

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

*TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.*

## COUNCIL CHAMBERS – OLEAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: ALDERMEN GONZALEZ, WITTE, PANUS, DOUGHERTY, CRAWFORD, SMITH, AND ANASTASIA. OTHERS: MAYOR WILLIAM AIELLO; LENS MARTIAL, CITY CLERK; NICHOLAS DICERBO, JR., CITY ATTORNEY; FRED SARADIN, CITY AUDITOR; TIM RICHARDSON, FIRE CHIEF; JEFF ROWLEY, POLICE CHIEF, AND TIFFANY TAYLOR, MANAGERIAL CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY.

Alderman Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all Aldermen were present.

1. PL #15-20: (Aiello) To establish the Standard Work Days pursuant to New York State and Local Retirement System Regulation 315.4.

Mayor Aiello explained that this is required by the State of New York Retirement System, and that the City must set numbers of hours for each position for the standard workday. He explained that the City is cleaning up the list and ensuring that all positions in the City are included.

A motion to approve PL #15-20 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Anastasia. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

2. PL #16-20: (Crawford) To authorize the transfer of \$24,000 from General Fund Contingency to line item 3650.447, Demolition of Unsafe Buildings, for funding associated with the demolition of the City-owned properties located at 1013 Washington Street and 303 East Elm Street.

Alderman Crawford explained that this issue was brought up and discussed last week during committees. He explained that the Council asked the Mayor, City Attorney and Code Enforcement to reach out to see how quickly bids could be received to demolish these properties, seeing as there is a particular company currently in town giving the City pretty competitive bids on unsafe structures due to work that they are doing for the Cattaraugus County Land Bank. He explained that they had previously demolished the structure that caught fire on Buffalo Street. Alderman Crawford explained that bids have been received and sent by email to the Council.

Mayor Aiello explained that the cost to demolish and clean up the property at 1013 Washington Street is \$19,300, and the cost to demolish the structure and clean up the property at 303 East Elm Street is \$18,650.

Alderman Crawford explained that these are the two remaining blight houses that the Council asked the County for last year. He explained that he is happy to see the Council pursuing fighting blight in neighborhoods. He explained that there is approximately \$14,000 remaining in the demolition line item, so he is asking for \$24,000 from General Fund Contingency for the cost of these demolitions and to take advantage of competitive prices.

Alderman Gonzalez explained that he feels that if the Council is going to spend Contingency money that this is the sort of place it should be spent, especially with the deal that the City is getting. He thinks that this is a great idea. Alderman Crawford explained that in the past the Council has seen how expensive demolitions can be, and anything under \$25,000 is as good of a deal as he thinks the City will get. He explained that the demolition company has done a great job on the Buffalo Street property as well.

Alderman Gonzalez asked how much is left in General Fund Contingency, and Mr. Saradin explained that approximately \$200,000 would be left if this transfer is approved. Alderman Crawford explained that he has reached out to the Mayor, and he does not see anything else that the Contingency may need to be used for between now and the end of the fiscal year, barring any unexpected emergencies.

Mayor Aiello explained that he feels that this is a good deal, especially with these prices. He explained that the Council has been talking about blight houses, and if the City will have the opportunity to take two down at a reasonable price, then it is a great thing to do.

Alderman Anastasia asked if the City will be able to recuperate any money from the Buffalo Street demolition, and Mr. DiCerbo responded that the City is doing what it can to recover this funding.

A motion to approve PL #16-20 was made by Alderman Crawford, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

### 3. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.