

**THE HONORABLE BODY  
Council Chambers  
Municipal Building  
North Tonawanda, New York 14120  
Tuesday, February 6, 2018  
6:35 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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## **Mayor Pappas – State of the City Address**

My fellow citizens, members of the Common Council, City employees, members of the press and guests, I come before you to report on the state of this great City of North Tonawanda. It is an honor to having been elected in November to serve as Mayor for the next four years. Your confidence in me is humbling and I truly appreciate the support I have received. To begin, I believe North Tonawanda is going in a very positive direction with the assistance of the Common Council, LCDC, and the great work of all City employees and the participation of our residents.

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My goal as Mayor is to bring harmony to concerns and challenges that our City faces. Our City continues to grow economically, financially, and culturally to make this community a welcome place for visitors and new residents.

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During my past year in office many changes have taken place and there are many more projects in the works all the while keeping taxes down to a zero % increase while other surrounding municipalities have raised taxes substantially. With the hiring of the new City Accountant changes are taking place with new software, the hiring of grant writers, and more efficiencies are being put in place.

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North Tonawanda was awarded over \$4,000,000 in grants in 2017. Most significant was the 2.5 Million Smart Growth Fund announced by Governor Cuomo at the Remington Lofts in October which will greatly enhance our downtown area. Along with that, \$50,000 grants have been received to upgrade our well populated City Market to improve amenities, enhance safety, green space, aesthetics, parking and the existing facilities. The City has been examining potential updates to codes that regulate the Market. The Erie Canal Gateway Harbor has grants applied for and received by the City Engineer included Main Street Green Infrastructure Improvements (GIGP) and Gateway Park and Sweeney Canal Wall Dock Improvement. Grants have been secured for the Erie Canal Gateway harbor with new lighting, power upgrades, restroom updates and more will enhance the area for boaters and residents during our summer months.

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New businesses have entered our City with the completion of Ivy Lea Construction, Pulp 716, Canal Side Wine and Spirits, Webster's Kitchen, Ascension Antique Arts and Artisan Market, and the Primary Care facility on Kinkead Street. New businesses are being negotiated for various parts of the City to occupy vacant buildings such as the Multi-use Micro Enterprise to be located on Main Street. Zombie properties are being addressed as the zoning codes have been updated with new tools available to combat this problem. Ground breakings have been held for the new 102 unit residential buildings on the Little River including a multiuse venue. The new facility at DeGraff Hospital will provide state of the art access care for residents in need. The property at 621 Payne Avenue has been rezoned so the Construction Company Savarino will be able to begin construction for senior housing. There has been approved a transfer of land of 795 Walck Road, a 1.4 acre of land to NKM Development in exchange for a 2.43 acre parcel at 680 Erie Avenue which provides useful property for the DPW. Community Development completed a housing rehabilitation program which helped to improve the housing safety and quality for 16 low income home owners. The City and Lumber City Development have actively partnered with the Oliver Street Merchants Association to support Oliver Street redevelopment. This included the completion of an Oliver Street Needs Assessment and Action Plan in 2017.

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Deerwood Golf Course had maintenance done this past year with repairs to numerous water leaks in the irrigation system, satellites repaired, additional sod and seeding of areas, aerated and top dressed greens, Doe 8 Repair, and golf cart path work. The Botanical Gardens along the Canal have been cleaned and much has been done to improve the area for weddings and other events. This was accomplished by the Parks and Recreation Department and many volunteers from the community.

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Moving forward, our City's infrastructure will continue to be a priority as well as the conditions of our roads. 1.2 million dollars was available this year for road improvement and over 10 miles of roads were milled and paved in 2017. The DPW will continue to work diligently with the help of the new Milling Machine/Asphalt Zipper which was purchased last year and has tremendously aided with road repair. This will allow us to jump start road repairs before the actual paving season begins. The Common Council has budgeted for a new paver for 2018. This will enable us to pave more roads with better technology built into the machine. Much has been accomplished, but there still is a long way to go with our roads. A new design for the intersection of Payne and Meadow is continuing to be studied and if enacted will alleviate confusion for drivers. Other projects started and completed in 2017 are: East Oliver water main replacement, Oliver Street emergency water line replacement, City Hall pointing phase one, City Hall entrance stairs, City Hall skylight replacement, and Waste Water Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plan. Maintenance of our Water/Waste Water facility is crucial and work has been done to improve this vital facility. Renovation of a 4 million gallon storage tank is to begin this year and a full cleaning of the intake lines to provide better efficiency. Also, new sand filter backwash pumps were installed and the Bar Screens were replaced for incoming storm water. Electrical systems and the installation of a new backup generator costing 1.4 million dollars will be completed in one phase by the end of 2018.

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Striving to provide a quality of life for citizens young and old, a new Youth Center has opened at the Hope Center on the newly dedicated Hope's Way and already has shown a tremendous growth in attendance from the previous location. The Senior Center continues to provide information, education, nutrition, trips, and special events for the older population. Culturally, we have celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the Riviera Theater with record numbers of people now discovering our historic jewel. The City owned Carnegie Arts Center continues renovations and has expanded activities with Art shows and musical performances and will continue to add to their repertoire. For children in town with the help of the County Legislature a very successful children's parade took place on the 4th of July and another parade for Halloween began on Webster Street for trick or treating as part of the annual Haunted Harbor. Both were very popular and I'm sure will continue. During the holidays the Christmas Caroling Wagon acquired a record 10,808 cans of food for the Food Pantry and the Meals on Wheels program continues to serve more resident's ages 75 to 100 with

over 110 to 125 meals distributed on Christmas Eve alone in the Tonawandas. In addition to this very needed service we now will see the fruition of the Little Free Pantries project which allows residents to take the food they need and give what they can. They now will have an easy access to food in a dignified manner. The Winter Walk drew record crowds with the addition of activities along the Oliver Street corridor. Without a doubt the Historic Carrousel Museum which celebrated its 70th Anniversary continues to draw young and old alike from our residents and tourists.

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This past summer saw a myriad of activities especially for families. Pine Woods Park hosted a fun summer camp-out supervised by our auxiliary police. Tents dotted the park and many camping activities were available for families to enjoy. Gateway hosted the long established Pizza Fest which became overwhelming with attendees. The Carrousel Days leading up to Canal Fest kicked off the week-long celebration and after many years NT finally won the Tug of War. The Tonawanda Mayor had to push the wheel barrow over the bridge which was an exciting moment for NT. Different sponsors held events at Gratwick Riverside Park including sports activities, concerts, kite flying, and other family events with the demand increasing. The popular Thunder on the Niagara and Wine and Brews Fest again were successful events and will continue.

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Public Safety in all areas of this City is paramount. The establishment of the new Anti-Bullying Law which became an interest of National and International news is a much needed step to keep our youth safe. Two new officers were added to the law enforcement agency and a new chief was sworn in this past July. Along with the County Sheriff's department a dispatch dispute was negotiated so the NT Police department now has a single channel designated only for North Tonawanda. In conjunction with the Sherriff's department we now have an alert system in place to notify residents of city wide concerns. Improved repair lighting has taken place in the downtown area and new cameras are being installed for greater public safety. The Fire Department responded to over 3,300 incidents in 2017 the busiest year ever. We took delivery of a new state of the art self-contained breathing apparatus, SCBA, partially funded through a \$250,000 grant written by a North Tonawanda Firefighter. We purchased a unique floating pump through a grant donated by the Niagara County Legislature. The pump can be used to get water from surrounding waterways. The City will take delivery in April 2018 of a new medium duty rescue vehicle. This was half funded through a Municipal Facilities Capital Funding Grant. We have begun another grant initiative in order to purchase a new fire engine for the City.

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A new NT Community Resource Hub service is now provided for residents allowing them to access information from service providers in our WNY area in a convenient manner. Legal and family services, insurance, weatherization, transportation service and connecting people to employment are some of the needed services the residents may previously had a hard time accessing. Hometown Heroes' Banners program has been expanded with the first 3 new Veterans to be honored. Gratwick Park was rededicated with new signage and the pavilion was named in memory of former Alderman, Russ Rizzo. Also the pavilion at the City market was dedicated to Elmer Moje who sold produce there for 100 years, and a new permanent band shell is constructed at Raymond Klimek Veteran's Park on the water which will host many new events this coming summer. The Children's Memorial Garden is starting to take shape at Brauer Park with the donations of local business companies. The new clock tower planned for Webster and Main Streets is being designed for the future of Downtown along with other amenities at the Charles Fleishman Park.

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The City has hired a grant writer to help obtain funds for future projects and to become more efficient in City operations. The City website is up and running to provide greater awareness to residents for information about City Government. It is now more user-friendly and a location for residents to obtain information about City events, public meetings and includes a new feature with a question and answer box for residents to voice their concerns. The Niagara Gazette NT Extra paper has provided much needed information to residents along with the Amherst Bee and the Niagara Wheatfield/North Tonawanda Tribune. The

addition of the new Twin-Cities Sun paper is even more comprehensive. So residents now have several outlets for news in town.

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The City Legal Department is looking into possible updates or revisions of codes and ordinances which may be out dated or no longer effective. This department is busier than ever in these days of litigation and is keeping the City protected within Federal, State and Local laws to make sure we are in compliance. They also are involved directly or indirectly with all departments dealing with employee issues and contract negotiations to name a few. Our new City historian has been actively involved in research concerning the history of certain land and buildings which played a significant role in our development. He continually provides suggestions on how our history can be highlighted in our forward plans. Having received a communication from a city in France concerning an unknown American soldier from WW II, who was born and lived in North Tonawanda, our Historian was able to provide information and identify the soldier buried in a French cemetery.

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The future holds many exciting improvements for our City and with vision and focus we can make it happen. Our geographical location holds uniqueness with the confluence of the Erie Canal and Niagara River within a short distance from Buffalo and Niagara Falls. This should allow us to continue to develop our downtown and waterfront areas. Having our own Tonawanda Island is a tremendous asset to be developed in the future. We have more business inquiries coming forth each day and many ideas are put forth to include other areas of our City. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as Mayor of North Tonawanda and with cooperation and effort we can continue to move this City in a positive forward direction. Special thanks go to Governor Cuomo, Senator Rob Ortt, Assemblyman Robin Schimminger, Legislators Rich Andres and Randy Brandt, Mike Zimmerman, Dale Marshall and Robert Orlowski, who were influential in obtaining grants for our City. Thank you to our Department Heads: Chief Sikora and Chief Zgolak along with Patty Brosius, Brad Rowles, Bill Davignon, Dale Marshall, Coz Capozzi, Amanda Reimer, Barb Klenke, Dan Quinn, our City Historian Joe Midura and our City Attorney Luke Brown, and all who assist them to keep this City a pleasant and desirable place to live. Thank you to all City employees, members of the Common Council and residents for the support to make NT stronger, effective and fiscally healthy. We are in good shape right now providing needed services in cost effective ways.

Thank you.

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#### AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Sonia Dusza 123 Miller Street – It is important that we hire a City Planner. We need it very badly. What I have seen over the decades is that we need one. I have gotten shot down every time I bring this up. We are not looking at the future. Once again you have friends and family moving forward. The Plan for place making proposals and having Joy Kuebler is a no go in my books. Who designed Manhattan Street parking lot? What about the cats? If I was a dog owner, I would ask how come the cat owners are not held accountable like dog owners.

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#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION JANUARY 16, 2018

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the minutes of the regular session meeting held January 16, 2018 be approved as circulated and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.  
CARRIED.

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PROOF OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHED JANUARY 10, 2018

- 1) Legal Notice – Request for Proposals (RFP) to Provide Design Services for Improvements to Gateway Park – City Engineer

PROOF OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHED JANUARY 10, 2018

- 1) Legal Notice – Request for Proposals (RFP) to Provide Design Services for the Extension of the Sweeney Canal Wall Docks – City Engineer

PROOF OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHED JANUARY 19, 2018

- 1) Legal Notice – Public Hearing on the Designation of a New East / West Truck Route – City Clerk-Treasurer

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka                      SECONDED by Alderman Berube  
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the aforementioned Proof of Publications.  
CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

## III.1 Clerk-Treasurer

January 22, 2018

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

Re: 2018 Contract – All Dawgs Academy LLC

Dear Honorable Body:

I respectfully request your Honorable Body accept this contract with All Dawgs Academy for the year of 2018 for the housing of stray and abandoned dogs. By accepting this contract, the motion will give the Mayor the authority to sign the Contract. This Contract has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office and is waiting an official motion by the Council.

Sincerely,  
Daniel R. Quinn  
City Clerk-Treasurer

MOVED by Alderman Braun                      SECONDED by Alderman Berube  
That the Common Council hereby accepts the contract with All Dawgs Academy for the year of 2018 for the housing of stray and abandoned dogs, and authorizes the Mayor to sign said contract, subject to further review by the City Attorney.

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

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

## III.2 Clerk-Treasurer

January 22, 2018

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

Dear Honorable Body:

I am requesting to reappoint Michele Ackerman as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Daniel R. Quinn  
City Clerk-Treasurer

**MOVED** by Alderman Zadzilka                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby approves the reappointment of Michele Ackerman as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda effective February 7, 2018 and expiring February 6, 2020.

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

Nays: None (0)

**CARRIED.**

**III.3 Clerk-Treasurer**

January 31, 2018

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

Re: City of North Tonawanda Public Housing Authority (PHA)

Dear Mayor and Common Council:

Belmont Housing Resources for WNY has been administering Section 8 Renter Assistance Programs on behalf of the City of North Tonawanda for more than 35 years. The City acts as a go between for HUD and Belmont Housing Resources for WNY. From time to time revisions are done to the Administrative Plan. I am requesting the Council give the Mayor permission to sign the Section 8 Renters Assistance Programs Administrative Plan Revisions.

Regards,  
Daniel R. Quinn  
City Clerk-Treasurer

**MOVED** by Alderman Pecoraro                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Tylec  
That the Common Council hereby accepts the contract with Belmont Housing Resources for WNY for administering Section 8 Renter Assistance Programs on behalf of the City of North Tonawanda, and authorizes the Mayor to sign said contract, subject to further review by the City Attorney.

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

Nays: None (0)

**CARRIED.**

**IV. Engineer**

February 1, 2018

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

Re: Project 2015-10 Children's Remembrance Gardenwalk  
Garden Walkways and Garden Wall Installation – Award of Contract

Dear Honorable Body:

The City Engineering Department solicited proposals from four (4) landscaping companies to perform the installation of the walkways and garden wall in the Children's Remembrance Gardenwalk at Brauer Park. The results are as follows:

Base Bid:

- |                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Henry Services, Inc.   | \$28,334.00 |
| 2. Stonescapes of WNY LLC | \$35,530.00 |
| 3. Jim's Landscaping      | \$36,878.73 |
| 4. Wayside Nursery Inc.   | \$38,650.00 |

We have reviewed the proposals and are recommending the award of contract to Henry Services, Inc.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Common Council award the installation of the walkways and garden wall in the Children's Remembrance Gardenwalk at Brauer Park to Henry Services, Inc., PO Box 264 Sanborn, NY, at their low proposal amount of \$28,334.00; authorizing the Mayor to sign and contract subject to review by the City Attorney.

Very truly yours,  
Dale W. Marshall, P.E.  
City Engineer

MOVED by Alderman Braun

SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka

That the Common Council hereby awards the installation of the walkways and garden wall in the Children's Remembrance Gardenwalk at Brauer Park to Henry Services, Inc., PO Box 264 Sanborn, NY, at their low bid amount of \$28,334.00; and directs 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.

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V. Supt. Water/Wastewater

January 29, 2018

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

Dear Honorable Body:

I would like to request your approval for the attached three (3) year Service Agreement for the Water Filtration Plant's Pump Drives in the amount of \$35,496 (\$11,832 per year). This is a *sole source* provided by the manufacturer Rockwell / Rexel.

This agreement is vital to our Water Plant operations because it protects our water intake and distribution pump drives. The extreme old age of these pumps means that there is a high probability of failure.

As per Instrument Technician Todd Myers' attached letter, in 2016 & 2017 we saved \$23,000 on the replacement of two (2) pump drives at Toellner Tank. The cost of replacing these pumps without this Service Agreement would be \$40,552.

I would like to address the replacement of these old pump drives in our upcoming Capital Improvement Plan, but due to the long planning process, this will not happen for a few more years. This Service Agreement is our best insurance to protect this very important equipment for the next three years.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,  
 William M. Davignon  
 Superintendent Water/Wastewater

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Tylec  
 That the Common Council hereby tables the aforementioned request for further review.  
 Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka                      (5)  
 Nays: None                      (0)  
 CARRIED.

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#### VII.1 Accountant

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 February 6, 2018 and further authorize the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant.

Regards,  
 Amanda Reimer  
 City Accountant

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
 That the Common Council hereby authorizes for payment the current Abstract of Claims for Common Council Audit dated February 6, 2018 and further authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant:

01	General Fund	\$823,706.45
02	Water Fund	70,069.34
04	Sewer Fund	111,276.42
06	Capital Project Fund	39,869.59
07	Trust & Agency Fund	100.00
85	Housing Rehab	<u>29,750.00</u>
00	Final Total	<u>\$1,074,771.80</u>

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

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#### VII.2 Accountant

January 30, 2018

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

Dear Honorable Body:

In accordance with Article V, Division 2, Section 5.023 and Section 2.2 of the Budgetary Transfer Policy, please authorize the City Accountant to make the following transfers of fiscal year 2018 appropriations, based on the request of the Department Head, copy attached:



<u>Control Number</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>	<u>From: Appropriation Account</u>	<u>Into: Appropriation Account</u>
3	\$41,500	1.880 Reserve for Tax Stabilization	1.3140.420 Repairs and Maintenance

Regards,  
Amanda Reimer  
City Accountant

**MOVED** by Alderman Pecoraro                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council hereby authorizes the City Accountant to make the following Budgetary Transfers of fiscal year 2018 appropriations, based on the request of the Department Head:

<u>Control Number</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>	<u>From: Appropriation Account</u>	<u>Into: Appropriation Account</u>
3	\$41,500	1.880 Reserve for Tax Stabilization	1.3140.420 Repairs and Maintenance

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

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#### VIII. Assessor

January 31, 2018

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

Dear Honorable Body:

1. We need to approve the Cold War Veteran's Exemption RPTL 458b with no limit of time. Presently the Cold War Veteran's Exemption has a 10 year limit.
2. We do not want to approve the Green Building Exemption RPTL 470. These are buildings that are built (green) energy efficient with environmental design. Very expensive to build, I can't see anyone building a Green Buildings. Too many requirements and inspections.
3. We should opt out of the Solar Exemption RPTL – 487. I do not assess the solar panels, therefore; the exemption is not needed. I would have to increase the Assessment in order to receive an exemption.

Sincerely,  
Barbara W. Klenke  
City Assessor

**MOVED** by Alderman Tylec                      **SECONDED** by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby approves Exemption #1 for the Cold War Veteran's Exemption RPTL 458b, and tables #2 & #3 for further review.  
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)  
Nays: None (0)  
**CARRIED.**





Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,  
Joseph D. Sikora  
Fire Chief

**MOVED** by Alderman Pecoraro      **SECONDED** by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby approves the 2018 Volunteer Contracts and authorize quarterly payments to the following companies:

Active Hose  
Columbia Hook and Ladder  
Gratwick Hose  
Live Hose  
Rescue Fire  
Sweeney Hose

Subject to review by the City Attorney.

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

#### XVII. Traffic Safety

January 15, 2018

Daniel R. Quinn  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

#### Traffic Safety Minutes:

The January 2018 meeting of the North Tonawanda Traffic Safety Committee was called to order at 19:00 hours. Roll call showed the following members present: R. Frank, J. Sikora, M. Daigler, A. Vater, M. Lemke, and D. Grinnell. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted, the following new requests discussed, and recommendations made.

1. Member Grinnell was introduced as a new Committee Member.
2. Member Frank was introduced as the new Committee Chairman.
3. Member Sikora was informed by the Mayor's Office that they received a complaint regarding the intersection of Oliver Street and Felton Street, and there not being a stop light in place. The committee will look at the intersection again and look into other options. Member Daigler proposed possibly putting a stop light with a loop during the spring.
4. Member Sikora reported that there was a letter circulating amongst citizens to show up at the Common Council meeting on January 16, 2018 to speak about the East/West truck routes on Wheatfield Street and Robinson Street. The committee decided to send member Frank to the Common Council meeting on January 16, 2018 and report back with issues reported by the citizens.
5. Member Grinnell proposed another possible solution to the East/West truck route, stating that when projects come into the area, that the company could get a special permit to use a non-truck route. The committee decided to speak about this at the Common Council meeting on January 30, 2018.
6. Member Daigler proposed another possible solution to the East/West truck route, stating that the City should have a truck route study completed. The committee will talk about this idea at the Common Council meeting on January 30, 2018.

7. Member Daigler is looking into solutions for the parking problem on Main Street. Daigler will research other possible solutions and bring it to the committee at the next Traffic Safety meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 20:05 hours.

Travel Safely,  
Robert J. Frank  
Chairman

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka                      SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro  
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the January Traffic Safety meeting minutes.

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

Nays: None (0)

CARRIED.

## XXV. Monthly Reports

### .1 Clerk-Treasurer

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council hereby, approves the aforementioned Monthly Reports.  
CARRIED.

## XXVI. Semi-Annual Vacation & Sick Leave Reports

### .1 Clerk-Treasurer                      .2 Police Department

### .3 Youth, Recreation & Parks   .4 Fire Department

MOVED by Alderman Berube                      SECONDED by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby, approves the aforementioned Semi-Annual Vacation & Sick Leave Reports.  
CARRIED.

## XXXII. Community Development

January 17, 2018

The Honorable Mayor and Common Council  
North Tonawanda City Hall  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: North Tonawanda Smart Growth Community Fund, Downtown  
Placemaking Proposals

Honorable Body:

As you are aware, it was announced in October 2017 that the City of North Tonawanda will be the recipient of \$2,500,000 from the New York State Smart Growth Community Fund. This program is intended to support Smart Growth public investments that make downtown communities more pedestrian friendly, accessible, attractive, and dynamic in order to attract new development, support existing businesses and services, and improve the quality of life for downtown residents.

Through this initiative the City has identified a "Downtown Placemaking" project aimed at making a variety of public improvements throughout downtown. The downtown area identified is roughly bounded by River road, Sweeney Street, Oliver Street, and Thompson Street. Improvements funded through the Placemaking initiative could include items such as dedicated bike lanes, sidewalk and crosswalk improvements, park and greenspace improvements, wayfinding and locational signage, lighting, bicycle racks, parking

configurations, and other projects that improve the public experience for residents, businesses, and visitors in downtown. This initiative is estimated to utilize up to \$1,500,000 of the Smart Growth Community Fund award.

To complete the Placemaking project the City intends to procure the services of a professional planning and design firm. This firm's responsibilities will include a public engagement process to solicit ideas and input for North Tonawanda's residents, design of the identified improvements, and implementation assistance through the construction and installation stages.

A request for proposals was issued in December 2017 and the City received two proposals from professional firms. A review committee was convened with representation from the City Council, Mayor's Office, Community Development Office, Lumber City Development Corporation, Niagara County, and the Webster Street business community, to review the proposals and provide a recommendation to the Council.

Upon review the committee is recommending the City select the proposal submitted by Joy Kuebler Landscape Architects (JKLA). JKLA is local, award-winning, woman-owned firm with experience in planning and urban design. The review committee felt the team assembled by JKLA demonstrated the experience, creativity, and capacity to complete this project for the City at a reasonable fee.

I am hereby requesting this Honorable Body consider selecting Joy Kuebler Landscape Architects to complete the Downtown Placemaking project and authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with JKLA, pending review and approval by the City Attorney, for the proposed fee of \$160,000.

Please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest regards,  
Michael Zimmerman  
Director of Community Development

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro      SECONDED by Alderman Braun  
That the Common Council hereby approves Joy Kuebler Landscape Architects to complete the Downtown Placemaking project for their proposed fee of \$160,000, and directs 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.

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHERS

A.  
Gratwick Hose Co. Inc.

January 22, 2018

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

Dear Honorable Body:

The following members of the Gratwick Hose Company have completed the 5 year service requirements to become Exempt Firefighters;

Eric Miller & Sandra Damasiewicz

Please issue the appropriate certificates.  
Thank you.

David A. Rogge  
Membership Secretary

MOVED by Alderman Berube                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council hereby grants Exemption Petitions to the following:

5 Year Service - Eric Miller & Sandra Damasiewicz

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

### LATE COMMUNICATION

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
To bring the following communication to the floor  
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Berube, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka                      (5)  
Nays: None    (0)  
CARRIED.

#1  
North Tonawanda Common Council  
City Hall  
216 Payne Avenue  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: Administrative Assistant

Dear Honorable Body:

Please be advised that I am appointing, Daniel DiVirgilio, to be my Administrative Assistant effective February 12, 2018. Mr. DiVirgilio's pay will be \$45,000.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Arthur G. Pappas  
Mayor

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro                      SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka  
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the appointment of Daniel DiVirgilio as the Mayors Administrative Assistant effective February 12, 2018 with a starting pay of \$45,000.  
CARRIED.

### AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jacob Pollen 219 East Felton Street – I would just like to say thank you for the opportunity and I will do my best to perform the duties of this position.

Michael Brocklehurst 452 Linwood Avenue – I am grateful and thankful to have this opportunity to work for the City.

Sonia Dusza 123 Miller Street – In regards to the East/West truck route someone said we could get a special permit for trucks to use. Why would we want to do that? We want to protect our streets from the trucks. Community Development only received two proposals, and the review committee was made up of all friends and family and let's give it to the other friend. If anyone reads 26a cats ordinance, chapter 33b compare the difference between cat owners and dog owners. Cats should be licensed like dogs. It is like adopting a kid and not feeding it. Everyone should read North Tonawanda Comprehensive Plans written by Stewart Brown. He included Planning and Zoning Boards. We need participation. North Marion is residential.

Steve Enders 216 Payne Avenue – The current condition of Ridge Road is horrible. I had to drive up there and almost lost a front wheel. As a tax payer and parent you need to get the road fixed. It is a real hazard. It is dangerous to kids walking to schools and people working back there.

Carl Bauer 1066 East Robinson – I am going to attend the School Board meeting tomorrow night to express my concern to them. Meals on wheels are losing volunteers, because they do not want to drive down that road and damage their cars. The road has been neglected for years, but the truck traffic from the construction vehicles that have been working at the school has made the road worse.

Dan DiVirgilio 162 Dimatteo Drive – I would like to thank the Mayor and Council for this opportunity.

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#### ADJOURNMENT

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

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Time of Adjournment: 7:43P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel R. Quinn  
City Clerk-Treasurer