

State of Alabama)
City of Oneonta, August 23, 2022
County of Blount)

Council Meeting Minutes

The Mayor and City Council met during the regularly scheduled council meeting on August 23, 2022, with a regularly scheduled work session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss agenda items. Present were Mayor Phillips; Council Members: Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce, and Underwood. Also, present in the meeting were Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Allie Allcorn, Fire Chief Booth, Fire Lt. Ivey, Police Chief Clifton, Dalton Farmer, Ricky Statham, Roland McCoy, and Amanda Cole. Councilman Alexander was not present for the meeting.

The Mayor opened the work session at 5:45 p.m. to review the agenda items for the council meeting. Mayor Phillips stated agenda items one and two are standard items. The Mayor mentioned item three pertains to the August 9, 2022 council minutes, and item four pertains to the August 9, 2022, public hearing unless anyone has any comments.

Amanda Cole stated agenda item five is to consider setting a canvassing meeting on August 30, 2022, at noon to discuss the results of the Oneonta School Board Election. She explained it is required to conduct a canvassing meeting seven days after the election to review any provisional votes and the total tally of votes for each candidate.

Councilman McAlpine stated agenda item six is to set a public hearing on September 13, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the downtown revitalization proposal on behalf of Hometown Bank of Alabama. Councilman McAlpine mentioned this will be the second public hearing held for the referenced purpose.

Mayor Phillips mentioned the first budget work session immediately following the council meeting, so agenda item seven is to set a second work session on September 13, 2022, to discuss the 2023 fiscal year allocation budget.

Councilman McAlpine stated agenda item eight is to consider reappointing Cindy Lyda to the Oneonta Beautification Board.

Amanda Cole explained agenda item nine is to consider approving the standard project resolution on behalf of ALDOT for project number CRPNU-NR13(934). She stated the purpose of the project is curb ramp installation only on State Routes 4,7, 23,25,53,75 and 144 in Blount and St. Clair Counties. She mentioned ALDOT must get permission from the city in order to proceed with the project.

Councilman Bradley stated agenda ten is to consider hiring three seasonal concession managers on behalf of the Park and Recreation Department.

Mayor Phillips explained Councilwoman Pierce will review both item eleven and twelve during the council meeting.

The Mayor stated Councilwoman Underwood will review items, thirteen, fourteen and fifteen during the council meeting.

Mayor Phillips mentioned Councilman McAlpine will review items sixteen and seventeen during the council meeting.

The Mayor stated items eighteen and nineteen will be discussed during the council meeting. Mayor Phillips mentioned there is a need to enter the executive session for the purpose to discuss personnel issues and there will be no matters to discuss or vote on once exiting the executive session. The Mayor explained there will be a work session immediately following the council meeting for the purpose to discuss the 2023 fiscal year departmental budget. Mayor Phillips closed the work session at 5:52 p.m.

Police Officer Brewer and Police Officer Heard entered the council chambers.

Mayor Phillips opened the council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Bradley gave the invocation.

Mayor Phillips led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022, council meeting as written. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022, public hearing for the purpose of discussing the downtown revitalization proposal on behalf of Hometown Bank of Alabama. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to set a canvassing meeting on August 30, 2022, at noon to discuss the results of the Oneonta School Board Election. Councilman McAlpine seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McAlpine made a motion to set a public hearing on September 13, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the downtown revitalization proposal on behalf of Hometown Bank of Alabama. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to set a work session on September 13, 2022, immediately following the council meeting for the purpose to discuss the 2023 fiscal year allocation budget. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McAlpine made a motion to reappoint Cindy Lyda to the Oneonta Beautification Board. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Amanda Cole explained agenda item nine is to consider approving the standard project resolution on behalf of ALDOT for project number CRPNU-NR13(934). She stated the purpose of

the project is curb ramp installation only on State Routes 4,7, 23,25,53,75 and 144 in Blount and St. Clair Counties. She mentioned that ALDOT must get permission from the city in order to proceed with the project. Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve the standard project resolution on behalf of ALDOT for project number CRPNU-NR13(934). Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to hire the following seasonal concession managers on behalf of the Park and Recreation Department: Misty Campos, Jason Walden, and Marie Walden. Councilman McAlpine seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce read a recommendation letter from Fire Chief Booth requesting to hire Chris Huffstutler as a full-time firefighter/paramedic. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to hire Chris Huffstutler as a full-time firefighter/paramedic. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce read a recommendation letter from Fire Chief Booth requesting to hire Lance Dotman as a part-time firefighter. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to hire Lance Dotman as a part-time firefighter. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood read a recommendation letter from Police Chief Clifton requesting to hire Stephanie Gonzalez as a full-time SRO for the Oneonta City Schools. Councilwoman Underwood stated if approved this will be the second SRO hired for the school system. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood read a resignation letter from the full-time police officer, Jonathan Ballew, and followed it with a motion to approve the resignation. Councilman McAlpine seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to advertise to hire a full-time police officer due to the resignation of Officer Ballew. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McAlpine read a resignation letter from full-time public works employee, Thomas E. Ledbetter and followed it with a motion to approve the resignation. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McAlpine made a motion to advertise to hire a full-time public works employee due to the resignation of Thomas E. Ledbetter. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Allie Allcorn stated she would defer all comments to the budget work session.

Mayor Phillips had nothing to discuss. Councilman McAlpine asked for an update on the bidding of the park and recreation project. Mayor Phillips mentioned the project should begin bidding

on August 25th and the project has been broken into smaller projects, which will give local companies more opportunities to bid.

Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to enter into an executive session for the purpose to discuss personnel issues. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes at 6:13 p.m.

Mayor Phillips and Council Members: Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce, and Underwood were present in the executive session. Also present were Alex Smith, Brandon Horton, Allie Allcorn, Dalton Farmer, and Amanda Cole. Councilman Alexander was not present during the executive session. The executive session started at 6:13 p.m. Councilman McAlpine made a motion to exit the executive session. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The Mayor and Council exited the executive session at 6:38 p.m. Mayor Phillips entertained a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor

City Clerk