

THE HONORABLE BODY  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Building  
North Tonawanda, New York 14120  
Tuesday, March 5, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

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REGULAR SESSION CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT ZADZILKA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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ROLL CALL

Present: President Zadzilka  
Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec

Absent: None

Also Present: Mayor Arthur G. Pappas  
City Attorney Luke Brown

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### AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ed Smolinski 1374 Sweeney Street – Regarding Cell Phone Policy, Thinks cell phones are a necessity, Council is issued iPads, but some people might be droid people, Lawyers use phones to look up laws. If someone is sitting up here playing Candy Crush, shame on them. Said that the Clerk does not have the Legal Authority to put an item on the agenda, he is only a secretary.

Bob Brennan 333 Daniel Drive – Said that the Clerk is there to take minutes, the City is backwards and sleepy, he agrees with Mr. Smolinski.

Brad Smith 1058 East Robinson Street – Regarding closing Tonawanda Island Bridge, just wants to be sure that the bridge is closed for only short periods of time, would suggest doing it on Sunday instead. If it only stops for 10 minutes at a time everything is fine.

Sonia Dusza 123 Miller Street – Thanked Mr. Parish for having the information up on the web page in a timely manner. Asked about the OPEIU contract.

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### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION FEBRUARY 19, 2019

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka                      SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro  
That the minutes of the regular session meeting held February 19, 2019 be approved as circulated and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.  
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka                      (5)  
Nays: None    (0)  
CARRIED.

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### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION FEBRUARY 26, 2019

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Berube  
That the minutes of the special session meeting held February 26, 2019 be approved as circulated and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.  
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka                      (5)  
Nays: None    (0)  
CARRIED.

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**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

**#1 Austin Tylec**

February 12, 2019

North Tonawanda Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

**Re: Parliamentary Procedures**

Dear Honorable Body:

Attached is a resolution seeking to define Parliamentary Procedures within our City's codes. I believe that we must begin to define these procedures if we as a legislative body are to conduct fluid and organized meetings, while giving equal opportunity for all representatives to be heard.

Please put the attached resolution on the Common Council agenda scheduled for 2/19/19.

Sincerely,  
Austin J. Tylec  
Alderman-at-Large

That the Common Council hereby agrees to keep the aforementioned communication tabled for further review.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)  
Nays: None (0)  
CARRIED.

**#2 Robert Pecoraro**

February 14, 2019

North Tonawanda Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

**Re: Agenda Items and Parliamentary Procedure**

Colleagues:

Please find enclosed within a request to add language within our parliamentary procedure items that helps address the timing and submission of agenda items for their appearance on the official agenda prior to legal vote.

At our workshop there was a lot of concern pertaining to the submission and ability of any item to be put on the Council agenda. I have asked the City Attorney to include language that allows a practical approach to resolving this problem.

That language essentially allows anyone to put forth an agenda item provided it receives a majority of the votes in our workshop. If that item does not receive a majority of votes whether it's due to content or more discussion, then it would be automatically qualified to be put on the agenda for the next council meeting thereafter. This is designed to help foster discussion among our distinguished body and allow an avenue for everything to reach a vote within a reasonable time. I would like the City Attorney to take this resolution and adopt it into our parliamentary rules.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Respectfully and Honorable,  
Robert Pecoraro, Alderman-at-Large  
City of North Tonawanda

That the Common Council hereby agrees to keep the aforementioned communication tabled for further review.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

**#3 Eric Zadzilka**

February 14, 2019

North Tonawanda Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Parliamentary Agenda Items

Honorable Council:

Enclosed is a request to add language to our parliamentary procedure items that helps address late resolutions and their ability to reach the workshop or council agenda.

We have previously discussed that each council person should be afforded flexibility when it comes to putting an agenda item on the workshop or council agenda. While we have rules for timely submissions, I am requesting that the City Attorney add language to allow late resolutions, proclamations, or items for approval, to be included provided it has the signatures of a majority of the council members prior to the start of any official meeting.

This allows any member of the Council to be responsive to residents and any City business deemed important in their view.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Respectfully and Honorable,  
Eric Zadzilka, Council President  
City of North Tonawanda

That the Common Council hereby agrees to keep the aforementioned communication tabled for further review.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

**II.1 Attorney**

February 27, 2019

Honorable Arthur G. Pappas, Mayor  
and Common Council  
City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: MOA Between the North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association, Inc.  
and the City of North Tonawanda

Dear Honorable Body:

Attached hereto is a proposed Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") between the North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association ("PBA") and the City of North Tonawanda ("City") regarding changes to section 12.5 of the current PBA contract. After consultation with City Accountant Amanda Reimer, it is anticipated that this change in medical waiver payouts will result in a substantial savings to the City.

Considering the above, I am requesting that the Common Council pass a resolution approving the MOA for the Mayor's signature.

Very truly yours,  
**Luke A. Brown**  
 City Attorney

**MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka                      SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro**  
**That the Common Council at a regular session meeting, held at City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda, New York at 6:30 PM on March 5, 2019 the Council approved the Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) Between the North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association, Inc. and the City of North Tonawanda and read as follows:**

**CITY OF NORTH TONAWANDA  
 MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

The parties to this Memorandum of Agreement are the City of North Tonawanda, New York (referred to herein as “Employer”) and the North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association (referred to herein as “Union”).

The following changes are agreed to between the Employer and Union for the term of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2020, as follows:

- 1) Amend §12.5 as follows:

Employees wishing to waive the cost of medical coverage shall be eligible to receive seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00) for the period of January 1 through December 31 in their pay check on the first payday in December, as a modification to wages (subject to taxes). Further, the City will contribute additional monies towards the PBA dental/optical fund based upon the number of employees waving medical coverage as outlined in the below chart:

Number of Officers Waiving Medical	Additional Amount to Dental/Optical
9 and below	\$0
10-14	\$20,000
15+	\$30,000

This Memorandum of Agreement will expire on December 31, 2020 unless both parties agree to continue the above terms.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the duly-authorized representatives of the parties have signed their names to this Memorandum of Agreement indicating their acceptance of said terms this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

NORTH TONAWANDA POLICE  
 BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

CITY OF NORTH TONAWANDA  
 NEW YORK

**Subject to further review by the City Attorney**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka**

**(5)**

**Nays: None**

**(0)**

**CARRIED.**

**II.2 Attorney**

**February 28, 2019**

**Honorable Arthur G. Pappas, Mayor  
 And Common Council Members  
 City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue  
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

**Re: Proposed Contract Agreement between City of North Tonawanda and  
 The Office and Professionals Employees International Union**

**Dear Honorable Body:**

**The City negotiating committee met with the OPEIU negotiating team on multiple occasions beginning in late 2018. I have attached the contract in its entirety with the proposed changes**

**in bold and have provided below a brief explanation of the changes to the agreement:**

1. §1.2.1 & §2.3.1 – makes this a 5 year agreement from 1/1/19 through 12/31/23.
2. §2.1.4 – Allows OPEIU to meet on City property with advanced notice to the City.
3. §6.1.1 – City agrees to following salary schedule:

Effective January 1, 2019, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2018 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2020, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2019 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2021, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2020 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2022, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2021 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2023, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2021 salary levels.

4. §6.1.6 – Eliminates Annual Stipends.
5. §8.2.6 – Changes the time frame for cashing in vacation time until after it is actually accrued.
6. §9.2.2 – Accounts for the actual sick leave credits for the Fire Chief to be rolled over based on the Local 1333 work schedule.
7. §11.1.3(a) and (c) – Requires employees hired by the City of North Tonawanda after the signature of this contract to contribute to medical costs upon retirement.
8. §11.3.1 – Increases longevity payments by 10% and makes longevity payable on employees anniversary date.
9. §11.4.2 – Increases the incentive to take the medical waiver.
10. §15.1.2 – Allows employees to earn compensation time at time and a half rate and to cash in up to 70 hours of comp time per year. Further, this section establishes a means by which the Mayor approves or disapproves comp time.
11. §16.1.12 – Establishes a collaborative process between the City and Union to address disciplinary concerns prior to formal discipline.

**If these changes meet with the Council's approve, I would request that you approve the OPEIU contract with the noted changes for the Mayor's signature. Thank you.**

**Very truly yours,  
Luke A. Brown  
City Attorney**

**MOVED by Alderman Braun                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council at a regular session meeting, held at City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue,  
North Tonawanda, New York at 6:30 PM on March 5, 2019 the Council approved the OPEIU  
contract with noted changes as follows:**

1. §1.2.1 & §2.3.1 – makes this a 5 year agreement from 1/1/19 through 12/31/23.
2. §2.1.4 – Allows OPEIU to meet on City property with advanced notice to the City.
3. §6.1.1 – City agrees to following salary schedule:

Effective January 1, 2019, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2018 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2020, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2019 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2021, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2020 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2022, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2021 salary levels.

Effective January 1, 2023, the salary shall be increased by 2.0% over the 2021 salary levels.

4. §6.1.6 – Eliminates Annual Stipends.
5. §8.2.6 – Changes the time frame for cashing in vacation time until after it is actually accrued.
6. §9.2.2 – Accounts for the actual sick leave credits for the Fire Chief to be rolled over based on the Local 1333 work schedule.
7. §11.1.3(a) and (c) – Requires employees hired by the City of North Tonawanda after the signature of this contract to contribute to medical costs upon retirement.
8. §11.3.1 – Increases longevity payments by 10% and makes longevity payable on employees anniversary date.
9. §11.4.2 – Increases the incentive to take the medical waiver.
10. §15.1.2 – Allows employees to earn compensation time at time and a half rate and to cash in up to 70 hours of comp time per year. Further, this section establishes a means by which the Mayor approves or disapproves comp time.
11. §16.1.12 – Establishes a collaborative process between the City and Union to address disciplinary concerns prior to formal discipline.

**Subject to further review by the City Attorney**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka**

**(5)**

**Nays: None**

**(0)**

**CARRIED.**

### **III. Clerk-Treasurer**

**North Tonawanda Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

#### **Re: Cell Phone / Electronic Communication Device Policy**

**Enclosed is a request to establish a policy regarding the use of cell phones and other electronic communication devices during Common Council meetings and workshops.**

**As you are in the process of establishing proper parliamentary procedures and clarifying some current policies regarding attendance, agenda item submission, etc. I believe that the issue of meeting decorum, specifically, the usage of cell phones and all other non-city issued communication devices should be addressed. I have observed that the use of cell phones and other electronic communication devices has been prevalent throughout the Council meetings and workshops. I feel that this practice is neither appropriate nor necessary.**

**I am of the opinion that elected officials, as employees of the taxpayers, and citizens of North Tonawanda should be one hundred percent present and engaged during meeting discussions. As law makers and elected officials, you are expected to make informed decisions in the best interest of the city. I believe that such decisions can be made only if the individuals making them are actively participating in the topics being discussed. I am also of the opinion that an**

individual cannot be fully engaged in a discussion if he or she is constantly distracted by their cell phone or other electronic communication device.

I am requesting that the council establish a policy prohibiting the use of all non-city issued electronic communication devices including, but not limited to; cell phones, tablets (excluding city issued i pads), apple watches, fit bits, etc. If an individual is observed using an electronic communication device during a meeting or workshop they may be subject to disciplinary action at the Mayor's discretion.

I appreciate your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Matthew L. Parish  
City Clerk Treasurer

**MOVED** by Alderman Zadzilka                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby approves the creation of a non-city issued Cell Phone /  
Electronic Communication Device Policy for law makers and elected officials of the City of  
North Tonawanda.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)  
Nays: None (0)  
**CARRIED.**

#### IV. Engineer

February 26, 2019

Honorable Arthur G. Pappas, Mayor  
And Common Council Members  
City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

**Re: Project 2017-01 Fifth Avenue Storm Sewer Separation Project  
Award of Contract**

Dear Honorable Body:

On February 26, 2019, nine (9) bids were received and opened by the City Clerk for the Fifth Avenue Storm Sewer Separation Project. The results are as follows:

Base Bid:

1. NFP and Sons, Inc.	\$111,438.00
2. New Frontier Excavating and Paving Inc.	\$138,450.00
3. 4 <sup>th</sup> Generation Construction Inc.	\$148,340.00
4. Mar-Wal Construction Co. Inc.	\$151,880.00
5. Scott Lawn Yard	\$169,434.00
6. Nova Site Co, LLC	\$177,000.00
7. Mark Cerrone Inc.	\$188,992.00
8. Occhino Corp.	\$193,500.00
9. Pinto Construction Services, Inc.	\$228,642.00

The Engineering Department has reviewed the bid results and are recommending award of the Contract. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Common Council award the Fifth Avenue Storm Sewer Separation Project to NFP and Sons, Inc. 7311 Ward Road, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, at their low Base Bid amount of \$111,438.00; authorizing the Mayor to sign contract subject to review by the City Attorney.

Very truly yours,  
Dale W. Marshall  
City Engineer

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro

SECONDED by Alderman Tylec

That the Common Council hereby awards the contract for Project 2017-01 Fifth Avenue Storm Sewer Separation Project to NFP and Sons, Inc. 7311 Ward Road, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, at their bid amount of \$111,438.00, Council authorizes the Mayor to sign said contract subject to review by the City Attorney.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka

(5)

Nays: None

(0)

CARRIED.

VII. Accountant

February 26, 2019

Honorable Arthur G. Pappas, Mayor  
and Common Council  
City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Dear Honorable Body:

In accordance with Article V, Division 1, Section 5.002 and 5.003 of the City Charter, an Abstract Sheet, comprised of a Warrant of Claims, has been submitted by this office for your review and approval.

Accordingly, please authorize for payment the current Warrant of Claims for Common Council audit, dated March 5, 2019 and further authorize the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant.

Regards,  
Amanda Reimer  
City Accountant

MOVED by Alderman Berube

SECONDED by Alderman Braun

That the Common Council hereby authorizes for payment the current Abstract of Claims for Common Council Audit dated March 5, 2019 and further authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant:

01	General Fund	\$291,816.45
02	Water Fund	49,097.64
04	Sewer Fund	58,624.19
06	Capital Project Fund	1,155.94
07	Trust & Agency Fund	<u>9,179.41</u>
00	Final Total	\$ <u>409,873.63</u>

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Tylec, Pecoraro, Zadzilka

(5)

Nays: None

(0)

CARRIED.

X. Police Chief

February 21, 2019

Honorable Mayor Arthur Pappas  
And the North Tonawanda Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Dear Honorable Body,

I am hiring two Police Officer candidates to fill vacancies within the Police Department effective March 8, 2019.

The following candidates were selected from the current Niagara County Civil Service List of Eligibles for Police Officer which expires November 1, 2022.



David L. Flores, 55 Ganson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
 Jeremiah T. Hussey, 3636 Julie Court, North Tonawanda, NY 14120

**A short swearing in ceremony will be held in the Common Council Chambers on March 8, 2019.**

**Respectfully,  
 Roger R. Zgolak  
 Chief of Police**

**MOVED by Alderman Tylec**

**SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro**

**That the Common Council hereby approves the appointment of David L. Flores, 55 Ganson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and Jeremiah T. Hussey, 3636 Julie Court, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as Police Officers for the North Tonawanda Police Department with a start date of March 8, 2019.**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka**

**(5)**

**Nays: None**

**(0)**

**CARRIED.**

**XIV.1 Youth, Recreation & Parks**

**February 26, 2019**

**The Honorable Mayor Pappas  
 And Common Council  
 216 Payne Avenue  
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

**Dear Mayor Pappas and Common Council,**

**As originally approved to move forward in seeking a grant for the development of a 4,000-5,000 square foot playground at Mayor's Park, we are excited to find ourselves on the third phase of approval for the Build it with KABOOM! Grant.**

**At this point, I am requesting approval for the Mayor to sign the letter of intent upon review and approval of the Community Partner Playground Agreement (draft attached) by the City Attorney. Approval and signature of this document is necessary to move to forward with the final stage of the grant submission process.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
 Alex Domaradski  
 Director of Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors**

**MOVED by Alderman Braun**

**SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro**

**That the Common Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to sign the letter of intent to move forward with the final stage of grant submission for the Build It with KABOOM! Subject to review by the City Attorney.**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka**

**(5)**

**Nays: None**

**(0)**

**CARRIED.**

**XIV.2 Youth, Recreation and Parks**

**February 26, 2019**

**The Honorable Mayor Pappas  
 And Common Council  
 216 Payne Avenue  
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120**

**Dear Mayor Pappas and Common Council,**

Attached are specific requests that came into our office for use of our facilities. Each of the nonprofit organizations have asked for the Council to waive the permit fee for their event. After obtaining and reviewing the information for each event application our department has cleared the dates of usage for each respective request and are in favor of the waiving of the normal permit fee at your discretion. Justification for support of the waiving of the park fee is highlighted below.

In Good Company is a not for profit organization that will utilize our band shell to put on three evenings of a free play projection for community viewing. Glory Be To Kids provides a monetary donation to our youth softball program each year that exceeds the rental payment for the pavilions requested. Purple Heart Ceremony & Marine Corps picnic are two distinguished military groups that the Raymond Klimek Veteran's Park was meant to recognize.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alex Domaradski  
Director Youth, Recreation, Parks and Seniors

**MOVED** by Alderman Zadzilka      **SECONDED** by Alderman Pecoraro  
That the Common Council hereby grants permission for the Recreation Department to waive the park and facilities fees for dates of events to the following non-profit organizations:

Glory Be to Kids, In Good Company Productions, Niagara County Clerk's Purple Heart Ceremony and Marine Corps League.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)  
Nays: None (0)  
CARRIED.

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#### XIX. Building Inspector

January 18, 2019

Matthew Parish Clerk-Treasurer  
And Common Council  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Good Morning,

I would like to submit the following change to the code of the North Tonawanda Chapter 36-16 B. I would like to add the minimum grade accepted to the ordinance. As presently written the ordinance requires only a passing grade, I would like to increase the minimum grade to 75%.

Since the results of the "Third Party" exams are accepted by all the local municipalities the local electrical inspectors would like to have a common passing grade to insure minimum regional competency.

Proposed addition in red.

B.

A master electrician certificate shall be issued by the Building Inspector if a person has qualified for and passed an examination **with a minimum grade of 75%** as hereinafter required.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,  
Robert C. Depaolo  
Electrical Inspector

**MOVED** by Alderman Berube      **SECONDED** by Alderman Tylec  
That the Common Council at a regular session meeting, held at City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda, New York at 6:30 PM on March 5, 2019 the Council approved the City Code change to Chapter 36 Electrical Code §36-16 B to read as follows:

**§36-16. Master electrician certificate; fee,**

B.

A master electrician certificate shall be issued by the Building Inspector if a person has qualified for and passed an examination with a minimum grade of 75% as hereinafter required.

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)**

**Nays: None (0)**

**CARRIED.**

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**XXV. Monthly Reports****.1 Senior Citizen Center**

**MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka**  
**That the Common Council hereby receives and files the aforementioned Monthly Report.**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)**

**Nays: None (0)**

**CARRIED.**

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**XXVI. Annual Vacation & Sick Leave Reports****.1 Youth, Recreation and Parks**

**MOVED by Alderman Tylec                      SECONDED by Alderman Braun**  
**That the Common Council hereby receives and files the aforementioned Annual Vacation & Sick Leave Report.**

**Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)**

**Nays: None (0)**

**CARRIED.**

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**XXXII. Community Development**

February 21, 2019

Honorable Mayor And Common Council  
 City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue  
 North Tonawanda, NY 14120

**Re: Local Initiative Support Corporation's Zombie Property Prevention Grant 2.0**

**Dear Honorable Body:**

**The Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), a national not-for-profit working with New York State, is accepting applications for a Zombie Property Prevention 2.0 grant. North Tonawanda has been invited to apply for up to \$150,000 in grant funding.**

**The City previously received \$90,000 from LISC through the first round of Zombie Prevention grant funding and is completing those grant activities in the first half of 2019. Grant activities have included legal research into all North Tonawanda's vacant and zombie properties, numerous foreclosure prevention outreach events, multiple informational mailings to North Tonawanda homeowners at risk of foreclosure, foreclosure prevention counseling services, and a review of City codes and procedures regarding tax foreclosure.**

**This year's second round of funding is expected to be highly competitive and LISC is encouraging municipal partnerships and joint grant applications to foster collaboration between communities and more efficiently administer the grant funds. The City of Tonawanda has also been invited to apply for up to \$150,000 and given the numerous shared concerns between the two cities and similar housing characteristics and challenges, a joint application between the Cities of Tonawanda and North Tonawanda could be a strong candidate for funding.**

North Tonawanda would intend to use the funding from a new grant award to continue many of the activities previously funded and assist residents facing home foreclosure. Additionally the funding could be used to conduct a detailed market analysis of homeownership, promote fair housing initiatives, additional trainings and educational workshops for city staff and the public, as well as potential technology upgrades for city departments.

There is no matching funds requirement for this grant opportunity. While the application for funds would be joint with the City of Tonawanda, each municipality would receive a discreet amount of funds if awarded, potentially up to \$300,000.

At this time I respectfully request this Honorable Body consider authorizing the submission of a joint grant application with the City of Tonawanda for up to \$150,000 from the Local Initiative Support Corporation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest regards,  
Michael Zimmerman  
Director of Community Development

MOVED by Alderman Braun                      SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro  
That the Common Council hereby authorizes the submission of a joint grant application with the City of Tonawanda for up to \$150,000 from the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) for the Zombie Property Prevention 2.0 Grant, subject to further review by the City Attorney.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

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## COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHERS

A.  
Zachary S. Niemiec

December 11, 2018

Honorable Mayor  
And Common Council  
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Reappointment of Commissioner of Deeds

Dear Honorable Body:

I, Zachary S. Niemiec, residing at 384 Robinson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 am requisitioning to be reappointed Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda.

Sincerely,  
Zachary S. Niemiec

MOVED by Alderman Tylec                      SECONDED by Alderman Berube  
That the Common Council hereby grants permission for Zachary S. Niemiec, 384 Robinson Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to be reappointed as Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda effective April 19, 2019 and expiring April 18, 2021.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

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hill. Once the soap box cars have gotten to the bottom of the hill, traffic can be allowed through. We will take a few runs down the hill over the course of about one hour.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for working with us again this year.

Sincerely,  
Karl Heilemann

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council hereby grants permission to close the Thompson Street (Durkee) Bridge on Saturday, April 13, 2019 10:00AM – 11:00AM with a rain date of Sunday April 14, 2019, 10:00AM – 11:00AM (just during runs not the entire hour), so the Nor-Ton Red Jacket Club, Inc. can do practice runs for their upcoming “Soap Box Derby for Youth and Mentors”, and directs the Auxiliary Police to assist for traffic control.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

D.  
Gwendolyn Niemiec and  
Barbara Strzyz

February 18, 2019

Honorable Mayor  
And Common Council  
City Hall / 216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Appointment of Commissioner of Deeds

Dear Honorable Body:

I, Gwendolyn Niemiec, residing at 653 Erie Avenue Apt.3, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, and Barbara Strzyz, 1102 Niagara Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120, am hereby requesting to be appointed as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda.

Sincerely,  
Gwendolyn Niemiec and  
Barbara Strzyz

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka                      SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro  
That the Common Council hereby grants permission for Gwendolyn Niemiec, 653 Erie Avenue Apt.3, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 and Barbara Strzyz, 1102 Niagara Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 to be appointed as Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda effective March 6, 2019 and expiring March 5, 2021.

Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

## AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Sue Wilke 329 Miller Street - Said to save the wetlands on Brentwood, she is against Fracking and is worried about climate change.

Lou Vizzone – Wants River Road Businesses cleaned up, it is bringing the value of the City down. Wants to change zoning to enlarge the downtown district, and develop further with the help of the Council.

Brad Smith 1058 East Robinson Street – Wants long term planning and would also like to see River Road cleaned up, would like to continue development.

Sonia Dusza 123 Miller Street – Wants a full time planner, business owners want the area cleaned up. People want to see the City flourish.

Mike Koenig 196 Meadow Drive South – Wants to give credit to Mark Zellner for doing a great job.

Karl Baurer 1066 East Robinson Street – Thanked the City Clerk for the web site, and wanted to tell the students in the audience this was a good meeting.

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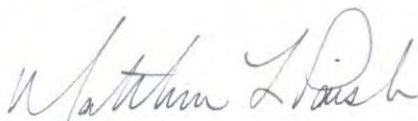
**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED** by Alderman Berube                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Braun  
That this regular session of the Common Council be and hereby is adjourned.  
**CARRIED.**

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**Time of Adjournment: 8:19 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



**Matthew L. Parish**  
City Clerk-Treasurer