# JANUARY 9, 2017, REGULAR MEETING

City Clerk, appointment
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Public Works/Parks Dept.: Budget Amendment, employee transfer
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Resolution: Investment Policy, 2017-2
JANUARY 23, 2017, REGULAR MEETING
City Clerk's Report for the month of December 2016
Contract: Bridge Program, Buffalo Ave., Consultant services
E911 Services, funding
Contract: Niagara Falls Beautification Commission, funding
Contract: Niagara Arts & Cultural Center, funding
Contract: 72 <sup>nd</sup> St. Firehouse, replacement of furnace
Contract: Street Sweeper Waste, Buffalo Fuel Corp
Contract: Niagara Community Action Program Inc., funding
Contract: Niagara Falls Block Club Council, funding
Contract: OSC-21, School District, funding
Contract: Niagara Military Affairs Council, funding
Code Enforcement Dept., Demolitions, funding
Contract: SPCA, sheltering services, funding, PULLED
Contract: Sheraton Hotel Parking Agreement, amendment
City Property: 2718 Orleans Ave, sale
Claim: LaMarca, Jennifer
Resolution: Planning Board, reappointment, 2017-3
Resolution: Youth Board, reappointment, 2017-4
Resolution: Historic Preservation Commission, reappointment, 2017-516
Resolution: Zoning Board of Appeals, appt/reappt., 2017-6
Resolution: Traffic Advisory Commission, reappointments, 2017-7
Resolution: Tourism Advisory Board, continuation, 2017-8
Resolution: Water Board, appointment, 2017-9
Resolution: Senior Citizen Council, reappointments, 2017-10
Resolution: Taxicabs/Drivers, Ord. amendment, TABLED
Resolution: St. Johns AME Gospel Chorus, recognizing, 2017-11
Contract: Library Repairs, D.V. Brown & Associates, funding
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Contract: Highland Ave., 3625, add. Environmental, Mark Cerrone
Contract: Tenth St/Cedar Ave, additional services, Foit-Albert
Contract: Centre Court Pool, Lining, Dyna Mole
Public Works Dept., Lead Parking Attendants/Attendants, Wage Increases
Convention Center/Arena, Feasibility Study
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Claim: NY Central Mutual Fire Ins., A/S/O Hartman, William & Anna
Claim: Swanson, Fatema
Resolution: Public Hearing, alley abandonment, 2017-13
Resolution: Residency Requirements, waiver, 2017-14
Resolution: Drip Program, Water Board, reinstatement. 2017-15
Resolution: Oasis, fee waiver, Sertoma Club, 2017-16
Resolution: Tourism Advisory Board, appointment, 2017-17
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Buffalo Ave., 718, handicapped access space
Rainbow Blvd., 333, 2 hour parking restriction
Commissioner of Deeds, appointments
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Resolution: Planning Board, appointment, 2017-20
Resolution: Comm. Missions, Sweetheart Dinner, waiver of parking, 2017-21 .55
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Resolution: Marchiselli Program, Bridge Washing, 2017-27
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# APRIL 3, 2017, REGULAR MEETING

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# **JANUARY 9, 2017**

# **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

# NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the January 9, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Andrew Touma at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Andrew Touma, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Charles Walker

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell.

Chairman Touma made a motion to amend the Agenda to vote on Agenda Item #2 at this time.

Yeas Nays

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA APPROVED

CITY CLERK: APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #2

As part of my plans relative to the City Clerk's office for calendar year 2017, I am hereby removing Carol Antonucci, 6610 Ward Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304 from the office of City Clerk, effective immediately. I thank her for her years of service to the City.

Pursuant to Section 2.3 of the City Charter, I am hereby appointing Lisa Vitello, 4859 Terrace Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14305 to the office of City Clerk. As per the 2017 adopted budget, the salary for the City Clerk's position is \$48,000.00. This is now a full-time position whereas in many years prior to 2017 it was a part time position.

Will the Council vote to confirm the removal of Carol Antonucci from the office of City Clerk and the appointment of Lisa Vitello to the office of City Clerk?

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Agenda Item at this time Yeas 5 0 Nays

APPROVED

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Chairman Touma thanked Carol for her commitment & Mayor Dyster also thanked her.

Honorable Judge Diane Vitello then administered the Oath of Office to Lisa A. Vitello as Ms. Vitello's mother held the Bible.

Chairman Touma asked if there were any nominations for Council Chairman 2017. Council Member Grandinetti nominated Charles Walker and this nomination was seconded by Council Member Tompkins. There being no further nominations, Chairman Touma called for a vote to be taken. All Council Members voted for Charles Walker, who was unanimously elected Council Chairman for 2017. Honorable Judge Diane Vitello then administered the Oath of Office to Chairman Walker as Chairman Walker's wife and grandson held the Bible. Council Member Scott introduced Darian Tanksley.

There was a Presentation by Darian Tanksley about a Daddy-Daughter Ball that is being held on February 18, 2017.

He explained about the Ball and added that he has a few sponsors but could use more. An application to request Public Funds from the City, given to Bridgette, Council Administrative Assistant.

Council Member Grandinetti talked about the State of the State message by Gov. Cuomo today. She said it was stated that there will be strong support for the revitalization of Main Street and she has never heard that much about this support before and was very pleased.

Ended at 6:20 PM

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of December 27, 2016.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Touma and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Ron Anderluh Ron Anderluh	Agenda Item #2 Thank you & congratulations to Lisa Vitello; wish Carol good luck & thank you for her years of Service; Congratulations to Charles Walker; City Wide assessment; Business tax raised; Parking Meters
Ken Hamilton	Talked more of the Daddy-Daughter Ball; great plans For Kalfas School; customizing of area students with
Vince Anello	Students from Africa Congratulated Lisa & Charles; Employees should be recognized

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERKS CLAIMS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2016

Agenda Item #1 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CITY CLERK: APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #2 THIS ITEM WAS APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS DEPT.: BUDGET AMENDMENT, EMPLOYEE TRANSFER

Agenda Item #3

As done previously, when an existing employee transfers to another position, we have taken into account the employee's service time when applied to the corresponding wage schedule. Hugh Leftwich is the new Assistant Foreman Streets, Grade 17B which according to the 2017 budget has a salary of \$45,220. Taking into account Mr. Leftwich's years of service, it will be necessary to place him at Step 4.5 of the appropriate Grade, with a salary of \$47,759 resulting in a difference of \$2,539 in the biweekly line.

Funds are available in the biweekly line of A.8510.0000.0110.000 due to a current vacancy.

Will the Council so approve the transfer of \$2,539 from

A.8510.0000.0110.000 to A.5110.0200.0110.000, effective immediately?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5

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0 APPROVED PURCHASING DEPT .: BUDGET AMENDMENT, EMPLOYEE TRANSFER

Agenda Item #4 As done previously, when an existing employee transfers to another position, we have taken into account the employee's service time when applied to the corresponding wage schedule. Cynthia Ransom is the new Administrative Assistant-Purchasing, Grade 19, which according to the 2017 budget has a salary of \$38,471. Taking into account Ms. Ransom's 8 years of service, it will be necessary to place her at Step 1.1 of the appropriate Grade, with a salary of \$44,492, resulting in a difference of \$6,021.06 in the biweekly line. Funds are available in the biweekly line of A.8020.4720.0110.000 due to a current vacancy. Will the Council so approve the transfer of \$6,021 from A.8020.4720.1110.000 to A.1345.0000.0110.000, effective immediately? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 4 Council Members Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker Navs 1 Council Member Tompkins APPROVED RESOLUTION: NIAGARA GAZETTE, OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, 2017-1 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #5 BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the designation of the Niagara Gazette as the official newspaper of the City of Niagara Falls, New York for the purposes of printing and/or publishing of all legal notices, public hearing notices and any other matters required by law or by the City Council or the Boards of the City to be printed and/or published is hereby continued; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this designation shall be in effect for the year 2017, but such designation shall not thereafter lapse until superseded. 5 Yeas 0 Nays ADOPTED RESOLUTION: INVESTMENT POLICY, 2017, 2017-2 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #6 WHEREAS, New York law requires the governing board of each municipality to adopt an investment policy; and WHEREAS, the objectives of the investment policy are: 1. To conform with legal requirements 2. To provide for the safety of principal 3. To provide for sufficient liquidity to meet operating requirements 4. To obtain a reasonable rate of return; and WHEREAS, the attached investment policy is designed to satisfy these objectives. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the City of Niagara Falls hereby adopts the attached investment policy.

#### INVESTMENT POLICY FOR CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK (2017)

I. SCOPE

This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for investment on behalf of the CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK [hereinafter "CITY"] or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

II. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the CITY's investment activities are, in priority order:

- To conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements (legal);
- 2. To adequately safeguard principal (safety);
- 3. To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
- 4. To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

#### III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The governing board's responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the City Controller who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a data base or records incorporating description and amounts of investments, transaction dates, and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

IV. PRUDENCE

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the CITY to govern effectively.

Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

#### V. DIVERSIFICATION

It is the policy of the CITY to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

#### VI. INTERNAL CONTROLS

It is the policy of the CITY for all moneys collected by any officer or employee of the government to transfer those funds to the City Controller within 10 days of deposit, or within the time period specified in law, whichever is shorter. The City Controller is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly, and are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITARIES

The banks and trust companies authorized for the deposit of monies up to the maximum amounts are:

Depository Name	Maximum Amount	Officer
Manufacturers and Traders Trust	\$100 Million	City Controller
Company		

#### VIII. COLLATERIZING OF DEPOSITS

In accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law, §10, all deposits of CITY, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

- 1. By a pledge of "eligible securities" with an aggregate "market value" as provided by GML \$10, equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from the categories designated in Appendix A to the policy.
- 2. By an eligible "irrevocable letter of credit" issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the government for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured shortterm debt to obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.
- 3. By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

#### IX. SAFEKEEPING AND COLLATERALIZATION

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by the depositary and/or a third party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure local government deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events which will enable the local government to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. In the event that the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the CITY or its custodial bank. The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities. X. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS

As authorized by General Municipal Law, §11, the CITY authorizes the City Controller to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- Special time deposit accounts;
- Certificates of deposit;
- Obligations of the United States of America;
- Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;
- Obligation of the State of New York
- Obligations issued pursuant to LFL §24.00 or 25.00 (with approval of the State Comptroller) by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the CITY;
- Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies and industrial development agencies where the general State statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments;
- Certificates of Participation (COPs) issued pursuant to GML §109-b;
- Obligations of this local government, but only with any moneys in a reserve fund established pursuant to GML §§6-c, 6-d, 6-e, 6-g, 6-h, 6-j, 6-k, 6-l, 6-m, or 6-n.

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the CITY within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures or purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the CITY within two years of the date of purchase.

## XI. AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

The CITY shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the CITY. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The City Controller is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositaries, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

#### XII. PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS

The City Controller is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

- 1. Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
- 2. By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Article 5G of the General Municipal Law where such program meets the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller Opinion No. 88-46, and the specific program has been authorized by the governing board.
- 3. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the governing board.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the local government, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the CITY by the bank or trust company. Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law, §10.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the local government, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the local government a perfected interest in the securities.

#### XIII. REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions;

- All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.
- Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.
- Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States of America and obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America.
- No substitution of securities will be allowed.
- The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

#### APPENDIX A

#### Schedule of Eligible Securities

- Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States of America, an agency thereof or a United States government sponsored corporation.
- (ii) Obligations issued or fully guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the African Development Bank.
- (iii) Obligations partially insured, or guaranteed by any agency of the United States of America, at a proportion of the Market Value of the obligation that represents the amount of the insurance or guaranty.
- (iv) Obligations issued or fully insured, or guaranteed by the State of New York, obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation of such State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under a specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public moneys.
- (v) Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (vi) Obligations of Puerto Rico rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (vii) Obligations of counties, cities and other governmental entities of a state other than the State of New York having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- (viii)Obligations of domestic corporations rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one nationally statistical rating organization.
- (ix) Any mortgage related securities as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which may be purchased by banks under the limitations established by bank regulatory agencies.
- (x) Commercial paper and bankers' acceptances issued by a bank, other than the Bank, rated in the highest short term category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and having maturities of not longer than 60 days from the date they are pledged.

Zero coupon obligations of the United States government marketed as "Treasury strip"

Yeas Nays 5 0 ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk

01/09/2017



# JANUARY 23, 2017

# **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

# NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the January 23, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:10 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson and City Controller Sandra Peploe.

Council Member Tompkins moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of January 9, 2017. Yeas 5

Yeas Nays

0 Approved

Patricia Wrobel, from Niagara University, explained that they have been asked to help with the revitalization of the City Market. They intend to focus on activities for families in the community. The activities will focus on culture, commerce, providing financial advice, job training sessions, summer camps and additional community resources.

Councilwoman Grandinetti discussed other partners in the Market Project including Cornell Cooperative Extension, Mr. AL Muto and additional partners/business owners in the Market area.

Councilwoman Grandinetti invited NU to the Market meeting on Wed., Jan.  $25^{\rm th}$  at 6 PM at 755 Restaurant.

Chairman Walker asked where the programs would take place. Ms. Wrobel stated they would be outdoor activities.

Councilman Touma thanked NU for their assistance as did Councilman Scott.

Seth Piccirillo, Director of Community Development, gave a presentation regarding the Highland Ave. Firehouse. He stated that the Isaiah 61 Project has had great success. He discussed the strength of the Project giving graduation statistics. He also gave an update on the Firehouse Renovation budget which is on time and on budget. He also gave an update on new events.

Councilman Tompkins questioned Mr. Piccirillo on the cost and the details of the renovations. A discussion followed on this.

In the Administrative Update, Mayor Dyster discussed the US Conference of Mayors: TIGER Grants and significant infrastructure improvements that would be possible through TIGER.

Councilman Touma discussed the short term Rental Ordinance stating that we need to take a closer look at the Ordinance.

Tom DeSantis, Acting Director of Planning, stepped forward to give details on the short term Rental Ordinance. He stated that the Planning Board worked diligently on the Ordinance. He also stated that the Sign Ordinance regarding Zoning had not been updated since 1970.

Councilman Tompkins asked about the Train Station lighting and Mr. DeSantis gave an update.

Councilwoman Grandinetti explained that NTCC has packages in place for train travel, she also inquired about the vending situation at the station.

Councilman Touma asked about demo funds. Mayor Dyster explained they were emergency demos. Councilman Touma also asked about the 2017 budget regarding the use of Casino Funds. Mayor Dyster also discussed streets and other infrastructure, TIP Projects, NYS funds, GBNRTC, alley repairs and cleanings. He also explained the Financial Budget Director position. Kelly Kudela, from the NACC, spoke about the importance of their programs. In light of asking the Council for funds as did the NCAP stating that they focus on energy audits, financial planning, food service and additional services for families. City Administrator Nick Melson, stated that Item #13, SPCA Contract, was being Pulled. Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson stated that there are 2 Agenda Items to be Amended. Agenda Item #6, Police Code corrected 1. Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to Amend the Item Yeas 5 Nays 0 MOTION TO AMEND ITEM APPROVED 2. Agenda Item #7, amount corrected 5 Yeas Nays 0 MOTION TO AMEND ITEM APPROVED Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 2 Agenda Items to be added. A Resolution relative to Recognizing St. Johns AME Church-1. Gospel Chorus. Council Member Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda Yeas 5 Navs 0 Motion to add Resolution to Agenda approved The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #26 2. A Communication relative to the Contract for Library Boiler repair Council Member Touma moved to add this Communication to the Agenda 5 Yeas  $\cap$ Nays Motion to add Communication to Agenda approved The Communication was added to the Agenda as #27 This session ended at 6:02 PM Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:23 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Damon DeCastro	Agenda	Item #25			
Rich Meranto	Agenda	Item #10			
Norma Higgs	Agenda	Items #4,	#5 <b>,</b>	#9 <b>,</b>	#12
Dana Carr Jr.	Agenda	Item #25			
Dana Carr Sr.	Agenda	Item #25			
Nick D'Angelo	Agenda	Item #23			
Tiara Carr	Agenda	Item #25			

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Joe LaGamba Agenda Item #23 Darryl DiNoto Agenda Item #23 Robert Ventry Agenda Items #9, #10, #15, #20 Agenda Item #23 Agenda Items #3, #12, #13 Agenda Item #25 Jim Briggs Vince Anello Cheryl Jonaper Paving of streets Ron Anderluh Various topics Gerald Skrlin Robert Ventry Community groups; website; recognizing of Martin Luther King, Jr.; City financials THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2016 Agenda Item #1 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR BRIDGE PROGRAM, BUFFALO AVE., CONSULTANT SERVICES, C & S CONTRACT: COMPANIES Agenda Item #2 Based upon the New York State Department of Transportation standard merit selection procedures, C & S Companies has been selected as the City's consultant for the above referenced program. Funding for the Design portion of this project is the responsibility of the City at 100%. Construction Inspection and Construction Administration components will be federally eligible at the standard 80% Federal and 20% local reimbursement procedure. It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the Project Proposal, Design report, Final Plans & Specifications be awarded to C & S Companies at the proposed price of \$37,577.00. Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays  $\cap$ APPROVED E911 SERVICES, FUNDING Agenda Item #3 In order to continue uninterrupted service of the City's E911 system, it is requested that the sum of \$50,276.76 be made available from casino revenues for this purpose. These dollars will be transferred to police capital code H0816. A final quote is attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) and the amount is \$50,276.76. The money requested will pay for the annual maintenance of the system. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED Council Member Tompkins asked the City Controller where the money is coming from. City Controller, Sandy Peploe, stated it comes from Casino

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Money.

CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION, FUNDING Agenda Item #4 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the NBC. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with NBC is required. Funding is available from Tourism budget. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 Nays 0 APPROVED Councilwoman Grandinetti said thanks to the Committee & other partners in the Market Project. CONTRACT: NIAGARA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER, FUNDING Agenda Item #5 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the NACC. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the NACC is required. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a letter from Kathie Kudela, the Executive Director of NACC outlining many of the events and programs scheduled for 2017. Funding is available from Tourism budget. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for the NACC? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 Nays 0 APPROVED Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that we are very lucky to have this. Chairman Walker agreed with Councilwoman Grandinetti on this. CONTRACT: 72ND STREET FIREHOUSE, REPLACEMENT OF APPARATUS FURNACE, SCHAEFER SUPPLY Agenda Item #6 The Fire Chief advises that the apparatus furnace at the firehouse on 72<sup>nd</sup> Street is broken and is not able to be repaired. Therefore, it needs to be replaced. A quote was obtained for this purpose from Schaefer Supply in the amount of \$1,098.72 which is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office). Funding is available from casino revenues earmarked for capital improvements for the Fire Department. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Nays APPROVED

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CONTRACT: STREET SWEEPER WASTE, BUFFALO FUEL CORPORATION Agenda Item #7 The Director of the Department of Public Works advises that it is necessary to amend the above referenced item to reflect an additional cost of rescreening the street sweeper waste to be a cost of \$17,500.00 rather than a cost of \$12,473.00. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) are communications from the Director as well as Buffalo Fuel Corp. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays APPROVED CONTRACT: NIAGARA COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM INC., FUNDING Agenda Item #8 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$27,500.00 for the Niagara Community Action Program Inc. so that it may continue to provide assistance to qualified City residents during fiscal This will require that the City enter into a Funding year 2017. Agreement with this entity. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Funding Agreement in form satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED CONTRACT: NIAGARA FALLS BLOCK CLUB COUNCIL, FUNDING Agenda Item #9 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Council. In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the Council is required. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for the Council? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays APPROVED CONTRACT: OSC-21, SCHOOL DISTRICT, FUNDING Agenda Item #10 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the School District to assist in funding the operation of the OSC-21, public access channel ("OSC"). In order to effectuate this, an appropriation agreement with the School District is required. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED

CONTRACT: NIAGARA MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL, FUNDING Agenda Item #11 The 2017 Budget contains an appropriation in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the NIMAC. In order to effectuate this, a funding agreement with NIMAC is required. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel for NIMAC? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Navs APPROVED CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPT.: DEMOLITIONS, FUNDING Agenda Item #12 The Acting Director of Code Enforcement is requesting that the sum of \$500,000 be made available to his department to perform additional demolitions and emergency board ups during the balance of this year. Funding is available from Casino revenues and will be transferred to Demolitions account code H0910. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas  $\cap$ Nays APPROVED CONTRACT: SPCA, SHELTERING SERVICES, FUNDING Agenda Item #13 THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PULLED NO ACTION TAKEN THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL CONTRACT: SHERATON HOTEL PARKING AGREEMENT, AMENDMENT Agenda Item #14 THIS ITEM HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND FILED CITY PROPERTY: 2718 ORLEANS AVE, SALE Agenda Item #15 The City has received a request from Habitat for Humanity to purchase the above referenced City-owned property for the sum of This property was approved for sale by the Planning Board. \$500.00. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy the Planning Board's approval. Will the Council approve the sale of this premises and further authorize the Mayor to execute any deeds or other documents necessary to effectuate this transaction? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED

CLAIM: LAMARCA, JENNIFER Agenda Item #16 Date Claim Filed: N/A Date Action Commenced: August 18, 2010 Date(s) of Occurrence: July 2009 through November 2009 Location: N/A Nature of Claim: Damages suffered during hiring process City Driver: N/A Status of Action: Pre-trial Stage Best interests of City to pay Recommendation/Reason: claim. Amount to be Paid: \$36,000.00 Make Check Payable to: Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement Settlement Agreement, General Conditions: Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve, and authorize the Corporation Counsel to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 Nays 0 APPROVED RESOLUTION: PLANNING BOARD, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-3 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #17 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name: REAPPOINTMENTS: TERM EXPIRES: Willie Dunn 12/31/2019 3075 Macklem Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305 Charles MacDougall 12/31/2019 8227 Bollier Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Michael Murphy 12/31/2019

642 4<sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301 Yeas Nays

5 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-4 Agenda Item #18 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name: REAPPOINTMENT: TERM EXPIRES: Rick Williams 12/31/2019 2761 Falls Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303 5 Yeas Nays 0 ADOPTED RESOLUTION: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-5 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #19 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Commission, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name: TERM EXPIRES: REAPPOINTMENT: Alan Nusbaum 12/31/2020 149 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Yeas 5 0 Navs ADOPTED RESOLUTION: ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-6 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #20 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby appointed/reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Zoning Board of Appeals, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name: **APPOINTMENT:** TERM EXPIRES: Christopher Kulbago, Sr. 12/31/2019 7820 Lindbergh Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304 REAPPOINTMENT: TERM EXPIRES: James Spanbauer 12/31/2019 528 College Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305 Chris Ciccone TERM EXPIRES: 1220 Brandi Drive 12/31/2019 Niagara Falls, NY 14304 5 Yeas Navs 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-7 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #21

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Traffic Advisory Commission, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their name:

REAPPOINTMENTS: TERM EXPIRES: 12/31/2019 Robert Ventry 1884 Niagara Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305 Alysia Welch - Chester 12/31/2019 PO Box 1004 Niagara Falls, NY 14302 Yeas Nays ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, CONTINUATION, 2017-8 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #22

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City Council by Resolution 2006-7 reestablished the Tourism Advisory Board and by Resolution 2006-11 set its membership at sixteen (16); and

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WHEREAS, the Council deems it desirable to continue the Tourism Advisory Board during 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York continues the Tourism Advisory Board consisting of sixteen (16) members appointed by the City Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board and its function shall cease one (1) year from the date of the adoption of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby appointed/reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their names:

REAPPOINTMENTS:		TERM EXPIRES:	
Traci L. Bax 8654 Hennepin Aven Niagara Falls, NY	ue 14304	12/31/2017	
Adrienne Bedgood 2256 South Avenue Niagara Falls, NY	14305	12/31/2017	
Angela Berti Prospect Street & ( Niagara Falls, NY		12/31/2017	
Richard A. Crogan 646 4 <sup>th</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY	14301	12/31/2017	
Ron Droegmyer 300 3rd Street Niagara Falls, NY	14303	12/31/2017	
Jeffery Flach 723 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY	14301	12/31/2017	
Ernest Lucantonio 2450 Forest Avenue Niagara Falls, NY	14301	12/31/2017	
Gay Molnar 2114 River Road Niagara Falls, NY	14304	12/31/2017	
Pat Proctor 454 Main Street Niagara Falls, NY	14301	12/31/2017	
Lisa Vitello 4859 Terrace Drive Niagara Falls, NY		12/31/2017	F
Yeas Nays			5 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: WATER BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-9 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #23 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Water Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name:

APPOINTMENT:	TERM EXPIRES:
Nicholas Forester	12/31/2019
3206 Michigan Avenue	
Niagara Falls, NY 14305	
Yeas	5
Nays	0
-	ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: SENIOR CITIZEN COUNCIL, REAPPOINTMENTS, 2017-10 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #24

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individuals are hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Senior Citizen Council, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite their names:

REAPPOINTMENT: Marie DeFelice 2540 Jerauld Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	TERM EXPIRES: 12/31/2019
Caroline Fera 611 33 <sup>rd</sup> Street Niagara Falls, NY 14301	12/31/2019
Louise Morreale 3239 North Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14305	12/31/2019
Jean Stewart 3022 Orleans Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14303 Yeas Nays	12/31/2019 5 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS, GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

## Agenda Item #25

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Niagara Falls, New York that Chapter 365 of the Codified Ordinances entitled Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers is hereby amended to read as follows on the next page: CHAPTER 365

# Taxicabs, [and] Taxicab Drivers, Liveries and Livery Drivers

365.00 Legislative Findings and	365.23	Consideration of Application.
Declarations.	365.24	Issuance of License;
365.01 Definitions.		Duration and Annual Fee.
365.02 Taxicab Medallion and	365.25	License Period.
Registration Permit Required;	365.26	Display of License.
Livery Registration and	365.27	Dress, Behavior and Grooming of
Permit Required .		Taxicab Drivers and Livery Drivers
365.03 Applicability of Chapter.		and Use of Radio.
365.04 Number of Taxicab Medallions	365.28	Suspension and Revocation of
Limited.		Driver's License.
365.05 Public Hearing.		
365.06 Application for Taxicab Medallions	365.29	Notice to Driver.
and Driver's Licenses for Taxicab	365.30	Failure to Comply with City,
and Livery.		State and Federal Laws.

365.07 Taxicab Medallion.	365.31	Designation of Taxicabs.
365.08 Transferability of Taxicab	365.32	Taximeter Required.
Medallions.	365.33	Periodic Inspections of
365.09 Medallion Fees.		Taximeter Required.
365.10 Taxicab and Livery Registration Permit.	365.34	Rates of Fare; Rate Card Required.
365.11 Taxicab and Livery Registration	365.35	Open Stands Established; Use
Permit Fees.		and Parking.
365.12 Application for Taxicab and Livery	365.36	Solicitation, Acceptance and
Registration Permit.		Discharge of Passengers.
365.13 Liability and Worker's	365.37	Receipts.
Compensation Ins. Required.	365.38	Refusal of Passenger to Pay
365.14 Inspection of Vehicles.		Legal Fare.
365.15 Emergency Taxicab and Livery	365.39	Direct Routes.
Registration Permits.	365.40	Taxicab Service.
365.16 Schedule of Rates; Display.	365.41	Manifests.
365.17 Suspension and Revocation of	365.42	Service Contract Reports.
Medallion and Taxicab Registration	365.43	Transferring the Taxicab
Permit or Livery Registration Permit.	Vehicle	2.
365.18 Taxicab Driver's License and Livery	365.44	Appeal.
Driver's License.	365.45	Police Department; Duty to
365.20 Application for Driver's License		Enforce Chapter.
and Livery Driver's License.	365.46	Penalty.
365.21 Examination of Applicant.	365.99	Separability.
365.22 Police Investigation of Applicant.		

#### 365.00 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATION.

(a) It is hereby determined by the City Council and the City Officials that the taxicab<u>and livery</u> industry is an integral and vital element which is necessary to assure adequate and safe public transportation for our residents and visitors.

(b) It is also determined that the taxicab<u>and livery</u> industry is especially suited for inclusion in the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce and all City meetings and functions related to public transportation and tourism issues.

(c) It is found that a spirit of mutual cooperation and public pride exists between the taxicab<u>and livery</u> industry and other governmental and civic organizations and that it is essential that goodwill be maintained amongst all.

(d) It is also found that reasonable standards and regulations relating to the number of taxicabs <u>and livery</u> <u>vehicles</u>, the number and location of taxicab stands and the condition and appearance of the taxicab <u>and livery</u> vehicles and drivers are needed to assure fairness and to promote the public health, safety and welfare.

#### 365.01 DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, have the meanings as set out herein:

(a) "Person" means and includes an individual, a corporation or other legal entity, a partnership and any incorporated association.

(b) "Street" means and includes any street, avenue, alley, court, bridge or public thoroughfare within the City.

(c) "City" means the City of Niagara Falls, New York.

(d) "Taxicab" means a motor vehicle regularly engaged in the business of carrying passengers for hire, having a seating capacity of less than seven persons and not operated on a fixed route.

(e) <u>"Livery" means every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab or a bus, used in the business of transporting passengers for compensation.</u> However, it shall not include vehicles which are rented or leased without a driver.

[(e)](f) "Cruising" means the driving of a taxicab on the streets of the City in search of or soliciting prospective passengers for hire.

[(f)](g) "Taxicab and livery registration permit" means the permit issued by the Superintendent of Police to a taxicab medallion owner and livery owner which evinces that the operating taxicab or livery has fulfilled the annual inspection and registration requirements as mandated by this Ordinance.

[(g)](h) "Driver's license" means the permission granted by the City to a person to drive a taxicab or livery upon the streets of the City.

[(h)](i) "Taximeter" means a meter instrument or device attached to a taxicab which measures mechanically the distance driven and the waiting time upon which the fare is based.

[(i)](j) "Waiting time" means the time when a taxicab is not in motion from the time of acceptance of a passenger or passengers to the time of discharge, but does not include any time that the taxicab is not in motion if due to any cause other than the request, act or fault of the passenger or passengers.

 $[(j)](\underline{k})$  "Open stand" means a public place alongside the curb of a street in the City which has been designated by the City as reserved exclusively for the use of taxicabs.

 $[(k)](\underline{l})$  "Owner" means any person owning or having control of the use of a taxicab or livery or both upon the streets of the City.

[(1)](<u>m</u>) "Manifest" means a daily record prepared by a taxicab <u>or livery</u> driver of all trips made by such driver showing time and place of origin, destination, number of passengers and the amount of fare of each trip.

 $[(m)](\underline{n})$  "Rate card" means a card issued by the Superintendent of Police for display in each taxicab which contains the rates of fare then in force.

[(n)](o) "Medallion" means the plate issued by the City of Niagara Falls which represents the privilege given to the possessor to operate a taxicab in the City of Niagara Falls.

# 365.02 TAXICAB MEDALLION AND REGISTRATION PERMIT REQUIRED; LIVERY REGISTRATION AND PERMIT REQUIRED.

No person shall operate or permit a taxicab owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire upon the streets of the City without having first obtained a taxicab medallion for each vehicle desired to be operated and a taxicab registration permit affixed to each such vehicle. <u>No person shall operate or permit a</u> livery owned or controlled by him to be operated as a vehicle for hire within the City without having first obtained a livery registration permit affixed to each such vehicle.

#### 365.03 APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER.

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to the operation of a taxicab <u>or a livery</u> upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare, or place where the passenger is picked up, begins within the corporate limits of the City, regardless whether the point of destination is within or without the City.

The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to the operation of a taxicab <u>or a livery</u> upon the streets of the City where the point of origin of the fare begins outside the corporate limits of the City regardless of whether the point of destination is within the City. <u>The provisions of this Chapter shall also not apply to a taxicab or livery that is returning a fare to a destination outside the corporate limits of the City which fare originated outside the corporate limits of the City, provided the return fare is made within 24 hours of the drop off of the originating fare.</u>

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(a) An application for any available taxicab medallion shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and shall be verified under oath and shall furnish the following information:

(1) Name, address, age and whether applicant is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date and if a corporation the name, address, age and whether each officer, director and shareholder is a citizen of the United States, a noncitizen national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident (Alien#) or an alien authorized to work (Alien# or Admission#) and provide expiration date.

(2) Experience of applicant in the transportation of passengers.

(3) Number of taxicab medallions desired by the applicant.

(4) The financial status of the applicant, including the amounts of all unpaid judgments against the applicant arising out of the use of a motor vehicle.

(5) The name or names of persons not an applicant, or, if a corporate applicant not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation having an interest, financial, proprietary or other, direct or indirect, in the taxicab or the business to be licensed, or having made any loan to an applicant for such taxicab or having any lien or mortgage on such taxicab, setting forth the names and addresses of such person or persons, the nature of the interest and the date acquired.

(6) The name of any person not an applicant herein, or, if a corporate applicant, any person not an officer, director or stockholder of such corporation who shares or will share on a percentage basis, or in any way in the receipts, losses or deficiencies of the operation of the taxicab, to any extent whatsoever other than by fixed salary, setting forth the names and addresses of such persons, the nature and percentage of the share and the date acquired.

(7) Whether the applicant has previously held a taxicab medallion from any locality or a former "taxicab permit" from the City of Niagara Falls and if such medallion or permit has ever been suspended or revoked, and if so, for what cause.

(8) Such further information as the Superintendent of Police of the City of Niagara Falls may require. (Adopted 7/13/88.)

(b) No person shall be issued a <u>taxicab and/or livery</u> driver's license unless such person meets the following qualifications:

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#### 365.10 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 herein, no taxicab or livery shall be operated on the streets of Niagara Falls unless it has been issued a taxicab or livery registration permit. Each vehicle issued a permit under this Chapter shall affix a decal, supplied by the City of Niagara Falls, to the lower right hand corner of the rear window. The permit decal must be visible at all times and not placed on tinted windows/glass. Said decals shall be issued in a distinctively different color each year as proscribed by the Superintendent of Police. Taxicab and livery registration permits shall be non-transferable and must be renewed annually.

### 365.11 TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT FEES.

The annual cost of a taxicab <u>or livery</u> registration permit shall be Seventy Dollars (\$70.00). No taxicab <u>or livery</u> registration permit decal shall be issued until such fee is paid. The taxicab <u>or livery</u> registration permit shall be issued between and including the dates of June 1 and June 15 of each year and all of such permits shall expire on the anniversary date in the next calendar year, unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any owner to whom a permit is issued during the permit year shall pay the full amount of the annual permit fee. All revenues generated by the collection of taxicab <u>or livery</u> permit fees shall be budgeted for the administration and enforcement of the taxicab <u>and livery</u> ordinance. [Permits expiring between April 1 and April 15, 1998 are hereby extended for sixty (60) days and will expire between June 1 and June 15, 1998].

# 365.12 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

An application for a taxicab <u>or livery</u> registration permit shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police upon forms provided by the City, and such application shall contain the following information:

- (a) Make, model type and vehicle identification number of the vehicle to be registered.
- (b) Year of manufacture and seating capacity of each vehicle.
- (c) New York State license number of each vehicle to be registered.
- (d) The color scheme and insignia to be used to designate each vehicle.

In addition to the application and filing fee, [a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months and] proof of liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance, if required in accordance with Section 365.13, must be submitted at the time of application; and in the case of a taxicab, a taximeter certification issued within the last twelve (12) months.

The Superintendent of Police shall keep records of all vehicles registered pursuant to this chapter. Said records shall include the date of original vehicle inspection and shall record any subsequent inspections of the vehicle as well as any vehicle equipment and vehicle condition violations.

# 365.13 LIABILITY AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIRED.

(a) No taxicab <u>or livery</u> permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the minimum amount of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) for bodily injury to any one person; in the minimum amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for injuries to more than one person which are

sustained in the same accident, and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for property damage resulting from any one accident. Such policy or policies shall insure to the benefit of any person who shall be injured or who shall sustain damage to property proximately caused by the negligence of a holder, his servants or agents. Such policy or policies shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police shall have at least fifteen days' written notice of such cancellation, which requirement shall be conspicuously placed on said policy or policies and any Certificate evidencing such insurance.

(b) No taxicab <u>or livery</u> permit shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a worker's compensation insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of New York, and approved by the City for each vehicle authorized in the statutory minimum amount. This provision may be waived if the taxicab <u>or livery</u> owner can produce a letter from the State of New York within the last twelve (12) months confirming that the taxicab <u>or livery</u> owner does not need worker's compensation insurance.

#### 365.14 INSPECTION OF VEHICLES.

Prior to the use and operation of any vehicle and the issuance of a taxicab <u>or livery</u> registration permit under the provisions of this chapter, such vehicle shall be thoroughly and carefully examined and inspected by the Police Department and must be found to comply with such reasonable rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Superintendent of Police. These rules and regulations shall be promulgated to provide safe and comfortable transportation and shall specify such safety equipment and regulatory devices as the Superintendent of Police shall deem necessary therefor.

In addition to periodic inspections by the Police Department, at such intervals as shall be established by the Superintendent of Police, taxicab <u>and livery</u> vehicles are subject to on-the-spot "no notice" inspections by police officers. Inspections shall not be instigated nor take place while a fare is present. Such inspections shall require, but are not limited to, the following vehicular standards:

(a) All vehicles shall have current New York State Inspection Certificates.

(b) The exterior of the vehicles shall be generally clean and free from rust and damage.

(c) The vehicle paint must be applied in a professional manner. Automobile make insignias and vehicle chrome shall not be painted over.

(d) Vehicles must be completely assembled and shall not be structurally altered from the manufacturer's design including, but not limited to, having the lights, exhaust system, fenders and bumpers properly attached.

(e) Any lettering or company logo applied to the exterior of the vehicle must be professionally airbrushed or neatly stenciled upon the vehicle. A decal insignia shall be considered an acceptable substitute for the above requirement.

(f) The interior of the vehicle must be kept clean and sanitary, and shall be free of all litter and debris.

If a vehicle has been involved in an accident causing physical damage so as to violate the above vehicle standards, it shall not be automatically excluded from service, if the vehicle can still be operated safely. The taxicab <u>or livery</u> owner shall have 24 hours to have the vehicle evaluated by the Police Department, in order to determine if the vehicle should be taken out of service or to determine the exact date repairs will be made. If a vehicle is taken out of service on account of the police inspection of damage, the taxicab <u>or livery</u> owner shall be notified in writing.

(g) A violation of any of the above vehicle standard requirements will be punishable by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each offense. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

## 365.15 EMERGENCY TAXICAB AND LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMITS.

The Mayor may, in case of a declared public emergency or necessity, waive or modify any or all of the requirements of this chapter and may issue a temporary permit for the operation of any vehicle defined in this chapter upon the streets of the City without a public hearing, such permit to be revocable at any time with by the Mayor or his designee.

#### 365.16 SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR TAXICABS; DISPLAY.

There shall be displayed in the passenger's compartment of each taxicab in full view of the passengers, a card not less than four inches by six inches in size, which shall have plainly printed thereon the name of the owner or the [fictitious] name under which such owner operates the business, the address and telephone number of such owner and a correct schedule of the rates to be charged for conveyance in such vehicle. Such card shall be approved as to form by the Superintendent of Police before being so displayed. A true and correct copy of the card, as approved, shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police.

# 365.17 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF MEDALLION AND TAXICAB REGISTRATION PERMIT OR LIVERY REGISTRATION PERMIT.

A taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit <u>or livery registration permit</u> issued under the provisions of this chapter, may be revoked or suspended by the City Administrator, if the owner thereof has:

(a) Violated any material provisions of this chapter.

(b) Falsified any information on the application or failed to notify the Superintendent of Police of any material change of status from that indicated in the application.

(c) Abandoned the taxicab medallion or taxicab registration permit <u>or livery registration permit</u>. The medallion or permit shall be deemed abandoned when a taxicab assigned a medallion or taxicab registration permit <u>or livery issued a livery registration permit</u> has not been regularly operated as a taxicab <u>or livery</u> for a period of six (6) months, or

(d) Conducted himself in a manner indicating he is not a fit and proper person to hold such an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit <u>or livery registration permit</u>.

In the event any person to whom an owner's medallion or taxicab registration permit <u>or livery registration</u> <u>permit</u> is issued has such medallion or permit suspended on three separate occasions, such medallion or permit shall be revoked. Whenever any medallion shall be revoked, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police. If the medallion is suspended, the same shall be surrendered to the Superintendent of Police and retained by him until the suspension period expires. In the case of suspension or revocation of the taxicab registration permit <u>or livery registration permit</u>, the identifying decal shall be immediately removed.

Prior to suspension or revocation, the owner shall be given written notice of the proposed action to be taken together with a statement of the basis therefor and shall have an opportunity to be heard by the City Administrator within two weeks of receiving said written notice. No suspension or revocation shall be effective until a written decision of the Administrator is filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

# 365.18 TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Except as provided in Section 365.03 of this Chapter, no person shall operate a taxicab for hire or livery upon the streets of the City and no person who owns or controls a taxicab <u>or livery</u> shall permit it to be so driven, and no taxicab <u>or livery</u> licensed by the City shall be driven at any time for hire unless the driver of such taxicab <u>or livery</u> shall have first obtained and shall have then in force a taxicab driver's license <u>or livery driver's license</u> issued under the provisions of this chapter. <u>This prohibition shall not apply to a taxicab or livery driver who is</u> returning a fare to a destination outside the corporate limits of the City which fare originated outside the corporate limits of the City, provided the return fare is made within 24 hours of the drop off of the originating fare.

# 365.20 APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB DRIVER'S LICENSE AND LIVERY DRIVER'S LICENSE.

An application for a taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license shall be filed with the Superintendent of Police on forms provided by the City, and such application shall be verified under oath and shall contain the following information:

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Any false statements made by the applicant on the application for a taxicab driver's license <u>or livery</u> <u>driver's license</u> shall be sufficient cause for the refusal of the issuance of a taxicab driver's license <u>or livery</u> <u>driver's license</u> to such applicant, or shall be sufficient cause for the revocation or suspension of a taxicab driver's license <u>or livery driver's license</u> after the issuance of same.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a taxicab driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendant of Police, on forms provided by the City, a livery driver's license. Provided the taxicab driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a livery driver's license shall be issued for no additional fee.

Upon request, a person who has been issued a livery driver's license by the City may request from the Superintendant of Police, on forms provided by the City, a taxicab driver's license. Provided the livery driver's license is valid and has not been revoked or suspended, a taxicab driver's license shall be issued for no additional fee.

# 365.21 EXAMINATION OF APPLICANT.

Before licensing, all taxicab drivers and livery drivers must undergo a local orientation program of up to two hours coordinated by the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation (NTCC). Prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each driver must successfully complete a test of the information covered during the program. The applicant is responsible to pay any fee incurred by the NTCC for administering the test. Such program shall include, but is not limited to, the geography of the City, traffic laws and regulations and public relations and appearance.

## 365.22 POLICE INVESTIGATION OF APPLICANT.

The Police Department of the City shall conduct an investigation of each applicant for a taxicab driver's license and livery driver's license, and a report of such investigation and a copy of the traffic and police record of the applicant, if any, shall be attached to the application for the consideration of the Superintendent of Police.

## 365.23 CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION.

The Superintendent of Police shall, upon consideration of the application and the reports and certificate required to be attached thereto, in his discretion, approve or reject the application. If the application is rejected, the applicant may request a personal appearance before the Superintendent of Police to offer evidence why his application should be reconsidered.

### 365.24 ISSUANCE OF LICENSE; DURATION AND ANNUAL FEE.

Upon approval of an application for a taxicab driver's license <u>or livery driver's license</u>, the Superintendent of Police shall issue a license to the applicant which shall bear the name, address, age, signature and photograph of the applicant, issuance number, date of expiration and the name of the owner for which such driver is authorized to operate a vehicle. Such license shall be valid only so long as the driver continues in the employ of such owner. Upon the termination of any driver's employment, the owner by whom such driver has been employed shall immediately give the Superintendent of Police written notice of such termination, the reasons therefor, and shall forthwith surrender the driver's license to the Superintendent of Police for cancellation.

Such license shall be in effect for the remainder of the calendar year. A license for every calendar year thereafter shall be issued upon the payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), unless the license for the preceding year has been revoked.

#### 365.25 LICENSE PERIOD.

A taxicab driver's license <u>or livery driver's license</u> shall be issued as of January 1st in each year and shall be valid to and including December 31st of that same year unless sooner suspended or revoked. Any driver to whom a license is issued during the license year shall pay the full amount of the annual license fee.

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# 365.27 DRESS, BEHAVIOR AND GROOMING OF TAXICAB DRIVERS <u>AND LIVERY DRIVERS</u> AND USE OF RADIO FREQUENCY.

(a) Each driver shall make a presentable appearance while operating taxicabs <u>and liveries</u> in the City of Niagara Falls, and shall be clean, well-groomed, neatly dressed, and conduct himself or herself in a professional, courteous manner. Every driver shall be required to wear a shirt with a collar.

(b) Each driver shall be permitted to use only the radio frequency that is used by the company the driver is affiliated with. The monitoring of another cab <u>or livery</u> company's frequency is strictly prohibited and will lead to sanctions against the driver and/or company the driver is affiliated with.

## 365.28 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF DRIVER'S LICENSE.

A taxicab driver's license or livery driver's license may be suspended for the following reasons:

No driver or operator whose license has been revoked shall be eligible to be licensed as a taxicab driver <u>or livery driver</u> in the City for a period of three (3) years, unless otherwise prohibited by Section 365.19 of this Chapter.

#### 365.29 NOTICE TO DRIVER.

A taxicab driver's license <u>or livery driver's license</u> shall be deemed to be suspended or revoked as of the third day after the Superintendent of Police shall cause to be deposited in the United States Post Office within the City, a registered letter giving notice of such revocation or suspension, and directed to the person named and to the address given on the application pursuant to which such license was issued. <u>In the event a person has both a taxicab driver's license and a livery driver's license</u>, a suspension or revocation of one license has the **effect of** suspending or revoking the other license.

## 365.30 FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CITY, STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.

Every driver licensed under this chapter shall comply with all City, State and Federal laws. Failure to do so will justify the suspension or revocation of a license.

### 365.31 DESIGNATION OF TAXICAB.

The taxicabs of every owner operating a taxicab within a City shall be of a color scheme and bear the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia which are clearly and easily distinguishable from the color scheme, owner's trade name, monogram or insignia used on the taxicabs of any other owner's already operating under this chapter. No change whatever in the color scheme or distinguishing characteristics of any taxicab shall be made without written permission from the Superintendent of Police, and it shall be unlawful for any person soliciting patronage from any vehicle described in this chapter to represent by word, sign or insignia that the vehicle for which he is soliciting such patronage is a vehicle owned or operated by other than the actual owners.

Every taxicab operated within the City shall bear the following identification: the owner's trade name, monogram or insignia, together with a cab number and the owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the metal portion of the outside of each side of the taxicab and the cab number and owner's telephone number or numbers painted upon the outside rear panel of the taxicab. All lettering mentioned in this paragraph shall be not less than two and one-quarter inches in height and not less than five-sixteenths inch stroke. In addition to the identification hereby required, taxicabs may bear the following signs or advertisements:

(a) A metal sign bearing the words "For Hire", and being no larger than six inches by nine inches;

(b) A sign attached to the top of the cab bearing the word "Vacant" and being no larger than two and one-half inches by nine inches, and

(c) Advertisements not exceeding twelve square feet in total area, subject to the rules and regulations of the Superintendent of Police.

If, after a permit has been issued for a taxicab hereunder, any portion of this section is violated in such a manner as to be misleading or deceiving to the public, the Superintendent of Police in his discretion, may suspend or revoke the permit of the owner covering such taxicab or taxicabs.

(d) This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City.

# 365.32 TAXIMETER REQUIRED.

All taxicabs operated under the authority of this chapter shall be equipped with taximeters fastened in front of the passengers, visible to them at all times day and night; and, after sundown, the face of the taximeter shall be illuminated. Such taximeter shall be operated mechanically by a mechanism of standard design and construction, driven either from the transmission or from one of the front wheels by a flexible and permanently attached driving mechanism. No taximeter shall be operated from any wheel to which power is applied. They shall be sealed at all points and connections which, if manipulated, would affect their correct reading and recording. Each taximeter shall have thereon a flag to denote when the vehicle is employed and when it is not employed, and it shall be the duty of the driver to throw the flag of such taximeter into a non-recording position at the termination of each trip. The taximeters shall be subject to inspection from time to time by the Police Department. Any inspector or other officer of the Police Department is hereby authorized either on complaint of any person or without such complaint, to inspect any meter and, upon discovery of any inaccuracy therein, to notify the person operating such taxicab to cease operation. Thereupon, such taxicab shall be kept off the streets, until the taximeter is repaired and in the required working condition.

This section shall not apply to liveries operating in the City. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the owner of a livery operating under the authority of this chapter may, at the option of the owner, equip the livery so owned with a taximeter. In the event the owner equips the said livery with a taximeter, all applicable provisions of this chapter pertaining to taximeters shall apply. In addition, the owner, prior to installation of the taximeter in the livery vehicle, agrees to immediately give written notice to the Superintendent of Police of the installation of the taximeter.

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#### 365.35 OPEN STANDS ESTABLISHED; USE AND PARKING.

The Traffic Engineer is hereby authorized and empowered to establish open taxi stands for the exclusive use of taxicabs in such places upon the streets of the City as he deems necessary. In creating an open stand, the Traffic Engineer shall take into consideration the need for such stands by the taxicab owners and the convenience to the general public. He shall prescribe the number of taxicabs that shall occupy such open stands. The Traffic Engineer shall not create an open stand in front of any place of business where the abutting property owners object to the same or where such open stand would tend to create a traffic hazard. Such open stands shall be designated by appropriate signs or curb markings as the Traffic Engineer shall determine.

Open stands shall be used by the different drivers on a first come, first serve basis. The driver shall pull into the open stand from the rear and shall advance forward as the vehicles ahead pull off. A driver shall be in attendance at every taxicab parked in an open taxi stand. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as preventing a passenger from boarding the vehicle of his choice that is parked at an open stand.

No owner or driver of a taxicab shall stand or park such vehicle at any place on a public street other than an open stand, except for the purpose of discharging or receiving passengers.

No person shall park or stand any vehicle other than a taxicab in an open taxi stand.

Liveries may not utilize open taxi stands for parking or for any other purpose.

#### 365.36 SOLICITATION, ACCEPTANCE AND DISCHARGE OF PASSENGERS.

No driver shall solicit passengers for a taxicab except when sitting in the driver's compartment of such taxicab or while standing immediately adjacent to the curb side thereof. <u>No driver of a livery may solicit passengers for a livery</u>. The driver of any taxicab shall remain in the driver's compartment or immediately adjacent to his vehicle at all times when such vehicle is upon the public street, except that, when necessary, a driver may be absent from his taxicab for not more than ten consecutive minutes, and provided further that nothing herein contained shall be held to prohibit any driver from alighting to the street or sidewalk for the purpose of assisting passengers into or out of such vehicle.

No driver shall solicit patronage in a loud or annoying tone of voice or by sign or in any manner annoy any person or obstruct the movement of any persons, or follow any person for the purpose of soliciting patronage.

Drivers of taxicabs <u>and liveries</u> shall not receive or discharge passengers in the roadway but shall pull up to the right hand sidewalk as nearly as possible, or in the absence of a sidewalk, to the extreme right hand side of the road, and there receive or discharge passengers, except upon one-way streets where passengers may be discharged at either the right or left hand sidewalk or side of the roadway, in the absence of a sidewalk.

No driver shall cruise in search of passengers, except in such areas and at such time as shall be designated by the Traffic Engineer. Such areas and times shall only be designated when the Traffic Engineer finds that taxicab cruising would not congest traffic or be dangerous to pedestrians and other vehicles.

No driver, owner or operator shall solicit passengers at the terminal of any other common carrier, not at any intermediate points along any established route of any other common carrier.

No driver shall permit any other person to occupy or ride in such taxicab unless the person or persons first employing the taxicab shall consent to the acceptance of an additional passenger or passengers. No charge shall be made for an additional passenger except when the additional passenger rides beyond the previous passenger's destination, and then only for the additional distance so traveled.

No driver shall permit more persons to be carried in a taxicab as passengers than the rated seating capacity of his taxicab, as stated in the permit for such vehicle. A child in arms shall not be counted as a passenger.

No driver shall refuse or neglect to convey any orderly person or persons, upon request, unless previously engaged or unable or forbidden by the provisions of this chapter to do so.

It shall be a violation of this chapter for any driver of a taxicab to solicit business for any hotel, or to attempt to divert patronage from one hotel to another. Neither shall such driver engage in selling intoxicating liquors or soliciting business for any immoral purpose, or use his vehicle for any purpose other than the transporting of passengers.

## 365.37 RECEIPTS.

The driver of any taxicab <u>or livery</u> shall, upon demand by the passenger, render to such passenger a receipt for the amount charged, either by a mechanically printed receipt or by a specially prepared receipt on which shall be the name of the owner, license number or motor number, amount of meter reading or charges, and date of transaction.

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#### 365.41 MANIFESTS.

Every driver <u>of a taxicab and livery</u> shall maintain a daily manifest upon which are recorded all trips made each day, showing the time and place of origin, the destination of each trip and amount of fare, and all such completed manifests shall be returned to the owner by the driver at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The forms for each manifest shall be furnished to the driver by the owner, and shall be of a character approved by the Superintendent of Police.

Every owner of a permit shall retain and preserve all drivers' manifests in a safe place for at least the calendar year next preceding the current calendar year, and such manifests shall be available to the Superintendent of Police.

#### 365.42 SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTS.

It shall be mandatory for all owners to file with the Superintendent of Police, copies of all contracts, agreements, arrangements, memoranda or other writings relating to the furnishing of taxicab <u>or livery</u> service to any hotel, theater, hall, public resort, terminal or other place of public gathering, whether such arrangement is made with the owner or any corporation, firm or association with which the owner may be interested or connected. Failure to file such copies within seven days shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of a permit of any offending owner or the cancellation of any cab stand privileges.

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# 365.44 APPEAL.

If any person is aggrieved by any act or failure to act on the part of the Superintendent of Police either in issuing, failure to issue, suspending or revoking any owner's permit or driver's license, such aggrieved party may file with the City Clerk a statement addressed to the [City Administrator] <u>Niagara Falls City Council</u>, setting forth the full facts and circumstances in connection with the action or failure of action on the part of the Superintendent of Police. Such appeal must be filed within ten days after commission or omission of the act by which the appellant claims to have been aggrieved.

The [City Administrator] <u>Niagara Falls City Council</u> shall call [a meeting] <u>for a public hearing</u> not less than [ten] <u>thirty</u> days from the date on which such appeal shall have been filed with the City Clerk, shall hear the appellant and his witnesses and determine the merits of the appeal, and the [ruling of the City Administrator] <u>decision by a majority vote of the Niagara Falls City Council</u> thereon shall be final. (C66 S39, adopted 1-13-69; amended 12/29/11.)

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Bold and Underlining indicate Additions.
Bold and Brackets indicate [Deletions].
Councilwoman Grandinetti moved that the Communication be Tabled
Yeas 4
Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker
Nays 1
Touma TABLED
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RESOLUTION: ST. JOHNS AME GOSPEL CHORUS 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, RECOGNIZING, 2017-11 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #26

WHEREAS, in July of 2009 the Senate of The United States was given a resolution by Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Hutchison asking that September be designated as "Gospel Music Heritage Month and honoring gospel music for its valuable contributions to the culture of the United States; and

WHEREAS, gospel music is a beloved art form of the United States, a cornerstone of the musical traditions of the United States and has spread beyond origins in African-American spirituals to achieve popular cultural and historical relevance, spreading beyond geographic origins to touch audiences around the world; and

WHEREAS, for 90 years the Gospel Chorus of St. Johns AME Church located at 917 Garden Avenue Niagara Falls, New York, has touched many lives with the universal appeal of this art that both inspires and entertains across racial, ethnic, religious, and geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on this day, January 21, 2017, they welcome back members to join in a community choir under the direction of former member Roger Walker of Atlanta Georgia; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize the many members who continue to sing and bless this world with the valuable and longstanding contribution to our culture, such as our own Marsha McWilson, Kathy Jordan Sharpton, Constance Matthews, Maxwell Taylor, and many, many more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby congratulate Pastor Dion Greer, President Rosemary Bass Mims and the St. Johns Gospel Chorus on their 90th Anniversary, we also recognize their greatness and value to the Niagara Falls community.

Yeas Nays

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ADOPTED

CONTRACT: LIBRARY REPAIRS, D.V. BROWN & ASSOCIATES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #27

After the solicitation of multiple quotes for the repair of the E.W. Brydges Library boiler, the following eligible responsible bid was received:

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID
D.V. Brown & Associates	\$ 33,000.00
567 Vickers Street	
Tonawanda NY 14150	

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to D.V. Brown & Associates at their total bid of \$33,000.00. Funding is available from casino funding.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be

received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Navs 5 0

APPROVED Councilwoman Grandinetti asked why this is not out of the Budget. Director of Public Works, John Caso, stated that this is in addition to the Budget.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk



## **FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

# **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

# NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the February 6, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of January 23, 2017.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

Sara Capen, executive Director of Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, discussed the Niagara Shuttle. Ms. Capen gave a history of the inception of the shuttle explaining the economic benefits of the shuttle. The shuttle connects users to tourist sites, routes connect visitors into the city, tourists and locals use the shuttle, alleviates traffic and parking concerns, reduces congestion, creates jobs, and is critical to tourism.

Councilwoman Grandinetti commented on the success of the shuttle and its importance to the Niagara region.

Councilman Touma asked about funding sources. Ms. Capen stated funding comes from the NYSPA and grants. Councilman Touma asked if Hotel/Motel owners could be tapped as a funding source.

The Mayor discussed alternative funding sources, stakeholders in the hospitality industry.

Councilman Tompkins asked if the shuttle route traveled down Pine Avenue.

Amy Lewis, Executive Director of the SPCA gave a presentation on the SPCA. Ms. Lewis gave a history of correspondence with the city regarding the contract. She discussed costs related to the housing of animals at the shelter explaining that costs have increased because the facility became a "no kill" shelter.

Councilman Tompkins asked why they decided to become a "no kill" shelter.

Ms. Lewis stated that the public demanded it. Councilman Touma asked about dogs that are kept there for a long period of time. A discussion on pit bulls took place.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if the SPCA was pursuing funding from the county.

Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if that was the responsibility of Ms. Lewis or her Board of Directors. Ms. Lewis gave details about the spay/neuter program.

Councilman Touma asked about the feasibility study for the area and if there were any possible tenants at this point.

The City Administrator discussed aspects of the feasibility study with council.

Councilman Touma asked about the funding for Centennial Circle.

A resolution was read by the City Clerk recognizing Mary Ann Hess from Honeymoon Sweets. Council voted on the item (#16) on the agenda which recognized Ms. Hess for her contributions.

The item was approved to be included at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

RESOLUTION: HONEYMOON SWEETS, HESS, MARY ANNE, RECOGNIZING, 2017-12 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hess the owner of Niagara's Honeymoon Sweets received and accepted an invitation from the New York State Society of Washington D.C. to attend the inauguration of the  $45^{\rm th}$  president of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Mary Anne made the trip to the capital representing Niagara Falls and the State of New York at the 45<sup>th</sup>, inauguration where she and her chocolates participated in a show, where she made sure to show off her hometown with 13 handcrafted chocolate frames featuring images from around Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne has also participated in the swearing in ceremony of former president Barack Obama also by invitation, other high profile events such as the Grammy's, the Emmys and the Oscars to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hess has done an outstanding job of representing Western New York and the City of Niagara Falls,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby recognize Mary Anne Hess of Niagara's Honeymoon Chocolates for her outstanding work and for the recognition and promotion of our city. We also honor her and recognize her great accomplishments over the years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls, New York we do recognize in Mary Anne Hess an outstanding citizen worthy of this honor, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our state and federal representatives that they may make note of her accomplishments.

Yeas Nays 5 0 ADOPTED

Mayor Dyster and the Council presented the Resolution to Ms. Hess.

Councilman Touma moved to remove from the table the resolution relative to amending Chapter 365 of the codified ordinance entitled Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers. Yeas 3 Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma Nays 2 Scott, Chairman Walker Councilman Touma moved to amend the item, the Corporation Council

read the amendment. Yeas 3 Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma Nays 2 Scott, Chairman Walker

AMENDED

This session ended at 6:12 P.M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:22 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Tompkins and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council Member Ezra Scott JR., read transcripts about the meaning of the fist pump salute's history and it being an expression of solidarity and spoke about Black History Month.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Dave Bieksza Gerald Skrlin	Agenda Item #15 Agenda Item #13		
Roger Wingo	Agenda Item #15		
Nicholas Forester			
Ken Hamilton	Agenda Items #9, #15		
Vince Anello	Agenda Items #2, #9, #10, #14		
Mike Parsnick	Commend City's endeavor for refugees; Lodge on Goat		
	Island; downtown hotels paying taxes		
Bill Carroll	Importance of Discovery Shuttle; SPCA		
Gerald Skrlin	Statue on Circle; Political Elite; Promoting the		
	City		
Dr. Joseph DiPasquale	1 1		
Mark Diodate	Support Councilman Scott on solidarity		
Dana Carr, Jr.	Taxicab/Livery Ordinance; regulate medallions		
Nicole Carr	Medallions; A-1 Taxi		
Ken Hamilton Event Center due diligence by Council; taxi cabs,			
	Liveries, ambulance drivers; properly regulating		
	Medallions		
Alysia Welch-Chester	Possibilities of people speaking up & doing Community work; Black History Month		
Amber Hill	Solidarity; Black History Month		
Mick	Taxicab issue; need City support of medallions		
Damon DeCastro	People who sold medallions		

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CLAIM REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: OLD STONE CHIMNEY SITE INTERPRETATION, CONSULTANT, TROWBRIDGE WOLFE MICHAELS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Agenda Item #2

The Planning Office will be working with a small steering committee representing, at a minimum, the Historic Preservation Commission and Tourism Advisory Board with the goal of more appropriately interpreting the historic significance of the Old Stone Chimney/Dean Adams hydraulic canal and the surrounding "River View Park" Site through signage and landscape design (Old Stone Chimney History on file in the City Clerk's Office).

The Niagara River View Park Site is an essential component of the City's Waterfront Revitalization Program, fully described in the original study completed in 1988 by Saratoga Associates and approved as part of the City's 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

The City had recently been awarded a Niagara River Greenway Commission grant to work with NYPA, the owner of the Old Stone Chimney and New York State Park Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation to develop a historically appropriate interpretation for the Old Stone Chimney and site. The Niagara River Greenway Commission grant award is in the amount of \$200,000.00. Other the staff "in-kind" services, no City funds will be used for this project. As such, there is no cash contribution or other cash

disbursement required in accepting this award or in completing the Project. Total project expenditures will not exceed \$200,000.00.

Therefore, to effect the intended purpose of the grant, the Development of Planning Environmental & Economic Development solicited proposals for professional services, and is now recommending that the proposal from Trowbride Wolfe Michaels Landscape Architects LLP be accepted in the, not to exceed, amount of \$20,835.00.

Will the Council vote to accept the Niagara River Greenway Commission grant, approve the contract award Trowbride Wolfe Michaels Landscape Architects LLP and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary, in form and in content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel, to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0

APPROVED Council Woman Grandinetti stated that no City funds is being used for this & it is a Historical Site.

CONTRACT: SIGN/BILLBOARD CODE, CONSULTANT, STEINMETZ PLANNING GROUP

Agenda Item #3

The Planning Environmental & Economic Development, Law, and Code Enforcement Departments will be working with the Niagara Falls Board as the Steering Committee along with business owners and other members of the public with the goal of drafting a new updated Sign and Bill Board Ordinance.

In updating the Sign Code, the City will establish a new comprehensive system of sign controls governing the display, design, construction, installation, and maintenance of signs. The new Sign Code will incorporated into the Niagara Falls Zoning Ordinance resulting, in a document that is better organized, easily referenced, and more comprehensible by both staff and the general public, while also being reflective of the community's vision.

A brief overview of SPG and its relevant project experience, as well as the proposed scope, timeline, and fee are provided in detail and attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

In addition to staff-time to supplement this project, funding is currently available in the Tribal revenue Account. Total project expenditures will not exceed \$25,000.00.

Will the Council vote to approve the contract award to Steinmertz Planning Group and authorize the Mayor to execute and documents necessary, in form and in content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel, to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays

5 0

APPROVED

Agenda Item #4

The City Council designated Gary Bevilacqua, Eugene Oshal, Frederick Pucci and Rocco Zendano as City Marshals with terms that expired on December 31, 2016. It is recommended that these four (4) individuals be re-appointed to terms expiring on December 31, 2018.

They will continue to provide satisfactory insurance coverage naming the City of Niagara Falls, New York as additional insured and their remuneration will continue to be limited to the fees that they collect for services rendered.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

CONTRACT: 3625 HIGHLAND AVENUE BUSINESS PARK, ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION, MARK CERRONE INC.

Agenda Item #5

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Mark Cerrone Inc., 2368 Maryland Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY, on September 6, 2016 in an amount of \$153,635.00.

The project for buildings #2 and #3 required additional abatement work for unanticipated and necessary asbestos remediation work. In addition, un-safe areas of contamination and necessary demolition were required to be performed by our qualified contractor. The cost for both buildings associated with remediation and demolition is \$76,825.22

Furthermore, during the course work, subsequent cost savings of \$6,289.00 were realized to offset increases.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$70,536.22 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$224,171.17 Sufficient funds presently exist in the City's Economic Development Department project fund for 3625 Highland Avenue Business Park, approved by City Council.

Will the Council vote to so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas Nays

0 APPROVED

5

CONTRACT: TENTH STREET/CEDAR AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION & INSPECTION SERVICES, FOIT ALBERT ASSOCIATES

#### Agenda Item #6

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Foit Albert Associates, P.C., on May 29, 2007 in an amount of \$555,000.00. Change Orders request to date bring the total contract amount to \$1,685,197.35

The prime contractor for the Tenth Street/Cedar Avenue project abandoned the job in 2011 before completion and never returned. Since then, the City has settled litigation and can move forward with the remaining funding to correct defective and uncompleted work.

This Change Order covers Professional Engineering Services for design, contract documents, engineering services associated with administering the contract to completion and full time inspection in accordance with the NYSDOT standards specifications and the LAFAP manual.

This project was funded with Federal Highway money as a NYSDOT pass-through project. The NYSDOT is requesting that the project be "closed-out" in order protect the City from having to refund monies we have been reimbursed for earlier work. The City's Engineering staff has been in contact with Foit-Albert Associates and have negotiated for the services to complete said project in the amount of \$139,000.00 As a Federal pass-through project it is still eligible for reimbursement at the standard 80% -20% split and a portion of funding is also reimbursable under N.Y. State Marchiselli funding. It is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #5 be approved in the amount of \$139,000.00 with funding for this change order still available in the original project funding Code H0921.9901.0000.0900.H0632. Will the council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED CONTRACT: CENTRE COURT POOL, LINING OF MAIN DRAIN, DYNA MOLE LLC Agenda Item #7 The following is the result of bids received on May 4, 2016 for the above referenced project: CONTRACTOR BASE BID Dyna Mole LLC \$44,193.56 195 Dewey Avenue Rochester NY 14608 It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder Dyna Mole LLC at their total bid of \$44,193.56. Funding is available from casino funds. Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT., LEAD PARKING ATTENDANTS, PARKING ATTENDANTS, WAGE INCREASES

Agenda Item #8

The Director of the Department of Public Works ("DPW") is requesting that the hourly wage for Lead Parking Attendants and Parking Attendants be increased. Presently Lead Parking Attendants make \$11.00 per hour and Parking Attendants make \$9.75 per hour. It is requested that the hourly wage for Lead Parking Attendants be increased to \$15.00 per hour and the hourly wage for Parking Attendants be increased to \$11.00 per hour. These are seasonal employees. The Lead Parking Attendants have taken on all duties related to the new parking meters. Those duties include but are not limited to cash collection, cash balancing, cash deposits, banking, troubleshooting any maintenance issues as well as snow removal on and around the meters. The Parking Attendants new wage no longer includes Step 2, 3 or 4. The proposed increase will meet the New York State minimum wage increase and will remain in compliance through the end of 2018.

Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a spreadsheet reflecting the cost of this increase which is anticipated to be \$32,237.41, inclusive of FICA.

Funds are available through budgeted funds. Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas

Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker Nays Scott

APPROVED

4

1

Council Member Scott stated that there should be contracts. Council Member Touma stated that we are fortunate to have responsible people for these positions.

CONVENTION CENTER/ARENA, FEASIBILITY STUDY

### Agenda Item #9

My understanding from a communication from Samuel M. Ferraro, Commissioner of Niagara County Department of Economic Development dated January 13, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office), is that Niagara County has allocated \$50,000.00 towards the cost of a feasibility study to determine the necessity for a new convention center/arena in Niagara Falls. My further understanding is that Senator Ortt's office will also be contributing up to \$50,000.00 for this feasibility study. Based upon and contingent upon the \$50,000.00 allocation from Niagara County and the up to \$50,000.00 allocation from the office of Senator Ortt, it is requested that the City of Niagara Falls also contribute up to \$50,000.00 towards the cost of such a feasibility study.

The City's contribution, as described above, is contingent upon the funding described from the County as well as the office of Senator Ortt, and is also contingent upon the approval by the City's Law Department as well as the City's Office of Planning and Economic Development as to the content and terms and conditions contained in a Request for Proposals for such a feasibility study developed by the Niagara County Department of Economic Development.

Funding is available from casino revenues.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

Council Woman Grandinetti agonized over her decision but she was convinced by the City Administrator & Ken Hamilton. Council Member Touma said we are working with Senator Ortt's office & the County on this. Chairman Walker stated that collaboration with all opens door for other Projects. CONTRACT: CENTENNIAL CIRCLE WATERMAIN RELOCATIONS, YARUSSI CONSTRUCTION

Agenda Item #10 The following were the result of bids received on January 31, 2017 for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR	BASE	BID
Yarussi Construction Inc. 5650 Simmons Ave. Niagara Falls NY 14304	\$184,560.00	
Scott Lawn Yard Mark Cerrone Inc. Accadia Site Contracting Inc.	\$228,905.00 \$272,235.00 \$399,650.00	

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder Yarussi Construction Inc., Inc. at their total bid of \$184,560.00. Funding of \$150,000.00 is available from Greenway and \$34,560.00 from casino.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be

received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas

Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker Nays Tompkins

APPROVED Council Woman Grandinetti said there are a lot of pieces that fit into this. Council Member Tompkins can't see spending so much money & it should be the responsibility of the Water Board. Council Member Touma said we are lacking in culture & this would be a start.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

CLAIM: NY CENTRAL MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O WILLIAM & ANNA HARTMAN

Agenda Item #11

Date Claim Filed: Date Action Commenced: Date(s) of Occurrence: Location:

Nature of Claim:

City Driver: Status of Action: Recommendation/Reason:

Amount to be Paid: Make Check Payable to:

Conditions:

August 18, 2014 August 27, 2015 June 6, 2014 Intersection of 24th Street and Grand Avenue Damages from collision with City vehicle Ryan Mackie Pre-trial Stage Best interests of City to pay claim. \$5,564.63 New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company a/s/o William and Anna Hartman General Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel.

4

1

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Nays APPROVED CLAIM: SWANSON, FATEMA Agenda Item #12 Date Claim Filed: September 13, 2016 Date Action Commenced: N/A Date of Occurrence: September 10, 2016 Location: 1707 Ferry Avenue Nature of Claim: Tree branch fell on vehicle City Driver: N/A Status of Action: Claim stage. Best interests of City to pay Recommendation/Reason: claim. Amount to be Paid: \$2423.89 Make Check Payable to: Fatema Swanson General Release to City, approved by Corporation Conditions: Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 Nays 0 APPROVED RESOLUTION: PUBLIC HEARING, ALLEY ABANDONMENT, 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup> STS, SOUTH OF ORLEANS AVENUE, 2017-13 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #13 WHEREAS, the adjoining property owner has requested the abandonment a portion of the alley running north/south between 24th and 25th Streets, south of Orleans Avenue; and WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended to Council that this request be approved; and WHEREAS, this Council declares its intention to abandon said alley portion. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the abandonment of the aforementioned alley portion, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of intention to discontinue and abandon the said alley portion in the official newspaper once a week for two successive weeks preceding February 21, 2017. Yeas 5 Nays 0 ADOPTED

Council Woman Grandinetti said the abandonment would be a help. Council Member Touma voted yes to the Public Hearing. RESOLUTION: RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT, WAIVER, 2017-14 BY: COUNCILMEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls has been without a City Engineer since April 2013, and the absence of the engineer has caused significant hardship for the City both financially and operationally; and

hardship for the City both financially and operationally; and WHEREAS, since April 2013, the City has conducted several local and nationwide searches for candidates for the City Engineer position. All of these searches have proven to be unsuccessful as a number of qualified candidates have been either unable or unwilling to comply with the City's Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, which requires all newly hired City employees to become residents of the City within six months of their date of hire; and

WHEREAS, one of these candidates, John A. Gerlach, is at the top of the City's list for potential City Engineers; however, Mr. Gerlach is a resident of Youngstown, New York and is unable to relocate due to personal/family circumstances; and

WHEREAS, a copy of John A. Gerlach's resume (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, provides that this Council may, by resolution, waive the requirement of residency for newly hired employees if it determines that enforcing the Local Law is not in the best interest of the City; and

WHEREAS, it is obvious that there is a lack of qualified applicants for the City Engineer position residing within the City or unwilling to accept the City Engineer position if required to comply with the City's residency requirement and, further, that enforcing the residency requirement for a new City Engineer is not in the best interest of the City since the most qualified candidate for the position is not a City resident and is unable to relocate into the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened, does hereby grant a waiver pursuant to Section 6 of Local Law #7 for the Year 1984, as amended, to John A. Gerlach, exempting him from the residency requirements contained in said Local Law for the specific purpose of the hiring of John A. Gerlach as City Engineer, and it is further

RESOLVED, that this waiver shall continue for the duration of Mr. Gerlach's employment with the City, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the City Administrator of the City of Niagara Falls, New York are hereby authorized to effectuate said waiver in relation to the hiring of John A. Gerlach for the City Engineer position.

Yeas Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma Nays

Scott, Chairman Walker

2 ADOPTED

Council Woman Grandinetti said she is a high believer in residency requirement, however, the Engineering Dept. is in need of a Director. Council Member Scott said he met with the gentleman considered. He also said that we could find talent that would move to Niagara Falls. Council Member Tompkins said he agrees with Council Woman Grandinetti. Council Member Touma based his decision on fact & this will make the Engineering Dept. more efficient. Chairman Walker stated that we've had opportunities for someone that

will live in the City.

RESOLUTION: DRIP PROGRAM, WATER BOARD, REINSTATEMENT, 2017-15 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, certain neighborhoods in the City have been adversely affected by water lines that tend to freeze during certain periods of inclement weather; and

WHEREAS, in prior years, the Niagara Falls Water Board ("NFWB") has enacted a "drip program" which allowed certain residents on a list developed by the NFWB to participate in a program that allowed those residents up to 2,500 cubic feet of water usage at no charge for keeping their faucets running at all times during periods of time in the winter months in an effort to keep pipes from freezing; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has learned that the NFWB is planning to discontinue the drip program going forward and this City Council believes that the drip program is an important resource for residents in order to help guard against frozen water lines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council does hereby request that the NFWB reinstate the drip program and make it available to residents as it has in the past.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the NFWB. Yeas 5

Nays

5 0 ADOPTED

Council Member Touma said the Water Board doesn't play by the rules. Council Chairman Walker said the idea of City & Water Board separation was a bad idea.

RESOLUTION: HONEYMOON SWEETS, HESS, MARY ANNE, RECOGNIZING, 2017-12 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #16 THIS ITEM WAS AMENDED AND APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING RESOLUTION: OASIS, FEE WAIVER, SERTOMA CLUB, 2017-16 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Sertoma Club wishes to do its part in helping those in our city who are considered less fortunate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that the City of Niagara Falls does hereby waive the fee for rental of the Oasis at Hyde Park for the Niagara Falls Sertoma Club Annual Chicken Barbecue (request letter on file in the City Clerk's Office), to be held on Sunday, August 20, 2017. This is one of their main fundraisers that help support various organizations throughout the City.

Yeas Nays 5 0 ADOPTED

43

RESOLUTION: TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-17 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #18 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Tourism Advisory Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name: APPOINTMENT: TERM EXPIRES: Christian G. Printup 12/31/2017 310 Fourth Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303p Yeas 5 Nays 0 ADOPTED RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA Agenda Item #19 THIS ITEM WAS TABLED NO ACTION WAS TAKEN Yeas 4 Grandinetti, Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker Nays 1 Touma TABLED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk



### **FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

# **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

## NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the February 21, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:03 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson and Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of February 6, 2017.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

RESOLUTION: BRADLEY, PATRICK J., REV. DEACON, HONORING, 2017-18 BY: COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI

Agenda Item #20

WHEREAS, Reverend Deacon Patrick J. Bradley, has served as chaplain to the Niagara Falls Fire and Police Department for many years; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Deacon Bradley has also served our country in the New York Army National Guard in 1980 as a heavy anti-armor weapons squad leader and chaplain's assistant. Reverend Bradley was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant (E-5) in 1986; and

WHEREAS, in May 2000, Patrick Bradley was ordained and is currently serving the Lord as Deacon of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley has been married to the former Linda Hamilton since 1982. They have an adult son, Joshua; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley is currently a member of Diocesan Council - Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, Bishop's Advisory Committee on Deacons-Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, Western New York Stress Reduction Program (provides educational and interventional critical incident stress management services to Western New York's emergency services providers), Niagara Ministerial Council, International Conference of Police Chaplains, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, New York State Association of Fire Chaplains, Riverdale Cemetery Association Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Bradley is currently employed at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Director of Public Relations and Communications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that this City Council does hereby recognize Reverend Deacon Patrick J. Bradley for his outstanding service as chaplain to the Niagara Falls Fire Department, Niagara Falls Police Department and the Niagara Falls community.

Yeas Nays 5 0 ADOPTED The Rev. Patrick Bradley received an award for his service to the fire and police department. A resolution was read by the City Clerk honoring Rev Bradley for his many accomplishments. Rev. Bradley gave a speech thanking the city for the honor.

The City administrator spoke about Zombie Legislation. He stated that inspections and citations are currently being conducted. The administrators office is also gathering a list of problem sidewalks and potholes. Any problems can be reported to the administrators office or to the Department of Public Works.

Mayor Dyster spoke on the poverty initiatives which address job opportunities, transportation problems for those seeking jobs as well as other concerns for equality in job creation.

Councilman Ezra Scott questioned the Mayor about the replacement Pedestrian Bridge across Goat Island. The Mayor discussed a meeting with State Parks which took place last year. The State presented numerous designs for the bridge and comments were recorded during that meeting. The Mayor stated that the project lacks funding at this point. This is a long term future project and any updates will be submitted to the council. Councilwoman Grandinetti asked if there were any other projects in conjunction with the bridge project. The Mayor stated that there are other projects which are part of the efforts to improve the island.

Ended at 5:20 PM.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Scott and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Walker announced a Special Order of Business, a Public Hearing relative to the abandonment of a portion of the alley running North/South between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25 Streets, South of Orleans Avenue and asked if there were any speakers relative thereto. Ron Anderluh Dairy Queen building new building and the alley is Needed for this construction

THERE WERE NO FURTHER SPEAKERS

The Chairman a	sked if	anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or
Community Interests,	and the	following spoke:
Galen Bailey	Agenda	Items #7, #17
Ron Anderluh	Agenda	Item #17
Harvey Albond	Agenda	Item #17
Helen Kress	Agenda	Items #7, #17
Kathie Kudela	Agenda	Item #7
Lynne Neveu	Agenda	Items #7, #17
Robert Borgati	Agenda	Items #7, #17
Sara Capen	Agenda	Item #7
Damon DeCastro		Item #17
Tim Huether	Agenda	Items #2, #3, #7, #17
Nicholas Baio	Agenda	Item #17
Linda Tomkiel	Agenda	Item #17
Margaret Topor	Agenda	Items #7, #17
Tim Baxter	Agenda	Item #7
Robert Emerson	Agenda	Item #7
Tom Chambers	Agenda	Item #7
John Kinney	Agenda	Item #7
Tod Kniarzuk	Agenda	Item #7
Bill Kennedy	Agenda	Item #17
Harvey Albond	Asking	Council to propose electricity from Power
	Author	ity; Niagara Falls to walk on 2 legs, Tourism
	and Ind	dustry

Jamie Caldwell	Lodge bad idea; crime problems, roads; paying high
	utilities; take care of people who live here;
	Political nonsense
Damon DeCastro	The odor from the plants
Robert Porter	Accountability; Niagara Falls needs to be the jewel
	of the State again; chemical plants leaving the
	City; Crime rate
Mark Diodate	Lodge on Goat Island; new development; find a
	Location for new Lodge
Earl Bass	Against the Lodge; so much rich history here;
	Highest water rates in the country
Vince Anello	Parkway drawings; John Daly Blvd.; revenue from
	the Power Authority; Lodge on Goat Island; yes to
	the shuttle
Cynthia Sgro	Thanks to Council Member Tompkins on helping with
	the Zombie home next to her home; Council Member
	Tompkins said that home is on the top of the list
Daniello DiPalma	Lodge; preserving natural environment; tourism;
Danielezio Dirazina	Work together with the State
Pat Gall	Object to referring it as a Lodge not Hotel; 3
140 0411	Sisters Island is a sanctuary
	Sisters istand is a sametadiry

COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI STATED THAT SHE HAS JUST HEARD FROM THE GOVERNORS OFFICE THAT NEW PROPOSALS FOR THE LODGE WAS PROMISED. THERE WILL BE MULTIPLE MEETINGS WITH THE PUBLIC AND THEY ARE LISTENING TO US

Charles Lamb	In light of the news from Council Woman Grandinetti,
	will not speak on the Lodge
Pat Scremin	Contacted organizations on Gov. Cuomo's speech that
	contained the Lodge on Goat Island proposal
Robert Ventry	Benefits from Casino; State should work for better jobs

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED NO ACTION TAKEN

#### THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR

CONTRACT: HYDE PARK PLAYGROUND, DRAINAGE SYSTEM, SCOTT LAWN YARD

Agenda Item #2

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to Scott Lawn Yard on July 11, 2016 in the amount of \$133,265.00. Subsequent to the start of the project, intermittent pockets of

Subsequent to the start of the project, intermittent pockets of clay and spongy soils necessitated the installation of area drainage. The drainage system installed allowed <u>both</u> the star-shaped geometry of the playground to be drained efficiently while preserving the safety surface warranty. The cost of these improvements, along with minor quantity overruns, is \$43,750.00. Funding is available in Community Development.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a change order in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays

0 APPROVED

5

CONTRACT:  $70^{\mbox{\tiny TH}}$  ST. PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION, GARDENVILLE LANDSCAPE & NURSERY

Agenda Item #3 The following was the result of bids received on February 6, 2017, for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR Gardenville Landscape & Nursery LLC 3069 Clinton St.	BASE BID \$105,572.50	<u>ALT. #1</u> \$4,036.00
West Seneca NY 14224 Yarussi Construction Inc. Titan Development	\$131,135.00 \$134,700.00	\$8,018.40 \$6,136.00

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the low bidder, Gardenville Landscape & Nursery LLC at the combination of their base bid and alternate price of: \$109,608.50. Funding is available through Community Development.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be

received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Nays

5 0 APPROVED

CITY PROPERTY: MCKOON AVE., 2878, SALE, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Agenda Item #4

Habitat for Humanity of Niagara County (Habitat) requests purchase approval of 2878 McKoon Avenue for \$500. As with recent purchases/renovations, Habitat agrees to:

- Renovate the home for an owner that must agree to own and live in the home as prime occupant for no less than five years and pay all applicable property taxes.
- Renovate the home to meet code compliance within one year of purchase.

Sale of 2878 McKoon Avenue was recommended by the Niagara Falls Planning Board on May 11, 2016, as part of the 2016 Home Ownership Auction. As noted in a September 2016 City Council Agenda item, the successful bidder for 2878 McKoon Avenue elected to forfeit his rights to the property, prior to closing. There were no other interested bidders to contact, per Home Ownership Auction guidelines. As the house does have structural issues, it is the opinion of Niagara Falls Community Development that this disposition makes more sense than waiting for a future home ownership auction.

As Habitat is currently successfully renovating other formerly city owned properties, the sale of 2878 McKoon Avenue is a sensible fit. Habitat is also in need for additional renovation candidates, as flood plain restrictions in the Echota neighborhood are preventing previously planned renovations.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays

0 APPROVED

5

Agenda Item #5

In the past, the City has served as a contractor for the Niagara County Office for the Aging by providing information and assistance services to persons 60 years old or older who meet Office for the Aging eligibility requirements. These services are performed at 1201 Hyde Park Boulevard, Niagara Falls, New York. The City is paid an amount not to exceed \$9,025.00 for these services. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be

received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Navs

5 0 APPROVED

APPROVED

#### CITY CONTROLLER OFFICE: CITY CONTROLLER, APPOINTMENT

Agenda Item #6

As part of my plans relative to the City Controller's office for the calendar year 2017, I am hereby removing Sandra Peploe from the office of City Controller, effective end of business day February 24, 2017. I thank her for her service and dedication to the City of Niagara Falls.

Pursuant to Section 2.3 of the City Charter, I am hereby appointing Daniel Morello (resume on file in the City Clerk's Office) to the office of City Controller, effective February 27, 2017. As per the 2017 adopted budget, the salary for the City Controller's position is \$95,000.00.

Will the Council vote to confirm the removal of Sandra Peploe from the office of City Controller and the appointment of Daniel Morello to the office of City Controller? Council Member Gandinetti moved that the communication be received

and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas	3
Grandinetti, Touma, Chairman Walker	
Nays	1
Scott	
Abstain	1
Tompkins	

Agenda Item was amended to delete the Deputy City Controller from the item.

Agenda Item #7

It is requested that the City contribute the sum of \$100,000.00 to support the continued operation of the Discover Niagara Shuttle. During its first year in operation during the tourist season of 2016, the shuttle transported approximately 33,000 visitors and local people between Niagara Falls State Park and Old Fort Niagara with another dozen stops along the Niagara Gorge corridor. This is a way to connect the broader Niagara region to the county's tourist center in Niagara Falls.

During the first year of the operation of the Discover Niagara Shuttle, contributors included the USA Niagara Development Corp., the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the New York Power Authority, the NFNHA and the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corp. Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Council Woman Grandinetti said that she use to be in the Hospitality

Grandinetti, Scott, Chairman Walker Nays Tompkins, Touma 3

APPROVED

Field and we need to invest in the City. This is a 1 time asking and it is an awesome thing. This is not taxpayer money. Council Member Scott said that Sara is a hard worker who believes in this investment. Council Member Tompkins stated that Tourism Funds were all spent last year and we should give them a lesser amount of money. Council Member Touma said this is a difficult decision with all the discussion from tonight. They received no money from the City for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. He added that \$50,000.00 should be given and have other municipalities invest. Chairman Walker said that Niagara Falls is taking care of Niagara Falls

and we need to invest in the Tourism market. We need to work with other cities on this.

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION

 $37^{\mbox{\tiny TH}}$  ST. BETWEEN WALNUT & PINE AVES., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING

Agenda Item #8

At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON  $37^{\rm th}$  STREET BETWEEN WALNUT AVENUE & PINE AVENUE

A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 59.1% signatures.

Submitted By: Jenna Seintan, 639 - 37<sup>th</sup> Street and Petition/Residents of Block

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED

90<sup>TH</sup> ST. BETWEEN LUICK AVE. & BROOKSIDE DR., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING Agenda Item #9 At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item: INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON 90<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN LUICK AVENUE & BROOKSIDE DRIVE A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 69% signatures. Garold B. Acker, 1116 - 90th Street and Submitted By: Petition/Residents of Block It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Navs APPROVED MAPLE AVE. BETWEEN BELL ST. & HUDSON DR., INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING Agenda Item #10 At a Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item: INSTALL ALTERNATE OVERNIGHT PARKING ON MAPLE AVENUE BETWEEN BELL STREET & HUDSON DRIVE A Petition from the residents of this block was received with 59.3% signatures. Lynn Beach, 1340 Maple Avenue and Submitted By: Petition/Residents of Block It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Nays APPROVED 718 BUFFALO AVE., INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE Agenda Item #11 At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended <u>APPROVAL</u> of the following item: INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE IN FRONT OF 718 BUFFALO AVENUE [Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received] Submitted Bv: Susan Maffei, 718 Buffalo Avenue, #1 It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays APPROVED

3328 CHURCH AVE., INSTALL 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE

Agenda Item #12

At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following item:

INSTALL A 5' HANDICAPPED ACCESS SPACE IN FRONT OF 3328 CHURCH AVENUE

[Physician verification of wheelchair dependency and/or severe restriction of movement, has been received]

Submitted By: Nimire Burnett, 3328 Church Avenue

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas Navs 0

APPROVED

333 RAINBOW BLVD., INSTALL "2 HOUR PARKING RESTRICTION" ON THE WEST SIDE OF  $4^{\rm TH}$  ST., ALONG THE WINGATE BY WYNDHAM HOTEL, IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE HOTEL'S PORTE-COCHERE AND THE PARKING LOT DRIVEWAY, AMENDED

Agenda Item #13 At the Traffic Advisory Commission meeting held on February 7, 2017 the Commission recommended APPROVAL of the following AMENDED item:

INSTALL "2 HOUR PARKING RESTRICTION" ON THE WEST SIDE OF  $4^{\rm TH}$  STREET, ALONG THE WINGATE BY WYNDHAM HOTEL, 333 RAINBOW BLVD, IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE HOTEL'S PORTE-COCHERE AND THE PARKING LOT DRIVEWAY

This request was made, for this 90' long area, to encourage turnover in parking by preventing all day parkers for patrons of a soon to be opening restaurant which will be located within the hotel.

Submitted By:

Frank Strangio, Vice President, Plati Niagara Inc., 7708 Niagara Falls Boulevard

It is requested that City Council approve this recommendation. Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Navs 5 0 APPROVED

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS, APPOINTMENTS

Agenda Item #14 Shawn Bosi NFPD James Bragg Planning Department John Caso DPW Roger Freeman NFPD Joseph Giaquinto NFPD Nicholas A. Melson Jennifer L. Myers Administration DPW Nicholas Paonessa NFPD David Tothill Billing & Collection City Clerk's Office Lisa A. Vitello Nadine Wasson City Clerk's Office 52

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Victor Acevedo Jr.2418 Willow Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14305Matthew Bergey4715 Isherwood Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304Candice Creamer640 Oxbow Lane, Lewiston, NY 14092Ni'Jae Davis18 C Fackard Ct., Niagara Falls, NY 14304Damon A. DeCastro II1531 Lake Rd., Youngstown, NY 14174Rebecca Dyster626 Orchard Pkwy., Niag. Falls, NY 14301Deffery Flach723 3rd St., Apt. 31, Niag. Falls, NY 14301Peggy Frame8431 Buff.Ave., Apt. #16, Niag. Falls, NY 14304Evonne D. Holstrom6700 Lindbergh Ave., Niag. Falls, NY 14304James Joyce2744 Thornwoods Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304Michelle Kelly6921 Nash Rd., N.Tonawanda, NY 14120Kathy E. Kephart6425 Sherman Dr., Lockport, NY 14094Gail Merino9365 Rivershore Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304Allison M. Moore642 19th St., Niagara Falls, NY 14304Rozanne Muto40 Livingston Place, Lockport, NY 14094Matthew M. Peunic Jr.8015 Frontier Ave., Niag. Falls, NY 14304Chelsea Raymond579 Homestead Dr., N. Tonawanda, NY 14120Diana Restaino826 College Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14301Jane Travis1369 Caravelle Dr., Niag. Falls, NY 14304Randal Ubriaco837 15th St., Niagara Falls, NY 14301Dennifer Weigel1866 Saunders Settlement Rd., Niag.Falls, NY 14303Nadine C. Wilson839 Barberry Pl., Niagara Falls, NY 14303 Jennifer Weigel 454 27<sup>th</sup> St., Lower, Niag. Falls, NY 14303 Nadine C. Wilson 839 Barberry Pl., Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL CLAIM: GRAY FURNACE SERVICE Agenda Item #15 Date Claim Filed: August 24, 2016 N/Ã Date Action Commenced: Date of Occurrence: July 7, 2016 2700 block of Pierce Avenue Location: Automobile damage sustained in Nature of Claim: collision with City vehicle City Driver: Carmen Tripi Status of Action: Claim Stage Recommendation/Reason: Best interests of City to pay claim. Amount to be Paid: \$896.94 Make Check Payable to: Gray Furnace Service General Release to City approved by Corporation Conditions: Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays

APPROVED

CLAIM: HARRIS, TESSIA C. Agenda Item #16 February 22, 2013 July 8, 2013 Date Claim Filed: Date Claim Filed: Date Action Commenced: Date of Occurrence: January 18, 2013 Intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Street Location: and Niagara Avenue Nature of Claim: Injuries and damages sustained in collision with City vehicle City Driver: John Rosino Status of Action: Post-Liability Trial Stage Recommendation/Reason: Best interests of City to pay claim. Amount to be Paid: \$125,000.00 Cellino & Barnes, P.C. and Tessia C. Harris Make Check Payable to: Conditions: Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Nays APPROVED RESOLUTION: NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK, FURTHER COMMERCIALIZATION, 2017-19 BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA Agenda Item #17 WHEREAS, the Park was established by an act of the New York State

WHEREAS, the Park was established by an act of the New York State Legislature which was the result of a widespread effort known as "Free Niagara."; and

WHEREAS, the Free Niagara Movement was an effort to deindustrialize the parklands surrounding the falls and portions of the Upper Niagara River and created State Park in a natural setting, free to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Park was designed by noted Landscape Architect, Frederick Law Olmsted; and

WHEREAS, As Olmsted implied: any commercial undertaking into which the state was entering, would be in competition with the people of the village of Niagara and... It is a sufficient answer to say that there is no point in the reservation at which a house can be placed that is more than ten minute walk or five minute drive from hotels and restaurants standing on land of private ownership." - Thus, giving any state sponsored development of the park an unfair and ...an unfair advantage over private ownership near the park; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to the Niagara Falls State Park number more than eight million every year, making it the most profitable park in the state of New York, there is no justification for further commercialization to be in competition with the City of Niagara Falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, does hereby respectfully requests Governor Andrew Cuomo; and the State of New York, cease efforts to further commercialize Niagara Falls State Park and redirect State resources toward promoting Economic Development within the guidelines of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Yeas Nays

To Table was defeated

RESOLUTION: NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK, FURTHER COMMERCIALIZATION BY: COUNCILWOMAN GRANDINETTI Agenda Item #18 THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA NO ACTION WAS TAKEN RESOLUTION: PLANNING BOARD, APPOINTMENT, 2017-20 BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER Agenda Item #19 WHEREAS, there is currently one vacant seat on the Planning Board, due to the resignation of Lisa Vitello. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Planning Board effective for the unexpired term that expires on the date opposite his name shown below: APPOINTMENT: TERM: Richard D. Smith 12/31/2018 1021 96th Street Niagara Falls, Ny 14304 Yeas 3 Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker 2 Nays Grandinetti, Touma ADOPTED RESOLUTION: BRADLEY, PATRICK J., REV. DEACON, HONORING, 2017-18 BY: COUNCIL WOMAN KRISTEN GRANDINETTI Agenda Item #20 THIS ITEM WAS AMENDED AND APPROVED AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING AT 5:00 RESOLUTION: COMMUNITY MISSIONS, SWEETHEART DINNER, WAIVER OF PARKING FEES, 2017-21 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #21 WHEREAS, Community Missions held its 20th Annual Sweetheart Dinner on Friday, February 10, 2017 at the Conference and Event center in Niagara Falls, New York (request letter on file in the City Clerk's Office). NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that the City of Niagara Falls does hereby waive parking fees for the Community Missions for Friday, February 10, 2017. 5 Yeas Nays 0 ADOPTED Amendment was to correct date of the dinner RESOLUTION: ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ST. RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO 543 6TH ST., PUBLIC HEARING, 2017-22 BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER Agenda Item #22 WHEREAS, the adjoining property owner has requested the abandonment a portion of the 6th Street right-of-way adjacent to 543 - 6th Street; and WHEREAS, the Planning Board will act on its recommendation to Council at its meeting on February 22, 2017; and WHEREAS, this Council declares its intention to abandon said alley portion, subject to the recommendation of the Planning Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the abandonment of the aforementioned street portion, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of intention to discontinue and abandon the said alley portion in the official newspaper once a week for two successive weeks preceding March 6, 2017.

Yeas Nays

0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF THE ALLEY RUNNING NORTH/SOUTH BETWEEN 24th & 25th STS., SOUTH OF ORLEANS AVE. 2017-23 BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS SCOTT, TOMPKINS, CHAIRMAN WALKER

Agenda Item #23

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls desires to abandon a portion of the alley running north/south between 24th and 25th Street, south of Orleans Avenue, in order to facilitate the development of the real estate; and

WHEREAS, the City Council did, by resolution, give notice of its intention to abandon a portion of the aforementioned alley and did direct the City Clerk to publish notice of such intention and that a public hearing would be held by the City Council at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time and advise that all persons interested would be heard on that said time and place; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was duly held on February 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time in regards to said abandonment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that a portion of the alley running north/south between 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Streets south of Orleans Avenue, is hereby abandoned, the said abandoned alley portion subject, however, to reservation of right of and for the City of Niagara Falls, the Niagara Falls Water Board and any utility companies, their successors and assigns to use, maintain, repair, replace and continue to maintain their services and operations in said abandoned alley. The said alley portion is bounded and described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situated in the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the east line of the twelve (12) foot alley running north/south between  $24^{\rm th}$  and  $25^{\rm th}$  Streets with the north line of Niagara Street;

Thence north along said east line of the alley a distance of 99.72 feet to a point;

Thence west at a 90 degree angle a distance of twelve (12) feet to a point on the west line of said alley;

Thence south along said west line of the alley a distance of 99.72 feet to a point on the north line of Niagara Street; Thence east along the north line of Niagara Street a distance of

twelve (12) feet to the point and place of beginning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Niagara and that the Mayor may sign deeds or other documents desirable to effectuate this abandonment.

Yeas Nays

5 0 ADOPTED

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk

02/21/2017



### MARCH 20, 2017

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

### NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the March 20, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 6, 2017. Yeas Nays 0

APPROVED

Renee Kimble spoke about Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. She handed out Blue Pins to be worn in support of this to the Council Members. Councilmember Touma made a motion to amend the Agenda to vote on Agenda Item #15 at this time.

Yeas Nays 5 0 Motion to amend Agenda approved

RESOLUTION: COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, 2017-30 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #15

WHEREAS, Colorectal Cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the United States and the second leading cause of death from cancer, and WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects people in all racial and ethnic

groups and is most often found in people age 50 and older, and WHEREAS, the good news is if everyone age 50 and older were screened regularly, 6 out of 10 deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented, and

WHEREAS, Niagara County Cancer Services Program has involved the communities, families, and individuals in education and promotion of the importance of early detection, and

WHEREAS, we join people all over the United States in wearing blue during the month of March to bring attention to this deadly yet preventable disease, and encourage everyone to share the good news of early detection and prevention,

NOW THEREFORE Be it resolved that we the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls New York do hereby recognize March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and encourage all citizens 50 and over to contact your doctor and get your screening done.

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays

0 APPROVED

5

A Presentation was read by the City Clerk and was presented to Renee Kimble by the Council Members.

The Mayor and Administrator discussed the storm clean-up. The over-time budget due to this event was discussed by the City Administrator.

The Mayor and Administrator thanked the State of New York for their assistance in the clean-up efforts. The Administrator thanked DPW and others for their quick and thorough response to the clean-up.

The Administrator also thanked police and fire for their response to the wind storm damage. He also thanked Chief Dalporto for his management/help with damages due to these weather events.

Councilman Touma also thanked all involved, DPW, police and fire. He stated that residents were very pleased with the efforts of all departments involved.

The Administrator discussed tree removal efforts, now and in the future. He stated there were 1000 requests for tree removal and of those requests 264 trees have been taken down. He stressed the continued effort to remove trees that may pose a danger during storms of this nature. There must be an aggressive effort to dead and dying trees. Councilman Touma thanked the Administrator for his management during these difficult events.

The Mayor also thanked Superintendent Mark Laurrie for closing the schools without delay which aided in the clean-up efforts. The Mayor also thanked the Niagara Falls Water Board for their help in clearing fire hydrants during the storm. The Mayor and Administrator also discussed the changes to Legends

The Mayor and Administrator also discussed the changes to Legends Park. Chairman Walker asked for a time-line in regards to paving the parking lot. The Mayor stated that it will be completed shortly. Councilman Touma asked about a plan for street paving.

The Mayor discussed the issues with Whirlpool Street stating that it is part of the master plan for the RMP removal. The street will be totally reconstructed.

Councilman Tompkins questioned the change order regarding Agenda item #6, 3624 Highland Ave.

Councilman Walker questioned agenda item #10, the Taxi Advisory Committee. The Chairman inquired as to who would sit on this Committee.

Councilman Scott requested that all members of the Taxi Advisory Committee be residents of Niagara Falls.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed copies of 3 Agenda Items to be added and 1 Agenda Item to be Amended.

1. A Resolution relative to authorizing the use of City Buildings as Polling Places for the School Board Election.

Councilmember Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda Yeas 5 Nays 0

Motion to add Resolution to Agenda Approved The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #18

2. A Resolution relative to appointment to the Youth Board. Councilmember Tompkins moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda Yeas 5 Nays 0 Motion to add Resolution to Agenda Approved

The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #19

3. A Resolution relative to Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers Councilwoman Grandinetti moved to remove this from Table (originally from Meeting of January 23, 2017)

Yeas 3 Grandinetti, Tompkins, Touma Nays 2 Scott, Chairman Walker Motion to Remove from the Table Approved The Resolution was added to the Agenda as #21 66

4. An Amendment to Agenda Item #12 in the wording of that Item. Councilmember Touma moved to amend this Item 5 Yeas Nays 0 Motion to Amend the Communication Approved Council Chairman Walker read a statement thanking all the Government Agencies that helped in the snow removal for the City from the recent storm. Councilmember Touma moved to add this Resolution to the Agenda. Yeas 5 0 Nays Motion to add Resolution to the Agenda Approved This was added to the Agenda as #20

This session ended at 6:05 P. M.

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:15 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Chairman Walker and the Chairman also led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim HuetherAgenda Items #6, #14, #17Bill CarrollAgenda Item #14Judi PowellAgenda Item #16Dan DavisAgenda Item #12Diane TattersallAgenda Items #14, #17Ron AnderluhSnow removal, DFW; Neighbor to Neighbor meetingsDiane TattersallCell phone distraction

THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2017

Agenda Item #1 THIS ITEM WAS RECEIVED AND FILED CONTRACT: VARIOUS DILAPIDATED/FIRE DAMAGED BLDGS., BOARDING UP, CANDELLA CONSTRUCTION CORP., INC., FUNDING

Agenda Item #2 We respectfully request you award the above referenced bid as follows:

TO: Candella Construction Co., Inc. 6810 Laur Rd. Unit. 5A Niagara Falls, NY 14304

FOR: Boarding up of various dilapidated and fire damaged structures, both privately and publicly owned, deemed hazardous by the City of Niagara Falls, NY.

Price per square foot:

\$ 1.28

The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law. Notice that bids were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and bids were sent to six (6) vendors. One (1) bid was received. The above referenced company submitted the lowest bid.

Funds for this expenditure are in H.0910.2009.0910.0449.599. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas

Nays

0 APPROVED

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN, BLOCK GRANT

Agenda Item #3

The Niagara Falls Community Development Department requests Niagara Falls City Council approval of the draft Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Consolidated Action Plan. It is year three of our 2015-19 Five Year Strategic Plan. Based on our projections, it consists of \$2.8 million in federal investment, \$2.1 million in non-municipal matching funds for a \$4.9 million total leveraged plan. The draft FFY 2017 Community Development Action Plan consists of the following United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Rehabilitation Program, and Emergency Solutions Program (ESG).

Draft	2017	CDBG Amount:	\$2,304,029
Draft	2017	HOME Amount:	\$356 <b>,</b> 799
Draft	2017	ESG Amount:	\$201 <b>,</b> 874

These budgets are being presented to the City Council in draft form, based on estimate, to accommodate the city and federal governments' differing fiscal year budget schedules. HUD's final FFY allocations are generally posted in the spring of each calendar year. A final schedule for 2017 has not yet been set by the federal government. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department will request City Council approval of the final HUD allocations at that point. Historically, our draft budget estimates have been within 2 percent of our final allocations. Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council. The draft 2017 Community Development Consolidated Action Plan was built through a 16 week civic engagement process, which included discussion at 11 public meetings, public review of the draft budget since January 2017, online and print citizen surveys, an email address dedicated to dialogue and a 30 day public comment period. Our department also presented an overview of the draft plan to the City Council at its March 6, 2017 meeting. The Niagara Falls Community Development Department is confident that our process is a national model of transparent and well explained public engagement and budgeting.

Neighborhood Planning Meetings (2016 Dates)Tues., Nov. 1LaSalle Public Library, 8728 Buffalo Ave.Wed., Nov. 2City Hall Council Chambers, 745 Main St.Thurs., Nov. 3Maple Ave. School, Rm #5, 952 Maple Ave,Wed., Nov. 9NACC, Niagara Room, 1201 Pine Ave.Wed., Nov. 9Doris Jones Family Resource Bldg., 3001 - 9th St.Thurs., Nov. 10John Duke Center, 1201 Hyde Park Blvd.Tues., Nov. 15Neighborhood Housing Services, 479 - 16th St.Wed., Nov. 16LaSalle Senior Facility, 9501 Colvin Blvd.

Application/Approval Process Fri., Dec. 16/16 Application Submission Deadline Wed., Jan. 25 Draft Plan and Budget Available for Review Thurs., Feb. 2 Presentation of Draft 2017 Annual Plan & Budget Tues., Feb. 7 Pizza with the Plan - 1022 Main Street Feb. 2 - Mar 6th: 30-day Public Comment Period

Upon City Council approval, the draft action plan will be submitted to HUD for programmatic review and approval. The action plan is not finalized until HUD approves of it and the city's actual allocations are posted. Per HUD and City of Niagara Falls Citizen Participation Plan Guidelines, the city will adjust programmatic budgets to meet the final allocation without deviating from the project scopes or objectives already approved by the City Council. Will Council vote to approve the Draft FFY 2017 Community Development Action Plan?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas 4 Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker 1 Nays 1 Tompkins

APPROVED

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: CENTER CITY & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, CDBG BUDGET CHANGES

Agenda Item #4

Over the past few years, there have been discrepancies between the program delivery funding for Center City Neighborhood Development Corporation and Niagara Falls Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. shown in the Community Development action plans, the expectations of each of the two neighborhood organizations and the amounts actually paid from grant funds for program delivery. One reason for the discrepancy was a complex and outdated program delivery funding formula which failed to take into account shifts in spending priorities from the Community Development Block Grant program to the HOME Investment Partnerships program for housing rehabilitation projects in recent years. Program delivery funds are used to pay salaries of employees for services in connection with the housing rehabilitation programs. Each neighborhood corporation receives Community Development grant funds specifically for these purposes and additional grant funds to pay for the actual rehabilitation costs. It is proposed that the 2014, 2015 and 2016 Community Development budgets and grant agreements be changed to reflect \$100,000.00 for program delivery for each of Center City and NHS in each year. This change will simplify the payment method and will be more in line with the CCNDC and NHS budget needs. The change will also conform the grant agreements to grant disbursement practice in prior years.

This change does not increase or decrease grant funding for Center City or NHS. This change does not constitute a change in allocation priorities, a decision to carry out an activity not previously described in the action plan, a change that amounts to more than 10% of the aggregate budget or a substantial change in the purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries of an activity. There is no need for a public hearing before approving the changes.

Will the Council vote to approve the proposal presented herein and to authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the same?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas 4 Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker 1 Nays 1 Tompkins

APPROVED

CONTRACT: LASALLE WATERFRONT PARK & GRIFFON PARK, ENTRY SIGNAGE, A&B HERITAGE INC., FUNDING

Agenda Item #5

The following is the result of bids received on May 10, 2016 for the above referenced project:

CONTRACTOR

BASE BID

\$9,740.00

A&B Heritage Inc. dba ASI Signage Innovations 2957 Alt Boulevard Grand Island, NY 14072

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that this project be awarded to the sole bidder A&B Heritage Inc., dba ASI Signage Innovations at their total bid of \$9,740.00. The funding utilized for this project will be from leftover Love Canal settlement funds that have been held in escrow.

Will the Council vote to so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a contract in a form acceptable to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be

received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 Nays 0

APPROVED

CONTRACT: 3625 HIGHLAND AVE., MECHANICAL/PLUMBING ACTIVATION, CHANGE ORDER #1, J.R. SWANSON PLUMBING CO., FUNDING Agenda Item #6 Mechanical & Plumbing Activation for Three (3) City-owned Buildings at 3625 Highland Avenue CHANGE ORDER #1 A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to J.R. Swanson Plumbing Co. Inc., 413-103<sup>rd</sup> Street, Niagara Falls, NY, on August 15, 2016 in an amount of \$35,800.00. This contract is a structure whereas the contractor would provide estimates for additional work required to meet the 2015 International Mechanical and Plumbing Codes. Items in this Change Order request are revisions to the original 'scope of work', but necessary to complete the project and to allow for the City to obtain a certification of occupancy. Funding for this Change Order is available from Casino Funds, earmarked for the City's Economic Development Department. Additionally, partial reimbursement from a New York State ESD Grant is available to offset project cost. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$112,858.82 be approved, bringing the new contract total to \$148,658.82. Will the Council vote to so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED Council Member Scott questioned the Engineer about Change Orders. All Council Members discussed the issue of Change Orders and that we need to monitor funds allocated for Change Orders. CONTRACT: POTHOLE KILLER, PATCH MANAGEMENT, FUNDING Agenda Item #7 The Director of the Department of Public Works is recommending that Patch Management, Inc. be engaged once again this year to provide a pothole killer truck, an operator, and 200 tons of materials, service and support to the City to assist the City in the fight against potholes. GPS recordings of all repairs will be provided. This service will commence when weather permits and continue through June 30, 2017. The cost of this service is \$73,500.00. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a proposed agreement prepared by Patch Management Inc. Funding is available from casino revenues. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an engagement agreement satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays APPROVED

#### CONTRACT: SPCA, SHELTERING SERVICES, FUNDING

Agenda Item #8

The City's agreement with the SPCA has expired. It is necessary for the City to enter into a new agreement with the SPCA in order for it to continue to provide sheltering services for calendar year 2017. The expired agreement called for the City to pay to the SPCA the sum of \$223,127.00 billed on a monthly basis. The agreement the SPCA now proposes for 2017 will require the City to pay to the SPCA the sum of \$311,269.77 annually to be billed at a monthly rate of \$25,939.15. This would allow the City to be allocated 1,292 kennel days per month; any kennel days in excess of this amount will be billed at the rate of \$23.00 per kennel day per dog over the 1292 allocation.

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Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a summary provided by the SPCA which focuses on the detail involved in arriving at this requested increased contract price. The City presently has budgeted for this service the sum of \$223,127.00 leaving a shortfall of \$88,142.77. This additional dollar amount shortfall is available from casino revenues. Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to enter into a new agreement with the SPCA for 2017 provided the same is in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas Nays 0 APPROVED Councilwoman Grandinetti commented that the SPCA needs to remember that they serve the County and that funding should also come from the County. THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION WAS SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL CLAIM: BARTLETT, GLENN Agenda Item #9 Date Claim Filed:March 11, 2010Date Action Commenced:October 14, 2015Date(s) of Occurrence:February 8, 2015Location:Walnut Avenue & 9th StreetWabielo be was passenger Location: Nature of Claim: Vehicle he was passenger in was struck by City vehicle. Brittany Searight City Driver: Status of Action: Trial Stage Recommendation/Reason: Best interests of City to pay claim. Amount to be Paid: \$500,000 Make Check Payable to: Gibson, McAskill & Crosby, LLP and Glenn Bartlett Conditions: General Release and Stipulation of Discontinuance approved by Corporation Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim

be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve, and authorize the Corporation Counsel to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas

Yeas 5 Nays 0 APPROVED Councilwoman Grandinetti stated that on the advice of the Corporation Counsel Office, she was voting yes.

RESOLUTION: TAXICAB & TAXICAB DRIVERS ORDINANCE, CITIZEN ADVISORY BODY, CREATION BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS TOMPKINS AND TOUMA

Agenda Item #10

WHEREAS, during its consideration of certain amendments to Chapter 365 of the City Ordinances entitled "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" this City Council was alerted by members of the public to issues which may exist pertaining to the City's issuance of taxicab medallions; and

WHEREAS, this City Council wishes to undertake a review of Chapter 365 as concerns the issuance of taxicab medallions to make certain the medallion issuance process, including the number of authorized medallions, is fair and equitable; and WHEREAS, prior to making any amendments to Chapter 365, it is desirable for the Niagara Falls City Council to have a thorough understanding of the medallion issue generally and whether or not public convenience and necessity requires an increase in the number of taxicab medallions and taxicabs and whether existing transportation is adequate to meet the public need and the probable effect of increased service on local traffic conditions; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate this, the City Council has determined that it would be prudent to solicit the advice and recommendations from a body consisting of involved City Department Heads and those outside City government to provide it with assistance as to these matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3.6(a) of the City Charter, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby create a "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body to compliment the effectiveness of this City Council by providing it with advice and recommendations about the number of taxicab medallions which are presently issued, the number of taxicabs operating, and examine the necessity for the issuance of additional medallions as well as any other issues which may arise during the review of the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body shall consist of no more than seven (7) members to be comprised of the Superintendent of Police or his designee, the Corporation Counsel or his designee, as well as five (5) members of the community who will be selected by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council, for a period ending no later than December 31, 2017 or upon presentation to the City Council of a report of its recommendations or upon like evidence of the attainment of the purpose for which it was established, whichever occurs sooner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this advisory body will not be compensated for their services on the advisory body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the "Taxicabs and Taxicab Drivers" Ordinance Review body will provide advice and recommendations only and be required to submit the same to the City Council as requested by the City Council. The panel will have no formal decision making role, and will have no access to confidential, supervisory or other confidential information.

Yeas Scott, Tompkins, Chairman Walker Nays Grandinetti, Touma 3 2

TABLED

Chairman Walker commented that there should be more information about who would be on the Advisory Board and what they would address.

RESOLUTUION: MARCHISELLI PROGRAM-AID FOR BRIDGE WASHING, 2017-27 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #11

WHEREAS, a Project for the bridge washing of 13 bridges and deck sealing of 7 bridges P.I.N. 5761.42 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of bridge washing of 13 bridges and deck sealing of 7 bridges PIN 5761.42.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

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RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and nonfederal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$153,000.00 is hereby appropriated from casino funds and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately

Yeas Nays

0 ADOPTED

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RESOLUTION: MARCHISELLI PROGRAM-AID, TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, JOHN B. DALY BLVD., NIAGARA ST. TO PINE AVE., 2017-28 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #12

WHEREAS, a Project for the John B. Daly Boulevard, Niagara Street to Pine Avenue, P.I.N. 5755.57 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of John B. Daly Boulevard, Niagara Street to Pine Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby authorizes the City of Niagara Falls to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and nonfederal share of the cost of work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$912,000.00 is hereby appropriated from bond proceeds and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the City Council of Niagara Falls shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Niagara Falls with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately Yeas

Nays

ADOPTED

0

Councilwoman Grandinetti discussed the importance of this Project. Councilman Touma commented on the positive aspects of the Project.

RESOLUTION: 543  $6^{\text{th}}$  Street, right of way, abandonment, 2017-29 by: All council members

Agenda Item #13

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls desires to abandon a portion of the  $6^{\rm th}$  Street Right of Way adjacent to 543 -  $6^{\rm th}$  Street; (information on file in the City Clerk's Office)and

WHEREAS, the City Council did, by resolution, give notice of its intention to abandon a portion of the aforementioned right of way and did direct the City Clerk to publish notice of such intention and that a public hearing would be held by the City Council at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time and advise that all persons interested would be heard on that said time and place; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was duly held on March 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. eastern standard time in regards to said abandonment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that a portion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Right of Way adjacent to 543 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is hereby abandoned, the said abandoned right of way portion subject, however, to reservation of right of and for the City of Niagara Falls, the Niagara Falls Water Board and any utility companies, their successors and assigns to use, maintain, repair, replace and continue to maintain their services and operations in said abandoned right of way. The said right of way portion is bounded and described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situated in the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, State of New York, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the easterly right of way of Sixth Street, said point also being the northwest corner of the parcel located at 543 Sixth Street, now or formerly owned by the Walnut Avenue Homes Housing Development Fund as described in the Deed recorded on November 7, 2014 in the Niagara County Clerk's Office as Instrument # 2014-19191, said point of beginning also being 165.50 feet per deed and 165.91 feet as more recently measured, south of the intersection of the South Line of Walnut Avenue with the Easterly Line of 6<sup>th</sup> Street, thence;

- S 02<sup>0</sup> 28' 26" E a distance of 131.80 feet along the easterly right of way line of Sixth Street to a point at the southwesterly property corner of 543 Sixth Street, thence;
- 2. S  $87^0$  31' 34" W a distance of 7.00 feet to a point, thence;
- 3. N  $02^{\circ}$  28' 26" W a distance of 131.80 feet to a point, thence;
- 4. N  $87^{\circ}$  31' 34" E a distance of 7.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Intending to describe a 7-foot-wide abandonment of the right of way totaling ± 0.021 acres from the city of Niagara Falls, NY to Walnut Avenue Homes Housing Development Fund. Said abandonment is shown on the drawing entitled "Walnut Avenue Homes ROW Abandonment", prepared by Passero Associate on December 27, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Niagara and that the Mayor may sign deeds or other documents desirable to effectuate this abandonment.

Yeas Navs 5 0 ADOPTED

4

RESOLUTION: PUBLIC MEETINGS, PROTOCOL, COUNCIL MEMBERS BY: COUNCIL MEMBER TOMPKINS

Agenda Item #14

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that persons attending City Council meetings deserve the time and attention of all Council Members during the course of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, this City Council believes that activated personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, brought to public meetings by Council Members have the potential to distract Council Members from focusing on the business of the people. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council Members refrain

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council Members refrain from bringing with them activated personal electronic devices of any nature, including cell phones, to any public meetings of this City Council. Yeas

Yeas Tompkins Nays Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker

DEFEATED Councilman Scott commented that this issue should be handled In House. Councilman Tompkins stated that phone records could be Foiled. Councilman Touma stated that cell phones are a positive addition and used for information gathering.

RESOLUTION: COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, RECOGNIZING, 2017-30 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #15

THIS WAS VOTED ON AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

RESOLUTION: NFMMC, FUNDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, 2017-31 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #16

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center (NFMMC) has provided high quality care to those who live and work in Niagara Falls and beyond since its founding in 1895; and

and beyond since its founding in 1895; and WHEREAS, NFMMC provides the health care and services that our communities need, while also making significant economic contributions to our region; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC has shown tremendous growth over the past 12 years with the construction of The Heart Center of Niagara and the Golisano Center for Community Health while greatly expanding its surgical services, adding six primary care offices and opening a comprehensive wound care center, two OB/GYN centers, a bariatric surgery center and other needed medical services; and WHEREAS, NFMMC provided an array of inpatient and outpatient

WHEREAS, NFMMC provided an array of inpatient and outpatient services to more than 44,500 people (unduplicated count) in 2015 and again in 2016; and

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WHEREAS, according to the economic indicator formula provided by the American Hospital Association, NFMMC's economic impact on Niagara County and the surrounding area is \$275 million annually; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC is a major economic force in the Niagara Region with a significant, stable employment base of 1,200 employees and a steady, consistent job growth record comprising 150 well-paying jobs created during the past four years with 25 more positions to be added by mid-2018; and

WHEREAS, 800 of NFMMC's current employees are represented by and members of 1199SEIU; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC's growth has created an acute parking shortage that will become even more critical with the April opening of a cardiac catheterization laboratory at The Heart Center of Niagara on its downtown campus; and

WHEREAS, that growth has added urgency to the need for NFMMC to replace its aging emergency power generators; and

WHEREAS, NFMMC and 1199SEIU have launched a major joint initiative asking Governor Andrew Cuomo to provide state funding for needed capital and infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS the requested funds would renovate and transform NFMMC's aging parking garage and bridge connector into an aesthetically attractive interactive facility that would host medical center and community activities; and

WHEREAS, those funds would also replace Memorial's antiquated emergency power system with a system that would ensure adequate emergency power to meet the healthcare needs of Niagara County residents without interruption and guarantee full capacity to provide for its critical role as a First Responder facility in the event of a public emergency situation; and

WHEREAS, this capital project is an extension of the common goals of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and 1199SEIU to maintain the highest standards of patient safety and satisfaction and meet the needs of our growing community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Niagara Falls City Council hereby supports the joint campaign being conducted by NFMMC and 1199SEIU and urges Governor Andrew Cuomo to ensure funding in the 2017/2018 New York State budget for repairs, construction and modernization of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

Yeas Nays

5 0 ADOPTED

Councilman Touma stated that the Hospital has done a great job for the Community and they continue to grow and improve.

RESOLUTION: RAISE THE AGE, GOV. CUOMO, 2017-32 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #17

WHEREAS, New York is one of only 2 states in the nation that process all 16 and 17 year-olds in the adult criminal justice system, no matter what their offense, and

WHEREAS the Governor is renewing his call to raise the age once and for all and insure that 16 and 17 years olds are treated as juveniles when they commit crimes to ensure they receive the intervention and evidence based treatment they need and

intervention and evidence based treatment they need, and WHEREAS, in New York State of the 27,000 teenagers arrested in 2015, approximately 86 percent were arrested for non-violet crimes, under this proposal youth who commit serious crimes will still be held accountable but will have their cases heard by specially trained judges, while those who commit certain less serious crimes will have their cases heard in Family Court, and

WHEREAS, without age-appropriate facilities, teenagers face a greater risk of being assaulted, being victims of sexual violence, and committing suicide they are 34 percent more likely to be re-arrested for violent and other crimes than youth retained in the youth justice system, and WHEREAS, under the Governor's proposal youth ages 16 to 17 will be treated as juveniles and will receive the intervention and evidencebased treatment they need. NOW THEREFORE we the Niagara Falls City Council on behalf of the citizens of Niagara Falls New York do hereby support the Raise the Age proposal, as we believe this will change the game for youth ages 16 to 17, that are count in the court system with another out. And we also ask that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor Coumo, Assemblyman Morinello, and State Senator Ortt. Yeas 4 Grandinetti, Scott, Touma, Chairman Walker 0 Nays Abstain 1 Tompkins ADOPTED RESOLUTION: SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION/BUDGET, POLLING PLACES, 2017-33 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #18 WHEREAS, the annual Niagara Falls City School District election will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017; and WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls City School District requests the use of several city buildings as polling places for this election. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Niagara Falls City Council does hereby approve the request outlined in the attached letter (on file in the City Clerk's Office) from the Niagara Falls City School District. 5 Yeas Nays 0 ADOPTED RESOLUTION: YOUTH BOARD, REAPPOINTMENT, 2017-34 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #19 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby reappointed to the City of Niagara Falls Youth Board, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name: REAPPOINTMENT: TERM EXPIRES: Rick Williams 12/31/2019 2761 Falls Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303 5 Yeas Nays 0 ADOPTED RESOLUTION: SNOW REMOVAL, THANKING AGENCIES, 2017-35 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS Agenda Item #20 WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls was hit hard by the recent wind and snow storm; and WHEREAS, without help from the following agencies, it would have been difficult to clean up our city so quickly; New York State Department of Transportation, Niagara County Emergency Management office, Office of New York State Governor Cuomo, Erie County, and Town of Clarence, NY

03/20/2017

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, that this City Council does hereby thank all agencies for their assistance, manpower and equipment, as well as our Department of Public Works Department, under the direction of Mr. John Caso for their extraordinary response during the clean-up efforts to help make our streets safe.

Yeas Nays 5 0

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: TAXICABS AND TAXICAB DRIVERS, AMENDING BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, SCOTT, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #21 THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA NO ACTION TAKEN There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk



### APRIL 3, 2017

# **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

# NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The first session of the April 3, 2017 Niagara Falls City Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Charles Walker at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Council Chairman Charles Walker, Council Members Kristen Grandinetti, Ezra Scott, Jr., Kenny Tompkins, and Andrew Touma

Also present: Mayor Paul A. Dyster, City Administrator Nicholas Melson, Corporation Counsel Craig H. Johnson, Deputy Corporation Counsel Thomas O'Donnell and City Controller Daniel Morello.

Council Member Grandinetti moved to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of March 20, 2017. Yeas 5

Yeas Nays

0 Approved

Presentation by Destination Niagara USA (NTCC)

John Percy President & CEO, gave a presentation on the new brand launch and marketing film created by Destination Niagara USA.

Andrea Czopp, Director of Communications for Destination Niagara distributed a flyer to Councilmembers which outlined the economic impact of tourism in Niagara County.

Mr. Percy gave a breakdown of the brand and explained the regional approach to tourism. He also explained the name change from Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation to **Destination Niagara USA**.

Mr. Percy also gave a video presentation describing the new apps that are available to direct tourists to sites all over the county.

Chairman Walker asked what steps would be taken to connect the tourist district to the rest of the city. Mr. Percy explained that the new apps will allow tourists to share the places they have visited in the county, pictures and opinions, stating that this will connect tourists to sites they may not have known about.

Mr. Percy concluded by stating that the new brand is already extremely successful and that his organization will continue to work creatively and diligently to promote Niagara Falls as one of the world's most important tourist destinations.

City Controller Daniel Morello gave a presentation on the current state of the budget in light of possible issues with Casino funding. His presentation included, Parking revenue, credit card fees, general fund balances, overtime in certain departments, the train station budget and overtime costs, preliminary fund budget report, casino spending and 2016 balances and reserves for the 2018 budget.

Councilman Touma stated that the city must continue to be aggressive in regards to parking revenue.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about overtime budgets for the year in regards to certain departments who may be approaching their overtime limits. The Controller explained that the majority of the overtime was due to storm clean-up efforts.

Councilman Touma stated that the Council must be made aware of overtime costs. Councilman Tompkins asked about overtime costs at the train station. The Controller stated that overtime costs would improve now that staffing is at a proper level. Councilman Tompkins inquired about Casino funds, current reserves and expenditures.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about the danger of low fund balances.

The Controller explained that some of this will be alleviated with parking revenues which is a new revenue source that did not exist when the city faced this problem in past years.

#### Administrative updates

Chief Thomas Colangelo (acting administrator) spoke about the training tower grant.

The Mayor announced a time line for spring activities, including fishing, boat launches, pot hole patching, zipper maintenance, the Easter Egg Hunt for children and the stocking of Hyde Park Lake. The Mayor also gave a time line for the Robert Moses Parkway North project which will include complete reconstruction of Whirlpool St. The Mayor also addressed illegal dumping near Gill Creek and reviewed trash pickup procedures.

Chairman Walker asked about upgrades to city parks. Seth Piccirillo, Community Development Director, gave an update stating that work will be done at 70<sup>th</sup> St, Jerauld Park, Hyde Park, Highland Avenue Pocket Park, 91<sup>st</sup> St and restrooms at Gill Creek.

Councilman Tompkins inquired about contract negotiations with the firefighters as well as other union contracts.

Councilman Touma asked about the details regarding the firefighters contract.

The Mayor explained that complete details would be available to Council.

Councilman Touma stated that the council would like input on the negotiations.

Chairman Walker asked about progress regarding the concerns of NOAH and their ongoing efforts for training and job placement. The Mayor stated that the administration and all involved are

The Mayor stated that the administration and all involved are working diligently to promote such programs.

Chairman Walker reiterated the need for such training and job placement programs.

Corporation Counsel Craig Johnson distributed an addition to the agenda. 1. A communication relative for the utilization of parking lots for Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center employees.

Councilman Touma moved to add this Communication to the Agenda It was seconded by Councilwoman Grandinetti Yeas 5 Nays 0

Motion to add item to the agenda approved The Communication was added to the Agenda as #11.

This session ended at 6:10 PM

Chairman Walker reconvened the Meeting at 6:20 P.M. in the Council Chambers with all Council Members present. The Prayer was said by Council Member Grandinetti and the Chairman led the gathering in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak on Agenda Items or Community Interests, and the following spoke:

Tim Huether	Agenda Items #5, #9
Jeff Flack	Agenda Item #10
Eric Dixon	Agenda Item #4
Ron Anderluh	Tourist season; traffic control; downtown parking
Greg Myles	NOAH; CBA
Rev. Joanne Scott	NOAH

Block Club Meetings; election Michael Henderson Ken Hamilton Parking; UBER; Basketball Courts Jamie Caldwell Casino Money Robert Ventry Listening skills; Casino Money THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE MAYOR CONTRACT: FIREWORKS DISPLAY, SKYLIGHTERS FIREWORKS OF NY Agenda Item #1 We respectfully request you award a contract for a fireworks display as follows: Skylighters Fireworks of New York, LLC TO: P.O. Box 1357 Orchard Park, NY 14127 FOR: Fireworks displays on July 4, 2017 at Hyde Park: \$25,000.00 The City Purchasing Division certifies that all bids were solicited in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law. Notice that proposals were to be received was advertised in the Niagara Gazette and requests for proposals were sent to five (5) companies. The proposal submitted by Skylighters Fireworks was the only proposal received by the bid opening deadline. After reviewing this proposal, it was determined that Skylighters Fireworks has met all the specifications required in Request for Proposal # 2017-06. Funds are available in the Tourism Fund account code т.6410.0000.0449.599. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Navs APPROVED CONTRACT: TROLLEY SERVICE, NFTA Agenda Item #2 It is desirable to continue again this year Trolley Service in the

City in cooperation with the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. It is recommended that Trolley Service commence on May 19, 2017 and conclude October 29, 2017. During the month of May, 2017, from May 19, 2017 through May 28, 2017, the Trolley Service will operate on weekends only (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) plus Memorial Day, May 29, 2017. Trolley service from May 29, 2017 through October 5, 2017 will be on a daily basis. From October 6, 2017 through October 29, 2017, trolley service will be on weekends only (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). From November 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, NFTA validated passes may be utilized for all metro routes. The cost to the City for this service will be \$566,300. This will be subject to the terms and conditions contained in an agreement subject to approval by the Corporation Counsel which will also contain a route for service. Funding is available from the Tourism Fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

Agenda Item #3

The City has been notified that it has been selected as the recipient of a \$92,000.00 GRANT award from the DHS State Homeland Security Grant Program which is administered by the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. Attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a letter detailing the parameters of the Grant. This funding is provided to improve and develop tactical team capabilities through equipment, training, exercise and planning projects that support counter-terrorism missions in our jurisdiction. This is pursuant to a regional partnership with the Niagara County Sherriff's Office, City of North Tonawanda Police Department, City of Buffalo Police Department, New York State Police Bomb Squad, New York State Parks Police and Customs and Border Protection and, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. This will require that the City enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement.

Will the Council approve the grant award and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents required to accept the grant award, inclusive of an Inter-Municipal Agreement, provided the same are in form and content satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

#### CATARACT LITTLE LOOP FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, CONTRIBUTION

Agenda Item #4

It is requested that the City contribute the sum of \$15,000.00 toward the expenses incurred in operating the Cataract Little Loop Football Association Inc. youth travel football program this year. This is part of the "Pop Warner" travel football program. This team, consisting primarily of City youth, competes in various locations.

Funding is available from tourism fund balance.

Will the Council so approve?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays

0 APPROVED

5

Councilman Touma also commented on the importance of this program. Councilwoman Grandinetti commented on the success of CLL Program.

CONTRACT: HIGHLAND AVE., 3625, ADDITIONAL ELECTRICAL WORK, CIR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION CORP.

Agenda Item #5

A contract for the above referenced project was awarded to CIR Electrical Construction Corp. 400 Ingham Avenue, Buffalo, NY, on August 15, 2016 in an amount of \$129,000.00.

The focus of the Base Bid work was to energize the three buildings, test and investigate and repair specific existing electrical components. During the course of the work, the contractor encountered differing site conditions associated with making the buildings code compliant to ensure a Certification of Occupancy (CO) and other repairs or replacements that are based on contractual bid unit pricing.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the undersigned that Change Order #1 in the amount of \$37,695.00 be approved, bring the new contract total to \$166,695.00 Sufficient casino funding presently exist in the City's Economic Development Department project fund for 3625 Highland Avenue Business Park, previously approved by City Council. Will the council vote to so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. Yeas 5 0 Nays APPROVED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE CORPORATION COUNSEL CLAIM: STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O TERRANA, SHEILA Agenda Item #6 March 26, 2014 January 27, 2015 Date Claim Filed: Date Action Commenced: Date of Occurrence: March 16, 2014 Pine Avenue & 33rd Street Location: Nature of Claim: Damages to vehicle when struck by City vehicle Vincent Jackson City Driver: Status of Action: Post-Liability Trial Stage Best interests of City to pay Recommendation/Reason: claim. Amount to be Paid: \$1,574.00 Handelman, Witkowicz & Make Check Payable to: Levitsky, LLP Stipulation of Discontinuance Conditions: and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel. It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above.  $\tilde{W}$ ill the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved. 5 Yeas 0 Nays APPROVED CLAIM: ESCHBORN, DAVID AS PARENT OF ESCHBORN, KYLE Agenda Item #7 Date Claim Filed: October 5, 2011 Date Action Commenced: January 12, 2012 July 25, 2011 Date of Occurrence: Location: Porter Road near Robbins Road Nature of Claim: Injuries sustained when City vehicle collided with Kyle while he was riding his bicycle City Driver: Robert L. Simpson Status of Action: Post-Liability Trial Stage Recommendation/Reason: Best interests of City to pay claim. \$15,000.00 Amount to be Paid: Make Check Payable to: Ramos & Ramos as attorneys and Kyle A. Eschborn Conditions: Stipulation of Discontinuance and General Release to City approved by Corporation Counsel.

It is the recommendation of this Department that the above claim be paid under the terms set forth above. Will the Council so approve? Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas

Nays

5 0

APPROVED

RESOLUTION: SENIOR CITIZEN COUNCIL, APPOINTMENT, 2017-36 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #8

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following individual is hereby appointed to the City of Niagara Falls Senior Citizen Council, effective immediately, for the term expiring on the date which appears opposite his name (letter on file in the City Clerk's Office):

APPOINTMENT: TERM EXPIRES: Angelo Ciraolo 12/31/2019 8215 Lindbergh Avenue Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Yeas Nays

5 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION: HOME RULE REQUEST, SPEED LIMIT, 2017-37 BY: ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Agenda Item #9

WHEREAS, Section 1634 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law, concerning speed limits on highways in cities and villages, provides that no such speed limit applicable throughout such city or village or within designated areas of such city or village shall be established at less than 30 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, Senator Robert Orti introduced Senate Bill No. S402, as attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office), and Assemblyman Angelo Morinello introduced Assembly Bill A5548, as attached hereto, which would authorize and empower the City of Niagara Falls to lower the speed limit to not less than 25 miles per hour in its downtown area in furtherance of projects to attract new investment in said downtown area as described in both bills; and

WHEREAS, in order for the legislative process to continue, this Council is asked to adopt the annexed Home Rule Request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York does hereby recognize, acknowledge and support the enactment by the New York State Legislature of Senate Bill No. S402 and Assembly Bill A5548, entitled "An Act Relating to Authorizing the City of Niagara Falls, County of Niagara, to Reduce the Speed Limit in Downtown Niagara Falls", and this City Council declares that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this City Council is directed to complete and certify the Home Rule Requests and forward copies of the New York State Legislature as required.

Yeas Nays 5 0 ADOPTED RESOLUTION: SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS, AMENDING ORDINANCE, 2017-38 BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS GRANDINETTI, TOMPKINS, TOUMA

Agenda Item #10

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended that Chapter 1328 of the Codified Zoning Ordinances be amended by adding a new subdivision 13; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Planning Board's recommendation is attached hereto (on file in the City Clerk's Office).

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York that a public hearing be held relative to the adoption of an amendment to Chapter 1328 of the Codified Zoning Ordinance relative to Short-Term Rental Units, said public hearing to be held at a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall on April 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, and the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the official newspaper prior to April 17, 2017.

Yeas 4 Scott, Tompkins, Touma, Chairman Walker 0 Abstain 1 Grandinetti ADOPTED

Councilman Touma stated this item was to call for a Public Hearing

CONTRACT: WALNUT AVE., 805, FERRY AVE., 802, CITY OWNED LOTS, PARKING

Agenda Item #11

The Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center ("NFMMC") is commencing a substantial renovation project to its parking garage. During this renovation, the number of available parking spaces in the garage will be restricted. NFMMC would like those spaces to be available to accommodate the hospital's patients and those visiting the hospital. Therefore, NFMMC is requesting that the City allow hospital employees to park in the City owned lots located at 805 Walnut Avenue and 802 Ferry Avenue on an asneeded basis during the renovation project which is expected to begin on or about April 5, 2017 and conclude in late September 2017. Attached (on file in the City Clerk's Office) is a copy of NFMMC's request. The City does not utilize these lots for any purpose. NFMMC is not proposing to pay the City for the utilization of these lots but will provide insurance and will indemnify the City.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an Access and Utilization Agreement provided the same is in form and substance acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Council Member Grandinetti moved that the communication be received and filed and the recommendation approved.

Yeas Nays 5 0 APPROVED

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There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Walker adjourned the Meeting at 7:15 P.M.

Lisa A. Vitello City Clerk

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