

Council Chambers
Tonawanda, New York
July 28, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Common Council

Present: Council President Zeisz
Present Councilmembers: Gilbert, Smilinich, Koch
Excused: Councilmember Hall

Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer led by Council President Zeisz

Prayer led by Associate Fire Chaplain William Miles

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There were no communications from the Mayor.

COMMUNICATION FROM CITY OFFICIALS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The following monthly reports were received by the City Clerk:

June Activity Report of the Fire Department
July minutes of the Traffic and Safety Advisory Board
City of Tonawanda Comprehensive Revenue & Expenditure
Control Report as of 7/28/15
Referred to the Committee of the Whole
Ordered filed

A Notice of Public Hearing being held by the Board of Appeals on July 27, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. regarding a variance request to be allowed to operate a firearm repair business at 274 William Street.

Referred to the Committee of the Whole
Ordered filed

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.

- *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.*

COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS

There were no comments by the public on the resolutions.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

186. By the Council seconded by the Council
Resolved, that the Common Council minutes from July 7, 2015, be accepted as filed.

Ayes: Gilbert, Smilinich, Koch, Zeisz
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

187. By Councilmember Koch seconded by Councilmember Gilbert
Resolved, that the bills be allowed as audited and the City Clerk be authorized to draw warrants on the Treasurer for the various amounts.

Ayes: Gilbert, Smilinich, Koch, Zeisz
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

188. By Councilmember Gilbert seconded by Councilmember Smilinich
Be It Resolved, that the Common Council authorizes Fire Chief Charles Stuart to proceed with Colden Enterprises to purchase a Spartan Fire Pumper subject to the terms and conditions heretofore established by the Brighton Fire District/Town of Tonawanda competitive bidding process initially advertised for on February 25, 2015, and unanimously approved by its Board of Commissioners on May 5, 2015, consistent with the cooperative purchasing provisions referenced in the NYS General Municipal Law, Section 103, Subdivision 16.

Ayes: Gilbert, Smilinich, Koch, Zeisz
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

189. By Councilmember Koch seconded by Councilmember Gilbert
Whereas, a \$25.00 Special Events application fee and application were received by the City Clerk for the Ted Reinhardt Drum Days Benefit and
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 Fred Foels and the event chairperson, now, therefore be it
Resolved, that permission be granted to Old Man River to hold the Ted Reinhardt Drum Days Benefit on Sunday, August 2, 2015, from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 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 July 31, 2015.

Councilmember Smilinich ó Will Franklin Street be closed for that from Niagara to Adam as it was for the 4th of July when we didn't know it was gonna close?

City Clerk Bodie ó That's what was in the application.

Representative from Old Man River ó inaudible, did not use microphone

Ayes: Gilbert, Smilinich, Koch, Zeisz
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted

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.*
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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AFTER RESOLUTIONS

Nancy Paschen, 5 Main Street ó I would like to know why you people give raises, \$10,000 here, \$10,000 there, like to Mr. Hogenkamp and to Mr. Trabucco, how come the secretaries don't get a \$10,000 raise? Why can't Trabucco and Hogenkamp get what the Clerk's get like a 1.5% raise or a 1% raise, o.k., maybe their job is more important but the fact remains, we need firemen and you know that, and you can give out \$20,000 to \$30,000 in raises (inaudible).

Council President Zeisz ó First of all, we didn't give out \$20,000 raises. Second of all, both of those positions are elected positions for four years so we have to designate the amount they're gonna get up front and it's split over those four years. It's not all in one shot, it's split over a period of time.

Nancy Paschen ó Well, according to the figures I had it was a \$10,000 raise for Mr. Trabucco and for Mr. Hogenkamp and like I said, how come they can't get a 1% raise, what do you expect the clerks to do and other people. All right, they are elected officials, big deal, (inaudible)

Council President Zeisz - Well I'm not going to argue with you

Nancy Paschen - I explain it to me, get rid of some of those half-assed kids down there that aren't working, we got all these kids out here working, we got about 14,000 people here and 200 kids working for the stupid City and what are they doing? Nothing except watching pretty girls walk by in shorts. We've seen it all. And what about these foreman you got hired? They should be making these kids work. Something should be done. I mean a lot of people are seeing a lot of stuff wasted. I'm not the only one but I am the only one that will complain about it. But I still say (inaudible) is more important than watching girls in shorts go by.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCILMEMBERS AFTER RESOLUTIONS

Councilmember Gilbert ó I just want to say that the week of Canal Fest was a good week. I want to thank the Police Department. There were folks, a father lost his daughter and within a few minutes with the help of my son and another young man, they found the little girl and got her back to her father real quick so I want to thank them for that and all the services they did, the Fire Department, the DPW, all week long. It was really nice to see. The place was clean and there wasn't a lot going on that should not have been that I saw anyway. Thanks guys, it was real nice to see.

Councilmember Smilinich ó The Downtown Beautification & Revitalization Committee, in conjunction with the Mayor, Parks & Recreation, are proud to announce our hometown hero's. This is a banner you can purchase for any of your military family members or friends who are residents, living or deceased or graduates of Tonawanda High School. The pamphlet will be in the Mayor's Office and I'd let him further explain on that. How

about those DPW and Parks guys at the Tug of War, huh? Pretty good, less than ten seconds. That was awesome. Good team work, we pass along our thanks and I'm sure the Mayor appreciates that he did not have to push that wheel barrel. On a serious note, I hope that the passing of the resolution of the pumper will stop the rumors circulating about members of this council not supporting the Fire Department. That could not be further from the truth, we did our due diligence fiscally to insure that the City got what they wanted. As a matter of fact, I was the one that asked if we could maybe purchase two rather than one for a substantial savings which did not pan out as well as we thought it would. So I'm just going to ask that when you go out and tell your friends and neighbors about what happens at the Council Meetings, report it accurately because it does create a lot of dissention in the community.

Councilmember Koch ó I want to thank Dave Marrano. He's leaving August 1st, thank him for all he did for the City and I wish him all the best of luck in his future. I'd like to thank the Police, Fire and DPW and Rec Department, not for what you do everyday but more importantly, especially during Canal Fest, as Chuck and Jackie mentioned, there weren't a lot of incidents, you were visible, you were there right after the parade and within ten seconds, the street sweeper was by cleaning up the street and it was noticed, so thank you guys for all you do everyday. I'd also like to thank Dave Durenda the commissioner, for use of the skycam used during Canal Fest. It was certainly an added bonus for that. On August 1st, the City will play a pick up game against the Boys & Girls Club, so if anyone is interested in playing for team City, let me know, let the Mayor know. We could sure use the help. And I know with the heat this year, if you could check on your neighbors and be sure they're taken care of and have a lot of water. And lastly, I'd like to thank and congratulate Rebecca Newberry, there was a press release today, she was named the Executive Director of the Clean Air Coalition and I'd like to thank Erin Heaney for all her efforts that she does for the City of Tonawanda and the Clean Air Coalition and wish both of them the best of luck.

Mayor Davis ó As it's been said up here, cannot thank enough the Police, Fire, DPW for the work they do during Canal Fest. To my knowledge there were no major incidents, talked to the Chief, that other festivals have been plagued by this year, so my hat's off to all the City workers that put forth the effort to make this a very successful event. As Councilwoman Smilinich stated, our Hometown Heroes Banner program, very proud to be able to do this, I've driven around and seen some of the hometown hero banners in other municipalities and they're very hard to read. Ours are gonna be humungous so they're gonna be very easily readable and I would expect nothing less when we're honoring those that pretty much wrote a blank check to the federal government and sacrificed their lives for our country, but these applications can be picked up in my office, at DPW, Parks & Rec, online and just fill out the information on here. Flags will be up from Memorial Day through Veteran's Day every year and we're gonna start it in our Central Business District and if demand outweighs the space available in our Central Business District, we're gonna expand outwards into the main thoroughfares in and out of the City, so I'm hoping that we can get a banner on every National Grid light bulb here in the City so we can honor those residents that need to be honored, so again, our website, my office, DPW, Parks/Rec and we'll see if we can get a few more at locations around the City. Just want to thank, we had two firefighters that have recently retired. Chris Cowell and Mike Lamp. I just want to wish them good luck and God speed on their future endeavors, and as Ms. Koch said, Dave Marrano will be leaving us. He was, for lack of better term, pilfered from us from the Town of Amherst, made him an offer that he could not refuse but anybody that has worked with Dave knows how much of a professional he is and I wish him the best of luck and in Amherst he is going to be a lot busier than he is here in the City so I hope he's prepared for that, and I look forward to working with the Town to find a suitable replacement for Mr. Marrano moving forward.

Council President Zeisz ó Thank you to all of you for coming tonight, have a great night, drive home safely and go enjoy the smoldering heat.

