determined at public or private sale but in no event to exceed such rates as may be permitted by law on the unpaid balance from time to time remaining outstanding on said bonds.

**ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF PAYMENTS FOR BONDS
SOLD TO MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY**

IF THE REVENUE BONDS ARE SOLD TO THE MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY, THE CITY MAY ALSO PLEDGE ITS LIMITED TAX FULL FAITH AND CREDIT AS SECURITY FOR THE BONDS. IN SUCH CASE, IF REVENUES OF THE SYSTEM ARE INSUFFICIENT TO PAY DEBT SERVICE AT ANY TIME, THEN TO PAY DEBT SERVICE THE CITY SHALL ADVANCE LEGALLY AVAILABLE FUNDS INCLUDING, IF NECESSARY, FUNDS FROM THE LEVY OF TAXES UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY, SUBJECT HOWEVER TO APPLICABLE CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY AND CHARTER TAX RATE LIMITATIONS. IN ADDITION, THE CITY MAY BE REQUIRED TO PLEDGE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS SOLD TO THE MICHIGAN FINANCE AUTHORITY MONEY RECEIVED OR TO BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY DERIVED FROM IMPOSITION OF TAXES BY THE STATE AND RETURNED OR TO BE RETURNED TO THE CITY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, except for money the use of which is prohibited for such purposes by the State Constitution. The City may enter into an agreement providing for the payment of taxes, which taxes are collected by the State and returned to the City as provided by law, to the authority or a trustee, and such funds may be pledged for the payment of the revenue bonds.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE REVENUE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS UNLESS A PETITION REQUESTING SUCH A VOTE SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY IS FILED WITH THE CITY

CLERK WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. IF SUCH PETITION IS FILED, THE BONDS MAY NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT AN APPROVING VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY VOTING THEREON.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 33, Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION will be furnished at the office of the City Clerk upon request.

*Cathy Cameron
City Clerk, City of Ithaca*

Moved by Kopplesberger, second by Hubbard to adopt Resolution 2024-08: Authorizing Notice of Intent and Declaring Intent to Reimburse; and authorizing publication of notice in the newspaper.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (5) Kopplesberger, Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (2) Roethlisberger, Jerome

Manager Conn presented the AYSO lease agreement of soccer fields at McNabb Park for consideration. The term of the lease shall be for a period of five (5) years commencing on this date through December 31, 2028. During this period, the rent will be \$1,000 per year payable on the first day of April each year of the agreement.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Andrew to approve the AYSO lease agreement for a five-year term being 2024-2028. Motion carried.

Manager Conn presented the Commercial Water Service Replacement Project rebid received from Isabella Corporation. This project was originally bid back in May of 2022. The lowest bid at that time was more than 200% over the engineer's estimate. It was recommended that Council re-bid this project later for a planned construction date being in 2023 or 2024. Council agreed with the delay and re-bid recommendation. Isabella Corporation submitted a rebid in the amount of \$368,000 with a projected completion date by the end of April 2024.

Moved by Andrew, second by Endter to award the rebid to Isabella Corporation in the amount of \$368,000 for the Commercial Water Service Replacement Project. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. There was none.

Announcements

Mayor Baublitz asked for any other business to come before the City Council. Councilperson Andrew reported that the Ithaca Unit patrol car has been seen parked in the median of the highway just north of the city. Discussion was held. Manager Conn will contact Lieutenant Leonard regarding the situation.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.

Approved 2-20-2024

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk