

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 6, 2024
7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council was called to order by Mayor Brett Baublitz at 7:06pm. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were Mayor Brett Baublitz, Councilpersons James Andrew, Rob Endter, Clark Hubbard, Alison Jerome, Rick Koppleberger and Kristyn Roethlisberger. Staff present was City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Additional staff present was none.

Audience in attendance was Shannon McKnight.

Moved by Andrew, second by Jerome to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 16, 2024. Motion carried.

Mayor Baublitz asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Koppleberger to approve the Agenda including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hubbard, second by Jerome to approve the consent agenda items as listed:

- **City Manager’s written report, which included updates and information on AT&T, MDOT Ramps, Municipal Analytics, Westwind Retention Pond, DWSRF FY2025, Election and Utility Services**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #49966-50012, and Payroll Checks #16947-16956, DD #2953-2967, EFT #1846-1853 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received was Library Minutes.**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (7) Roethlisberger, Andrew, Endter, Hubbard, Jerome, Koppleberger, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Committee/Department Reports

There was none.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn inquired if Council had any questions on his written report. He reported that legal counsel from Miller Canfield is reviewing our well maintenance contract with Utility Services for a possible mutual termination agreement.

Unfinished Business

There was none.

New Business

Clerk Cameron presented a clerical correction to previously adopted Resolution 2024-15. The usage tiers for Quarterly Non-Residential accounts were corrected (from ~~167,000~~) to 500,000 gallons.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Kopplesberger to approve the correction to Resolution 2024-15 as stated and submitted within the council packet. Motion carried.

Clerk Cameron presented the Election Emergency Response Plan. The Bureau of Elections requested that jurisdictions statewide have an adopted plan in place. A template was provided by the BOE with guidance to allow for our individual needs or concerns.

Moved by Andrew, second by Hubbard to approve the Election Emergency Response Plan as submitted. Motion carried.

Clerk Cameron presented names received from the nominating committee to be placed on the Senior Activity Building Board election ballot. Those individuals were Donn Gates, Ellen Martin and Susan Sparks.

Moved by Kopplesberger, second by Jerome to approve the nominating committee's names of Donn Gates, Ellen Martin and Susan Sparks to be placed on the ballot for the Senior Activity Building Board. Motion carried.

Clerk Cameron presented the MERS Officer Delegate Appointment for the annual conference to be held October 10th and 11th in Grand Rapids. The administrative staff recommends that DPW Superintendent Smith be appointed as the delegate for this year's conference.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Jerome to appoint DPW Superintendent Smith as the MERS Officer Delegate for this year's conference. Motion carried.

Manager Conn presented the Farmland Lease Agreement Renewal. This renewal will be effective December 1, 2024 through November 30, 2027.

Moved by Kopplesberger, second by Hubbard to approve the Farmland Lease Agreement Renewal. Motion carried.

Manager Conn presented a CDL License Agreement. This new agreement would establish a written understanding between the city and a training candidate for costs incurred in obtaining a CDL License. Discussion was held. Council agreed based upon the review and approval of legal counsel.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Endter to approve the CDL License Agreement; upon approval from legal counsel. Motion carried.

Manager Conn reported that he has been contacted by a third-party company, hired by AT&T, to renegotiate the tower lease agreement. The proposal is to cut our monthly rate around \$1,000 per month on the east tower or threaten possible decommission of their location if an agreement isn't met. Manager Conn reported that this is for the lease amendment that was just signed in May of 2023. Discussion was held. Consensus of the Council was to decline the negotiations. Manager Conn will continue communicating with our legal team.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Andrew to direct Manager Conn to decline further negotiations regarding the AT&T lease agreement of the east tower. Motion carried.

Manager Conn reported that he has received a purchase offer for city property located on South Dilts Road. Discussion was held. Consensus of the Council to authorize Manager Conn to continue negotiations.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comments. There was none.

Announcements

Councilperson Roethlisberger expressed her concerns about traffic safety regarding e-bikes.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Jerome to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Approved 8-20-2024

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk