

## CITY OPERATIONS

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 – 5:55 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Witte, Alderman Dougherty, Alderman Crawford, and Alderman George. Others: Alderman Gonzalez; Alderman Andreano; Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief; Bob Bell, Fire Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Smith called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, April 16, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2019 committee minutes 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. Discussion – Requirement for Council Approval Prior to Engagement of Outside Legal Services

Alderman Crawford explained that he still needs to work on gathering up more information for this, so he will have to postpone this conversation for a later date.

#### b. Discussion – City Bond Rating

Mayor Aiello explained that the Council has received an email and a letter regarding the Moody's rating of the City of Olean, and that he had alerted the Council to the changing of the bond rating during the last meeting.

Alderman Witte explained that one thing that popped out was that the City really needs to look at their spending.

Mayor Aiello explained that the report states that the City should have been 24% and 30% in their fund balance, and he feels that this is very unrealistic. He explained that the City's outside auditors say that 15% is a good number and common. He explained as well that Mr. Jeff Smith

from Municipal Solutions explained that a move from A1 to A2 is not horrendous, and is still a good rating. Mr. Saradin added that it did not affect the recent bond reissue.

Mayor Aiello explained that the City and the Council has been working on their spending; however, sometimes things come up and have to be dealt with.

Mr. Saradin noted that the City is not rated by Standard and Poor's or anyone else besides Moody's because the City has not asked for anyone else's services.

Alderman Smith explained that a change from A1 to A2 is minimal, and it will have very insignificant results. He noted that he would like to see what other small city who operates like the City of Olean has a 30% fund balance, and Alderman Gonzalez added that the City is in the middle of a revitalization.

Mayor Aiello explained that he has received the City's Fiscal Stress report from the Comptroller's Office, and the City is not under fiscal stress at this time.

#### c. West State Street Restriping

Alderman Smith explained that the street looks very good now that the work is complete to restripe the lanes. He explained that he believes that the company did a very competent job. He explained that the newly reconfigured lanes seem to be running really well, but that there is some backup in areas. He explained that the Council and the City will have to monitor this situation closely while citizens get used to the change to ensure that additional changes don't need to be made in the future.

Alderman Smith asked if light times have been changed, and Mr. Ring responded that they have not been. He explained that he has considered applying for a CFA for a traffic study to determine the optimal timing for the lights on West State Street.

Alderman Smith asked if the 20<sup>th</sup> Street light is tripped, and Mr. Ring replied that it is, and it only changes when a vehicle activates the loop.

Alderman Smith asked about the "dead zone" between the lane and the curb, and Mr. Ring replied that it is the shoulder, and it is not really a traffic lane. Alderman Smith asked if it is legal to ride a bicycle in this lane, and Mr. Ring replied that it is. Mayor Aiello added that the City did not have enough room in the roadway to get the six feet required for a bike lane. He noted that this should also help solve the problem of vehicles hitting and damaging drains and grates.

Alderman Dougherty asked if the restriping stopped at Independence Drive because that is where the City line is, and Mayor Aiello responded that it did.

Alderman Gonzalez commented that the Farmers' Market Project is looking amazing, and Mayor Aiello added that there is a lot of renovation going on with the Old Library as well in the same corridor.

Alderman Crawford explained that he has spoken with DPW, and if there is a storm drain that needs to be cleaned out, that residents are able to do this themselves.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.