

## CITY OPERATIONS

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

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

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 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, September 3, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019 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. Discussion – Tree Program Changes

Alderman Smith explained that the Council discussed previously the issues with the current tree program, and that the proposed legislation allows a property owner to choose their own contractor, pay for the removal themselves, and be reimbursed for half of the cost if they follow the requirements of the program. He noted that with the new model, however, he is concerned that the resident could possibly choose a contractor whose pricing is more than the City's contractor.

Mr. Ring explained that he feels that the City could potentially catch when a contractor charges more than the City contractor through the application process for the rebate. Alderman Crawford explained that he feels that the legislation should include wording that the City will reimburse one half of the cost for either the property owner's chosen contractor or the City's contractor, whichever is less. Mr. DiCerbo agreed that working could be placed in the application to notify the property owner that if their contractor's rate is higher than the City's contractor, that the City will only reimburse half of the cost of the City's contractor (as it is less).

Alderman George asked if this could all be vetted out and explained through the application and approval process, and Mr. DiCerbo responded that it can. Alderman Crawford noted that the application could include a place for the property owner to provide the removal cost given by their chosen contractor, and the City could then notify the property owner if the City's contractor could take care of the removal for a lesser cost.

Mr. Ring asked if there will be anything in the program to address property damage, or if this will be handled outside of the Code. Alderman Crawford asked how the City handles it if the City's tree removal contractor damages the sidewalk when working, and Mr. Ring responded that their payment is held until the damage is taken care of. Alderman Crawford asked who inspects the tree before and after removal, and Mr. Ring responded that the City Forester does, and takes photos as well. Alderman Crawford explained that he feels that it should be the homeowner's responsibility, and Mr. DiCerbo noted that when the property is inspected after the removal, if there is damage to the sidewalk, funds could be held until the damage is corrected.

Ms. Taylor noted that she would update the legislation with the Council's requested changes and ensure publication of the Code change in order to vote on the Resolution the first meeting in October.

b. Discussion – All Aboard for Olean, a City-wide Cleanup

Alderman Crawford explained that he has heard from a few of the Aldermen regarding their availability for the cleanup, and he is looking for team leaders. He explained that he is looking to hold the event from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday. He explained that a lot of local organizations have shown interest. He noted that the plan is to meet at 9 a.m. at War Vets Park, and that the City is providing bags and gloves. The number of volunteers will determine where cleaning will occur.

Alderman Dougherty explained that Sean Dixon from Beichner Waste will be driving around a small body truck and will be picking up garbage from coned-off sections in different areas of the City. He noted that recycling will be picked up separately and can be separated, and different business are donating areas for the garbage to be picked up.

Alderman Crawford explained that he is very appreciate to all of the businesses who are aiding in this effort.

Alderman Witte explained that the City needs to make it clear what this City-wide cleanup is, and that it is not the time for residents to put their garbage on the curb.

Alderman Dougherty explained that there are currently four proposed litter stations: War Vets Park, the John J. Ash Community Center, t the old St. Francis lot, and possibly at the City Garage.

Alderman Crawford explained that he did not want to scare people off with a 6-7 hour event.

Alderman Dougherty explained that the church he owns next to the Municipal Building will be open for bathrooms and will provide water to volunteers, and the trucks going through the City will have coolers with water as well.

Alderman Crawford explained that the City's event has been formally signed up with the National Cleanup Day organization.

#### 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 5:55 p.m.