

State of Alabama)
City of Oneonta, July 27, 2021
County of Blount)

The Mayor and City Council met during a regularly scheduled council meeting on July 27, 2021, with a regularly scheduled work session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss agenda items. Present were Mayor Phillips, Council Members: Alexander, Bradley, Pierce and Underwood. Also, present in the meeting were Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton, Lisa Wester, Treva Oakley, Bill Hendrickson, Tara Murphree, Nathaniel Butler, Fire Chief Booth, and Amanda Cole. Councilman McAlpine was not present for the work session and council meeting.

Mayor Phillips opened the work session at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the council meeting. The Mayor stated agenda items one and two are standard agenda items. The Mayor stated agenda items three is concerning the approval of the July 13, 2021 council minutes unless someone has anything to state regarding the minutes. Councilwoman Pierce stated in paragraph four the wording "architectural panel" needs to be changed to "Zoning Board of Adjustments". The Mayor requested Councilwoman Pierce to state the amendments during the council meeting prior to approval of the minutes.

Mayor Phillips mentioned agenda item number four is concerning approval of the July 13, 2021 work session minutes, unless someone has anything to state regarding the minutes.

The Mayor asked Amanda Cole to expound on agenda item number five regarding the 2022 Nutrition Contract Agreement between Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A), the City of Oneonta, and the Blount County Commission. Amanda Cole stated the agreement is an annual agreement the city approves every year providing a variety of services to residents over the age of sixty. She explained the agreement entails the M4A provides \$10,476.00 annually and Blount County Commission provides \$14,590.73 annually for financial support to provide such services.

Councilman Alexander explained agenda item number six is considering the approval of purchasing a 4WD, hydraulic tractor on behalf of the public works department.

Councilwoman Underwood stated Lieutenant Egan's 2017 Dodge Charger was damaged by a tree falling on his vehicle while parked at his personal residence. Councilwoman Underwood mentioned the referenced vehicle is believed to be totaled and the police department is needing approval to replace the vehicle with a truck that would be more beneficial to the department.

Councilman Bradley mentioned agenda item number eight is considering advertising for part-time, seasonal concession employees, which is an item the city approves annually on behalf of the park and recreation department.

Mayor Phillips stated agenda items nine through twelve are standard agenda items. The Mayor mentioned agenda item thirteen is to consider entering executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. The Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the work session.

Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to close the work session. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The work session closed at 5:50 p.m.

Fire Lieutenant Ivey, Barbara Anderson and Roland McCoy entered the council chambers.

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

Councilman Bradley gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Underwood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Phillips stated during the work session, Councilwoman Pierce stated in paragraph four of July 13, 2021 council minutes the wording "architectural panel" needs to be changed to "Zoning Board of Adjustments". Councilwoman Pierce mentioned on page four, paragraph seven the word "assist" needs to be changed to "asset". Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to approve the July 13, 2021 council minutes as written with the above referenced amendments. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve the July 13, 2021 work session minutes as written. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Amanda Cole reiterated the 2022 Nutrition Contract Agreement is an annual agreement the city approves every year providing a variety of services to residents over the age of sixty. She explained the agreement entails the M4A provides \$10,476.00 annually and Blount County Commission provides \$14,590.73 annually for financial support to provide such services. Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to approve the 2022 Nutrition Contract Agreement between Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A), the City of Oneonta, and the Blount County Commission. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Alexander stated the public works department has requested the following purchase from Blount County Tractor: Kubota 4WD, hydraulic tractor; serial number M5-091HDC12-1. Councilman Alexander mentioned the base price of the tractor is \$62,670.00 but after the Sourcwell discount the purchase price is \$49,982.60. Councilman Alexander stated the purchase price is lower than the state bid law of \$50,000.00 and the tractor was approved through the cooperative purchasing agreement known as Sourcwell. Councilman Alexander made a motion to approve the purchase agreement of Kubota 4WD, hydraulic tractor; serial number M5-091HDC12-1 for the public works department for the purchase price of \$49,982.60. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood read letter from Police Chief Clifton requesting purchase of replacement vehicle on behalf of the police department. The letter stated on July 14, 2021 a large tree fell onto Lt. David Egan's 2017 Dodge Charger causing substantial damage and after receiving the estimate Chief Clifton believes the vehicle will be totaled. In the letter Police Chief mentions the current projected amount of the totaled vehicle is \$21,353.00 and the projected

cost of the new truck \$35,000.00. Once the exact variance amount would be determined, it will be revisited if the replacement is approved. Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to purchase a replacement vehicle in place of the 2017 Dodge Charger projected to be totaled. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Alexander reported the beautification awards for July on behalf of the beautification board. Councilman Alexander started the commercial beautification award goes to “The Lunch Box” and the residential beautification award to the Glasscock Family located on 306 1st Street North.

Barbara Anderson gave a brief update on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. She mentioned the final version of the downtown scavenger hunt will be available soon and they will be collected over a two-month period before awards will be given out. She invited everyone to attend a wine tasting at Grapes and Hops this Thursday beginning at 5:00 p.m. Barbara reminded everyone there will be an opportunity to dispose of electronics and propane tanks at the Oneonta Public Library this Saturday. Barbara stated Aladie Howse interned with the Chamber over the summer and has truly been such a thrill to work with and is sad to see her leave. She mentioned Aladie will begin working for Wallace State of Oneonta and she will do a wonderful job there.

Treva Oakley gave a brief update on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association. Tara Murphree distributed “Hello Downtown Merchants” flyers to the Mayor and City Council, which showcases the upcoming events and dates. Treva reminded everyone to attend the next Cruise and Croon event this Saturday from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. She mentioned due to the high school repaving project, Firefighter Jonathan Ledbetter offered the idea of the seniors painting murals on the 300th block. Lisa Wester explained the goal is to have seniors submit artwork that will then be chosen to become murals on the 300th block and from there the OBA plans to submit the downtown murals to “Alabama Mural Trail”. She stated the main concern with the project is how interested the seniors will be to participate.

Allie Allcorn asked Brandon Horton for an update on the ongoing road maintenance projects. Brandon Horton stated High School Street has been closed due to a culvert replacement. He mentioned the road is now open but the barricades will remain in place around the project area until it is safe to drive on. Brandon stated the Armory Drive project is delayed due to weather but the engineers were out there earlier laying out the designs for the head walls. He spoke to a representative with the Utility Board about the Shuff Mountain project and their portion is almost complete, so the city will order supplies to get ready for our part of the project. Brandon asked everyone to please be patient while the public works department tries to relieve residents of flooding and culvert issues from all the recent rain. Allie thanked Brandon for the update and reviewed over the financial memo for June. She explained the local taxes and services were steady for June but were lower than May, but that could be due to people going on vacation. Allie stated the business licenses were higher than May and building permits increased \$10,000.00 from last month which was the highest month yet for the permits. Allie expounded on the fact the city received the first portion of the American Rescue Plan Act funds in the

amount of \$780,960.00, which caused revenue to appear over budget when revenue was down \$60,000.00 from May. She explained the departments were slightly over budget for June but that is due to repairs and maintenance, salaries, and supplies for sports.

Mayor Phillips invited everyone to attend the opening of the Oneonta Dog Park called "Woodland Bark" at Woodland Scout Park this Saturday. He stated one portion is for dogs weighing twenty pounds and less and the other portion is for dogs weighing twenty pounds and more. The Mayor mentioned there will be water bowls provided but asked everyone to bring their own for awhile due to a respiratory infection currently spreading through dogs. Mayor Phillips stated he will post all the rules and guidelines of the dog park on social media. The Mayor gladly reported the third city market was a great success and looks forwarding to the next event. He also reported the playground equipment for Woodland Park has been delayed until September due to weather.

Mayor Phillips stated there is a need to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues and there will not be any further business to discuss. The Mayor entertained a motion to enter executive session. Councilman Alexander made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues at 6:32 p.m. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor and Council Members: Alexander, Bradley, Pierce, and Underwood entered the executive session at 6:35 p.m. Also attending were Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton, and Amanda Cole. Councilman Bradley made a motion to exit the executive session. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. Councilman Bradley made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk