

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
October 23, 2017**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer met on October 23, 2017 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Stephen Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by invocation offered by Council Member Scott Barton and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Stephen Wood; Clerk-Treasurer Frieda Bretzinger; Council Members Scott Barton, Bill Hollerman, Rick Odle; George Cover, Ernest Watson, Jr; City Attorney Jacob Ahler; Cemetery Supt. Kevin Cochran; Park Supt. Joe Effinger; Building Commissioner Kenny Haun; Fire Chief Bob Graves; Police Chief Jeff Phillips; Utility Office Manager Heather Smart; Gas Supt. Carol Lockridge; Electric Manager of Operations Steve Miller; Electric Plant Supt. Claude Grow; Street Supt. Andy Daniels; Project Coordinator Jerry Lockridge; Caitlin Sievers with the Rensselaer Republican. Electric Lead Line Foreman Lenny Larson was absent.

Also in attendance were: Robert Schenk with Rensselaer Adventures; John Julien with Umbaugh; Stace Pickering with C/I; Ben Wanner with Best Equipment; Kiel Williams with Brown Equipment and Mike Urbano with Town and Country Construction.

The minutes of the October 9, 2017 council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Hollerman, second by Odle, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments and Presentation of Petitions: On behalf of the City of Rensselaer Wood presented a bouquet of flowers to Caitlin Sievers as she is leaving the Rensselaer Republican.

Resolution 28-2017, Transfer of Funds: Bretzinger said this transfer, as requested by department heads, has a transfer in the Mayor's Office of \$3,250.00; Police Department of \$1,000.00; Weston Cemetery of \$4,300.00 and CCD Fund of \$21,231.00. There was a motion by Cover, second by Watson, to approve the resolution as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on Electric Utility Financing: John Julien said we originally were bonding the substation project and refunding current bonds. When we went for a rating Standard & Poor's refused to rate us because the State Board of Accounts had not audited us in four years. We ended up bonding for just the substation project which was about \$2,800,000. A couple of weeks ago we sold the refunding bonds at \$4,200,000 and the closing will be October 31. We achieved a savings of around \$400,000 after costs.

Water Utility Project Financing: John Julien said construction bids are to be received November 13th so that will give us a construction figure and we need to refinance the Water BANS that will come due December 31st so we will work to pay those off. This is for Water Well #8 and the transmission line.

2018 City Supply Bid Request: Bretzinger asked permission to advertise for the 2018 city supplies which consist of gasoline, diesel fuel, and tire service. This is done annually. There was a motion by Barton, second by Watson, to bid the supplies. The motion passed unanimously.

Permission to Get Quotes for a Mower: Kevin Cochran asked permission to get quotes for a mower. The mower he wants to replace has about 1,500 hours. There was a motion by Watson, second by Hollerman, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Quotes for Full Tilt Trailer: Cochran said he needs a trailer to haul the excavator. The only quote he had was from MacAllister Machinery and it is for \$4,750.00 which Cochran is taking from his budget. There was a motion by Watson, second by Hollerman, to approve the purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Relations Fund Request: Wood asked for up to \$100.00 from the Public Relations Fund for flowers for the loss of an employee's mother. There was a motion by Hollerman, second by Cover, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

Bid Opening for a Street Sweeper: Jacob Ahler opened the bids. The results are as follows: All bids had the bid bond and the Non-Collusion Affidavit.

Best Equipment-\$157,505.00; Jack Doheny-\$189,898.00; Brown Equipment-\$204,000.00 (197,500 after trade in.)

A committee of Barton, Odle and Lockridge will review the bids and make a recommendation at the next council meeting.

2017 Street Resurfacing: Ahler opened the bids and they are as follows: All bids had the required bid bond and the Non-Collusion Affidavit.

Milestone Contractors-\$1,018,750.00; Walsh & Kelly-\$862,196.23; Town & Country-\$861,893.15.

A committee of Barton, Odle and Lockridge will review the bids and make a recommendation at the next council meeting. Wood asked if all were in favor and all voted favorably but there was no motion or second.

Activity Reports for Credit Card Use: There was a motion by Barton, second by Odle, to approve the activity reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Administrative Comments:

Barton had nothing.

Bretzinger had nothing.

Cover said it will be a late leaf season.

Hollerman had nothing.

Odle had nothing.

Watson had nothing.

Wood had nothing.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented for payment. There was a motion by Watson, second by Barton, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendents Reports:

Building Dept.: Haun said they are working on filling up the trunks for Trunk or Treat. Watson said he's talking to the state to see if he can bring two trucks out.

Cemetery Dept.: Cochran had nothing.

Electric Dept.: Miller had nothing. Grow had nothing.

Fire Dept.: Graves had nothing.

Gas Dept.: Lockridge had nothing.

Legal Dept.: Ahler had nothing.

Park Dept.: Effinger said the American Legion donated a 30' flag pole at Flat Iron Park. City labor put the pole together and install it.

Police Dept.: Phillips had nothing.


Street, Sanitation, Sewage and Water Dept.: Daniels said the water line has been reinstalled on the Washington Street bridge and it's back in service. Lockridge said there's a change order for Rural Development to finish the line by the library.

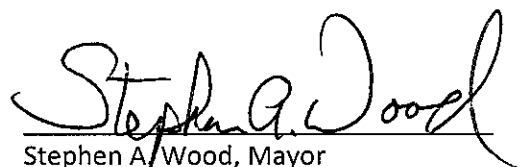
Utility Office: Smart had nothing.

Downtown Planning Grant Meeting: Pickering reminded everyone that there is a meeting tomorrow (the meeting is actually Wednesday) at 11:00 a.m. at City Hall.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Barton, second by Cover, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Attest.


Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-Treasurer


Stephen A. Wood, Mayor