

1. 7:00 P.M. Public Hearing And Common Council Meeting

Common Council Meeting

Common Council Chambers

City Hall

Cohoes, New York 12047

AGENDA

March 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING CITY OF COHOES' PROPOSED POLICE

REFORM AND REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE PLAN

MEETING

- Roll Call
- Public Comment
- Approve minutes of the December 8, 2020 meeting and the December 22, 2020 meeting
- Presentation of 2020 Audit by Kenneth Clafin, CPA
- Resolution No. 14 – A Resolution adopting the City of Cohoes Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan as required by Executive Order 203
- Resolution No. 15 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for professional services associated with the Mohawk Hudson Bike Trail Green Infrastructure Corridor Project
- Resolution No. 16 – A Resolution approving the purchase of surveillance cameras and related equipment from Intervid Incorporated for use by the Police Department

Documents:

[3-23-21 BACKUP AND LEGISLATION.PDF](#)

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COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
Special Meeting
Virtual

Roll call was taken

PRESENT:

Mayor Keeler
Council President McCarthy
Council Member Smith
Council Member Russell
Council Member Briggs
Council Member Biggs
Council Member Alesio

EXCUSED:

None

Prior to the start of the Common Council Special Meeting, the Common Council Workshop was conducted.

Public Comments:

Ed Kinner, "In reference to Norlite, they still need to pay taxes and water sewer, correct?"

Mayor Keeler, "Yes, they are still required to pay those fees. That is a separate matter."

Council Member Smith, "How do we make up the voluntary money that Norlite paid?"

Mayor Keeler, "It was budgeted, we had to make up for it through unreserved funds."

Council Member Smith, "The Board of Managers, what is the amount they can approve?"

Brian Kremer, "Depends on the nature of the contract. I think Mike Durocher knows."

Michael Durocher, "The Board of Managers approves up to \$50,000.00 then it goes to the Council for approval."

Council President McCarthy made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Council Member Russell. All members voted "AYE". The motion passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 60 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

Council Member Alesio made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 60 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council President McCarthy. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 60 for the year 2020 passed. A copy of the budget transfers are attached.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 61 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION MAKING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF THE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF COHOES

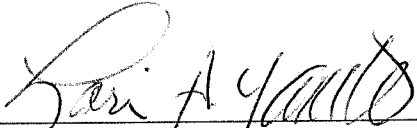
Council Member Smith made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 61 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Russell. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 61 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Ordinance No. 10 for the year 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF COHOES WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FEES

Council President McCarthy made a MOTION to approve Ordinance No. 10 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Ordinance No. 10 for the year 2020 passed.

At 7:47 PM Council Member Russell made a MOTION to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Biggs. All members voted "AYE". The Common Council Meeting adjourned.


Lori A. Yando, City Clerk

**City of Cohoes 2019 BUDGET
ACCOUNT CODE TRANSFER REQUEST FORM**

Funds Transferred To	Funds transferred From	Account Code	Amount	Transfer Justification	
The following transfers are budget Neutral					
Severance Pay- Fire Dept	A 3410.1140	Management Fee- Cohoes Music Hal	A 8686.4996	\$ 72,465.00	Transfer to cover recently retired Fire Severance payment
General Liability Insurance	A1910.4501	Management Fee- Cohoes Music Hal	A 8686.4996	\$ 21,200.00	Transfer to cover insurance increases due to rate increase for 2020 renewal
Law Enforcement Liability	A1910.4504	Management Fee- Cohoes Music Hal	A 8686.4996	\$ 9,100.00	Transfer to cover insurance increases due to rate increase for 2020 renewal
Building Maintenance- City Hall	A1620.4400	Gas/Electric City Hall	A1620.4250	\$ 8,800.00	Transfer to cover additional roof repair on City Hall roof previously unforeseen
Building Maintenance- Music Hall/Library	A1345.4400	Diesel Fuel	A 8160.4790	\$ 6,200.00	Transfer to cover additional roof repair on City Hall roof previously unforeseen
					Transfer to cover roof repair at Music Hall and A/C/heating unit repair at Library building
The following Transfer are an increase to the annual budget based on actual revenue received to date					
Severance Payments- Fire Dept	A 3410.1140	Sale of Scrap Materials	A 2650	\$ 40,000.00	Adjust budget to cover severance payment to retired Firefighter

DATE 9/17/2020



COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Tuesday, December 22, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting
Virtual

Roll call was taken

PRESENT:

Mayor Keeler
Council President McCarthy
Council Member Smith
Council Member Russell
Council Member Briggs
Council Member Biggs
Council Member Alesio

EXCUSED:

None

At 7:03 PM, a Public Hearing was conducted regarding Local Law No. 5 entitled: A LOCAL LAW IMPOSING AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF 4% ON THE GROSS RECEIPTS OF COMMERCIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES

Joe Ritchie, Saratoga Sites, "I would like to thank the Common Council and Mayor Keeler for the actions taken so far. I don't think the best idea is to just tax Norlite. People should not be living here any longer."

Judith Enck, Rensselaer County EPA Administrator, "Thank Mayor Keeler and staff for all their work with Norlite."

Mayor Keeler, "This is not the end. The health and safety of the people of Cohoes is my 1st priority."

Donald Gibbs, Rensselaer Ave., "Years ago they invested millions of dollars into their process to accommodate what the EPA told them to do. I hope you hold Norlite as well as DEC accountable."

Dave Publow, Troy, "I am directly affected by Norlite. The DEC and EPA are separate entities. DEC is not doing their job."

Mayor Keeler, "Thank you for your comments."

At 7:38 PM, with no further comments the Public Hearing was closed.

Mayor Keeler, "Condolences to the family of Dereck Becker. There are 45 confirmed Covid19 cases in Cohoes. Help is on the way in getting the vaccine out. Thank the DPW employees who worked long hours plowing the street of Cohoes."

Public Comments:

Tyler McNeil, Waterford, "I was wondering why there was not a press conference regarding the issues with Norlite? Or meetings with the public?"

Mayor Keeler, "I have met in person and virtually with Norlite. They have put some information on their website. They would like to get their view out."

Tyler McNeil, Waterford, "How many complaints received this year?"

Mayor Keeler, "I don't believe there is a running tally."

Tyler McNeil, Waterford, "How many employees are from Cohoes?"

Mayor Keeler, "It was not stated how many are from Cohoes, but they have about 70-80 employees."

Ed Sokel, Edsel Place, "I have lived here all my life, even before Norlite. We have been complaining for years. The City negotiated with Norlite for thousands of dollars. We were sold out."

Joe Ritchie, "The past few years, seen people shot and killed with gun violence. The School District needs to create diversity."

Mayor Keeler, "We do recognize the lack of diversity in the workforce."

Council Member Smith, "I have a concern with DPW workers. A person tested positive. There have been 3 guys in a truck with no masks on. At what point are we going to start requiring these guys to start wearing masks?"

Mayor Keeler, "Thanks, the DPW Commissioner is aware and has been on this issue with his staff. He has issued some verbal warnings."

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 62 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED IMPOSITION OF AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT ON GROSS RECEIPTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES

Council Member Briggs made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 62 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Russell. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 62 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 63 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE ENERGY PURCHASING SERVICE (NYSMEC) FOR ELECTRICITY

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 63 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council President McCarthy. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 63 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 64 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE ENERGY PURCHASING SERVICE (NYSMEC) FOR NATURAL GAS

Council Member Russell made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 64 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Smith. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 64 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 65 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE AWARD OF THE CITY'S INSURANCE CONTRACTS

Council Member Alesio made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 65 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Briggs. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 65 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 66 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE TERMS OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COHOES AND THE CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION CLERICAL UNIT

Council President McCarthy made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 66 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 66 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio introduced Resolution No. 67 for the year 2020

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ASSESSOR TO GRANT CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS ON THE 2021 ASSESSMENT ROLL TO PROPERTY OWNERS THAT RECEIVED THE EXEMPTION ON THE 2020 ASSESSMENT ROLL

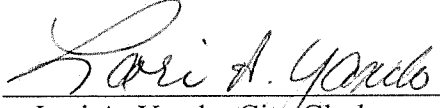
Council Member Briggs made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 67 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Resolution No. 67 for the year 2020 passed.

Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Russell, Briggs, and Biggs introduced Local Law No. 5 for the year 2020

A LOCAL LAW IMPOSING AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF 4% ON THE GROSS RECEIPTS OF COMMERCIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES

Council Member Briggs made a MOTION to approve Local Law No. 5 for the year 2020. Seconded by Council Member Alesio. Council President McCarthy, and Council Members Smith, Russell, Briggs, Biggs, and Alesio voted "AYE". Local Law No. 5 for the year 2020 passed.

At 8:19 PM Council Member Alesio made a MOTION to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Briggs. All members voted "AYE". The Common Council Meeting adjourned.


Lori A. Yando, City Clerk

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RESOLUTION NO.14 FOR THE YEAR 2021

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF COHOES POLICE REFORM AND
REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE PLAN AS REQUIRED
BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 203**

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203 requires local municipalities to perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor created a Committee to perform the required review and the Committee has met regularly and reviewed the various police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices as required by Executive Order 203; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has developed a plan, attached hereto, containing recommendations to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices as required by Executive Order 203; and

WHEREAS, a draft plan containing recommendations of the Committee was presented to the Common Council on March 9, 2021 and a Public Hearing was held on March 23, 2021 at which time and the public was invited to comment on such plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Council for the City of Cohoes hereby adopts the plan and recommendations presented by the Committee and authorizes the Mayor to provide a copy of the plan and recommendations to the Director of the NYS Division of the Budget along with such other required documents and certifications; and it is further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 23rd day of March, 2021

Brian S. Kremer
Corporation Counsel

Resolution No. 14 for the Year 2021

March 23, 2021

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Engrossed and signed by the President of the Common Council and attested by the Clerk of the Common Council this _____ day of March, 2021.

Clerk

President

I hereby approve the foregoing Resolution of the Common Council.

Date

William T. Keeler
Mayor of the City of Cohoes, New York

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RESOLUTION NO.15 FOR THE YEAR 2021

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE
AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
ASSOCIATED WITH THE MOHAWK HUDSON BIKE TRAIL
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Albany Pool CSO Long-Term Control Plan requires that that certain work be performed to reduce the volume of runoff that contributes to the City's combined sewer system, including work on New York State owned and City-owned parcels between Diane Court and Johnston Avenue in the City of Cohoes, such work known as the Mohawk Hudson Bike Trail Green Infrastructure Corridor Project (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, design plans, specifications and bidding materials are needed for the Project and CHA Consulting has submitted a proposal to prepare same; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers has awarded a contract to prepare such plans, specifications and bidding materials for the Project to CHA Consulting, Inc. at a cost of \$198,750.00, subject to Common Council approval,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the proposal of CHA Consulting, Inc. at a cost of \$198,750.00 is hereby approved and the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign an agreement for same upon approval as to form by the Corporation Counsel; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 23rd day of March, 2021

Brian S. Kremer
Corporation Counsel

Resolution No. 15 for the Year 2021
March 23, 2021
Page 2

Engrossed and signed by the President of the Common Council and attested by the Clerk of the Common Council this _____ day of March, 2021.

Clerk

President

I hereby approve the foregoing Resolution of the Common Council.

Date

William T. Keeler
Mayor of the City of Cohoes, New York

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RESOLUTION NO. 16 FOR THE YEAR 2021

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF
SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT
FROM INTERVID INCORPORATED FOR USE BY THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the City desires to purchase certain surveillance cameras and related equipment for use by the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Intervid Incorporated was awarded a contract (Award Number 23150) for the sale of certain surveillance cameras and related equipment by the New York State Office of General Services; and

WHEREAS, the City, pursuant to its procurement policy, may purchase items on state contract without the need for competitive bidding; and

WHEREAS the Board of Managers has approved the purchase of the surveillance cameras and related equipment from Intervid Incorporated for the sum of \$98,872.15, subject to Common Council approval

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the purchase of certain camera and related equipment from Inter Vid Incorporated for the total sum of \$98.872.15 is hereby approved and the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign an agreement for same upon approval as to form by the Corporation Counsel; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved as to form this 23rd day of March, 2021

Brian S. Kremer
Corporation Counsel

Resolution No. 16 for the Year 2021
March 23, 2021
Page 2

Engrossed and signed by the President of the Common Council and attested by the Clerk of the Common Council this _____ day of March, 2021.

Clerk

President

I hereby approve the foregoing Resolution of the Common Council.

Date

William T. Keeler
Mayor of the City of Cohoes, New York