

State of Alabama)  
City of Oneonta, May 11, 2021  
County of Blount)

The Mayor and City Council met during a regularly scheduled council meeting on May 11, 2021 with a public hearing beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-01 regulating the sale and distribution of beverages. There was also a work session scheduled for 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda items. Present were Mayor Phillips, Council Members, Alexander, Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce and Underwood. Also, present in the meeting were Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton, Matthew Taylor, Barbara Andersen, Chuck Kyle, Jesse Polk, Fire Chief Booth, Police Chief Clifton, Tara Murphree, Briar Fowler and Amanda Cole.

Mayor Phillips opened the public hearing at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-01 regulating the sale and distribution of beverages. Amanda Cole spoke on the following amendments regarding ordinance number 0521-01: The first amendment replaces the term "city manager" with the term "duly authorized representative", due to Oneonta not having a current city manager. The second amendment applies to the alcohol review committee also known as the ARC will be removed and no longer active. The ARC was made up of the Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief, City Manager and three members of the community appointed by the city council. The Mayor has already notified the current three members and they have agreed to the removal. If the ordinance is approved, then moving forward all applications will be reviewed by the Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Public Safety Director before going to the city council for approval. The third amendment is clarifying the lawful and unlawful hours under section 14-10 which reads as follows:

**Lawful Hours-** Between the following hours:

Sunday	10:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Monday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Tuesday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Wednesday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Thursday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Friday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Saturday	7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.

**Unlawful Hours-** Between the following hours:

Sunday	2:01 a.m. until 9:59 a.m.
Monday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.
Tuesday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.
Wednesday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.
Thursday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.
Friday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.
Saturday	2:01 a.m. until 6:59 a.m.

The fourth amendment is simply clarifying the filing fee under section 14-27. The alcohol license application has always stated a filing fee of \$200.00 plus a \$50.00 publication fee so the amendment in ordinance no. 0521-01 will reflect both the filing fee and publication fee. Amanda stated the ordinance will be available upon request at city hall and on the city's website for review. Mayor Phillips entertained for adjournment of the public hearing. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The public hearing was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Mayor Phillips opened the work session at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the council meeting. Mayor Phillips stated one through three are standard agenda items unless someone has anything to say regarding the April 27, 2021 minutes.

Amanda Cole reviewed the following amendments regarding ordinance number 0521-01: The first amendment replaces the term "city manager" with the term "duly authorized representative", due to Oneonta not having a current city manager. The second amendment applies to the alcohol review committee also known as the ARC will be removed and no longer active. The ARC was made up of the Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief, City Manager and three members of the community appointed by the city council. The Mayor has already notified the current three members and they have agreed to the removal. If the ordinance is approved, then moving forward all applications will be reviewed by the Mayor, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Public Safety Director before going to the city council for approval. The third amendment is clarifying the lawful and unlawful hours under section 14-10 which reads as follows:

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Mayor Phillips read a letter on behalf of the Planning Commission from Chairman Andy Alexander recommending amending the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting metal siding as a cladding on the building front of structures constructed in the O-1, B-1, B-2, B-3, M-1, and M-2 zoning districts. The Mayor stated agenda item five is to set a public hearing on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-02 amending the Zoning Ordinance. The Mayor stated the draft ordinance is available to anyone interested in reviewing prior to the public hearing.

Mayor Phillips stated agenda item six is to approve bid advertisement for Oneonta City Pool Project upon completion by Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood. The Mayor mentioned GMC provided the city with preliminary cost and rendering pictures of the pool project earlier in the day. Mayor Phillips explained the preliminary cost came in at 1.6 million dollars which aligns great with the city's original budget of 1.5 million dollars.

Regarding agenda item seven, Councilwoman Pierce stated there is need to surplus the following on behalf of the Oneonta Fire Department: (1) Red 1990 E-One 75' Quint ladder truck.

Mayor Phillips stated agenda item eight is to approve advertising for full-time firefighter and paramedic.

The Mayor mentioned agenda item nine is to consider appointing Ed Berry to the Planning Commission due to a previous term expiring. Mayor Phillips stated Mr. Berry is excited and honored to serve.

Mayor Phillips stated agenda items ten, eleven and twelve are to recognize previous board appointees that served selflessly on city boards throughout the years.

The Mayor stated he would recognize Matt Taylor with Carr, Riggs and Ingram to the floor to review the 2020 audit.

Mayor Phillips mentioned agenda items fourteen, fifteen and sixteen concern residents wanting to discuss topics with the Mayor and City Council.

The Mayor stated agenda items seventeen through twenty- two are regular business items to discuss during the council meeting, then with consideration of entering executive session to discuss the purchase of real property.

Mayor Phillips entertained for adjournment of the work session. Councilman Bradley made a motion to close the work session. Councilman McAlpine seconded, and the motion carried with all ayes. The work session closed at 5:55 p.m.

The Mayor opened the regular scheduled council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Roland McCoy, Fire Lt. Ivey, La'Rissa Polk, and Sidra Aaron entered the meeting.

Councilman McAlpine gave the invocation.

Councilman Alexander led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve minutes of April 27, 2021 council meeting as written. Councilwoman Underwood seconded; Councilwoman Pierce abstained, and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated there was a public hearing held the same date at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-01 regulating the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages. The ordinance was also reviewed and discussed during the work session at 5:45 p.m. held on the same date. Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to adopt ordinance number 0521-01 amending the ordinance regulating the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor mentioned the purpose for ordinance number 0521-02 is to amend the language to the Zoning Ordinance prohibiting metal siding as cladding on the building front of structures constructed in the O-1, B-1, B-2, B-3, M-1, and M-2 zoning districts. Mayor Phillips stated this language did include an exemption for structures located in an established industrial park. Councilman McAlpine made a motion to set a public hearing on May 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-02 amending the Oneonta Zoning Ordinance. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips displayed the pool renderings to the public for their viewing and reviewed the layout and additions to the pool project. The Mayor stated there will be an Olympic sized pool with ADA accessible, zero-entry. Mayor Phillips reviewed where the splash pad and slide will be located and stated there will be fencing between the pool and splash pad for safety precautions. The Mayor stated it will be a great upgrade and he is excited about GMC being at the bidding point in the project. Mayor Phillips requested the council to keep in mind the 1.6-million-dollar project cost is an estimate on behalf of GMC with a 15% buffer in case of supply cost increase. Councilman Alexander made a motion to approve bid advertisement for the Oneonta City Pool Project upon completion by Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce read resolution number 0521-01 concerning fire department surplus. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to approve resolution number 0521-01, approving the surplus of the following: One red 1990 E-One 75' Quint ladder truck; VIN No. 46JBBAA85L1003428; Mileage- 122629. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to advertise for one full-time firefighter/paramedic. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated Ed Berry is excited to serve as a board appointment for the Planning Commission. Councilman Bradley made a motion to appoint Ed Berry to the Planning Commission. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor presented Wayne Bynum with a plaque of appreciation for his service and dedication to the Planning Commission. Mr. Bynum stated he served on the commission for twenty-four years and nine months and it was such a pleasure.

Mayor Phillips stated Everett Tidwell was not able to attend the meeting but thanked him for his hard work and his dedication while serving on the Planning Commission.

The Mayor mentioned Ken Phillips served as the Zoning Board of Adjustments Chairman for many years and did an excellent job, but unfortunately Mr. Phillips passed away three weeks ago.

Mayor Phillips recognized Matt Taylor with Carr, Riggs and Ingram to the floor to review the 2020 financial statements. Matt stated that on page three of the financial statements the city received an unmodified opinion which is what the city wants to receive. Matt referred to page eight of the audit mentioning the net change in fund balances- total governmental fund amounts to \$1,068,136.00 compared to the change in net position of governmental activity amounts to \$1,056,670.00. Matt stated another key component of the audit is the T-10 ad valorem tax collections on page nine and ten. Matt mentioned this is a fiduciary fund that the money flows through the city to the school. He stated on page twenty-nine it shows long-term debt and liabilities in which reveals the payoff of general obligation warrants, series 2005 and series 2012. Matt explained the two referenced bonds were for the city school yet was under the city of Oneonta's name due to lower debt cost. Matt stated page thirty-nine exhibits the pension plan the city participates in through the Retirement Systems of Alabama. He mentioned each year there is a liability base on the current actuarial discount rate in which if there is a 1% decrease of 6.70% amounts to \$5,078,311.00 or if there is a 1% increase of 8.70% amounts to \$1,913,969.00 that could possibly reflect on the city's finances. Lastly, Matt reviewed page forty-one concerning outstanding tax abatements within the city which are now required to be included in the financial statements. Matt stated if there are any questions or concerns to please reach out to him.

Mayor Phillips recognized resident La'Rissa Polk to the floor. La'Rissa stated she is present to discuss the irrigation and flooding issues located at Sand Valley Road, Oak Road and Ballpark Road. She stated the Sand Valley Community residents are concerned and presented the Mayor and City

Council images of the issues. Mayor Phillips stated the city will investigate the problem and if there is anything the city can do to help resolve the issues that is what the city will do.

The Mayor recognized Sidra Aaron to the floor. Sidra brought attention to the paving needs of Polk Road located in the Sand Valley Community. She showed the images of the road to the Mayor and explained how the road was never originally paved all the way through. Mayor Phillips explained to Mrs. Polk the city has different funds that are specifically for paving and the city recently just used most of those funds; however, as soon as those funds are collected the city would evaluate paving Polk Road.

Mayor Phillips recognized resident Tom Prickett to the floor. Mr. Prickett stated he is not only present as a concerned resident but also legally representing the Utility Board to discuss the resolution limiting board terms. Mr. Prickett reviewed the letter directed to the Mayor and City Council requesting the reappointment of board member George Reid. He mentioned George has not only served the board over the many years, but George runs a natural gas business and possesses a lot of knowledge of the subject. Mr. Prickett stated his main concern with the term limits is the fact that the Utility Board is in control of 60 million dollars' worth of infrastructure and assets and in addition the board must accommodate for the growing population and ensure the infrastructure can support the growth. Mr. Prickett mentioned everyone currently serving the board still has the desire of serving and he does not feel it is a good idea to have a board with all new members. After much discussion amongst the council and utility board, Mr. Prickett stated if anyone has any questions the board will be available after the council meeting.

Councilwoman Pierce read the April fire department report.

Councilwoman Underwood read the April police department report. Councilwoman Underwood stated this week is National Police Memorial Week and she thanked all those who sacrifice daily.

Barbara Andersen gave an update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. She explained how excited she is about COVID cases decreasing and stated the Chamber has worked very hard to keep everyone up to date on events while being cautious of COVID. She congratulated all the annual Chamber reward winners. Barbara touched based on the upcoming Chamber events and mentioned there will be more information to come.

Briar Fowler gave a brief update on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association. He mentioned there are one hundred and twenty booths registered for the June Fling and asked for anyone that wants to volunteer to contact the OBA.

Allie Allcorn stated there is not a financial update this meeting. Allie mentioned the FAA required the city to issue quote requests for the drainage project at the airport since it does not fall into the bid requirements. She stated Gillespie LLC Construction was awarded the project due to having the lowest quote. Allie mentioned the city will be applying for an ALDOT grant for the purpose of paving the new park. She also updated everyone on the billboard in Ashville and it will soon advertise the upcoming June Fling event. Allie mentioned she has been working with Alex Smith

and Mayor Phillips on creating a form for business owners to request that will give them some idea on what investment opportunities or businesses the city is willing to offer.

Mayor Phillips stated the city will be hosting the first City Market on May 22<sup>nd</sup> located at the gazebo from inspiration of a Pepper Place event that is held in Birmingham every year. The Mayor displayed an image for everyone to view exhibiting one option of where to locate the downtown dumpster site. Mayor Phillips stated this is not a final option but thought it was a great place to start because of the central location and no real usage of the parking spots and then the property being city owned. After much discussion regarding the garbage location, Mayor Phillips stated either way this is a matter that needs to be dealt with and finalized sooner than later.

Mayor Phillips stated there is a need to enter executive session to discuss the purchase of real property and there will not be any further business to discuss. The Mayor entertained a motion to enter executive session. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to enter executive session to discuss the purchase of real property at 7:13 p.m. Councilman Bradley seconded, and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor and Council Members: Alexander, Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce and Underwood entered executive session at 7:18 p.m. Also attending were Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton, and Amanda Cole. Councilman Alexander made a motion to exit the executive session. Councilman McAlpine seconded, and the motion carried with all ayes. Mayor Phillips entertained motion to adjourn. Councilman Alexander made a motion to adjourn. Councilman McAlpine seconded, and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk