

NIAGARA FALLS CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA FOR JULY 20, 2015

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5:08 - 6:20 P.M.

ROLL CALL - COUNCIL MEMBERS

ANDERSON X CHOOLOKIAN X GRANDINETTI X WALKER X TOUMA X

Approval of Minutes from the Council Meeting of July 6, 2015

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Financial Advisory Board
2. Seth Piccirillo, Community Development Director
 - PROPOSED FORECLOSURE AUCTION REFORMS
 - CITY WIDE HOME RENOVATION
 - MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYDAY

3. City Department highlights - Chairman

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE:

1. Department of Public Works - SWEET team update - Brook D'Angelo
2. John Duke Center - Rebecca Brooks

REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

6:35 PM

ROLL CALL - COUNCIL MEMBERS

ANDERSON X CHOOLOKIAN X GRANDINETTI X WALKER X TOUMA X

PRAYER - WALKER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1. AGENDA ITEMS

Ron Anderluh	Agenda Item #4
Dave Cuddy	Agenda Item #4
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Items #5, #7, #12, #23
Robert Ventry	Agenda Items #4, #7, #9
Trudy Christman	Agenda Item #8

2. FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

Ken Hamilton	Add insurance to Water Bills; profitability of re-cycling; basketball at Hyde Park; need Community Center for kids
Gerald Skrlin	Condition of property at 3 rd & Buffalo Ave
Robert Ventry	Replace lights downtown that are very dim
Linda Burge	Testing of water lines on Independence Ave. not done yet
Sylvia Frances	Testing of water lines on Independence Ave. not done yet
Felesia Davis	Weekend pool incident

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

FROM THE CITY CLERK

1. City Clerk's report for the Month of June 2015

R & F

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

FROM THE MAYOR

2. Approval of Change Order in the contract for Porter Rd. Bridge Painting Project, Erie Painting, Inc.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

3. Approval of Award of Services for rooftop HVAC unit replacement at Bridge Station Firehall, J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

4. Approval of repaving of 27th St., Niagara St. to Ferry Ave., Yarussi Construction, Inc.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

Chairman Touma said that this is long overdue

5. Approval of funding for MLB Play Day Events

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

Chairman Touma said more family events like this are needed.

6. Approval to retain Milliman, Inc. for actuarial equivalence testing

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

7. Approval of agreement with NYS Financial Restructuring Board

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian		X		
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	4	1		

Council Member Choolokian said the City is mismanaged and it is the job of elected officials to fix it.

Council Member Walker said the City should do what it can first before bringing someone from the outside but that is not happening. He is voting Yes in consideration of some of the financial issues the City is facing.

Chairman Touma thanked the City's Financial Advisory Panel for their work. They recommended turning to the NYS Financial Restructuring Board for help but any recommendations they make will need Council approval. More information is needed from others on the outside.

8. Approval of funding for Grand Gardens of the Niagara Portage event

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

Council Member Grandinetti said this is a good use of Tourism Funds. Chairman Touma said this was a well organized event.

9. Approval of membership in Buffalo Niagara Enterprise

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson		X		
Council Member Choolokian		X		
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	3	2		

Council Member Choolokian said with the Financial Board in place, Casino funds should be used for economic development.

Council Member Grandinetti said she has been a longtime critic of the BNE but they are helping Solar City look towards Niagara Falls to be included in their Project.

Council Member Walker said there are a lot of Brownfield Sites in Niagara Falls, and we do not have the expertise, staff or connections to find investors for them. BNE will help to market these sites.

Chairman Touma said he went to a BNE conference and met many relator's who are working with the Solar City Project to find out more about Niagara Falls.

10. Approval of easement for electrical transformer to National Grid for new Train Station

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

11. Approval of Change Order for roof replacement at the former Highland Ave. Fire Hall, Joseph A. Sanders & Sons

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

Council Member Grandinetti said she met the new Director of Isaiah 61 and she looks forward to finishing this Project so that the training program can continue.

12. Approval of purchase of 3625 Highland Ave.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson		X		
Council Member Choolokian		X		
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	3	2		

Council Member Choolokian there has been no commitment for development at this site.

Council Member Grandinetti said there is a lot of potential in the Highland Ave. area and this is a new opportunity to provide different kinds of jobs in the City other than Tourism related.

Chairman Touma said the City can apply for Brownfield Funds to fix this site.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

FROM THE CITY CLERK

13. Approval of Commissioner of Deeds appointments

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

FROM THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

14. Approval to install "No Parking, November 1 to April 1" restriction on Crescent Dr., west side

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

15. Approval to install a 5' Handicapped Access Space in front of 2016 Pine Ave.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

16. Approval to install a "No Standing Anytime" restriction in front of 2926 Grand Ave.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

17. Approval to install overnight parking on Roselle Ave between McKoon Ave & Deveaux St.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

18. Approval to remove the two hour parking restriction in front of 331 Buffalo Ave.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

19. Approval to install a 5' Handicapped Access Space in front of 1121 North Ave.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

20. Approval to install a 5' Handicapped Access Space in front of 31 A St.

VOTE

	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X			
Council Member Choolokian	X			
Council Member Grandinetti	X			
Council Member Walker	X			
Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:	5	0		

RESOLUTIONS

21. Relative to recognizing World Breastfeeding Week

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson	X			
2015-	Council Member Choolokian	X			
59	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	5	0		

22. Relative to Congratulating Carly Washcalus for representing Niagara Falls in the National Miss Scholarship Pageant

BY: Council Member Kristen Grandinetti

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson	X			
2015-	Council Member Choolokian	X			
60	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	5	0		

23. Relative to Honoring Historian and Educator, Paul Gromosiak

BY: Council Member Kristen Grandinetti

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson	X			
2015-	Council Member Choolokian	X			
61	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	5	0		

24. Relative to consolidated funding application-Empire State Development for Micro-Enterprise Project Proposal

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson		X		
2015-	Council Member Choolokian		X		
62	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	3	2		

Council member Choolokian said for this item and the next 3, he is not opposed to the Projects but it is the wrong time because matching funds from the City are not available.

Council Member Grandinetti said these grants will help small business people. Chairman Touma said the NFC has been very successful and the matching funds will not come from the City.

25. Relative to consolidated funding application-Environmental Protection fund for development of the LaSalle Greenway Trail

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson		X		
2015-	Council Member Choolokian		X		
63	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	3	2		

Chairman Touma said Greenway funds will be used for the local share with no money coming from the City.

26. Relative to consolidated funding application-Environmental Protection fund for development of the Customhouse Harriet Tubman Plaza

BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson		X		
2015-	Council Member Choolokian		X		
64	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
	Total:	3	2		

Chairman Touma said Greenway funds will be used for the local share with no money coming from the City.

27. Relative to consolidated funding application-Empire State
 Development for development of Highland Ave. Technology & Business Park
 BY: Council Chairman Andrew Touma

VOTE

		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson		X		
2015-	Council Member Choolokian		X		
65	Council Member Grandinetti	X			
	Council Member Walker	X			
	Council Chairman Touma	X			
Total:		3	2		

Chairman Touma said this will attract new investors and increase the tax base.

28. Resolution relative to waiver of Hyde Park Oasis rental fees for
 2015 Willing Workers Picnic
 BY: Council Member Charles Walker

VOTE

		ADD TO AGENDA		APPROVE	
		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson	X		X	
2015-	Council Member Choolokian	X		X	
66	Council Member Grandinetti	X		X	
	Council Member Walker	X		X	
	Council Chairman Touma	X		X	
Total:		5	0	5	0

29. Resolution relative to celebrating the Brundidge Family Reunion
 BY: Council Member Charles Walker

VOTE

		ADD TO AGENDA		APPROVE	
		yea	nay	yea	nay
	Council Member Anderson	X		X	
2015-	Council Member Choolokian	X		X	
67	Council Member Grandinetti	X		X	
	Council Member Walker	X		X	
	Council Chairman Touma	X		X	
Total:		5	0	5	0

30. Approval of Grant Award in the amount of \$15,000.00 from
 Dr. Pepper Snapple Group & KaBOOM

VOTE

	ADD TO AGENDA		APPROVE	
	yea	nay	yea	nay
Council Member Anderson	X		X	
Council Member Choolokian	X		X	
Council Member Grandinetti	X		X	
Council Member Walker	X		X	
Council Chairman Touma	X		X	
Total:	5	0	5	0

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

7:40 P. M.