

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

*TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.*

## **COUNCIL CHAMBERS – OLEAN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

IN ATTENDANCE WERE: ALDERMEN GONZALEZ, WITTE, PANUS, DOUGHERTY, CRAWFORD, AND ANASTASIA. OTHERS: MAYOR WILLIAM AIELLO; LENS MARTIAL, CITY CLERK; NICHOLAS DICERBO, JR., CITY ATTORNEY; FRED SARADIN, CITY AUDITOR; BOB RING, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS; 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 #18-20: (Aiello) To authorize the implementation and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-aid eligible costs, of Walkable Olean – Phase III, a transportation federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore.

Mr. Ring explained that this is related to the East State Street project. He explained that the City had DRI funding, but that there is also a New York State Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant. He explained that this resolution allocates the funding from the New York State Department of Transportation for the design phase of the project. He explained that the Council has passed a couple of resolutions already for this project, and that this resolution allows the City to move forward with the design portion of the project, and it will allow the Federal Government to pass the funding along to the State Government for the grant. He noted that there will be a public meeting

Alderman Crawford asked if there has been any communication from the Governor or the State in regards to this, or any other project, when it comes to grants that the City has been awarded but has not yet received. He explained that he did not know how everything will proceed with the pandemic and if the City has been promised grant money that might not be there when everything is said and done. Mayor Aiello explained that he has not received any communication to that effect, but he has received communication regarding keeping the community and the economy going during this hard time. He explained that everything is so up in the air right now, and that he has been advised to keep business going as usual. He explained that the City will continue to move forward with this very fluid situation.

Mayor Aiello explained that the Governor has talked about not only treatment, but also about getting the economy going again. He explained that the Governor has hired an advisor to aid in this effort and there were indications today that he wants to get things going as soon as possible. He explained that the City did just receive the check for AIMS funding and the City anticipates

getting sales tax money in the next week. HE explained that the State has not reached out regarding reducing funding to the City.

A motion to approve PL #18-20 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

2. PL #19-20: (Aiello) To authorize the Mayor to execute a Third Party Operator Agreement for the Olean Area Transit System between the City of Olean and First Transit, Inc. for services for the period June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

Mayor Aiello explained that he passed out a sheet to the Council that goes through a timeline that Ms. Stephen and her staff put together regarding getting bids for the continuation of the operation of the OATS busses. He explained that, as they can see, First Transit was the best response to the RFP process and the City would like to continue with First Transit for services. He explained that this is a Federally funded program and that with Federal funds and partner shares, this is basically a fully funded program.

A motion to approve PL #19-20 was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Dougherty. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Referred to Regular Meeting for Resolution.

3. PL #20-20: (Aiello) To award the bid for electrical energy services to Constellation New Energy, Inc.

Mr. Ring explained that this was discussed in committee last week. He explained that the City's electrical energy contract is set to renew June 1<sup>st</sup>, and this company has gotten the low bid from Genesee County which allows other communities to piggyback on the bid. He explained that the City would sign a three year contract with the company and this would set the cost on electric at the historic low. He explained that the City would save around \$17,000 a year based on the current usage, not taking into consideration what the City will save on LED conversion and other ongoing projects.

Alderman Gonzalez asked if this is solely for the City's service, and Mr. Ring responded that is correct. He explained that the City probably has around twenty electrical services through the City.

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

#### 4. Adjournment

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