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CITY COUNCIL
CHICOPEE MA

Minutes from the City Council Meeting on Tuesday February 18, 2020 at 7:15 pm in the City Council Chambers are as follows:

Brooks, Shane D.	Ward 2 Councilor	Present
Laflamme, Frank N.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Roy, Gerard (Jerry) A.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Tillotson, James K.	At-Large Councilor	Present
Zygarowski, Robert J.	At-Large Councilor	Present
McAuliffe, Joel D.	Ward 1 Councilor	Present
Galecki, Lucjan J.	Ward 2 Councilor	Present
Balakier, George A.	Ward 4 Councilor	Absent
Krampits, Fred T.	Ward 5 Councilor	Present
Dobosz, Derek	Ward 6 Councilor	Present
Courchesne, William C.	Ward 7 Councilor	Present
Labrie, Gary R.	Ward 8 Councilor	Present
Walczak, Stan	Ward 9 Councilor	Present

Public Input-John Michon- president of the Friends of the Library. All should be proud of the library, as president he was told he should come forward and acknowledge any funding and convey to the library. Annual meeting is in December, gave a \$10,000.00 check to the library. Will be here to convey additional funds. Money is raised by golf tournaments, all kinds of ways. Membership hoping board has members willing to join the friends. Councilor Tillotson and his wife are friends. Membership is only \$10 per year.

FriendsoftheChicopeePublicLibrary.org art show, get a little culture, reception on 3/26, Dan Kane will be playing, the Mayor will be there. Please come aboard, spend the \$10 for the year. Ann Dobek, Chicopee Street, owns a business for over 60 years. Wants a meeting on the Chicopee Bike Path. Full understanding now that the project is nearing completion. Safety concerns with the path running behind the range. Established a relationship with Callaway. To bring in pro's, opened range at 6:00 am for the junior PGA program. Keep existing business here, major safety issues and concerns about keeping business open with the path coming. Michelle Pirog, 96 Lapa Farm Road, concern maintenance on bike path, what happens when the path is in? Maintenance will be expensive, repaving should be done every 7-10 years. Will cost \$200,00.00. If this falls into disrepair, if it's neglected, will become a space for drugs. Been on the canal path, graffiti, trash does not look like a safe walk way. Need another meeting. Dennis Pirog, end of Lapa Farm Road, not for or against bike path but would like another meeting on the path. From Medina Street to Nash field. In the future, want to connect from New Haven to the Canadian border. Bridge over Paderewski station? Is this for cruisers? Three ramps that go up to the bike path. Need to be handicap accessible. Would like to see final plans. Not free money, will end up costing over the years.

MO-1 Ordered that the City Council accept the FY2020 Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant in the amount of Forty five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$45,000.00) from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research. Said grant is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to receive, pass and the grant accepted. Councilor McAuliffe stated the state level for increased traffic assistance. Councilor Walczak stated officers will be trained in traffic enforcement & OUI, Sunday the 23rd starts hands free electronics. Problem with side streets not attended to for speeding. Councilor Zygarowski stated this is a grant, last year tickets given went way up last year, will be more this year. Let the PD know if you're a traffic issue area. Councilor McAuliffe stated tickets are on main

roads. Side roads are a huge issue. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-2 Mayors appropriation of One hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$100,000.00) to the following named account: D.P.W. Wastewater Special Account for Nitrogen Removal Services from available funds in the Sewer Surplus Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Roy to receive and pass. Councilor Roy stated in June of 2019 WPC facility was cited for nitrogen removal study. Councilor Tillotson stated this is the tip of the iceberg. Will cost a lot of money to meet federal standards. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-3 Mayors appropriation of Forty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$40,000.00) to the following named account: D.P.W. Wastewater Special Account for WPCF and Pump Station Improvements from available funds in the D.P.W. Collection System Salary Account for Special MEO.

--Motion made by Councilor Krampits to receive and pass. Councilor Krampits stated basically a review of the SCADA system at the WPC, allows monitoring throughout the city. Microsoft has stopped supporting older systems, allow the city to find out what software is needed. Motion passed though all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-4 Mayors appropriation of Eighty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$80,000.00) to the following named account: D.P.W. Wastewater Special Account for Syphon Cleaning from available funds in the D.P.W. Wastewater Salary Accounts:

Sr. Pump Station Operator	\$ 25,000.00
Maintenance Man	10,000.00
Mechanic	15,000.00
Pump Station Operator	15,000.00
Maintenance Supervisor	<u>15,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 80,000.00

--Motion made by Councilor Galecki to receive and pass. Councilor Galecki stated to update the drainage system. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-5 Ordered that the Inter-Departmental Agreement between the Chicopee IT Department and the Chicopee Public Schools attached hereto and incorporated herein be approved.

--Motion made by Councilor Walczak to receive and the agreement be approved this evening. Councilor Walczak stated formal agreement related to IT services. Councilor Tillotson stated agreed to by City & School, both sides agreed to work together for another year. Councilor Dobosz praised the combined departments. Thank Mayor Kos for starting, Mayor Vieau for continuing. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-6 Mayors appropriation of Forty six thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$46,000.00) to the following named City Clerk Special Accounts:

Election Expenses	\$ 19,000.00
Election Salaries	<u>27,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 46,000.00

from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Labrie to receive and pass. Councilor Labrie stated we only budget for one election and we have three extra elections this year. Councilor McAuliffe stated very important elections coming up this year. Councilor Tillotson stated School Committee member said we should have a special election, a special election is expensive. Let the legal bodies get together and make this decision. Forefathers let elected officials make the decision. Councilor Walczak stated the hours for early voting are the 24th-28th from 9-5. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-7 Mayors appropriation of Seventy five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$75,000.00) to the following named account: Bond Interest Special Account for Bond Anticipation from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and pass. Councilor Tillotson stated the amount to pay the interest wasn't available when the budget was finalized. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-8 Mayors appropriation of Twenty three thousand two hundred forty four and 28/100 dollars (\$23,244.28) to the following named account: Human Resources Salary Account for Director of Occupational Health & Safety from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

--Motion made by Councilor Zygarowski to receive and pass. Councilor Zygarowski stated this is new position, federal mandate to comply with OCEA. Last two years was underfunded. Something we need, helps every department with safety issues. Will work in conjunction with every department. Councilor Laflamme stated glad this is going to HR, will give authority to go after what's wrong. When this is completely done there are many things that will have to be complied with. Big expenses in the near future. Will help with workmen's comp claims in the future. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-9 Ordered that the City Council accept the FY20 Formula Grant in the amount of One hundred forty five thousand eight hundred ninety and 00/100 dollars (\$145,890.00) from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to the Chicopee Council on Aging. Said grant is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Motion made by Councilor Courchesne to receive and pass with a second by Councilor Laflamme as acting chair. Councilor Courchesne stated this is a grant that helps subsidize salaries. Important grant. Motion passed through all stages by a roll call vote of 11 yes, 1 abstained. Councilor Brooks abstained, Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-10 To the City Council:

You are hereby notified that I have this day appointed, Dianne Vecchiarelli, 271 Elm Street, Agawam, Massachusetts as a trustee of the Irving & Alice Page Trust Fund to serve in such office for the term of 4 years expiring on the 1st of June, 2023. To which appointment I ask the confirmation of your honorable council.

*Re-Appointment

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated position normally held by a Guidance Counselor. Councilor Dobosz stated she was his Guidance Counselor, very tough job, lot of students, lots of work to do. Thank her for taking on this role. Motion passed. Councilor Balakier absent.

MO-11 To the City Council:

You are hereby notified that I have this day appointed, Robin Kenney-Bineau, 138 Vermont Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts as a trustee of the Irving & Alice Page Trust Fund to serve in such office for the term of 2 years expiring on the 1st of June, 2021. To which appointment I ask the confirmation of your honorable council.

New Appointment

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and approved this evening. Councilor Tillotson stated all met her this evening. Councilor McAuliffe stated Robin is a tremendous asset to the school system. Appreciate service. Councilor Zygarowski stated he's known Robin since she was much younger, used to work with her father. Approve tonight. Motion passed. Councilor Balakier absent.

12 A favorable Ordinance Committee report, Chapter 7 Ordinance Revisions.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, 2nd and final reading, enrolled and ordained. Councilor Tillotson stated were asked to adjust the rate to make it fair because the federal census takers fee is higher. Motion passed through all stages by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Balakier absent.

13 A favorable Ordinance Committee report, BE IT ORDERED THAT the Ordinance Committee meet to discuss ongoing issues with cats within the City of Chicopee and possible ordinance changes to address the same.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and place on file. Councilor Tillotson stated pretty good meeting, several people represented, TJO, 2 attorneys, Health, Keith Rattell, new ordinance proposals. Work with all of the committee. Motion passed. Councilor Balakier absent.

14 BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council that the Code of the City of Chicopee for the Year 1991, as amended, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Chapter 144-1 Definitons

Delete

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER – The person or persons designed to enforce this chapter.

And insert in place thereof

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER – Any person designated by the City to enforce this Ordinance or Section 137 to 174E, inclusive of Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Law, including but not limited to police officers, special police officers, employees of the Board of Health, and agents of the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center or its successor.

Add H under PUBLIC NUISANCE

H Defecates on property of a third party which is not immediately removed by the owner.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Tillotson stated people who can administer tickets. Councilor Walczak asked should fines be included? Councilor Courchesne asked should we add compliance officer? Motion passed, referred. Councilor Balakier absent.

15 BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council that the Code of the City of Chicopee for the Year 1991, as amended, be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Chapter 144-21 Animal Waste

Delete A, B, C

And insert in place thereof

- A. The owner of every animal shall be responsible for the removal of fecal matter deposited by the owner's animal(s) on his or her property, public walks, recreation areas or private property. Owner" shall include any person(s) who possess, feed, shelter, or otherwise care for the animal.
- B. The owner of person(s) who possess or otherwise care for an animal as described above shall control the animal when appearing with the animal on any public walk, street, recreation area, or private property and the owner shall possess the means of removal of any fecal matter left by such animal.
- C. For the purposes of this regulation, the means of removal shall include any tool, implement, or other device carried for the purpose of picking up and containing such fecal matter. Disposal shall be accomplished by transporting such fecal matter to a place suitable and regularly reserved for the disposal of human fecal matter, specifically reserved for the disposal of animal fecal matter or otherwise designated as appropriate by the Director of Public Health.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive, 1st reading and refer to the Ordinance Committee. Councilor Tillotson stated added animal, not just cat. Motion passed referred. Councilor Balakier absent.

16 ORDERED THAT the TDI fellow and staff give the City Council a brief 15 minute overview of the scope of the initiative.

--Motion made by Councilor Laflamme to receive and allow the TDI fellow be allowed to speak before the next meeting. Councilor Tillotson stated he was concerned about what TDI meant, gave the Transformative Development Initiative. This is a two year Mass Development initiative. Motion passed. Councilor Balakier absent.

17 BE IT ORDERED THAT the Public Works Committee meet to discuss the construction and maintenance of the bike path in Ward 3 and Ward 7.

--Motion made by Councilor Krampits to receive and refer to the Public Works Committee. Councilor Galecki stated constituents want to get deeper into the bike path. Councilor McAuliffe stated no problem, point out they readily have access to the information from Planning & Mayor's offices. Councilor Laflamme stated let them ask questions, worth having the meeting. Councilor Tillotson stated lot of people not familiar with this, concerned what's going to be there. Have one last shot. Questions about security, how often? How they are going to maintain this. Councilor Courchesne stated not a bad idea, last meeting was well attended, nice to get a current update on this. Never know where the cameras are. Will defeat the purpose. Councilor Zygarowski stated he spoke to Councilor Galecki, he's attended three meetings already. Many letters were sent. Some people said they didn't get the letters. Councilor Walczak stated lot of unanswered questions. Don't want to see a local business affected by the bike path.

18 BE IT ORDERED THAT the Crossroads fiber management team come before the Utilities Subcommittee to discuss the possible creation of a municipal television streaming service.

--Motion made by Councilor McAuliffe to receive and refer to the Utilities Committee. Councilor McAuliffe stated pleased to offer this order. Several years on the cable commission. Would not have been profitable. Crossroads was chosen instead. Creating a TV service would complement Crossroads Fiber. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Balakier absent.

19 A NEW Special Permit application under Section 275-52 of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of I want to buy only two cars, fix them and then resell the cars. I would like to hold the cars in my two car garage at my house. Location: 101 Angela Drive. Applicant: Velma Johnson/Akeem Pitter, 101 Angela Drive.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and refer to the Zoning Committee. Councilor Tillotson stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Balakier absent.

20

A NEW Zone Change application from Res A, Res B, Biz A to Industrial for all acres/square feet of property located at 107 N. Chicopee Street for the purpose of continuity of zoning. Applied for by: Chicopee Industrial Realty LLC, 107 N. Chicopee Street.

--Motion made by Councilor Tillotson to receive and refer to the Zoning Committee and Planning. Councilor Tillotson stated will take up in committee. Motion passed, referred. Councilor Balakier absent.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith W Rattell", written in a cursive style.

KEITH W RATTELL
CITY CLERK