

STATE OF ALABAMA)
CITY OF ONEONTA, MAY 9, 2017
COUNTY OF BLOUNT)

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on May 9, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Norris, Council Members: Blackwood, Butler, Phillips, Robinson, and Rogers. Also, present at the meeting were Ed Lowe, Brandon Horton, Alex Smith, Shane Osborn, Steven Adamson, Steve Gunn, Allie Allcorn, David Dobson, Dan Buckner, Jim Kilgore, Brent Dierking, Ricky L. Statham, Jr., June Peppers, Nancy Malcolm, Jeremy Hyde, Aimee Wilson, Robin Hackworth, Susan Hackworth, Shawn Gregory, Joan Epps, Daniel Clem, Marcie Willis, Patrick Adams, Police Chief Clifton, Fire Chief Willis, Jonathan Ledbetter, Scott Evans and Tammie Noland.

Councilman Blackwood gave the invocation.

Councilman Phillips moved to approve the minutes from April 25, 2017 meeting as written. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Brandon Horton was asked to speak on behalf of the 2016 Blount County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. He reported that he has provided the Mayor and Council a copy of the community action plan for review. He stated it is vital to adopt the mitigation plan in order to receive any federal grant money in case of a disaster within the area. This plan is to be updated every five years. Councilwoman Rogers stated that if anyone is interested in reviewing the plan there is a copy available at City Hall. Councilwoman Rogers made a motion to adopt the 2016 Blount County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Norris read resolution number 2017-05-09 STPAA-0075 (531). The purpose of the resolution is to resurface and patch State Highway 75 from the South of C Street North in Oneonta to North of County Road 39. Councilwoman Rogers made a motion to approve resolution number 2017-05-09 STPAA-0075 (531). Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson read resolution number 2017-05-09TL to consider adopting the 2017 tax levy. Councilman Robinson made a motion to adopt resolution number 2017-05-09TL. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson read resolution number 2017-05-09STH to consider adopting the "Back to School" Sales Tax Holiday. Councilman Robinson mentioned normally the weekend occurs the first weekend in August; however, this year it will be the third weekend in July. Councilman Robinson made a motion to adopt resolution number 2017-05-09STH. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Butler made a motion to hire the following people for part-time, seasonal lifeguards: Melinda Anderton, Christopher McGee, and Audrey Ana Chapelle. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Norris read a letter from the Utilities Board requesting that Chris Harvey be reappointed to serve on the Utilities Board. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to re-appoint Chris Harvey to the Utilities Board. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes with the exception of Councilwoman Rogers abstaining due to kinship.

Councilman Blackwood made a motion to accept the verbal resignation of Carrie Towns from the Oneonta Beautification Board. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Phillips made a motion to accept the verbal resignation of Mark Phelps from the Oneonta Beautification Board. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe asked the Mayor and Council to consider setting a public hearing on May 23, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing tax abatement for Swamp Tails. Ed Lowe stated he presented a tax abatement petition from Swamp Tails to the Mayor and Council at a previous council meeting. He referred to the 772 statute, mentioned the tax abatement will be over a thirty-six (36) month period and have a cap of \$150,000. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to set the requested public hearing. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

A public hearing was held on this same date at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the alcohol license application for Swamp Tails, LLC. There was no opposition. The public hearing ended at 5:18 p.m. There was a short break taken.

Councilman Phillips made a motion to approve the alcohol license application for Swamp Tails, LLC. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe asked the Mayor and Council to consider setting a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on May 23, 2017 for the purpose of discussing the ambulance permit applications. Councilman Robinson made a motion to set the requested public hearing. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe asked the Mayor and Council to consider setting a public hearing on June 11th immediately after the council meeting for the purpose of discussing the downtown master plan charrette. He stated the charrette will give the public an opportunity to speak one on one with experts on subject matter pertaining to the downtown master plan. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to approve the requested public hearing. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe asked the Mayor and Council to consider adopting the Oneonta Five Year Strategic Plan. He stated Oneonta received ACE designation and the strategic plan is a continued commitment of the process. Ed Lowe mentioned he has not received any negative comments or feedback about the proposed strategic plan. Councilman Robinson made a motion to adopt the Oneonta Five Year Strategic Plan. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Aimee Wilson gave a brief update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Beautification Board was not present in the meeting.

Daniel Clem gave a brief update on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association. He thanked the city officials for allowing such growth and progress within Oneonta.

Ed Lowe stated the City of Oneonta has secured one million dollars from the Blount County Commission for the Wallace State project. He mentioned the City of Oneonta will receive \$500,000 up front, then \$100,000 yearly over five years. Ed Lowe asked the Mayor and Council to consider approving a GO-Tech contract with Goodwyn, Mills, and Cawood for the estimate cost of \$5,700.00. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the GO-tech contract. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson recognized Ricky L. Statham, Jr. Oneonta Library Director. Ricky L. Statham, Jr. gave a brief update on the Oneonta Public Library. Councilman Robinson gave a huge thanks to Ed Lowe for all his hard work on making the Wallace State Project happen. Councilman Robinson confirmed with Ed the County's monetary commitment on the Wallace State Project, and he stated this is huge for Oneonta. He congratulated the city on receiving the ACE designation; stating this will really put Oneonta on the map big time.

Councilwoman Rogers congratulated Fire Chief Arthur Willis on his recent marriage. Chief Willis recognized Zach Page and Jonathan Ledbetter for their accomplishments on passing the national registry exam on the first attempt. Councilwoman Rogers commended the Oneonta Fire Department on their dedication and commitment.

Councilman Blackwood thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting tonight.

Councilman Butler congratulated Jonathan Ledbetter, and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.


Councilman Phillips congratulated Jonathan Ledbetter, and thanked everyone who volunteered during the weekend to help clean up Oneonta. Councilman Phillips requested to add an item to the next agenda for the purpose of establishing a Historical Preservation Board. Councilman Phillips recognized Chief Clifton of Oneonta Police Department to the floor. He requested advertising for a full-time police officer, due to the recent vacated position. Chief Clifton described the 1033 Surplus Inventory Program stating it allows the police department to auction military surplus received from the federal government and in return put the money back into the police department. Brandon Horton stated the Mayor and Council must receive an itemized list of surplus items with serial numbers before approving the surplus. Councilman Phillips made a motion to advertise for a full-time police officer. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated there will be a public hearing after a brief break for the purpose of discussing the downtown master plan.

There being no further business, Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

A public hearing was held at 6:36 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Downtown Master Plan. Mayor Norris called the public hearing to order. Ed Lowe began with expounding on the Downtown Master Plan. He quickly went over some of the following topics: phase two of Wallace State, entertainment district, existing building code, parking and pedestrian use, ADA compliance, ISO rating, and safety. He welcomed public comment. After brief discussion, Mayor Norris closed the public hearing at 6:43 p.m.


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

TN/as