

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Tuesday, May 23, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.
Common Council Regular Meeting
Common Council Chambers

Roll call was taken.

PRESENT:

Mayor Keeler
Council President McCarthy
Council Member Smith
Council Member Russell
Council Member Briggs
Council Member Biggs
Council Member Alesio

EXCUSED:

None

Mayor Keeler, "First I would like to give a few project updates on several projects. Columbia St. sidewalk replacement (Trull to Broadway) north side completed today, south side will start tomorrow, should be done by July. Design work for larger Columbia St. project will be available by July and includes trees, sidewalks with bump-outs, curbing and paving, 2024 project. White St. streetscape project starts in June (Main St. to Mohawk St.) includes paving, sidewalks, and curbing. City Hall roof project, erecting scaffolding around the building. Will take a month to complete. New slate roofing is arriving at the municipal lot behind the police station. Anticipate completion by this fall. New HVAC systems in City Hall and Music Hall are planned, funding will come largely from grants, but also include money from the bond we approved related to the LED streetlight project. Remsen St. fire site development, Office of Community and Economic Development currently have ownership of 4 of the 6 lots, the remaining 2 have been foreclosed on. Our plan is to dedicate \$2M of the \$10M DRI grant to the fire site redevelopment. 45 Johnston Ave. is back in front of the Zoning Board. The original request was for 16 – 1-bedroom apartments. The Zoning Board approved 10 – 1-to-2-bedroom units. Developer states with inflation rates have pushed costs up and they require the 16 units to make it work. Floating Solar, DEC permitting approvals are imminent, DOH permits are not far behind. Working on securing the \$3M federal funds and seeking additional federal funding the inflation reduction act. Energy production is 100% on day 1, reduced by .5% annually. 85% after 30 years (when panels are replaced, used panels typically sold to 3rd world countries). Memorial Day Ceremony is Thursday, May 25 at 6PM at Veterans Park. All are welcome.

Public Comment:

Sean VanSleet, Orchard St., "I received a notice from BOE. I have been a registered voter for 45 years and an inspector for 3 years. Why did I not receive a letter from the Chef?"

Mayor Keeler, "Company has a database. They gave us a quote; we told them to cut it in half. They sent the letters out."

Council Member Smtih, "Some wards received letters, while others did not."

Brendon LeQue, Grant St., "Attention needs to be given to the filtration plant. They have 30-40 violations. Is this being addressed?"

Mayor Keeler, "They have 10-12 violations. The buildings are old. We are doing what we can."

Brandon LeQue, "Mohawk Ambulance said they could service the city. Can you clarify?"

Mayor Keeler, "Mohawk is un-willing or un-able to service the city. Ambulanz is servicing the city."

Joe Ritchie, Saratoga Sites, "When the demolition of Saratoga Sites, can the bushes be taken and repurposed rather than them go to waste?"

Mayor Keeler, "Saratoga Sites is under Federal Control, contact the housing authority."

Karen Muscavage, "Albany declaring Emergency for asylum seekers. A State of Emergency gives the ability to seek federal funds. Cohoes should look at doing the same."

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2023, meetings. Council Member Biggs seconded the motion. All members voted "AYE". The motion passed.

Ordinance No. 3 for 2023

AN ORDINANCE RENAMING JOHN STREET AS ROBICH STREET

Council Member Alesio made a MOTION to approve Ordinance No. 3 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Briggs. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Ordinance No. 3 for 2023 passed.

Ordinance No. 4 for 2023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 244 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COHOES REGARDING UTILITY EXCAVATIONS

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve Ordinance No. 4 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Ordinance No. 4 for 2023 passed.

Resolution No. 30 for 2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COHOES AND THE VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 30 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Briggs. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 30 for 2023 passed.

Resolution No. 31 for 2023

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

Council President McCarthy made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 31 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Briggs. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 31 for 2023 passed. A copy of the budget transfers are attached.

Resolution No. 32 for 2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS OF NEW YORK, INC. REGARDING THE LITTLE FLOATABLE CONTROL FACILITY PROJECT

Council Member Biggs made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 32 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Briggs. Council President McCarthy and Council Members Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Council Member Smith voted "NAY". Resolution No. 32 for 2023 passed.

Resolution No. 33 for 2023

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH JMT OF NEW YORK, INC. FOR PREDEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES RELATIVE TO THE SARATOGA STREET PEDESTRIAN ACCESSIBILITY AND COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 33 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 33 for 2023 passed.

Resolution No. 34 for 2023

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE TERMS OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COHOES AND THE UNIFORMED FIREFIGHTERS OF COHOES

Council Member Biggs made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 34 for 2023. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy and Council Members Smith, Russell, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Council Member Briggs abstained from voting. Resolution No. 34 for 2023 passed.

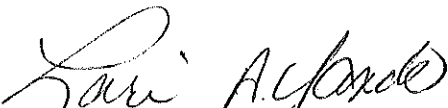
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Council Member Smith, "Before we adjourn, I would like to give a big shout out to the boys varsity and the girls lacrosse teams."

At 7:24 PM, Council President McCarthy made a MOTION to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. All members voted "AYE".


Lori A. Yando, City Clerk

