

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

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

1. Roll Call

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

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meetings (Tuesday, January 15, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

None

4. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Presentation – Whitney Avenue Trailhead Parklet Project

Trailhead Parklet

Play Everywhere Challenge Winner!

KaBOOM! and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

Ms. Kerper explained that the City applied to KaBOOM! during the first round of funding last summer, and was notified that we were awarded funding under the Play Everywhere Challenge.

Play Everywhere is the result of turning everyday spaces into PLAYces



She continued that the City will be transforming a vacant parcel into an urban everyday play space.

Vacant City-Owned Whitney Avenue Property along the Allegheny River Valley Trail

**Transform the area into an inclusive social center for positive
interaction and play**



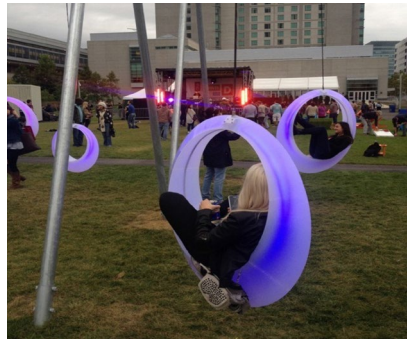
Regulation Size Outdoor Ping Pong Table

Geared for all ages and levels of play



Ms. Kerper explained that the City had originally planned for a ping pong table in the shape of a space ship; however, due to changes with the vendor, the City will now be installing a ping pong table as show in the above left picture. She explained that this provides a little shift in the budget as well that will allow the City to expand on some other things.

LED Glow Swings



- Swing, relax and enjoy Walkable Olean
- Visual Artwork Downtown



Ms. Kerper explained that the LED glow swings will light up during the evening and night, and will change colors. She explained that this KaBOOM! grant is really for a different space than a traditional playground with one heavy piece of equipment, so this parklet is being designed with different equipment to be a more urban space.

Decorative Rock Climbing Wall



- Designed to mirror nearby railroad ties
- Embrace the surrounding environment
- Encouraging physical activity

Ms. Kerper explained that the rock climbing wall is designed to mirror the nearby railroad tracks and will help tie the parklet into the surrounding area.

Outdoor Musical Instruments



- Sensory Play
- Creative Expression
- Interactive

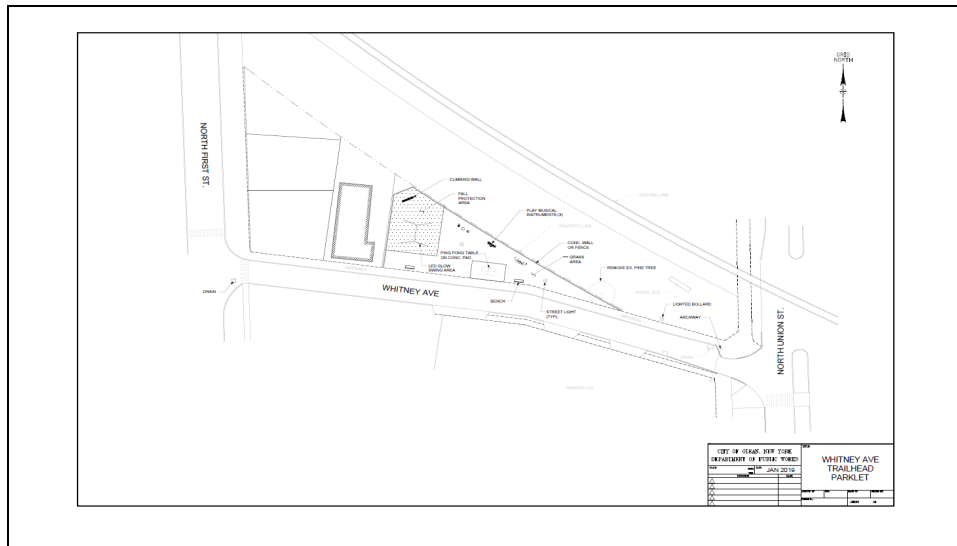
Ms. Kerper explained that the parklet is meant for people of all ages, and the outdoor musical instruments are an excellent way to allow for those of all ages to participate in the parklet's activities.

Fencing

Delineate the space and create a safe barrier between the parklet and railroad



Ms. Kerper explained that she is working with the City on the fencing on the possibility of doing a mural along the fence, utilizing local artists. She explained that there are many different ideas for the mural, and that community input is welcome.



Mr. Ring explained that the site plan calls for the glow swings to be installed on the left side on fall protection along with the climbing wall. He explained that the ping pong table will be on a concrete pad, with the instruments against the fence. Other improvements shown, such as lighting and benches, may come at a later date. He explained that there will also be a fence between the park and the railroad, on which the proposed mural may be placed.

Project Budget

Playground Equipment	\$28,358	Funding Sources	
Site Preparation	\$ 6,000	KaBOOM! / RCWJF	\$38,000
Surfacing	\$ 3,900	In-Kind	\$ 10,400
Fencing	\$15,000	City / DPW	\$ 7,858
Installation	\$ 3,000	Mayor	\$ 120
Opening Ceremony & Play Day	\$ 120		
Total Project	\$56,378	Total Funding	\$56,378

Ms. Kerper explained that the project is fully funded.

Project Timeline

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Press Release Award Announcement | • August 17, 2018 |
| • Excavation and site preparation | • June 3, 2019 |
| • Construction commence | • June 17, 2019 |
| • Construction completion | • July 5, 2019 |
| • Opening Ceremony & Play Day | • July 19, 2019 |

Ms. Kerper reviewed the timeline with the Council, and explained that the Department of Public Works will be doing the excavation, site preparation, and installation. She wanted to update the Council as to where we are with the vision for the parklet. They have tried doing some planning ahead, but input is always welcome.

Alderman Gonzalez asked if this new park space would involve any designations or naming from the Council, and Ms. Kerper responded that it is being called the “Trailhead Parklet” currently

because it is an urban parklet like what is found in larger Cities. The name of the park can always be chosen by the Council, however, and can be discussed at a later time.

Alderman Andreano asked if the murals will be kid-oriented, and Ms. Kerper explained that some ideas that have been thrown out there are for a mural honoring the City's history, interactive and educational ideas, a memorial for veterans, and many others. She explained that the community will have input on the mural. Alderman Andreano mentioned that the Olean High School art club could possibly aid with the creation of the mural.

Ms. Kerper explained that Amy Sherburn, who rallied local artists for the squirrels in the City, has been rallying local artists for this project, and she can come to the Council with her input on the mural as well.

Mayor Aiello explained that this will be a nice place downtown, and Ms. Kerper added that the parklet will really connect with the Safe Routes to Schools, the Allegany River Trail, and Walkable Olean.

- b. PL #09-19: (Aiello) That the Common Council as Lead Agency concludes that the proposed City of Olean Allegany River Wastewater Syphon Study is a Type II Action and that after full review of the Environmental Assessment Form determines that the project will have no adverse environmental impact and thus declares a Negative Declaration.

Mayor Aiello explained that the City can no longer go underneath the river with sewage, and will need to develop a syphon.

Mr. Ring explained that the SEQR, as presented, only handles the study portion of the project, and is a requirement of the grant execution.

A motion to approve PL #09-19 was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Dougherty. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to City Attorney for Resolution.

- c. PL #10-19: (Aiello) To authorize the Mayor to sign and submit a grant application to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under the Engineering Planning Grant Program (EPG) for the City of Olean Allegany River Wastewater Syphon Study, and to authorize the commitment of \$6,000 of

funding from the 2018-2019 Sewer Fund budget for the local match required for said application.

Mr. Ring explained that the City has been awarded the funding, which requires a local match of \$6,000. This is to replace the syphon under the river, and the idea is to eliminate the underwater crossings. He explained that we want to eliminate these before issues arise, as they can be difficult to discover and even more difficult to fix. He explained that this project is a major project on the Sanitary Sewer Master plan. A pump station would be constructed on the south side of the river and would be pumped over the river, under the bridge, as was recently done on the East State Street bridge. He explained that the study is the catalyst for the next part of the project, which is estimated to begin next July. The total project cost is around \$1 million.

Alderman Smith asked if the pump station would have a generator in case power is lost, as all of South Olean would be down if the pump station was down. Mr. Ring replied that it would. Alderman Andreano mentioned that she doesn't know why the pump stations are all not just gas powered, since the City can't depend on the electric. Alderman Witte asked what size the lines would be under the bridge, and Mr. Ring responded that the East State Street Bridge has three lines, three inches each, and it would be similar. Small insulated PVC lines would be used.

A motion to amend PL #10-19 to read:

"To authorize the Mayor to sign and execute a grant agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under the Engineering Planning Grant Program (EPG) for the City of Olean Allegany River Wastewater Syphon Study, and to authorize the commitment of \$6,000 funding from the 2018-2019 Sewer Fund budget for the local match required for said grant agreement"

was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Witte. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

A motion to approve PL #10-19, as amended, was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Dougherty. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to City Attorney for Resolution.

d. Discussion – Oversize Load Permits

Mayor Aiello explained that when the Council changed fee structures last year to align with the budget, the overweight vehicle permits went from no cost to \$150 per trip or \$1000 blanket permit for the year. He explained that there has been resistance from the trucking companies and the City may have been overzealous with the fees.

Mr. Ring explained that there used to be no fee for permits for oversized load vehicles, yet only two or three were taken out a year while fifty to sixty loads went through the City. He explained that the idea behind charging a fee is to try to recover costs associated with fixing the wear and tear on the roadways caused by the larger trucks. He explained that an oversized truck is defined by a weight of 18,000 pounds or more per axle.

Mr. Ring continued that there are a lot of people who own their own trucks, and \$1,000 a year is a lot of money to spend. The County charges \$250 per year, and the State charges \$750 or \$900, depending on the region. He feels that the City should consider charging less. He explained that the City is getting ready to enforce these permits and fees. He recommended possibly matching the County's rate of \$250 per year.

Alderman Smith asked if this cost is per fleet or per truck, and Mr. Ring responded that it is per truck.

Alderman Dougherty explained that he feels that we have been letting these oversized load vehicles go through the City for years without getting permits, while it is their responsibility to get the permits from us and to pay the permit fee to deter the cost of the damage to the infrastructure.

Alderman Smith asked if Mr. Ring is aware of any other municipality that charges, and Mr. Ring replied that he is unsure.

Alderman Witte explained that the County and State are using the revenues from these permit fees to try to fix their roads, and she feels that the City should do the same thing. She does not feel that taxpayers should have to bear this cost.

Mayor Aiello explained that he would like to hold off on collecting fees at this time, and that he will come back to the next meeting with a plan to present to the Council.

Alderman Smith explained that a lot of his customers drive these types of vehicles, and they feel that they are already paying their fair share, in addition to the high cost to license and register these vehicles. He feels that truck drivers and companies are already overtaxed and feed, and he thinks that the City adding this fee is excessive. He explained that these drivers and owners shop in our stores, go to our schools, live in our City and contribute to our economy, and he does not feel that we should punish them for their occupation.

Alderman Witte explained that she understands what Alderman Smith is saying; however, she still feels that taxpayers shouldn't bear the entire cost of street reconstruction when oversized load vehicles are damaging roadways.

Alderman George explained that he feels that a fee of \$250 per year is a more reasonable approach. Alderman Gonzalez added that he does not want to get married to a specific amount until a plan is formulated, but he does feel that the County's fee is more appropriate than the City's \$1,000 fee.

Alderman Smith asked how this is enforced, and Mr. Ring replied that there is a State Trooper who is certified to do this, and the City has been working with him. He added that pavement on a lot of the City streets is four inches thick, while pavement on main roads that are more appropriate for oversized vehicles to travel on is twelve inches thick. There is a significant difference and a significant difference in cost.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

A motion to approve committee reports was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Andreano. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

6. Adjournment

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