

STATE OF ALABAMA)  
CITY OF ONEONTA, JULY 10, 2018  
COUNTY OF BLOUNT)

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on July 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Norris, Council Members: Blackwood, Butler, Phillips, Robinson and Rogers. Also, present in the meeting were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Police Chief Clifton, Scott Evans, Phillip Brewer, Spencer Self, Fire Chief Willis, Marci Willis, Sabastian Battles, Ricky Statham, Kay Butts, Beverly Ellis, Paul Allred, Tim Alexander, Aimee Wilson, Jim Kilgore, Kevin Nicodemus, Roland McCoy and Amanda Stanfield.

Brother Tim Alexander gave the invocation.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from June 26, 2018 council meeting as written. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Butler made a motion to approve the minutes from June 26, 2018 work session as written. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Phillips made a motion to appoint Diane Hill to the Oneonta Housing Authority Board. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Butler made a motion to appoint Jamon Peoples to the Oneonta Park and Recreation Board. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Item six on the agenda was removed, due to a public hearing not being mandatory.

Ed Lowe stated due to the recent resignation of Felipe Vargas, Stephanie Sims has been actively filling his position for the previous two weeks and she is highly qualified for the position. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to hire Stephanie Sims as full-time; assistant court clerk magistrate. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Rogers stated Fire Chief Willis has become a wonderful Fire Chief and a great leader in the community. Councilwoman Rogers stated that Chief Willis' presence has been refreshing for the City of Oneonta. Councilwoman Rogers read a letter of resignation on behalf of Chief Willis, stating his last day of employment will be July 27, 2018. Chief Willis thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity and stated it has been an honor to serve Oneonta and Blount County in the capacity as Fire Chief. He shared that through community involvement, the residents were able to identify who he was and what he stood for when representing the community as the Fire Chief.

Councilwoman Rogers made a motion to accept the resignation of Fire Chief Arthur Willis. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Rogers made a motion to advertise for the full-time fire chief position. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Aimee Wilson gave a brief update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Aimee mentioned the Chamber's long-awaited website is up and running and will continue to update. She also stated the Annual Covered Bridge Festival will be Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> and this year the Chamber of Commerce plans on hosting tours of the three bridges and Palisades Park.

There was not a representative present for the Beautification Board.

Paul Allred gave a brief update on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association.

Ed Lowe stated the contractors for Wallace State will begin to apply the trusses to the building tomorrow and the extension on First Avenue is up to grade and ahead of schedule.

Councilman Blackwood thanked Brother Tim for giving the invocation and stated Chief Willis is greatly qualified and loved by the community.

Councilman Butler thanked Brother Tim and expressed Chief Willis will be truly missed by the residents.

Councilman Phillips thanked Brother Tim and read the June reports on behalf of the police department. Councilman Phillips expressed appreciation for Chief Willis and wished him the best of luck on his future ventures.

Councilman Robinson wished Chief Willis the best on his future endeavors and thanked the new appointees for volunteering their time to serve on the boards. Ricky Statham provided the June reports on behalf of the Oneonta Public Library.

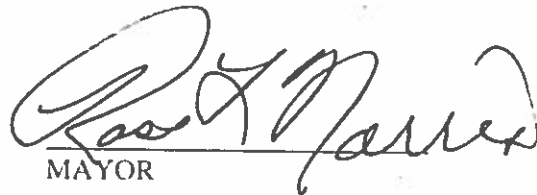
Councilwoman Rogers presented the June report on behalf of the fire department and made everyone aware of grill prevention during the summer.

Mayor Norris voiced his appreciation for Chief Willis and his commitment to the community. The Mayor also thanked Ricky Statham for allowing him to speak about Indian artifacts during the summer reading program.

Tim Alexander, a resident of Oneonta, spoke to the Mayor and Council about acquiring a timeline on when E Street will be paved. Mayor Norris stated due to unforeseen circumstances, such as the landslide at Shuff Mountain, the city is waiting to do all the required projects at one time and it may be completed in the latter part of the year. The Mayor apologized for any inconvenience the delay may have caused the residents in that area.

There being no further business, Mayor Norris entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR