

STATE OF ALABAMA)

CITY OF ONEONTA, AUGUST 14, 2018

COUNTY OF BLOUNT)

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on August 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Norris, Council Members: Blackwood, Butler, Phillips and Robinson. Also, present in the meeting were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Police Chief Clifton, Corporal Wes Buchanan, Ryan Pinyan, Spencer Self, Jessica Self, Cory Glasscock, Mathew Suddeth, John Brown, Roland McCoy, Carl Frey, Kay Butts, Ricky Statham, Jr., Allie Allcorn, Joan Epps, Dalton Farmer, Jim Kilgore, Ramon Lowry, Marlene Stroud, Marcie Willis, Arthur Willis, Sabastian Battles, Don Mitchell and Amanda Stanfield. Councilwoman Rogers was absent for the meeting.

Councilman Blackwood gave the invocation.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes from July 24, 2018 council meeting as written. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to appoint Rachel Gargus to the Beautification Board. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe stated Swamp Tails, LLC a current alcohol licensee of Oneonta recently applied for an annual special events license with the expiration of December 31, 2018. Councilman Butler made a motion to approve the annual special events license on behalf of Swamp Tails, LLC. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe stated that all council members received a survey supporting the TVM industrial park building expansion land swap. He mentioned TVM is an awning specialist that has been looking to expand their business and work employment. Mr. Lowe stated the expansion consists of 4.9 acres adjacent to TVM current building and will create an entrance to the industrial park for TVM. Alex Smith stated he has prepared and reviewed all required documents to complete the land swap. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the TVM industrial park building expansion land swap. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe stated the City of Oneonta and Blount County Economic Development (BCED) have been working on a purchase and donation contract for the Ramsey Property. He mentioned the property is previously known as Gulf State Industrial Park, which consists of eight acres with three buildings located on the property. Don Mitchell, BCED Director, stated there is a potential tenant wanting to renovate the property and build his business which could create up to thirty new jobs. Don Mitchell mentioned after the contract is finalized, the renovation should take approximately four to six months for completion. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the Ramsey Property purchase and donation contract. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Dalton Farmer, Oneonta Human Resource Director, presented the Mayor and Council with an employee benefit contract through Cobbs Allen. Mr. Farmer stated the contract would consist of strategic planning, marketing, HR consulting, and much more pertaining to employee benefits with the city. He stated one of the strongest provisions the contract could offer is a total compensation report, which would give employees more insight on the benefits in which the city does cover on behalf of an employee. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to approve the Cobbs Allen contract. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Blackwood made a motion to hire Daniel Owen as a full-time volunteer firefighter. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Blackwood made a motion to hire Matthew "Trey" Partlow as a full-time volunteer firefighter. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Phillips made a motion to hire Ryan Pinyan as a full-time police officer. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Phillips made a motion to hire Spencer Self as a full-time police officer. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Phillips read the retirement letter of Assistant Deputy, Judy Underwood in its entirety. Councilman Phillips made a motion to approve Judy Underwood's retirement letter, stating August 31, 2018 will be her last day of employment. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

There was not a representative on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce present for the meeting.

Marlene Stroud presented the commercial beautification award to Sonic and presented the residential beautification award to Johnny Arnold located on Hendrix Street.

There was not a representative on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association present for the meeting.

Ed Lowe reminded the Mayor and Council of a previous resolution adopted in support of applying for the annual airport grant. Mr. Lowe stated he has received notification that the city will receive a total amount of \$484,373.00 in a combination of state and federal funds. Ed Lowe stated the public works department is in need to surplus a 420D backhoe, in order to purchase a mini excavator to allow better access for ditches within the city. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the surplus request on the 420D backhoe on behalf of the public works department. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Blackwood congratulated the new hires and thanked all the volunteers appointed and hired during the meeting.

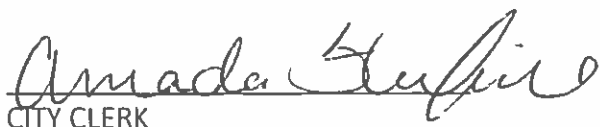
Councilman Butler thanked the new hires and volunteers and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

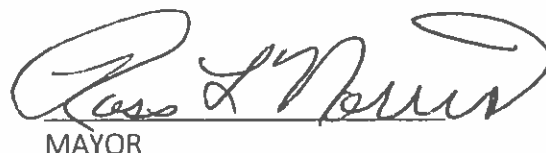
Councilman Phillips thanked the volunteer firefighters and congratulated the beautification award winners. Chief Clifton and Corporal Wes Buchanan presented Officer Cory Glasscock and Officer Mathew Suddeth with a letter of recognition for their bravery and selflessness displayed after a heroic rescue in saving a life during an apartment fire.

Councilman Robinson thanked all the volunteers and new hires for their dedicated time. Ricky Statham, Jr., presented the July report on behalf of the Oneonta Public Library. He mentioned the numbers for summer reading program increased since last year. Councilman Robinson thanked Ed Lowe and Don Mitchell for all of their dedicated time and efforts in creating jobs for Oneonta and Blount County.

Mayor Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and also thanked Leslie Loggins for being interim for fire chief and doing an excellent job. The Mayor stated there is a need to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing legal litigation and there will not be any further business after the executive session. Councilman Blackwood made a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor and Council Members: Blackwood, Butler, Phillips and Robinson entered executive session at 6:05 p.m. Also attending were Alex Smith, Ed Lowe, Brandon Horton and Amanda Stanfield. There being no further business the executive session ended at 6:40 p.m. Councilman Phillips made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Blackwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR