

State of Alabama)

City of Oneonta, December 8, 2020

County of Blount)

The Mayor and City Council met during a scheduled council meeting on December 8, 2020 with a work session beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda. Present were Mayor Phillips, Council Members: Alexander, Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce and Underwood. Also, present in the meeting were Ed Lowe, Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton, Roland McCoy, Kevin Nicodemus, Brain Fowler, Fire Chief Booth, Police Chief Clifton, Greg Brown, Rachel Gargus, Lea White and Amanda Cole.

Mayor Phillips opened the work session at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the council meeting. Mayor Phillips reviewed agenda item number four (4) concerning the designated sales tax that is voted on annually. The Mayor mentioned agenda item number 5 is regarding the by-laws and rules of procedure for the design review committee. Mayor Phillips stated the by-laws and rules of procedure have been reviewed by Alex Smith and the Design Review Committee. Councilwoman Pierce asked if there is a specific date the committee will meet monthly. The Mayor stated there will only be meetings as needed, but every meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. according to the rules of procedure.

Mayor Phillips brought up agenda item numbers six (6) through nine (9) regarding Avenu Insights and Analytics, LLC contract agreements for discussion. Councilwoman Pierce mentioned there is no way the city could provide the service in house and she supports the contract agreements.

The Mayor state agenda item number ten (10) is simply to hire temporary help with park and recreation concession.

Mayor Phillips mentioned David Langham with Frazier Lanier Company will presenting information regarding agenda item number eleven (11), which ties into item twelve (12) as well. Moreover, the Mayor began discussion for item number twelve (12) concerning the park and recreation re-development. The Mayor stated the city has already approved Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood to complete the engineering work for the park and recreational redevelopment. Mayor Phillips asked everyone to review the packets given to them throughout the discussion of item twelve (12). Mayor Phillips asked everyone to evaluate page one (1) in the packet of the current park and recreation property. He explained the vacant property by Jack's is approximately six (6) acres and would be a great property for the city to accrue to utilize for parking. Mayor Phillips also stated ideally, he would like to work with ALDOT to align the entrance on the new soccer fields to the current park and recreational and establish a pedestrian crosswalk with a traffic light. Mayor Phillips mentioned number two (2) in the packet which is the ongoing soccer fields have already been approved. The Mayor stated for number three (3); Amphitheater Park and number four (4); Railroad Market those have both been secured but waiting on funding to begin the work. The Mayor mentioned number five (5) in the packet concerns upgrading the playground equipment at Woodland Park and creating a dog park on the back part of the park. Mayor Phillips asked Ed Lowe to speak on behalf of number six (6) in the packet. Ed stated

Champion Trail will create connectivity from the high school to the amphitheater. Ed mentioned it would be very easy to make the trail ADA compliant and it would be one of the “legs” of the Downtown Triangle concept.

Mayor Phillips stated the renderings are just an initial concept of the project and he is open to changes and suggestions. After much discussion of the park and recreation project, Mayor Phillips stated he would like to hold a work session on December 17th at 5:30 p.m. for the public to make comments and suggestions. Mayor Phillips entertained for adjournment of the work session.

Councilman McAlpine made a motion to close the work session. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The work session ended at 6:01 p.m.

The Mayor opened the regular scheduled council meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Councilman Bradley gave the invocation.

Councilman Alexander led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to approve the minutes of December 1, 2020 council meeting. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Alexander made a motion to set a public hearing on December 22, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing ordinance number 1220-02 concerning sales tax holiday. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to approve the Display Review Committee by-laws and rules of procedure. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve the lodging tax revenue agreement between Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC and the City of Oneonta. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilwoman Underwood made a motion to approve the rental tax revenue agreement between Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC and the City of Oneonta. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve the tax revenue enhancement agreement revenue administration between Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC and the City of Oneonta. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman McAlpine made a motion to approve the tax revenue enhancement agreement business license discovery/recovery administration Avenu Insights & Analytics, LLC and the City of Oneonta. Councilwoman Pierce seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Councilman Bradley made a motion to hire Kaleb Wilson and Matthew Wilson as temporary park and recreational concession employees. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips asked David Langham with the Frazier Lanier Company to approach the bench for commentary relating to municipal bonds. David Langham thanked the Mayor and City Council for allowing him to speak. He stated Frazier Lanier Company has a great reputation with the city from the series 2018 bond for the Wallace State project. David stated the quality of life and economic development are huge components of a vital community. He mentioned the interest rates today are better now than they were in 2018; so, the city's older debt could be refinanced and save the city around \$500,000.00 dollars with a 10% savings off the series 2018 bond. David stated to pay off the series 2018 bond and adding an additional ten million dollars for the new park and recreational re-development project, it would cost the city an additional \$25,000 monthly on top of the series 2018 bond payment with it all in one monthly bond payment with the expiration date of 2048. David told the city council that the interest rate is currently at 1.5% but is not locked in until the council gives Frazier Lanier Company approved for credit review application. He stated Frazier Lanier Company will put all required documentation credit review application together for submission to Standard and Poor for approval. David stated the council does not have to approve the ten-million-dollar bond but could take advantage of the current interest rate to refinance series 2018 bond and utilize the \$500,000 savings. Councilman Bradley made a motion to approve Frazier Lanier Company to move forward in completing a credit review application. Councilwoman Pierce seconded; Councilman McAlpine abstained and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips asked Allie Allcorn to discuss how she arrived at the \$25,000.00 additional monthly payment to sustain the bond payment. Allie stated the city can use the equity of the CD to pay for the payments of the upcoming year. She mentioned the following year Ed's salary will be available and the Chamber of Commerce agreement did not happen so that releases more money. Allie also mentioned the fire truck on the FY 2020-2021 budget is not a recurring money restraint. She mentioned the city currently has the \$900,000.00 received from the sale of the agri-business center earmarked for the new soccer fields. Allie stated the earmarked money could be used to pay the \$90,000.00 annual payment to Blount Buddies for the McPherson Property, so that would free up operational expenses. She mentioned the city could sustain a higher bond payment than \$25,000.00; however, she does not want to put the city in a pinch. Councilwoman Pierce stated it is an extra \$25,000.00 monthly but the city will get that back in return of the utilization by the community.

Mayor Phillips entertained to set a work session on December 17th at 5:30 p.m. for the public to make comments and suggestions regarding the park and recreational re-development. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to set a work session on December 17th at 5:30 p.m. for the public to make comments and suggestions regarding the park and recreational re-development. Councilwoman Underwood seconded and the motion carried with all ayes.

Mayor Phillips stated there is information in everyone's packet on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce.

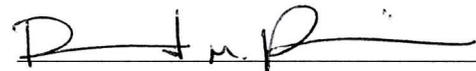
Greg Brown gave an update on behalf of the Oneonta Business Association. He stated the Roddam House and Hammer's were the winners of the Griswold Tour of Homes fan favorites. Greg mentioned there have been 4,080 people view the Griswold Tour of Homes map on Facebook. He stated the Nativity Scene downtown was a great success and will be coming back next year.

Allie Allcorn had nothing to report.

Mayor Phillips stated there is a need to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation and there will not be any further business to discuss. The Mayor entertained to enter executive session. Councilman Alexander made a motion to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation at 6:40 p.m. Councilman Bradley seconded, and the motion carried with all ayes.

The Mayor and Council Members: Alexander, Bradley, McAlpine, Pierce and Underwood entered executive session at 6:48 p.m. Also attending were Alex Smith, Allie Allcorn, Brandon Horton and Amanda Cole. Councilwoman Pierce made a motion to exit the executive session. Councilman Alexander seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Phillips entertained motion to adjourn. Councilman McAlpine made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bradley seconded and the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor