

## FINANCE

Tuesday, July 18, 2017 – 5:30 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Dougherty, Alderman Andreano, Alderman Gonzalez (via teleconference), Alderman Smith, and Alderman George. Others: Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Bell, Fire Chief; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief; Ed Jennings, Code Enforcement Supervisor, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Dougherty called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present except Aldermen Witte and Crawford who were excused, and Alderman Gonzalez, who was present via teleconference.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, May 16, 2017)

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2017 meeting was made by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman George. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

### 3. Unfinished Business

None

### 4. New Referrals for Consideration

- a. PL #55-17: (Crawford) To authorize the transfer of up to \$45,000 from General Fund Surplus to line item 5111.301, Tree Programs, to cover the cost of pruning 13 trees and removing 23 trees throughout the City of Olean.

Mayor Aiello began by stating that there may be an additional tree to add to the list that was previously sent to the Aldermen, as a resident claims that he has been told for two years that his tree is on the list for removal. Alderman Gonzalez agreed that, if there is documentation with the City Forester, that we should add this to the list.

Alderman Smith asked if Alderman Gonzalez was in favor of this, and he replied that although he isn't too excited to be spending this much money, he does think that it is fair to make residents whole who have already been told that their trees will be pruned or removed. He stated that after we do this, we should cut off the service.

Alderman Smith questioned how we arrived at this number. He feels that the number of trees to be removed is actually much bigger. He has people asking for years when their trees would

come down, and they are not on the list. He has told residents, since budget time, that we are no longer removing trees. He thought that we had a policy, and he has been sticking to it.

Alderman George replied that the City Forester has an evaluation criterion, and she used this to make the list. He stated that it makes sense to make residents whole and fulfill the expectations that were already set.

Alderman Dougherty stated that people will call the City Forester, and assume that because they have a complaint about their trees that she will take it down. However, she won't remove it just because of aesthetic issues; trees that are young, healthy, and not doing any damage won't come down.

Mayor Aiello stated that there seems to be a lack of knowledge of Sue's system. He recommends that she come in on the next Committee night to go over the process. Alderman Gonzalez agreed. Alderman Smith questioned if there are any major issues with trees that need to come down tomorrow, and Alderman George replied that she does have a budget for emergency removal if this is the case.

A motion to postpone PL #55-17 to the next Finance Committee meeting was made by Alderman Dougherty, seconded by Alderman George. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

#### 5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

#### 6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman George, seconded by Alderman Dougherty. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.