THE HONORABLE BODY
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
North Tonawanda, New York 14120
Tuesday, February 4, 2020
6:30 P.M.

REGULAR SESSION CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT ZADZILKA

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present:	**President Zadzilka** **Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec**
Absent:	**None**
Also Present:	**Mayor Arthur G. Pappas** **City Attorney Luke Brown**

MAYOR PAPPAS – STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

My fellow citizens, members of the Common Council, members of the press and guests, it is an honor and a privilege to stand before you and report on the state of our City. This past year in office was a very busy, educational, and exciting time as I worked with all of our department heads, employees, and citizens of our great City. In my time in office, month by month, this administration and all those in support of it, continue to look and have found ways to gradually improve our city. 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. With that said, North Tonawanda is moving forward.

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There were several key projects completed in 2019. Both our Community Development and Building Department, led by Mike Zimmerman and Coz Capozzi, respectively, have had major roles in seeing these developments and projects come to fruition. In 2019, the City and Lumber City Development were also awarded a grant to assist small business development, called the Microenterprise program, to be launched in 2020. This program will be able to help new entrepreneurs and growing small businesses expand their operations and create new jobs.

The City adopted new, updated zoning codes for the downtown and waterfront, which will improve the quality of development in the area to be consistent with the community's master plan. At 600 River Road, a $20 million investment brought four residential buildings with a total of 88 new housing units that have been completed and are partially occupied. This has begun to change the perception of North Tonawanda's waterfront from a former industrial corridor to the potential for a vibrant, livable waterfront community. At 235 River Road, the Metzger site is for sale as a development opportunity using NT Momentum as a guideline. The listing price is $889,000. We are working with Niagara County to potentially provide environmental site assessment. Also on River Road, a new Dollar Tree store was completed and opened in May 2019.

In 2020 downtown will see significant investment as the YWCA completes its renovation project on Tremont Street, including the remodeling of the existing building to convert into 12 apartments for battered women, including a new café in the springtime.

The City will also be completing a number of Smart Growth Community funded projects including a green infrastructure project on Main Street and a significant reconfiguration of Charles Fleischmann Park along with pedestrian improvements on Webster Street.

New businesses opened in the downtown area including Prosper Brewing, Just Say Cheesecake, McGirr's and Millennium Microsystems. Growth continued on Oliver Street as well with the opening of Buffalo Wings & Brewhouse, Brownie's Sports Bar & Tavern, Old Editions Bookstore, as well as Matt's Music that underwent a $350,000 remodeling and addition, which has been completed. On Division Street, the National Bowling Store has opened their new location. Right next door, Frank Budwey opened his new banquet facility, Buducci's.

Woodcock Brothers Brewing Company opened in NT in 2019 at the historic Wurlitzer Building. The company brought over 40 jobs to the area. Along with Platter's Chocolates and the Events at Wurlitzer banquet facility, Woodcock Brothers has helped make the iconic Wurlitzer Building a destination in Niagara County and North Tonawanda.

There are several ongoing projects in the city. The conversion of the former Grant school into a 52-unit apartment building should be completed this spring. On Erie Ave, a proposed new winery and food service establishment is expected to open soon. Also on Erie Ave, Griffin Chemical is looking to make major renovations to their space and purchase two new pieces of equipment for bottling and labeling. The $300,000 project could create 4-6 new jobs and could potentially qualify for a New York State Community Renewal Grant. The former Colonel Payne School on Wheatfield Street is being converted into 37 apartment units. Along with the ongoing projects, are projects that are starting in 2020. On Webster Street, the former history museum is presently being cleaned out. Plans for a Spot Coffee have been received, reviewed and approved. Construction has gotten underway. At 110 Sweeney Street, construction on a new restaurant and apartment building is set to begin in 3-4 months. A new storage facility on Ridge Road is in the planning stage. On Main Street, there has been a proposed remodel of an existing building for Enterprise Lumber and Silo, an architectural firm. Site plans have been approved. Huron Sprinklers on Payne Ave has submitted plans to construct two buildings: the first for a sales/distribution center for Huron Sprinklers and the second as a spec space to be leased to other small commercial/warehouse tenants.

Throughout the City in 2019, 10 new single dwellings have been built and 11 more are under construction. A total of $26 million in new buildings, businesses, dwellings, and remodeling work was done in 2019 and we see no slowing down in 2020.

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Continuing with city projects, The Engineering Department, led by City Engineer Dale Marshall, had several projects open for use or put into service in 2019. At Gateway Park, with the help of a $1 million grant from the NYS Department of State, Canal Corporation, Empire State

Development and some City matching funds, a new public restroom and harbor master office was installed. There is also a new seating area that overlooks the canal. Also along the canal was the extension of the canal wall docks south to the Main Street/Delaware Bridge, including new pedestals for power and electric for boats.

The projects and improvements continue into 2020. Leading these projects will be the new City Engineer, Chelsea Spahr. Chelsea has been the Assistant City Engineer for almost three year and will do a phenomenal job taking over for Dale. North Tonawanda has converted to all LED street lights. Most of the conversion has already been completed, with the rest being done in 2020. This will save the City an estimated $200,000 per year. The Main Street Green Infrastructure Improvements have started. These include road reconstruction with a narrowing pavement, structural soils and street trees in the terrace, rain gardens, and street lighting. The Downtown Placemaking improvements include bump outs at crosswalks for better walkability in the downtown corridor, expansion of the Charles Fleischman Park, and new signage and lighting improvements. The Pedestrian Safety Action Plan is a plan for safety improvements at the intersections of Main and Tremont, Main and Goundry, Goundry and Webster, and Payne and 16th Ave. Improvements include new pedestrian signals, crosswalks, and ADA ramps. Thanks to a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the Greenway Commission and matching city funds, a connection of the bike path on River Road will connect with the NYS Empire State Trail. It will connect the current dead end of the Riverwalk Bike Path on River Road under the Seymour Street Bridge, along Sweeney Street to the intersection of Sweeney and Webster and over the Renaissance Bridge to connect with the Empire State Trail. There will also be signage, pavement marking, landscaping, and safety improvements to the existing Riverwalk Trail. A design is complete for a new intersection and signage at Payne Avenue and Meadow Drive. It is going to line up with 19th Avenue and to be mutually perpendicular for safety and better traffic flow. Finally, Re-purposing will be done on Nash Road and Meadow Drive. The purpose is to move traffic safely and more efficiently by reducing conflicts with traffic calming techniques. A study on this was completed in 2016 and presented to the public in early 2017.

Armstrong Pumps has submitted preliminary site plans to the City. The project consists of a 165,000 square foot expansion/renovation in two phases over five years: 35,000 square feet of office/corporate space and 130,000 square feet of 30-foot high manufacturing space. They project to create 44 new jobs over 5 years. Armstrong is moving ahead with the first of many incentive applications in November.

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The Parks and Recreation department, led by director Alex Domaradzki, has gotten much accomplished in 2019. Deerwood golf course was something that needed to be addressed in 2019. Heading into this year, the main goal was to make the course more accessible to the public. Led by Bob Kania, our front end operations Golf Supervisor, leagues were consolidated onto two courses and leave the third course open for general public (via reservations or walk-ons). Though there was some push back from a few of the golf leagues impacted by this change, overall it was a benefit for the golfing community as there was a considerable uptick in the number of non-league golfers able to utilize the course for walk-on or reservation play. As part of a survey of nearly 300 golfers, 79% of golfers found it easy to make a reservation to get on to the course with the new

open 9 policy.

With the recent capital investment from the City, the crew began installation of new sprinkler heads and satellites, which are being done in-house to save money. The process should be completed at the end of 2020 or beginning of the 2021 season, allowing for the water system to be controlled and operated by one main computer source, saving time and man power in the future. Staff also began working on sand trap improvements. Of the 48 traps, 28 have been completed and considered up to standard. 10 traps still need some minimal work to be completed while 10 others have extensive work (including drainage) that need to be addressed as we move into the 2020 season. The improvement of our greens and course remain a top priority. With the new purchase of a greens sprayer, and changing up our treatment protocol for fertilization and fungicide treatment, our greens will bounce back to acceptable standards for the 2020 season.

In the early months of 2019 the community reaped the benefits of the re-introduction of a favorite NT pastime, ice-skating! Led by Craig Anthony, the parks maintenance team assembled a 100' x 45' bordered ice rink at the far southwest corner of Pinewoods Park (Christiana Street) for all to enjoy in addition to the non-bordered ice rink at Cramer Park.

With the financial aid of Confer Plastics, the Department was able to purchase and install a trailer-parking kiosk at Gratwick Park, giving boaters the option to purchase pay and display tickets at the cost of $5 per day. This convenience for boaters also provided the city with additional revenue as compared to 2018 boating permit sticker's revenue alone.

Mayor's park saw a facelift with the addition of a new 5,000 square foot inclusive play space – a project that was possible with an awarded grant from Ralph Wilson Jr Foundation in collaboration with BlueCross BlueShield of WNY who served as the main project funders. With guidance from KaBOOM! to help organize and plan the project, the community stepped up to be an integral part of this project from the design planning to the actual installation of the playground with over 200 volunteers playing a role. Local businesses, organizations and individuals raised $16,000, which exceeded the $10,000 matching requirement for the project whose final cost was estimated at over $200,000. The remaining donated funds will go towards the cost of upkeep of the park as well as additional park improvements moving forward.

The Children's Remembrance Gardenwalk candle-lighting service was held in December. Those attending thought it was a beautiful uplifting environment for this national service in memory of a lost child. Participation was beyond expectations and refreshments were served in City Hall. Many people have visited the garden in remembrance and contemplation. Anyone wishing to memorialize a lost child in the Gardenwalk may still do so by contacting the Mayor's office.

Community involvement continues to thrive in our city, as the Botanical Garden Organization strengthened its partnership with the City. With their 501c3 status now in place, the NTBGO has already received grant funds from East Hill Foundation for raised bed planters as part of their educational component to their initiative to make the Botanical Gardens a thriving recreational area.

The front large greenhouse has been cleared out and is now being occupied for plant propagation in the winter months, which should set the stage for planting of more beautiful flowers and plants onsite for the community to enjoy. The Botanical Gardens will also be getting a face-lift with the Niagara Riverkeeper Shoreline Restoration Project.

Working in conjunction with our department and the NTBGO, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper will lead the way along with Wendel Architecture to revitalize 1 acre of shoreline along the Canal. Construction on the project is expected to begin in April 2020 and conclude at the end of August 2020. The project will transform the shoreline to a more natural form using sustainable practices. Native plants will be used exclusively to benefit surrounding fish and wildlife while furthering the goals of the North Tonawanda Botanical Garden Organization. Grant funding in the amount of $342,000 to support this project was received through the Greenway Ecological Fund. The park will remain open for fishing, boating, and enjoying our beautiful gardens throughout construction. This project comes at no cost to the City!

Sticking with the community involvement theme, a dozen members of the Western New York Disc Golf Club came out to assist in the clean-up and expansion of the Pinewoods Disc Golf Course which was expanded from 9 to 18 holes. A new course layout makes the course safer for public users of the park, as the holes have been directed towards the perimeter of the park, while also including 4 holes, which traverse the interior woods. The project was met with some opposition from neighboring residents concerned about effect on the natural habitat of the area as well as added foot traffic through the park; however, overall the response has been favorable. The Carnegie Art Center has really developed over the past few years into the goal as a respected cultural and arts center. They hold events such as jazz concerts, artist exhibitions, children's classes, as well as programming and special events. This year the 5th annual "Art Off The Wall" art sale and fundraiser provided funds for the center and these events.

In February, we added a new member to our team, as Michelle Bernas was appointed as the new Youth Program Coordinator position. Michelle brings with her ample experience in the recreation field, and has immediately made an impact on youth programming with the implementation of programs for the special needs community, including Sensory Easter Egg Hunt and Sensory Santa Workshops on top of the plethora of already established programs offered for the youth of our community.

Under the direction of Michelle, the North Tonawanda Youth Board, which is a volunteer extension of our Youth Center, will be initiating a Recreation Scholarship Program, which aims to help low-income families cover the cost for sports and recreational programs for their kids through Youth Board fundraising efforts as well as community sponsorships. These efforts are to ensure that cost is not a prohibitive factor in keeping interested kids from participating in healthy recreational programs. Details for the program plan to be rolled out in February.

Over the course of the calendar year, the Youth Center served an estimated 2,300 different individuals ranging from open Youth Center and summer playground programs to structured sports leagues, clubs, special events and other recreational opportunities. We were proud to announce

seasonal staff member Martha Russell was named to the Project Play WNY's inaugural Coaches Honor Roll, and was honored at a Buffalo Bills game.

Diane Sheehan continues to run our Youth Court & First Offenders Program in collaboration with the Juvenile Aid Lieutenant Detective Michelle Day, serving over 600 individuals in areas that include training of individuals as Youth Court Officials, processing of juvenile delinquents, providing a juvenile justice awareness program/seminar and inclusion of recommended students for rehabilitation through the FOP program. The City receives $31,800 in reimbursed funds for the coordination of these youth programs through the Niagara County Department of Social Services.

Pam Hogan continues to lead the way for our adult and senior programs, as well as overseeing the operations of our Summer Pool program, which includes youth swim lessons, adult water aerobics and open swim. Recreational opportunities continue to grow as the exercise program was revitalized with the addition of a Yoga program that has seen an explosion in public participation. Pam was able to work with the NT School system to get our Hall Walking program moved to NT High School a move that has resulted in more than double the community participation in the program. Incorporation of an Adult Open Basketball program is slowly gaining momentum and benefiting the community in the form of donated canned goods for the local Little Free Food Pantries. The addition of Adult Recreation programs such as a Flag Football League and an Ultimate Frisbee program are also on the horizon. A summer Pickle ball program was added to our offerings, and the community continued to enjoy already established programs such as Volleyball, Pilates, and Zumba, Softball and Co-Ed Kickball.

Our Senior Center is serving on average 278 individuals per month with an average of 1,134 services rendered per month. Services included nutrition and exercise programs, legal services, travel club, cards, bingo, senior shopping, special events, etc. Linkages with other community service providers has our senior residents reaping the benefits of meal prep classes, legal services, flu shot clinics and more.

Seasonal staff member Chrystal Manzare and Martha Russell were highlighted on local news for taking 92-year-old Senior Center participant, Jennie Pietak to her first Buffalo Sabres game. These types of positive and meaningful relationships being developed through the programs we offer are the foundation of what our department stands upon.

This year our Department became the first municipal program in Niagara County to be enrolled into the Thank A Vet Program. With Alderman Bob Pecoraro spearheading the enrollment, Veterans who have successfully enrolled in the program at the Niagara County Clerk's Office will enjoy the benefits of 10% discount on all services from our department including greens/cart fees, ID's, facility rentals and programs.

Raymond Klimek Veteran's Park played host to the Niagara County Purple Heart "Book of Honor" Ceremony which saw the park flooded with over between 400-700 individuals from Niagara County to recognize Purple Heart recipients in the county. The program included much media

attention, which was great exposure for our park and facilities. This will again take place in August 2020.

Many great things are in the works for our parks and recreation programs and spaces for the 2020 calendar year. As recipients of $316,000 in grant funds through the Niagara River Greenway Funds through the Niagara County Legislature, the plan is to add two portable ADA bathroom trailers along with two 60' x 30' pavilions to Gratwick Park by the fall of 2020. If approved in the capital project for 2020, the need to completely renovate the Taber Tennis courts is also in the plans to help upgrade that space to a level that is satisfactory for holding school matches.

The NT School District has more than held up their end of the agreement allowing our programs to use their space for softball, exercise, pickle ball, volleyball, basketball and football. It is imperative that we hold up our end of the bargain by upgrading a space to satisfactory condition for their use. With all that said, it's been a busy 2019 season, and this administration is continuing the momentum into the 2020 season with improvements in our recreational programs and spaces!

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Under the direction of department head Bill Davignon, the Water/Wastewater department stayed busy in 2019. At the Water Filtration Plant, the Annual Department of Health Water Quality inspection and report showed that our drinking water had no violations. Lead and copper are below acceptable legal limits and our filtration plant is operating very well. A broken 60-year old backup generator was removed and work has started on the installation of a new generator and electrical equipment. The department secured a $1.8 million Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant for this generator. This will be completed in late 2020. Also at Water Filtration, a new Aluminum Sulfate Chemical feed system was installed and chemical storage tanks repaired. This will allow for better calibrating our chemical usage, thereby providing more efficient chemical dosage. Using less Aluminum Sulfate will save money. We anticipate the simple "pay-back" on this to be two years.

At the Wastewater Treatment Plan, the West Storm Water Mechanical Bar Screen was installed. A new Raw Sewage Sludge Pump was installed to replace the original 1980 pump (the new pump will operate more efficiently and use less power), and a new Ferric Chloride chemical system was also installed: this included two new 6,600-gallon chemical storage tanks and a new pump system and piping. On 5th Avenue, we removed 2.5 million gallons of storm water annually from the sanitary sewer system, which is equivalent to an entire day's treatment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

At Water Distribution, 35 water line breaks were repaired, seven fire hydrants rebuilt, and three completely new fire hydrants installed. A comprehensive water line/hydrant flushing program was also started. 30, 320 feet (5.74 miles) of water lines were cleaned in 2019 (this improves the water quality by cleaning out water lines throughout the city). Also started was a Water Valve Replacement Program by replacing broken valves as found during the water line/hydrant flushing. There is much more in water/wastewater starting in 2020 and beyond. At water filtration, a $1.2 million Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant will be used as part of the Capital Improvement Plan to make scheduled improvements that will bring the facility up to date.

This will enable us to continue providing high quality drinking water to our residents in a fiscally responsible manner for the next 20-30 years and beyond. This implementation will be performed in phases starting in 2020.

These scheduled improvements include: Repairs to the water intake pipe, low-service pumps and finished water flow metering system; structural improvements/repairs to the low service water tank and settling basins; structural repairs to Filter Building and Backwash Drain Pipe; and electrical and efficiency upgrades to the High Service Pumps, Heating and Air Conditioning, Lighting, Windows and Doors.

At the Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2020, there will be the purchase and installation of a new ZAPPS (Zero Angle Photo-Spectrometry) Analyzer to provide real time in-line analytical results for E-coli bacteria, total suspended solids, biochemical oxygen demand and chlorine. This will allow for faster and more accurate analysis of our final effluent (water going back into the Niagara River). This will then allow us to adjust our chemical feeds faster and more accurately. This will save us thousands of dollars. We anticipate the simple "pay-back" on this to be approximately two years.

As part of the Wastewater Treatments Plant's Capital Improvement plan, the following improvements will take place starting in 2020 and continuing into 2021: including lighting upgrades throughout the plant and chlorine system upgrades to help protect our employees and citizens in case of a chlorine cylinder leak.

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The DPW, led by Department Head Mark Zellner, continues to be a force on the streets of North Tonawanda. Over 1.8 lane miles of road were milled and paved in 2019 with our new paving machine.

Approximately 4.5 lane miles of road were zipped and hot patched with the asphalt zipper. Our leaf crews picked up approximately 450 tandem loads, or 8,800 cubic yards of leaves this fall season. The forestry crew took down 165 trees, with a large concentration on Ash trees. 240 trees were pruned citywide. Over 2,000 tons of bulk debris was collected at great expense. We are looking at ways to reduce the cost to taxpayers by proposing changes to the City's sanitation program.

850 sidewalk blocks were replaced in 2019; this is more than double from previous years by keeping the work in-house, rather than contracting the work out. In addition, numerous catch basins and storm sewers were inspected, cleaned, maintained and repaired.

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The City of North Tonawanda Police Department, led by Chief Roger Zgolak, continues to serve the citizens of North Tonawanda with a professional, well-staffed department. In response to some retirements and in anticipation of upcoming retirements, the Department added five new officers to its ranks. Officers responded to over 43,000 calls for service in calendar year 2019.
In an effort to assist in combating the current opioid drug and overdose crisis plaguing our society, the entire department was trained in and began carrying NARCAN in August 2019. This effort

will allow officers responding to drug overdose calls to potentially save lives by administering the overdose-reversing drug. This initiative was made possible by the Department entering into a cost free four-year program with the Department of Health. It should be noted that there were 50 reported overdose incidents in the City of North Tonawanda in 2019, 3 of which were fatal.

The Department, through the Federal 1033 Military/Law Enforcement Exchange Program acquired a military surplus armored vehicle to replace an aging Brinks Armored truck that had been in service for many years. Also purchased through Federal grant money was a new panel van. Both vehicles will be used by the Department's SWAT team during high-risk activities such as search warrants and drug raids.

In November of 2019, the Department assigned Police Officer Jeffrey Kam as its new K-9 Officer in anticipation of the retirement of long serving K-9 Officer Timothy Sylvester. As such, we also welcomed a new dog into the ranks of the Department. Officer Kam and his K-9 partner Stella are currently in training and will be certified for patrol work in February 2020.

As the Department enters the New Year it faces a number of changes to the criminal justice system as Bail Reform and Speedy Trial/Discovery legislation has changed the way that law enforcement conducts business on a daily basis. This is not unique to North Tonawanda but is a challenge faced by police throughout the state. We will strive to overcome these challenges and continue to uphold the laws of the State of New York to ensure the continued safety and security of our citizens and our community.

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For 2019, the Fire Department responded to 3,395 incidents. Total fire loss for the year was $1,002,700 due to the large fire on Division Street involving multiple businesses, which was approximately $820,000 alone. The department's Investigation Team investigated 50 fires. All members exceeded the mandated 100 hours training standard. Eight members have finished or continued to be certified as Code Enforcement officers. Two new Department vehicles were ordered and will be delivered in early 2020: a class A pumper and a new cause and origin vehicle. Funding for half the pumper and the entire investigation vehicle is through grants obtained with assistance from Senator Ortt, and our City Common Council Members. Three members of the Department are currently taking classes to become code Compliant Officers and a number of Firefighters will be upgrading to Advanced EMT level starting in 2020.

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It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Mayor, and I look forward to continuing moving this City forward. I want to thank the department heads for their cooperation and effort during the past year, along with all our City employees. I would also like to thank the members of the Common Council for their support with making our City stronger. Most importantly, I would like to thank the residents for their comments, suggestions and for their support over the past year. There is no doubt that working together means progress, since there is more to be accomplished.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION JANUARY 21, 2020

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro
That the minutes of the regular session meeting held January 21, 2020 be approved as circulated and filed in the Office of the City Clerk.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHED 01/22/2020

1) Legal Notice – Resolution Notice for the 2020 Serial Bond to Finance Various Public Improvements – City Clerk-Treasurer

MOVED by Alderman Tylec SECONDED by Alderman Braun
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the aforementioned Proof of Publication.
CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

#1. Eric Zadzilka
& Donna Braun

January 30, 2020

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

Re: Resolution in Opposition on Newly Adopted NYS Bail Reform Law

Honorable Council:

We respectfully request that we as a governing body adopt the attached resolution in opposition to the newly established Bail Reform Law.

Eric Zadzilka – Council President
Donna Braun – 2nd Ward Alderwoman

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka SECONDED by Alderman Braun
That the Common Council at a regular meeting, held at City Hall, 216 Payne Avenue, North Tonawanda, New York at 6:30 p.m. on February 4, 2020 approves the resolution to Support Legislation to Stop New Criminal Justice Reform (Bail & Discovery Reform Law), and reads as follows:

NT RESOLUTION- SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO STOP NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM (BAIL & DISCOVERY REFORM LAW)

WHEREAS, County and Municipal Governments are vested by The State of New York with the responsibility to protect the most vulnerable among us, including all children, the disabled, the elderly, and the economically disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, The State of NY adopted as part of its 2020 fiscal year budget to enact major criminal justice reforms that took effect January 1st 2020 that included the elimination of cash bail for many specific crimes and imposed stringent discovery mandates on police, prosecutors, and judges despite the strong recommendations against such provisions from experts in the field of law enforcement and the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, This City of North Tonawanda's government holds the public safety of its residents to the highest regard and that no group is more vulnerable than the victims of crime, and society deserves justice and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. These crimes include those that result in the deaths of innocent people, some subcategories of homicide and

manslaughter resulting in those responsible for these deaths being released back into the community; and

WHEREAS, Bail insures that those charged are held accountable to appear at their designated court date, forces third party responsibility for their release, and guarantees that victims of crime are not forgotten in the process; and

WHEREAS, results of this legislation, citizens of the City of North Tonawanda and New York State are now less safe and criminals are more embolden to commit crimes against our most vulnerable;

WHEREAS, these bail reform laws represent a clear and present danger to our communities and may tilt the scales of justice in the wrong direction risking the reverse of decades of progress made by the State of New York in reducing crime; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of North Tonawanda hereby supports our Senator Robert Ortt and Assemblyman Angelo Morinello and their opposition to these Bail Reforms and also legislation (S.6853 & A.8855) introduced by our NYS Senate and NYS Assembly and implores the State of New York to immediately amend these laws by convening an emergency session of the State Legislature or by any other means deemed possible by the State and do so immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to every member of the New York State Legislature, Attorney General Letitia James, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kristen Gillibrand, The New York Association of Chiefs of Police, The New York State Defenders and Probation Association, The Association of Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, the New York Association of City and County Court Judges, and the County Attorneys Association of the State of New York.

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

II. Attorney

January 21, 2020

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

Re: Renewal Agreement between NYS Unified Court System and City of North Tonawanda for Cleaning and Maintenance of Court Facilities

Dear Honorable Body:

Attached is a proposed renewal agreement between the New York State Unified Court System and the City of North Tonawanda to allow for reimbursement to the City for cleaning and maintenance of our court facilities. This is a renewal of a five-year lease (2018-23), and covers the second year of the 5-year term.

Should your Honorable body concur, please pass a resolution to permit the execution of the lease agreement by the Mayor, subject to any further review by the City Attorney.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,
Luke A. Brown
City Attorney

MOVED by Alderman Braun SECONDED by Alderman Schmigel
That the Common Council hereby approves and authorizes the Mayor to sign the renewal agreement between the New York State Unified Court System and the City of North Tonawanda for cleaning and maintenance of our court facilities. This lease renewal is a 5-

year lease (2018-23) and covers the second year of the 5-year term, subject to any further review by the City Attorney.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

III. Clerk-Treasurer

January 24, 2020

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

Dear Honorable Body:

I am requesting to re-appoint Michele Ackerman, 1561 Master Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda. Effective February 7, 2020 and ending February 6, 2022.

Sincerely,
Matthew L. Parish
City Clerk-Treasurer

MOVED by Alderman Tylec SECONDED by Alderman Pecoraro
That the Common Council approves the re-appointment of Michele Ackerman, 1561 Master Street, North Tonawanda, as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda, effective February 7, 2020 and ending February 6, 2022.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

V. Supt. Wastewater/Water

January 29, 2020

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

Honorable Mayor Pappas & Council Members:

On January 16, 2020 we received Six (6) bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Lighting Upgrades (Wendel Project #2728-27). All bids were higher than our budgeted amount:

Company	Bid Bond	Non-Collusion	BID
CIR Electrical	X	X	$644,350.00
O'Connell Electric	X	X	$819,000.00
Frey Electric-	X	X	$820,000.00
The State Group	X	X	$766,000.00
Goodwin Electric	X	X	$712,300.00
Weydman Electric	X	X	$672,700.00

Therefore, I recommend that you formally reject all of the above mentioned bids.
Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,
William Davignon
Supt. Wasterwater/Water

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka
That the Common Council hereby rejects all the aforementioned bids received for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Lighting Upgrades (Wendel Project #2728-27).
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

VII. Accountant

January 30, 2020

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 4, 2020 and further authorize the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant.

Regards,
Sheri Gampp
Jr. Accountant

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka SECONDED by Alderman Schmigel
That the Common Council hereby authorizes for payment the current Abstract of Claims for Common Council Audit dated February 4, 2020 and further authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer to respectively sign and countersign said Warrant:

01	General Fund	$340,016.77
02	Water Fund	19,613.44
04	Sewer Fund	122,217.66
06	Capital Project Fund	29,496.25
07	Trust & Agency Fund	8,478.78
00	Final Total	$519,822.90

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

XI. Fire Chief

January 20, 2020

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

Re: Appointment of Firefighters

Dear Honorable Body:

In accordance with the City Charter of the City of North Tonawanda, and pursuant to the Authority vested in me by §3.002.e thereof; I make the following appointments:
James R. Donner, 1320 Brookfield Drive, North Tonawanda
Nicolas S. Vossler, 77 Ransom Street, North Tonawanda

Are appointed as Firefighters in the City of North Tonawanda Fire Department. A brief

Swearing in Ceremony will be held in the Common Council Chambers on February 7, 2020, starting at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Joseph D. Sikora
Fire Chief

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro SECONDED by Alderman Tylec
That the Common Council hereby approves the appointment of James R. Donner, 1320 Brookfield Drive, North Tonawanda and Nicolas S. Vossler, 77 Ransom Street, North Tonawanda as Firefighters to the North Tonawanda Fire Department, effective February 7, 2020.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

XIV. Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors

January 29, 2020

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

Dear Mayor Pappas and Common Council,

Attached is a request for consideration for waiving park rental fee for the Second Annual Purple Heart Ceremony at Raymond Klimek Veteran's Park Bandshell on August 7, 2020 from the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency. I am in support of this request. Please consider approving this request.

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Domaradzki
Dir. Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro SECONDED by Alderman Zadzilka
That the Common Council hereby approves waiving the park rental fee for the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency, for their Second Annual Purple Heart Ceremony at Raymond Klimek Veteran's Park Bandshell on August 7, 2020.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

XVII. Traffic Safety

January 20, 2020

Matthew L. Parish
City Clerk-Treasurer
216 Payne Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Traffic Safety Minutes:

The January 2020 meeting of the North Tonawanda Traffic Safety Committee was called to order at 1900 hours. Roll call showed the following members present: R. Frank, J. Sikora, M. Daigler, M. Meisenberg, M. Lemke, A. DiBernardo, M. Anastasi. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted, the following new concerns/requests were discussed, and recommendations made.

1. **Susan Travis requested crosswalks and bicycle signs at Oliver Street/Wheatfield Street and Oliver Street/Center Avenue. The committee reviewed the area and there are no new schools, businesses or expanded business in this neighborhood. This request is denied until we have further information to why these requests were made.**

2. **William Boldt requests stop signs at Meadow Drive/Wayne Avenue. The committee looked into this intersection and believes that stop signs will hinder the flow of traffic on Meadow Drive. Member Frank will advise Traffic Officer Cress to monitor the speeding in the area.**

3. **Mark Zellner (DPW Superintendent) proposed putting dashed lines on Felton Street instead of the solid double lines. This would alleviate the parking problem and vehicles crossing the double yellow lines. Committee member Daigler is going to have a meeting with Zellner to discuss changing the street markings.**

4. **Judith Mittiga requested a stop sign at Schenck Street/Bryant Street. Mittiga also would like to know if the addresses at 307 and 315 Bryant Street have parking permits. The committee monitored the intersection and don't believe there is a stop sign needed as there is a stop sign at both intersections east and west of Bryant Street. Member Daigler will talk to Mittiga regarding the parking permits as Mittiga may need to FOIL that information.**

Meeting adjourned at 2010 hours

Travel safely,
Robert J. Frank

MOVED by Alderman Tylec SECONDED by Alderman Schmigel
That the Common Council hereby receives and files the Traffic Safety minutes from their January meeting.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

XXV. Monthly Reports

.1 Police Department

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

XXVI. Semi-Annual Vacation & Sick Leave Reports

.1 Youth, Recreation, Parks & Seniors .2 Clerk-Treasurer .3 Police Department

.4 Fire Department

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

XXVII. Annual Reports

.1 Police Department

MOVED by Alderman Pecoraro SECONDED by Alderman Tylec
That the Common Council hereby, approves the aforementioned Annual Report.
CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHERS

A.
Henry Wojtaszek

January 30, 2020

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

Dear Honorable Body:

I, Henry F. Wojtaszek, residing at 620 East Goundry Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120, am requesting to be appointed as Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Henry Wojtaszek

MOVED by Alderman Zadzilka SECONDED by Alderman Schmigel
That the Common Council approves the appointment of Henry F. Wojtaszek, 620 East Goundry Street, North Tonawanda, as a Commissioner of Deeds for the City of North Tonawanda, effective February 5, 2020 and ending February 4, 2022.
Ayes: Alderman Braun, Schmigel, Pecoraro, Tylec, Zadzilka (5)
Nays: None (0)
CARRIED.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

James Donner 1320 Brookfield Drive & Nicolas Vossler 77 Ransom Street – Thanked the Council and Chief Joseph Sikora for their appointments as Firefighter for North Tonawanda

Chief Roger Zgolak – Thanked the Council for their recognition, and vote of the resolution for the recently enacted Bail Reform Discovery Legislation which was enacted this January and pushed through during the budget process by the Governor without any debate or discussion by State Law Makers. Says that it has been a great burden to Law Enforcement as well as a safety concern to all the citizens of the State. Said that their vote of the resolution to encourage rescinding this legislation, is greatly appreciated by himself and the members of the North Tonawanda Police Department.

Joe Kissel 950 East Robinson Street – Asked about the U.S. Census and that we need to get the public aware, North Tonawanda needs 100% participation. The greater the participation the greater the share North Tonawanda will receive.

Richard Kline 114 Felton Street – Said that the foil report showed that there was not any complaints or damage done on Felton Street for the last 5 years.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Time of Adjournment: 7:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew L. Parish
City Clerk-Treasurer