

State of Alabama)

City of Oneonta, May 25, 2021

County of Blount)

The Mayor and City Council met during a regularly scheduled council meeting on May 25, 2021 with a public hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance number 0521-02 amending the Oneonta Zoning Ordinance. 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, Johnny Evans, Mark Gargus, Rachel Gargus, Roland McCoy, Fire Lt. Ivey, Pat Clanton, Bill Hendrickson, Barbara Andersen, Lauren Wilson, Bailey and Will Scott and Amanda Cole.

Mayor Phillips opened the public hearing at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing ordinance no. 0521-02 amending the Oneonta Zoning Ordinance. Brandon Horton mentioned the Planning Commission held a public hearing to discuss amending the Oneonta Zoning Ordinance to prohibit metal front facade in the following zoning districts: O1, B-1, B-2, B-3, and M-1. Brandon stated the ordinance would exempt M-2 zoning from the amendment due to it being heavy industrial zoning. Mayor Phillips asked Brandon to verify the process of seeking an exemption regarding the ordinance. Brandon stated if an individual wants to seek an exemption, he/she must state the case to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for their approval or denial of the case. Alex Smith stated the Zoning Board of Adjustments have certain guidelines they must obey when hearing an individual seeking an exemption and if the variance is denied then the individual has the right to appeal it to circuit court.

Mayor Phillips projected several buildings within Oneonta that are already obeying the projected amendment. The Mayor mentioned the purpose of the amendment is to allow the city to have some control on the curb appeal of the city without causing too much of a burden on anyone wanting to build within the city limits. Resident Mark Gargus approached the Mayor and City Council with his concern on the extra expense this amendment would put on a contractor. Mayor Phillips currently stated Jasper and Monroeville are following the same amendment which has not had any negative impact on the city. The Mayor mentioned the city can create an architectural review board; however, that would require every new construction be reviewed by the board and that could potentially be an over-whelming process.

After much discussion, Alex stated if council votes down the temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits for metal facade structures and it will no longer be valid, or the council could table and make recommendation next meeting. Mayor Phillips entertained a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Councilman McAlpine made a motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with ayes. The public hearing ended at 6:12 p.m.

Mayor Phillips opened the work session at 6:13 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the council meeting. The Mayor stated agenda items one through three are standard agenda items unless someone has anything to say regarding the May 11, 2021 minutes.

The Mayor stated there was just a work session conducted regarding agenda item four. Mayor Phillips mentioned there will be alterations completed on the soccer field renderings and its his suggestion to table the topic until the next council meeting.

Mayor Phillips mentioned there was just a public hearing conducted in length regarding agenda item five.

Mayor Phillips requested Brandon Horton review agenda item number six concerning the Armory Drive Project bid. Brandon explained the first round of bidders were overbudget causing the city to rebid the project. He stated the two following bids were opened during the bid opening on May 20th:

CB&A Construction, LLC	Birmingham, AL	Total Bid: \$170,785.94
Rast Construction, Inc.	Birmingham, AL	Total Bid: \$310,994.00

Brandon Horton stated it is his recommendation to award CB&A Construction due to being the lowest bidder.

Mayor Phillips directed agenda item seven to the City Attorney, Alex Smith. Alex stated he has met with the seller of the parcel located by the softball field at the park and recreation property, and he is willing to sell the property for \$25,000.00.

The Mayor stated agenda items eight and nine are regarding board appointments.

Mayor Phillips mentioned the city has advertised the position of a part-time municipal court bailiff for quiet some time and now there is a recommendation for hire. The Mayor stated item number eleven is regarding hiring one part-time, seasonal street department employee.

The Mayor stated he will present Bailey Scott with her very own Oneonta flag and gift card for winning the recent flag contest.

Mayor Phillips mentioned agenda items thirteen through sixteen are regular business items.

Mayor Phillips entertained for adjournment of the work session. Councilman Bradley made a motion to close the work session. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The work session closed at 6:17 p.m.

The Mayor opened the regular scheduled council meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Councilman Bradley gave the invocation.

Councilman McAlpine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Alexander made a motion to approve minutes of May 11, 2021 council meeting as written. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated his recommendation is to table the consideration of approval for bid advertisement for the Oneonta soccer field project upon completion by Chambless King Architects and place it on the next scheduled council meeting. Councilman McAlpine made a motion to approve to table the consideration of approval for bid advertisement for the Oneonta soccer field project upon completion by Chambless King Architects and place it on the next scheduled council meeting. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Pierce mentioned the idea of presenting all metal facade buildings to the council before given a permit to build. Alex Smith stated the Planning Commission recommends amendments to the City Council for approval or denial and then the variance would go to the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Alex recommended if the council made that kind of amendment of the Planning Commission's recommendation that it would need to go back to the Planning Commission. Mayor Phillips stated the council can allow the item to be tabled or the council will need to vote the temporary moratorium down. The council would then give feedback to the Planning Commission to hold another public hearing then give recommendation to the City Council. Councilman Bradley made a motion to allow expiration on the temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits for metal facade structures. Councilwoman Underwood seconded; Mayor Phillips nay and the motion carried. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to present the findings to the Planning Commission for potential recommendation to be presented to the city council. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Brandon Horton requested the council to award the Armory Drive Project bid to the lowest bidder, CB&A Construction, LLC in the total bid amount of \$170,785.94. Brandon stated the work will begin as soon as delivery of product arrives onsite. Alex Smith mentioned the engineer made it very clear this project is on an emergency timeline. Councilman Bradley made a motion to award the Armory Drive Project bid to the lowest bidder, CB&A Construction, LLC in the total bid amount of \$170,785.94. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated the city has the option to purchase the parcel of land located at the softball field located at the park and recreation property in the total amount of \$25,000.00. Councilman Alexander stated the parcel of land will be used to house a storage building for the park and recreation department and in hopes for a storm shelter in the future. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to approve the purchase agreement for the property adjacent to the recreational park in the total amount of \$25,000.00. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley stated the park and recreation board is recommending reappointing Emily Moore to the board due to the ongoing park and recreation projects and her previous

knowledge. Councilman Bradley made a motion to reappoint Emily Moore to the park and recreation board. Councilman McAlpine seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated the current City Representative on the Chamber of Commerce Board is Rachel Gargus but due to her serving more than two terms consecutively, he is recommending appointing Lauren Wilson. Councilman Alexander made a motion to appoint Lauren Wilson as the city representative on the Chamber of Commerce Board. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to hire Franklin D. Moon as the part-time municipal court bailiff. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Alexander made a motion to hire Jesse Tidwell as part-time, seasonal street department employee. Councilman McAlpine seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips recognized Bailey Scott to the floor and congratulated her on winning the Oneonta flag contest. The Mayor stated you can see the flag outside of city hall and presented Bailey with her very own flag and the gift card funded by the Blount Countian.

Barbara Andersen gave a brief update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Barbara congratulated the city on the outcome of the first city market and stated it is going to be a great addition to the city. She thanked Rachel Gargus for serving on the Chamber of Commerce Board and stated she is looking forward to working with Lauren Wilson. Barbara invited everyone to attend the Open House for the 110 building on June 24th from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. with Hometown Bowls serving up lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Bill Hendrickson gave a brief update of behalf of the Oneonta Business Association. He reminded everyone of the first Cruise and Croon event on Saturday from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and invited everyone to the 19th Annual June Fling event the weekend of June 11th and 12th. Bill updated everyone on the upcoming events the OBA has planned.

Allie Allcorn stated the sale taxes for the period to date are \$117,000.00 more than projected; however, the business license for the period to date are \$13,000.00 less than projected but she is not worried by that number. She also reviewed the total revenues are higher than projected but that is due to multiple grants the city has received and money from COVID allocations. Councilwoman Pierce thanked Allie for all her hard work.

Mayor Phillips thanked everyone for their participation with the City Market and he received a ton of praise to continue the event, so the next City Market will be on June 19th. The Mayor thanked Rachel Gargus for everything she did to assist with the event and commended her for her work. The Mayor thanked the Chamber of Commerce for helping with the food truck pop-up park. He mentioned the Chamber donated two large planters, garbage cans and reached out to all the vendors. Mayor Phillips stated the city has recently received a \$50,000.00 community develop grant to help purchase playground equipment for Woodland Park. The Mayor thanked

Rachel Gargus for all her hard work on applying for the grant and mentioned the equipment should be in within the next six to eight weeks. Mayor Phillips gave sincere condolences to Fireman Mike Moore's family due to his recent passing. The Mayor stated Mike has over thirty years of experience and was very much valued as a person, mentor and employee and he will be greatly missed. Mayor Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Councilman Alexander reported the residential beautification winner for May is Carol Reid and the commercial beautification winner for May is the 110 Building owned by the city.

Councilwoman Pierce asked for an update on the city helping with the beautification board water the flowers downtown. Mayor Phillips stated that Skinny, the downtown attendant, waters the flowers everyday for the beautification board.

Mayor Phillips entertained for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to adjourn the council meeting. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The council meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk