

STATE OF ALABAMA)

CITY OF ONEONTA, FEBRUARY 26, 2019

COUNTY OF BLOUNT)

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on February 26, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Norris, Council Members: Butler, Phillips, Robinson and Rogers. Also, present at the meeting were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Allie Allcorn, Police Chief Clifton, Ricky Statham, Jr., Kay Butts, Fire Chief Booth, Roland McCoy, Jim Kilgore, Don Mitchell, Lisa Baker, Barbara Andersen, Roger Thorne, Matthew Crow and Amanda Stanfield. Councilman Blackwood was absent for the meeting.

Councilman Robinson gave the invocation.

Councilman Robinson moved to approve the minutes from February 12, 2019 as written. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

A public hearing was held on the same date at 5:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the possible tax abatement agreement for Jones Valley Fabrication. Don Mitchell with the Blount County Economic Development Council stated there are a few adjustments to the tax abatement application compared to the one given to Mayor and City Council at the previous council meeting on February 12, 2019. Don mentioned the starting pay rate with Jones Valley Fabrication ranges from fourteen (14) dollars to eighteen (18) dollars an hour; once an employee is trained the pay rate could be approximately \$55,000 dollars annually. Don stated Jones Valley Fabrication will not be closing their current location, but in hopes to consolidate in the future at the Oneonta location. After much discussion, the public hearing ended at 5:15 p.m.

Councilman Robinson stated he appreciates the Blount County Economic Development Council discussing the possible tax abatement for Jones Valley Fabrication; however, he requested more time to review the new documents before approval. Councilman Robinson made a motion to table the approval of the tax abatement agreement with Jones Valley Fabrication, due to the changes made to the original documents the council needs more time to review the documents. Councilwoman Rogers seconded; Councilman Phillips voted nah and the motion carried with all ayes.

A public hearing was held on the same date at 5:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing amendment to business license classifications. Brandon Horton stated due to recent changes a person applying for roofer's license, must obtain an Alabama state license in order to apply for a local roofer's license. He mentioned currently roofing and gutter contractors are under the same classification number 238160, but gutter needs to be removed and added to the siding and window classification number 238170 according the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). After much discussion, the public hearing ended at 5:24 p.m.

Ed Lowe read ordinance number 2019-2-26BL in its entirety. Councilman Butler made a motion to approve ordinance number 2019-2-26BL, amending business license classifications for roofing and gutter contractors. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. Mayor Norris read resolution number 2019-2-26SP in its entirety, concerning public work surplus equipment. Councilman Phillips made a motion to adopt resolution number 2019-2-26SP, approving public work surplus equipment. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Norris read the Arbor Day Proclamation in its entirety, proclaiming February 26, 2019 Arbor Day in Oneonta. Councilman Robinson made a motion to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to reappoint Bob Harvey to the planning commission. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Butler made a motion to reappoint Ed Lowe to the planning commission. Councilwoman Rogers seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ricky Statham, Jr., Oneonta Public Library's Director, stated every year the city graciously hires two part-time; seasonal employees to help with the summer reading program. Councilman Phillips made a motion to advertise for two part-time; seasonal library employees. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Butler made a motion to advertise for temporary city pool employees. Councilman Robinson seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

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

Barbara Andersen gave a brief update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Barbara stated the 36th Annual Chamber Banquet will be on March 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. and the Chamber is expecting a big attendance for the event. She also mentioned the Bridal Fair was a huge success with sixteen vendors and two-hundred people in attendance.

There was not a representative present on behalf of the Beautification Board.

Ed Lowe informed the Mayor and City Council it will cost \$65,000 dollars in estimate to replace the pool linear from the incident that occurred in October 2018. He mentioned instead of replacing the linear, the Mayor and City Council could decide to turn the space into a splashpad. Councilman Robinson made a motion to replaced damaged pool with a splashpad, leaving the secondary slide pool and kiddy pool. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Ed Lowe stated the city has submitted a Declaration of Emergency to the Governor's office for funds in the amount of \$100,000 dollars to help with the efforts of repairing the damages to Sheff Mountain caused from all the recent flooding rains.

Ed Lowe mentioned the city received a petition of annexation to property located on Highway 75 across the street from the Alabama Power service location. Ed stated Charles McPherson de-annexed the property in the 1970's and Mr. Raj Patel is wanting to annex 1.7 acres of the property back into the city limits for commercial retail. Mr. Lowe mentioned Stokin' Diesel is not within city limits; however, if the annexation is approved Stokin' Diesel will gain a twenty-five-foot easement. Councilwoman Rogers approved the annexation of the 1.7 acres petitioned by Mr. Raj Patel. Councilman Phillips seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Robinson had nothing to report from the Oneonta Public Library.

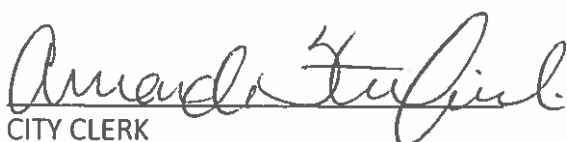
Councilwoman Rogers called on Fire Chief Booth for any updates on behalf of the Oneonta Fire Department. Chief Booth reminded everyone to continue to pray for the Pierce Family, since the passing of their son. Chief Booth also stated the ladder truck is up and running again, and the fire department recently applied for an education grant.

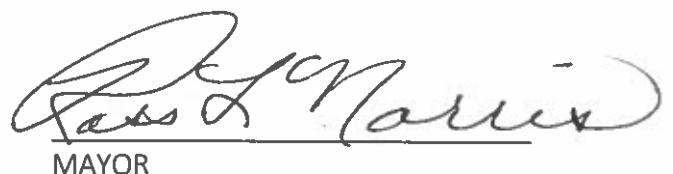
Councilman Butler thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanked the appointed board members for volunteering their time to serve on the boards.

Councilman Phillips stated he was glad to see everyone who attended the meeting.

Mayor Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The Mayor stated there is a need to enter executive session for the purpose to discuss preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce and there will not be any further business after the executive session. Councilman Phillips made a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor and Council Members: Butler, Phillips, Robinson and Rogers entered executive session at 6:07 p.m. Also attending were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn and Amanda Stanfield. Councilman Blackwood was not able to attend the executive session. There being no further business the executive session ended at 6:46 p.m. Councilman Phillips made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Butler seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.


CITY CLERK


MAYOR