

Journal of Proceedings

OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLEAN, N.Y.

April 4, 2017

**COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS
STATE OF NEW YORK**

A Special Meeting of the Olean Common Council of the City of Olean was held on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 5:35 p.m.

PRESENT: *Aldermen Gonzalez, Witte, Andreano, Dougherty, Crawford, Smith, and George*

ABSENT: *None*

OFFICIALS: *Mayor William Aiello; Al Utecht, City Clerk; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Tom Windus, Director of Public Works; Gregg Piechota, City Assessor; Ed Jennings, Code Enforcement Officer; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary*

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Aiello stated that he supplied the Council with a memo today regarding the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce (GOACC) / Olean Business Development Corporation (OBDC) contract. He is requesting that funds to support them be added back into the budget. He stated that the current contract expires on December 31, 2017, and so we only need to fund a half year contract prior to the next budget. He is requesting \$7,500 for this so that we can fund the contract through the end of the 2017-2018 budget to evaluate the program a little closer before we move forward. He stated that he feels that this is a good program, including its CEO Alliance and Young Professionals groups.

Alderman Andreano questioned why this was cut in the first place, and Mayor Aiello responded that after a conversation with Alderman Crawford during the funding cuts, it was decided to remove this from the budget. Alderman Crawford responded that he believed that this could be cut based on a report that the money in the budget for this item wasn't being spent, but it was a hiccup in the report that has been corrected.

Alderman Gonzalez questioned if this was previously discussed during the budget work sessions, and Mayor Aiello responded that it was. Alderman Smith added that it came up, but it went by pretty quickly.

Alderman Dougherty questioned if this is the only hiccup that we are aware of, and Mayor Aiello stated that it is. A lot of time was spent going through the budget to make sure that everything is correct.

Alderman Gonzalez recommended taking the \$7,500 out of contingency this year, rather than trying to amend the budget at the last minute. Alderman George questioned if a decision needs to be made today, or if time could be taken to discuss this further. Mayor Aiello stated that the decision belongs to the Council, and that they are welcome to wait and discuss this at a later time. Alderman Witte agreed with this idea, so that nothing needs to be amended with the budget.

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Alderman Gonzalez stated that he was surprised that there wasn't additional discussion about this, and Alderman Witte agreed. Alderman Gonzalez stated that he is in favor of the OBDC relationship, but sometimes difficult decisions need to be made.

Alderman Smith stated that at one of the work sessions, he remembers this being mentioned during a discussion of a list of cuts. He personally thinks that we can leave the cut in the budget at this point and vote on the budget as is, as this is not a matter of urgency. Alderman George stated that he believes that supporting the OBDC is a good move for the City, but he agrees with Nate that we should move forward with what's on paper now, and revisit this later.

Alderman Crawford stated that there is going to be trial and error with such large budget cuts. Eventually we will have to revisit this, animal control, the tree program, and possibly several other cuts. He agrees with Alderman Smith and Alderman George, that we can discuss this down the road.

Mr. Saradin stated that he is concerned that the Debt Service Fund is not reflected in the Resolution for the budget. Ms. Taylor explained that this is how the budget has been presented and passed each year for as far back as she can go, and Mr. Utecht agreed.

Mr. Saradin stated that he would like to see the Resolution amended to include the Debt Service Fund, increasing the total budget amount to \$27,789,376.

Alderman Gonzalez clarified that this is not a miscalculation in the budget, but a correction in Resolution wording. Mr. DiCerbo stated that we are approving the maximum amount that the City can spend without Council approval and this is why we want to include it in the Resolution. He asked the Council if they understand the Debt Service Fund and why we are amending the Resolution, and it was a general consensus that they do, and had no additional questions on the topic.

Alderman Crawford questioned when Council approval is required for fund transfers. Mr. Saradin stated that when funds are transferred from one line to another within the same department, no Council approval is required. When money is to be transferred from one department to another, from one fund to another, from Contingency or from Surplus / Fund Balance, Council approval is required. Mayor Aiello added that any transfers that involve the 100 line items for wages require Council approval as well.

A motion to amend Resolution #29-17 to reflect the Debt Service Fund and a total budget amount of \$27,789,376 was made by Alderman Dougherty, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #29-17

PL #15-17

By Alderman Gonzalez, Seconded by Alderman Smith

2017-2018 BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the 2017-2018 Budget as submitted be accepted and that the total amount of said budget be reduced in writing and entered on the minutes of the proceedings of this meeting, to wit: The total Budget for the fiscal year 2017-2018 shall be \$27,789,376 inclusive of the **General, Water, Sewer, and Debt Service Funds**, subject

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to legal opinion.

RESOLVED, that this resolution will be effective immediately.
ROLL CALL, AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:55 p.m.

Alexander Utecht, City Clerk

Mayor William J. Aiello

Paul Gonzalez, Council President

I hereby approve the foregoing minutes
Dated: ____/____/_____

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS
CITY OF OLEAN

I, Alexander Utecht, City Clerk of the City of Olean, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes of the Common Council of the City of Olean is the true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Alexander Utecht, City Clerk