

Council Chambers  
Tonawanda, New York  
January 3, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Common Council

Present: Council President Koch  
Present: Councilmembers: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth  
Excused: Smilinich  
Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Koch  
Prayer by Associate Fire Chaplin Bill Miles

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

Letter to Sharlene Folmsbee appointing her to the Library Board for a term from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2022  
Letter thanking Robert Starr for his service to the Tonawanda Youth Board upon the completion of his term as Executive Director  
Letter to Linda Foels appointing her as Executive Director of the Tonawanda Youth Board with a term from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017  
Letter to David Bernosky appointing him Chairperson of the Board of Appeals  
Letter to Renee Gilbert appointing her to the Tonawanda Youth Board effective January 1, 2017 expiring December 31, 2019  
Letter to Bill Reece appointing him to the Tonawanda Youth Board effective January 1, 2017 expiring December 31, 2019  
Letter to Jeffrey H. Schultz reappointing him to the Traffic and Safety Board effective January 1, 2017 expiring December 31, 2020  
Letter to Richard Barnard reappointing him as Chairman of the Traffic and Safety Board effective January 1, 2017 expiring December 31, 2020

**Presentations**

**Christmas House Decorating Contest Winners Awards by Mayor Rick Davis and Amanda Lofft**

We had nearly 20 residents participate in this years contest. It was a ton of fun to travel throughout the city to see everyone's Christmas displays. Our winners put on a great show and everyone is going to have to step up their game for next year. Our 2016 Winner for Best Use of Lights was Jeremiah Licht from 26 Erie St. Jeremiah did this display all by himself and I also heard that he won a contest through Darien Lake as well. Congratulations Jeremiah! Our 2016 Winner for Most Holiday Spirit was Terry Willard from 345 Fillmore Ave. Congratulations Terry! Our 2016 Winner of the highly coveted Mayor's Award goes to Heidi Jean from 422 Adam St. Congratulations Heidi! I know Jenna is a neighbor of yours and enjoyed the decorations very much! All of our winners received certificate and gift cards to Home Depot so they can purchase more lights for next year. Again, thank you for everyone participation and we are looking forward to next year!

**Glory Be to Kids Check Presentation to the City by Amanda Lofft**

I am also here on behalf of a local non-profit Glory Be to Kids. I am on the Board of Directors and also their current President. We are a local children's charity that has been around for more than 35 years. In 1981 a group of ladies who played softball together lost a great friend when she was tragically killed in a car accident, leaving behind a 5 year old son. That year they did a softball tournament in her honor to raise money for her son. That first year \$1,000 was raised for Christopher. The next summer all those that played in the tournament asked them to do it again, and that is basically how Glory Be to Kids was born. We consider ourselves a charities charity. We essentially raise funds for other charities by choosing a different one as our beneficiary each year. In our brief history we have donated more than \$500,000 to local children's charities. We do our fundraising through numerous events throughout the year and what started as just a softball tournament has now grown into include a bowling tournament, golf tournament, disc golf tournament, coed- softball tournament and 5K race and Chowder

cook-off contest. Our 2016 beneficiary was Suneel's Light. Suneel's Light is an organization that supports individuals with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. This disease characterized by progressive muscle degeneration affects only boys and most don't get to celebrate many birthdays into their 20's. I think there are about 20 kids locally that suffer from DMD. This year we were able to give \$30,000 to Suneel's Light. My Aunt, Felicia Roggow was one of the founding members of Glory Be to Kids and was really the driving force behind them for years. She passed away 10 years ago this year and it was at that time that we decided as an organization that we would take our first \$1,000 raised and donate it in her memory. So every year we give \$500 to the City of Tonawanda Recreation Department and \$500 to the North Tonawanda Recreation Department. We have always been a very local, T-NT charity and we do most of our events right here in the twin cities. So we wanted to say thank you. Thank you for your support in allowing us to use the softball diamonds all of these years. So on behalf of Glory Be to Kids here \$500 for your recreation program, and we are looking forward to this year's tournament. Thank you!

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from City Attorney Ronald Trabucco re appointing S. Michael Rua as Deputy City Attorney effective January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

Communication from EBI Consulting regarding proposed Mobilite LLC proposal for telecommunications facility on Two Mile Creek Road and Niagara Street and Corner of Milens Road and Ensminger Road in the Town of Tonawanda asking for Public Comments

### **The following monthly reports were received by the City Clerk:**

Niawanda Pavilion December 20, 2016 Summary of Expenditures and Revenues

December Report of the Traffic and Safety Advisory Board

December City Clerk Monthly Report

Referred to the Committee of the Whole

Ordered filed

## **COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS**

The Tonawanda Common Council, in an effort to conduct business in a timely fashion and maintain an open line of communication with the public, welcomes comments on resolutions and other City business.

- Persons wishing to speak and be recognized by the President of the Common Council are to be courteous, respectful, non-repetitive and brief.
- All questions and/or comments should be addressed to the President of the Common Council.
- Please state your name and address clearly for inclusion in the Common Council minutes. In the event any person wishes a response outside the confines of the Common Council meeting, please leave all necessary contact information with the City Clerk after the meeting.
- Persons may address the Common Council during (2) separate sessions of the meeting for a total of 30 minutes per session. Once prior to the resolutions and also after the resolutions prior to Common Council comments.
- Individuals may speak a total of (3) minutes per speaker per session. The President of the Common Council will adhere to this (3) minute guideline in an effort to allow everyone an opportunity to speak who wishes to do so.
- The President of the Common Council reserves the Council's right to limit or expand upon these limits as he/she may deem necessary and prudent.
- Usage of cell phones other than for emergency is prohibited during all Council Sessions.

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

1. By the Council seconded by the Council  
Resolved, that the Common Council minutes from December 20, 2016, be accepted as filed.

Ayes: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch  
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

2. By Councilmember Gilbert seconded by Councilmember Toth  
Resolved, that the reading of the resolutions be waived.

Ayes: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch  
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

3. By Councilmember Toth seconded by Councilmember Rautenstrauch

Resolved that the following be named Commissioner of Deeds for the City of Tonawanda, term to expire December 31, 2018

Rick Davis, Charles Rech, Caitlin Rech, Jenna Koch, Charles Gilbert, Jackie Smilnich, Sean Rautenstrauch, Timothy Toth, Gayle Syposs, Joseph Hogenkamp, Laurie Schultz, Colleen Overholt, Christine Hamiester, Katie Schultz, Lynn Burke, Jason LaMonaco, William L. Strassburg, Fredric Foels, Michael E. Rogers, Scott A. Sheehan, Joseph Scarpna, Timothy J. Stuart, Vincent P. Ostrowski, David J. Kraft, Stephen Bentley, David B. Ljiljanich, Robert J. Clontz, Jason J. Balling, Bryan Lavey, Phillip L. Hankinson, Erik C. Johanson, Nathan Joseph Schultz, Jamin J. Butcher, Frank Washburn Jr., Thomas B. Kitson Jr., Mathew Wark, Joseph R. Rank II, Thomas C. Harmon, Brian Joseph Scarpna, Adam R. Kirisits, Charles Stuart, Janet Sylvester, Dale Kokanovich, Karen Kisloski, Susan McEldowney, Phyllis Kivler.

Ayes: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch  
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

4. By Councilmember Koch seconded by Councilmember Gilbert  
Whereas, a \$25.00 Special Events application fee and application were received by the City Clerk from Gateway Harbor for Green Beer Sunday

Whereas, the application was reviewed and commented on by all appropriate department heads to insure the safety and well being of our residents, and

Whereas, all details for the above named event must be coordinated with Captain Fredric Foels and the event chairperson, now, therefore be it

Resolved, that permission is granted to Gateway Harbor to conduct its Green Beer Sunday on March 5, 2017 and close the Renaissance Bridge from 12:00 P.M. till 12:30 P.M. and be it further

Resolved, that a Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Tonawanda as additional insured be filed with the City Clerk no later than February 5, 2017.

Ayes: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch  
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

5. By Councilmember Gilbert seconded by Councilmember Toth  
Whereas, a \$25.00 Special Events application fee and application were received by the City Clerk for Tonawanda's American Legion Post 264 their Blessing of the Bikes

Whereas, the application was reviewed and commented on by all appropriate department heads to insure the safety and well being of our residents, and

Whereas, all details for the above named event must be coordinated with Police Captain Fredric Foels and the Fire Chief Chuck Stuart, and the event chairperson, now, therefore be it

Resolved, that permission is granted to the American Legion Post 264s to conduct its Blessing of the Bikes on May 13, 2017 from 10AM until 9PM with modifications suggested by Captain Foels and be it further

Resolved, that a Certificate of Insurance naming the City of Tonawanda as additional insured be filed with the City Clerk no later than April 14, 2017.

Ayes: Gilbert, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

**COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC AFTER RESOLUTIONS**

No comments

**COMMENTS BY THE COUNCILMEMBERS AFTER RESOLUTIONS**

Councilmember Gilbert- I wish to thank Robert Starr for his service to the Tonawanda Youth Board and wish him well. Also want to welcome Linda Foels as the new Executive Director and compliment Mandy on the work of Glory Be to Kids over the years.

Councilmember Rautenstrauch- Nothing at this time.

Councilmember Toth- I want to compliment Mandy Lofft on her long standing efforts with Glory Be To Kids. Her efforts are appreciated in the community. Let me also congratulate the winners of the Holiday Decorating Contest and wish everyone a Happy New Year and look forward to continuing to work together for the City.

Mayor Rick Davis- There will be a Presentation on February 16, 2017 from 6 PM to 8 PM by Citizen Science Community Resources (CSCR) ó Jackie James-Creedon on her efforts for the soil study for Tonawanda Coke and UB Health Study. I encourage residents to attend this important meeting

Council President Koch- Let me also congratulate the winners of the Holiday Lighting Contest and add my appreciation to Mandy Lofft and Glory Be to Kids for the wonderful work they have done over the years to raise money for worthy youth causes. I want to wish all our residents a very Happy New Year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

6. By Councilmember Koch

seconded by Councilmember Gilbert

Resolved, that this Common Council adjourn until January 17, 2017 in memory of Richard Catlin.

Ayes: Gilbert, Smilinich, Rautenstrauch, Toth, Koch

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

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City Clerk

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Mayor

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Date Filed