CITY OF ONEIDA
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	November 17, 2026	Presiding:	Rick Rossi, Mayor
Time:	6:30pm	Clerk:	Sandy LaPera, City Clerk
Location:	Common Council Chambers	Meeting Type:	Regular ☒ Special ☐

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Rossi, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Attendees	**Present**	**Absent**	**Arrived Late**
Mayor Rossi	☒	☐	☐:_____
City Manager Lovell	☐	☒	☐:_____
Councilor McHugh	☒	☐	☐:_____
Councilor Cimpi	☒	☐	☐:_____
Councilor Smith	☒	☐	☐:_____
Councilor Jones	☐	☒	☐:_____
Councilor Pagano	☒	☐	☐:_____
Councilor Simchik	☒	☐	☐:_____

Also Present

City Attorney Bell	☐	Supervisor:_____	☐
Attorney C. Militello	☒	Supervisor:_____	☐
Fire Chief Jones	☒	Comptroller Lee Ann Wells	☒
Police Chief Lowell	☒	Deputy Comptroller J. Kaiser	☒

PROCLAMATION: Dave Foster Day

PROCLAMATION: Zonta Says No to Violence Day-Fay Eastwood/Peggy Dryer

DRAFT

Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

Dave Foster Day

WHEREAS, Dave Foster was a longtime resident of Oneida and a beloved local businessman who opened Dave's Market on North Main Street in 1967, serving the community for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dave's Market became more than a neighborhood store, as Dave built lasting friendships with generations of residents, particularly young people who found in him a trusted friend, mentor, and source of encouragement; and

WHEREAS, Dave was known for his kindness and generosity, often helping those facing challenges at home, with friendships, and in other difficult circumstances; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1980s, Dave expanded his business to include bicycles and bicycle parts, creating lasting memories for generations of Oneida children and families; and

WHEREAS, Dave's greatest legacy is the countless lives he touched through his friendship, compassion, and genuine concern for others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the City of Oneida, New York, hereby honors Dave Foster for his contributions to the community and his lasting impact on generations of residents.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City recognizes and celebrates Dave's enduring legacy of kindness, generosity, and friendship.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the official seal of the City of Oneida on this 17th day of November 2026.

_____

Rick Rossi, Mayor

DRAFT

Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Zonta International is a global organization dedicated to advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls; and

WHEREAS, for more than 100 years, Zonta has worked to end violence against women through education, advocacy, and its annual "Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women" campaign, observed November 25 through December 10; and

WHEREAS, one in three women worldwide experiences physical or sexual violence, while countless others are affected by human trafficking, child marriage, and other forms of abuse; and

WHEREAS, ending gender-based violence requires awareness, education, and the collective commitment of individuals and communities to create a world where women and girls are treated with dignity, have equal opportunities, and live free from violence;

WHEREAS, it is essential to stand with survivors, promote prevention, encourage open conversations, and ensure that women and girls have access to the resources, protection, and support they need to live safe and healthy lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Rossi, Mayor of the City of Oneida, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2026, as

"Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Day"

in the City of Oneida and encourage all residents to support gender equality, raise awareness, and join in advocating for a world free from violence against women and girls.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the official seal of the City of Oneida on this 17th day of November 2026.

_____

Mayor Rick Rossi

PUBLIC HEARING: Miscellaneous Utility Billing for unpaid service charges, water rents and sewer taxes, and authorize the charges in the 2026 assessment roll to be re-levied onto the 2027 tax roll

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY BILLING

RESOLUTION 26-163

Moved by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing for Miscellaneous Utility Billing for unpaid service charges, water rents, and sewer taxes and to authorize the charges in the 2026 assessment roll to be re-levied onto the 2027 tax roll be hereby opened at 6:37p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPEARANCES

None

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY BILLING

RESOLUTION 26-164

Moved by Councilor Cimpi
Seconded by Councilor Smith

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing for Miscellaneous Utility Billing for unpaid service charges, water rents, and sewer taxes and to authorize the charges in the 2026 assessment roll to be re-levied onto the 2027 tax roll be hereby closed at 6:37p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DRAFT

PUBLIC HEARING: 2027 City Manager's Budget

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

2027 CITY MANAGER'S BUDGET

RESOLUTION 26-165

Moved by Councilor McHugh
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing for the 2027 City Manager's Budget be hereby opened at 6:37p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPEARANCES

None

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

2027 CITY MANAGER'S BUDGET

RESOLUTION 26-166

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing for the 2027 City Manager's Budget be hereby closed at 6:37p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

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PUBLIC COMMENT

SARAH MARSHALL/JOHN COSTELLO-OC3 COMMITTEE

Sarah Marshall and John Costello addressed the Council regarding OC3's involvement in the downtown flower program. Ms. Marshall explained that OC3 has contributed financially to the program since 2016, sharing costs with the City in recent years. She expressed concern that OC3 was not included in planning decisions for 2026, resulting in separate flower purchases by the City and OC3 at a combined cost higher than the previous year. She requested that OC3 be included in planning for 2027 and that a meeting be scheduled in December.

Mr. Costello emphasized that OC3 raises funds through downtown merchants to support the flower program and other downtown improvements. He expressed disappointment with the lack of communication and reiterated the organization's desire to continue working collaboratively with the City.

Mayor Rossi apologized for the lack of communication and indicated that the matter would be addressed.

SUSAN GROSSMAN: See Attachment A

ROBERT BRITTON:

Robert Britton addressed the Council regarding his concern that information about Council meetings was being shared with an individual before the official minutes were prepared.

He questioned how the individual was obtaining information about attendance and meeting discussions and expressed concern about City-related information being communicated outside the formal minutes process.

OLD BUSINESS: None

SUPERVISOR'S REMARKS: None

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Mayor Rossi announced the City's Parade of Lights festivities scheduled for December 5, 2026, on Main Street.

The evening's activities were announced as follows:

- 6:00 p.m. — Santa's arrival at Higinbotham Park
- 6:30 p.m. — Christmas tree lighting ceremony
- 7:00 p.m. — Parade of Lights

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- 7:30 p.m. — Activities at the Kallet, including live music, arts and crafts, and meet-and-greet opportunities

Mayor Rossi encouraged residents to attend.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor Cimpi

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Special Budget meeting held on October 29, 2026, are approved as presented.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor McHugh
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Special Budget meeting held on November 2, 2026, are approved as presented.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Cimpi
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Special Budget meeting held on November 3, 2026, are approved as presented.

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Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Cimpi
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular meeting held on November 4, 2026, are approved as presented.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
Abstain: 1 (Smith)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor McHugh
Seconded by Councilor Smith

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Special Budget meeting held on November 5, 2026, are approved as presented.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
Abstain: 1 (Smith)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Motion by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

DRAFT

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 22, including checks and ACH payments totaling $211,104.97, as audited by the Voucher Committee, is hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

Jim Chamberlain — Proposed 2027 Water Rates

City Clerk Sandra LaPera read correspondence submitted by Jim Chamberlain, Chairman of the Oneida Water Board, concerning the proposed 2027 Water Department budget and water rate increase.

Mr. Chamberlain described his more than 50 years of involvement in water operations, beginning with his employment at the Oneida Water Department in 1975. He also referenced his experience assisting the Town of Stockbridge and his current service as Chairman of the Oneida Water Board.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that the Water Superintendent and Water Board supported the proposed 10% water rate increase for 2027 to maintain operations, support infrastructure improvements, and preserve opportunities for system expansion and additional revenue.

He expressed concern that maintaining current rates would require a significantly larger use of Water Fund reserves and could delay maintenance and expansion projects.

Mr. Chamberlain urged the Council to approve the 10% increase and offered to provide additional information.

The correspondence was presented to the Council for receipt and placement on file.

RECEIVE/FILE MONTHLY REPORTS

RESOLUTION 26-167

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

RESOLVED, to receive and place on file the Monthly Reports from the City Department Heads.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DRAFT

ADOPT A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR ACCESSORY STORAGE STRUCTURES, STORAGE TRAILERS, STORAGE CONTAINERS, PORTABLE FABRIC STORAGE STRUCTURES, RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, AND LONG-TERM STORAGE

RESOLUTION 26-168

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law, a proposed local law titled "A Local Law Amending the Code of the City of Oneida Chapter 190 Regarding the Use of Storage Trailers and Other Containers," was presented and introduced at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida held on May 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on such proposed local law commenced on June 2, 2026, and, following amendments to the proposed local law, the public hearing resumed on November 3, 2026, and by the Common Council of the City of Oneida and proof of publication of notice of such public hearing, as required by law, having been submitted and filed, and all persons desiring to be heard in connection with said proposed local law having been heard, and said proposed local law having been in the possession of the members of the Common Council of the City of Oneida in its final form in the manner required by Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of the Proposed Local Law has previously been determined to be an unlisted action for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the Common Council has determined that an environmental assessment form ("EAF") was required in connection with this matter; and

WHEREAS, said EAF has been prepared and has been reviewed by the Common Council and the Common Council has considered the adoption of said Local Law, has considered the criteria contained in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.7 and has compared the impacts which may be reasonably expected to result from the adoption of said Local Law against said criteria; and

WHEREAS, the local law was duly referred to the Madison County Planning Department pursuant to General Municipal Law ("GML") Section 239 for review and recommendation; and

WHEREAS, by GML Recommendation Report, GML Lo # 108-26, the Madison County Planning Department returned the local law for local determination, without offering any comments or modifications for the Council's consideration; and

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WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to enact said Proposed Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, that the Common Council does hereby ratify and reaffirm its determination rendered on May 5, 2026, wherein the Council rendered a negative declaration under SEQRA, having concluded that this action shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment and that an environmental impact statement ("EIS") shall not be required; be it further

RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, does hereby enact a Local Law 2026 as follows:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR ACCESSORY STORAGE STRUCTURES, STORAGE TRAILERS, STORAGE CONTAINERS, PORTABLE FABRIC STORAGE STRUCTURES, RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, AND LONG-TERM STORAGE

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent

The Common Council of the City of Oneida finds that the long-term placement, storage, and use of storage trailers, semi-trailers, motor vehicle bodies, shipping containers, storage containers, recreational vehicles, portable fabric storage structures, and similar units may adversely impact neighborhood character, community aesthetics, economic development, redevelopment efforts, property maintenance, public safety, fire safety, and the general welfare of the community.

The Common Council further finds that such units are frequently utilized as de facto accessory buildings, storage facilities, warehouses, or outdoor storage areas without review under applicable zoning, site plan, building, fire safety, or property maintenance requirements.

The purpose of this Local Law is to establish reasonable regulations governing the placement, use, duration, maintenance, screening, and permitting of such structures while preserving customary residential activities, temporary storage needs, construction activities, emergency recovery efforts, and recreational uses.

This Local Law is intended to supplement, and not replace, existing provisions of the City Code regulating junk, debris, refuse, unsafe conditions, nuisance conditions, outdoor storage, accessory structures, property maintenance, fire safety, and zoning compliance.

Section 2. Chapter 190 Definitions

Chapter 190 of the Code of the City of Oneida is hereby amended to add the following definitions:

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LONG-TERM STORAGE

The placement, parking, storage, or maintenance of any trailer, storage container, motor vehicle body, recreational vehicle, or similar unit in substantially the same location for more than sixty (60) consecutive days, except where expressly authorized by this Chapter.

For purposes of determining whether the sixty-day period has been exceeded, the City shall not be required to establish continuous observation of the unit for the entire period. Duration may be established through photographs, inspection records, historical records or imagery, statements or admissions of an owner or occupant, physical conditions indicating prolonged placement, or other competent evidence.

PORTABLE FABRIC STORAGE STRUCTURE

A temporary or semi-permanent structure consisting of a metal, wood, plastic, or similar frame covered by fabric, canvas, polyethylene, vinyl, tarp, or similar flexible material, commonly marketed or used as a portable garage, portable shelter, car shelter, garage-in-a-box, storage shelter, or similar structure.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

A motorhome, camper, travel trailer, fifth-wheel trailer, camper van, recreational trailer, or similar unit designed and maintained for temporary recreational, camping, or travel use.

SEMI-TRAILER

Any vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by a motor vehicle and designed for transporting property, including tractor-trailer trailers, box trailers, cargo trailers, freight trailers, and similar units.

STORAGE CONTAINER

Any portable container, including but not limited to shipping containers, cargo containers, portable on-demand storage containers commonly referred to as PODs, portable moving containers, freight containers, motor vehicle bodies, or similar structures commonly used for the storage or transportation of goods, materials, equipment, inventory, or personal property.

STORAGE TRAILER

Any trailer, semi-trailer, box trailer, cargo trailer, truck trailer, freight trailer, or similar wheeled unit parked, placed, or maintained on a property primarily for storage purposes and not actively used for transportation.

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MOTOR VEHICLE BODY

A cargo box, passenger body, truck body, bus body, trailer body, shipping body, or similar portion of a motor vehicle or trailer, whether attached to or removed from a chassis, that is used primarily for stationary storage.

UTILITY TRAILER

A trailer designed and maintained for the transportation of personal property, lawn and garden equipment, boats, snowmobiles, recreational equipment, construction materials, or similar items and not used primarily as a stationary storage structure.

Section 3. §190-14.1 Accessory Storage Structures and Long-Term Storage

Chapter 190 of the Code of the City of Oneida is hereby amended by adding a new §190-14.1 as follows:

"**A. General Applicability**

Except as otherwise permitted herein, no storage trailer, storage container, semi-trailer, motor vehicle body, utility trailer used for stationary storage, portable fabric storage structure, recreational vehicle, or similar unit shall be used as a permanent or long-term accessory storage structure within the City of Oneida.

Such units shall not be considered permitted accessory structures unless specifically authorized by this section or approved through site plan approval, Conditional Use Permit, Temporary Storage Permit, or other land use approval authorized by this Chapter.

B. Prohibited Uses

No person shall place, park, store, maintain, or utilize any storage trailer, storage container, semi-trailer, motor vehicle body, utility trailer used for stationary storage, recreational vehicle, portable fabric storage structure, or similar unit in a manner that:

(1) Functions as a permanent or long-term accessory storage structure except as expressly authorized by this Chapter;

(2) Functions as an unapproved warehouse, storage facility, outdoor storage area, or accessory building;

(3) Creates or contributes to a nuisance condition, unsafe condition, fire hazard, property maintenance violation, or other condition prohibited by the City Code or applicable law;

(4) Is abandoned, deteriorated, dismantled, partially dismantled, unsafe, or inoperable;

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(5) Is used in a manner inconsistent with applicable provisions of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, approved zoning, site plan approval, Conditional Use Permit, or other applicable approval; or

(6) Is otherwise prohibited by this Chapter or any other applicable provision of the City Code.

C. Residential District Regulations

In residential zoning districts, storage trailers, semi-trailers, motor vehicle bodies, shipping containers, cargo containers, and similar storage containers shall be prohibited as permanent or long-term accessory storage structures.

This subsection shall not prohibit the lawful parking or storage of recreational vehicles, campers, boat trailers, snowmobile trailers, utility trailers, or similar personal-use trailers that are maintained and used for their intended purpose in accordance with Subsection H.

Temporary uses expressly authorized by this section shall remain permitted.

D. Commercial and Industrial District Regulations

Storage trailers, storage containers, semi-trailers, motor vehicle bodies, utility trailers used for stationary storage, and similar structures may be permitted in commercial and industrial districts only when specifically approved through site plan approval, Conditional Use Permit, outdoor storage approval, or other applicable land use approval.

The number, location, screening, duration, and use of such structures shall be determined through the applicable approval process by the City of Oneida Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals (PC/ZBA).

Any expansion, relocation, intensification, or substantial modification of such use occurring after the effective date of this section shall comply with the requirements of this section and shall be subject to further review and approval by the PC/ZBA, as applicable.

E. Temporary Moving and Storage Containers

One temporary storage container may be placed upon a residential property for moving, temporary household storage, renovation projects, or similar temporary purposes for a period not exceeding thirty (30) consecutive days.

The Code Enforcement Officer may approve one extension not exceeding thirty (30) additional days upon written request demonstrating good cause.

If a longer period is required, the property owner or occupant may apply for a Temporary Storage Permit pursuant to Subsection G. The periods authorized under this subsection and Subsection G shall not automatically be cumulative.

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F. Construction Site Storage

Storage containers, construction trailers, and similar units may be utilized in connection with an active construction project for which all required building permits and other applicable approvals remain valid.

Where a Temporary Storage Permit is required pursuant to Subsection G, such permit shall also be obtained and remain valid for the duration of the authorized storage.

A unit authorized under this subsection shall be removed within thirty (30) days following completion, abandonment, or termination of the construction project, or upon expiration or termination of the permit or approval authorizing the placement of the unit, whichever occurs first, unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Code Enforcement Officer pursuant to this section.

G. Temporary Storage Permit

The Code Enforcement Officer may issue a Temporary Storage Permit for good cause shown.

Such permits may be issued for:

(1) Active construction or renovation projects;

(2) Moving or relocation activities;

(3) Estate administration;

(4) Fire, flood, storm, or disaster recovery;

(5) Military deployment;

(6) Temporary business relocation; or

(7) Similar temporary circumstances determined by the Code Enforcement Officer to constitute good cause.

An initial Temporary Storage Permit may be issued for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days.

One extension not exceeding ninety (90) additional days may be granted upon written request demonstrating continuing good cause.

Each permit shall identify the authorized unit, its approved location, the purpose for which the permit is issued, and the expiration date.

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A Temporary Storage Permit issued pursuant to this subsection shall supersede, rather than automatically extend or add to, a temporary period otherwise authorized under Subsection E for the same unit and circumstances.

An application for a Temporary Storage Permit or extension shall be accompanied by the applicable fee established by resolution of the Common Council.

H. Recreational Vehicles and Personal-Use Trailers

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the lawful parking or storage of recreational vehicles, campers, boat trailers, snowmobile trailers, utility trailers, or similar personal-use trailers that are actively maintained and used for their intended purpose.

Such units shall not:

(1) Be used as permanent or long-term stationary storage structures;

(2) Be used for commercial storage except where otherwise lawfully permitted;

(3) Be used for occupancy except as otherwise permitted by law; or

(4) Be maintained in an abandoned, unsafe, deteriorated, or inoperable condition.

Determination of Long-Term Storage.

Whether a trailer, recreational vehicle, motor vehicle body, storage container, utility trailer, or similar unit is being used for long-term storage shall be determined based upon the totality of the circumstances.

Evidence may include, but shall not be limited to:

(a) Remaining substantially stationary in the same location for more than sixty (60) consecutive days without evidence of active transportation, recreational, construction, moving, or other permitted temporary use;

(b) Significant vegetation growth around, beneath, or against the unit;

(c) Flat tires, missing wheels, missing towing equipment, missing components, or other conditions impairing mobility;

(d) Utility connections, extension cords, plumbing connections, or similar indications of stationary use;

(e) Accumulation of stored materials, equipment, inventory, junk, debris, refuse, pallets, or personal property around or beneath the unit;

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(f) Structural deterioration, damage, or other conditions indicating prolonged inactivity;

(g) Historical photographs, inspection records, aerial or street imagery, prior notices, or other records establishing the duration of placement;

(h) Statements or admissions of the owner, occupant, tenant, or other person with knowledge of the property; or

(i) Other documented conditions reasonably indicating that the unit is being utilized as long-term stationary storage rather than for transportation, recreation, construction, moving, or another permitted purpose.

No single factor shall necessarily establish a violation. The determination shall be based upon the available evidence and the overall circumstances.

The existence of a license plate, registration, or inspection sticker may be considered as evidence but shall not, by itself, establish that a vehicle, trailer, camper, recreational vehicle, or similar unit is actively used, roadworthy, lawfully maintained, or exempt from this section.

I. Portable Fabric Storage Structures

Portable fabric storage structures shall be permitted as temporary accessory structures subject to the following requirements:

(1) Shall not be located within a required front yard;

(2) Shall comply with all applicable setback requirements for accessory structures;

(3) Shall be securely anchored;

(4) Shall be maintained in good repair and free from torn, collapsed, unsecured, deteriorated, or missing covering materials;

(5) Shall not be used for commercial warehousing, business inventory, occupancy, or habitation unless otherwise specifically authorized;

(6) Shall not be used for the storage of junk, debris, refuse, or hazardous materials in violation of applicable law;

(7) No residential property shall contain more than one (1) portable fabric storage structure unless otherwise approved by the Code Enforcement Officer; and

(8) Shall obtain any building permit, operating permit, or other approval required by the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, the New York State Fire Code, Chapter 33 of the City Code, or other applicable law.

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Portable fabric storage structures that become unsafe, abandoned, deteriorated, collapsed, or otherwise violate this section may be ordered repaired or removed in accordance with applicable enforcement procedures.

J. Screening and Placement

Where a storage trailer, storage container, motor vehicle body, portable fabric storage structure, or other unit regulated by this section is visible from a public street, public sidewalk, public trail, public park, or adjacent residential property, the Code Enforcement Officer may require reasonable screening where necessary to minimize impacts upon surrounding properties and neighborhood character.

Screening may include fencing, landscaping, berms, placement behind principal structures, buffering, or other methods approved by the Code Enforcement Officer.

The Code Enforcement Officer may also require reasonable relocation or reorientation of such structures where necessary to minimize visibility or address applicable safety or property maintenance concerns.

K. Fire Safety

No storage trailer, storage container, motor vehicle body, portable fabric storage structure, or similar unit shall be maintained in a manner that:

(1) Creates a fire hazard;

(2) Obstructs emergency access;

(3) Interferes with firefighting operations;

(4) Violates applicable provisions of the New York State Fire Code;

(5) Stores, contains, or houses hazardous materials, petroleum products, used oil, chemicals, regulated substances, or similar materials in violation of applicable local, state, or federal laws or regulations; or

(6) Fails to comply with applicable requirements governing the storage of regulated materials.

The Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Code Enforcement Officer, or other official having lawful jurisdiction may require corrective action in accordance with their respective authority where necessary to protect public safety.

L. Statement of Intent and Exclusions

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Subject to the regulations and restrictions set forth herein, this section is not intended to prohibit:

(1) Temporary moving containers authorized herein;

(2) Temporary construction storage authorized herein;

(3) Temporary disaster recovery storage;

(4) Utility trailers used for customary residential purposes;

(5) Boat trailers;

(6) Snowmobile trailers;

(7) Temporary loading and unloading activities associated with travel, recreation, moving, or seasonal use;

(8) Ordinary residential storage boxes, deck boxes, pool storage containers, and similar customary residential accessories;

(9) Recreational vehicles actively used for travel and recreation; or

(10) Other similar temporary or customary residential activities.

M. Existing Structures and Compliance

Storage trailers, storage containers, semi-trailers, motor vehicle bodies, portable fabric storage structures, or similar accessory storage structures that were lawfully and specifically authorized through site plan approval, Conditional Use Permit, variance, or other applicable land use approval prior to the effective date of this section may continue subject to the conditions of such approval and other applicable provisions of the City Code.

Any storage trailer, storage container, semi-trailer, motor vehicle body, portable fabric storage structure, or similar accessory storage structure that was not lawfully authorized prior to the effective date of this section and does not comply with this section shall be removed or brought into compliance within six (6) months of the effective date of this Local Law.

The Code Enforcement Officer may approve a written compliance schedule where good-faith efforts toward compliance are demonstrated.

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to eliminate or impair any lawful preexisting nonconforming use or vested right to the extent such use or right is protected under applicable law.

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N. Relationship to Other Code Provisions

Nothing in this section shall limit enforcement under Chapter 147 regarding junk, debris, refuse, solid waste, or junk storage.

Nothing in this section shall limit enforcement under any applicable property maintenance, nuisance, fire safety, building code, zoning, or other provisions of the City Code or New York State law.

Nothing herein shall preclude referral of any storage trailer, storage container, motor vehicle body, portable fabric storage structure, or similar accessory storage structure to the Assessor for evaluation under applicable provisions of the New York Real Property Tax Law.

Where more than one provision applies, the City may proceed under any applicable enforcement authority.

O. Enforcement

This section may be enforced by the Code Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshal, Fire Chief, Police Department, Community Service Officer, or other official authorized by the City Code or applicable law, acting within the scope of such official's lawful authority.

Evidence of a violation may include direct observations, photographs, inspection records, historical records or imagery, prior notices, statements or admissions of an owner or occupant, physical conditions at the property, or other competent evidence.

Where authorized by the City Code or applicable law, enforcement may include a notice of violation, order to remedy, appearance ticket, civil proceeding, injunctive relief, or other available remedy.

Any notice or order issued pursuant to this section should identify, to the extent reasonably practicable, the unit or condition alleged to violate this section, the applicable provision, the corrective action required, and the time allowed for compliance.

Nothing in this section shall independently confer upon any City official the power to issue an appearance ticket, conduct an inspection, enter private property, or exercise any other enforcement authority not otherwise granted by the City Code or applicable law."

Section 4. Validity and Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or portion of this Local Law is adjudged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not affect the remainder thereof.

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Section 5. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Mayor Rick Rossi	YES
Councilor Lynne McHugh	YES
Councilor Dave Cimpi	YES
Councilor Nathan Smith	NO
Councilor Janet Jones	ABSENT
Councilor Bill Pagano	YES
Councilor Tom Simchik	YES

MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DISCUSSION: Councilor McHugh discussed concerns she had previously raised regarding the proposed local law. She explained that she had taken additional time to review the proposal and speak with members of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to better understand its purpose and application.

Councilor McHugh stated that one of her primary concerns was whether the proposed law would interfere with ordinary residential activities, particularly the use of traditional backyard storage sheds. She indicated that she had received clarification that conventional residential storage sheds would not be prohibited.

She also questioned why the proposed regulations were being incorporated into Chapter 190 rather than Chapter 147, which addresses garbage, rubbish, and junk. She explained that the distinction had been clarified because the proposed law primarily concerned land use and the long-term use of storage containers and similar structures, particularly by businesses.

Councilor McHugh further referenced questions regarding the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals' review of the proposal, noting that the October meeting had not resulted in a clear recommendation and that a subsequent November meeting had not occurred.

She thanked those who had provided clarification and indicated that her concerns had been addressed.

BOARD REAPPOINTMENT-PLANNING COMMISSION/ZBA AND TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

RESOLUTION 26-169

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

DRAFT

RESOLVED, to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Gregg Myers to the Planning Commission/ZBA for a 7-year term and to reappoint to the Traffic Safety Board for a 3-year term.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

AGREEMENT-BRIDGES

RESOLUTION 26-170

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with BRiDGES, a/k/a Madison County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Inc., P.O. Box 389, Oneida, NY 13421, for the 2027 Employee Assistance Program.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCIDENT REPORT FEES

RESOLUTION 26-171

Moved by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor Smith

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida Police Department provides copies of accident reports upon request; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has recommended an increase in the fees charged for copies of accident reports;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida hereby approves the following fees for accident reports issued by the Police Department:

DRAFT

- Citizen Requests: $10.00 per report
- Corporate Requests: $20.00 per report

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the revised fees shall become effective upon adoption of this resolution, and shall be incorporated into the City's fee schedule.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

EXCELLUS HEALTH AND DENTAL CONTRACTS FOR 2027

RESOLUTION 26-172

Moved by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager or Acting City Manager to execute an agreement with Excellus for employee health and dental insurance coverage for the period January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION 26-173

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, to approve the budget transfers and amendments as outlined by the Comptroller or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services.

DRAFT

2026 Budget Adjustments

Budget Adjustment #1

Amount	To	From
$1,880.00	001.8020.0404.0000 Comprehensive Planning Grant	$1,692.00 001.0025.3902.0002 Comprehensive Planning Grant _____ $188.00 001.0001.0912.0000 General Fund Balance

Purpose: To allocate funds to the Comprehensive Planning Grant from reimbursed funds and City's required 10% match

Budget Adjustment #2

Amount	To	From
$11,465.03	007.8110.0300.0000 Hydrant Contracts	007.0007.0912.0000 Hydrant Fund Balance

Purpose: To allocate funds to the hydrant bid for Stockbridge, which will be reimbursed after each hydrant installation

Budget Adjustment #3

Amount	To	From
$6,131.75	001.3410.0104.0000 Fire Holiday Pay	$3,131.75 001.3410.0413.0000 Fire Training _____ $1,000 001.3410.0410.0000 Fire Radio Maintenance _____ $2,000 001.3410.0405.000 Fire Building Security Upgrades

Purpose: To re-allocate funds to cover the contractual holiday payout

DRAFT

Budget Adjustment #4

Amount	To	From
$20,000.00	001.1680.0403.0000 IT Contracts	001.1620.0401.0000 Electric and Gas

Purpose: To re-allocate funds for the expected IT expenses through 2026

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

APPROVE BID-WATER HYDRANTS

RESOLUTION 26-174

Moved by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

> **RESOLVED**, to award the bid for the purchase of water hydrants to Ferguson Waterworks, located at 6040 Drott Drive East, East Syracuse, NY 13057, as the sole bidder meeting specifications, in the amount of $40,035.03.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DISCUSSION: During discussion, a Councilor McHugh questioned whether the expenditure would be paid from the General Fund or Water Fund. It was clarified that the purchase would be funded through the appropriate hydrant budget line.

Councilor McHugh indicated that the question was raised out of concern for the City's financial position.

AGREEMENT-VILLAGE OF WAMPSVILLE SNOWPLOWING

RESOLUTION 26-175

Moved by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

DRAFT

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager or Acting City Manager to execute a snowplowing agreement with the Village of Wampsville for snow and ice removal services on Daniels Drive, located within the City of Oneida, for the period January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027, at a cost of $1,000.00.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DISCUSSION: During discussion, Councilor McHugh asked whether the City would be paying the Village for plowing services. It was confirmed that the City would pay approximately $1,000 under the agreement. It was further explained that the Village contracts with the Town to perform its snow plowing services.

Councilor McHugh questioned whether discussions had occurred regarding the possibility of exchanging municipal services rather than making a direct payment, noting that there may be opportunities for mutually beneficial arrangements between the City and Village.

It was indicated that no specific discussions concerning a service exchange had occurred.

AMEND DOG LICENSING AND IMPOUND FEES

RESOLUTION 26-176

Moved by Councilor Pagano
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to amend Resolution No. 16-142, adopted August 2, 2016, to establish the dog licensing and impoundment fees as set forth below, subject to applicable provisions of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law and the City of Oneida Code.

Fee Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Spayed/Neutered Dog License	$12.00	$17.00
Unspayed/Unneutered Dog License	$28.00	$38.00
First Impoundment	$40.00	$50.00

DRAFT

Second Impoundment	$50.00	$100 ~~$75.00~~
Third and Subsequent Impoundments	$100.00	$175 ~~$150.00~~

DISCUSSION: Councilor McHugh expressed concern regarding repeat violations involving dogs running at large and suggested that the proposed increases for second and subsequent impoundments were insufficient to discourage repeated offenses.

Police Chief Steve Lowell explained that third offenses were relatively uncommon but generally involved individuals or households with repeated violations. He estimated that second offenses occurred a handful of times annually.

Chief Lowell also explained the impoundment process, including the requirement for owners to provide proof of licensing and rabies vaccination. He stated that fees are generally collected when owners retrieve their dogs and that animals may be transported to Wanderers' Rest when necessary.

Council discussed the importance of encouraging responsible pet ownership and protecting residents from dogs running at large, while also considering the financial burden that substantially higher impoundment fees could impose on pet owners.

Councilor McHugh initially suggested increasing the second impoundment fee to $150 and the third and subsequent impoundment fee to $300. Other Council members expressed concern that these amounts represented substantial increases and could create financial hardship, particularly for owners whose dogs escaped despite reasonable precautions.

A compromise was proposed to increase the second impoundment fee to $100 and the third and subsequent impoundment fee to $175. Council also discussed the proposed dog licensing fee increases, which remained unchanged from the original proposal.

Councilor Smith moved to amend the resolution to revise the second impoundment fee to $100 and the third and subsequent impoundment fees to $175, and to provide that the revised fees take effect immediately upon adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilor Simchik.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

DRAFT

AGREEMENT – ORGANICS WASTE MANAGEMENT AT THE WWTP
(PREVIOUSLY TABLED NOVEMBER 4, 2026)

RESOLUTION 26-177

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

WHEREAS, the Common Council tabled Resolution No. 26-162 at its November 4, 2026, meeting concerning an agreement with Gotta Do Contracting LLC for Organics Waste Management at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to proceed with consideration of said agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida hereby authorizes the City Manager or Acting City Manager to execute an agreement with Gotta Do Contracting LLC for Organics Waste Management at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

NEW BUSINESS: None

2027 City Budget Discussion

Mayor Rossi opened the discussion regarding the proposed 2027 City Budget, noting that several Council members had been unable to attend portions of the previous budget work sessions. He invited additional comments and questions before finalizing the proposed budget for adoption on December 1, 2026.

Planning and Codes Department — Proposed Position and Rental Registry

Council discussed reinstating funding for a proposed position within the Planning and Codes Department. The position had previously been removed during budget deliberations, along with a portion of the anticipated rental registry revenue.

Councilor Smith expressed support for restoring the position, emphasizing the department's staffing needs and its importance to code enforcement, planning, economic development, and grant administration.

DRAFT

Mayor Rossi questioned whether an additional full-time position was necessary to administer the proposed rental registry. He explained that the registry had initially been discussed as a means of identifying occupants of rental properties, but that certain information could not legally be collected as originally contemplated.

He expressed concern that the registry might primarily become an additional administrative requirement and fee for landlords, particularly if the registration process could be incorporated into existing code inspections.

Other Council members noted that the registry could still serve an important purpose by identifying property owners and responsible contacts, particularly for rental properties owned by limited liability companies.

Council discussed whether a part-time employee could assist with establishing the registry and addressing other departmental responsibilities without the expense of a full-time position and benefits.

The discussion expanded to the need for grant-writing and grant-administration assistance throughout City departments.

Police Chief Lowell explained that grant administration involves considerably more than preparing applications. Responsibilities include identifying funding opportunities, preparing detailed narratives, managing awarded grants, completing reporting requirements, and maintaining compliance with grant conditions.

He stated that the Police Department had missed potential funding opportunities because existing personnel lacked sufficient time to prepare applications and administer additional grants.

Chief Lowell also explained that certain grants permit administrative costs to be included in the funding request, potentially allowing the City to recover a portion of the cost of an employee responsible for grant administration.

Council discussed the possibility of hiring a qualified individual who could assist multiple departments with grant writing, administration, code enforcement, and related responsibilities.

A suggestion was made to budget the position for approximately three-quarters of 2027, allowing time to recruit a qualified candidate and reducing the initial budget impact.

The proposed annual salary was approximately $60,000, with a partial-year allocation of approximately $42,000 to $45,000 discussed.

Council members generally expressed support for restoring partial-year funding for the position, subject to the final budget adoption.

Rental Registry Revenue

Council also reviewed the anticipated revenue associated with the proposed rental registry.

Questions were raised regarding the number of rental properties and units that would be registered, the proposed fee structure, and whether the revenue projections were realistic.

DRAFT

It was explained that the proposed fees would vary based on the number of rental units within a property.

Council members expressed concern about relying on revenue that had not yet been established through an operating program.

The discussion emphasized the importance of using realistic revenue projections rather than assuming that a new position or program would immediately generate sufficient revenue to offset its costs.

No separate formal action was taken regarding the rental registry.

Sales Tax Revenue Projections

Council discussed adjusting anticipated sales tax revenue to offset the partial-year cost of the proposed Planning and Codes position without increasing the property tax levy.

It was noted that sales tax revenue had increased approximately 4% during the current year and that the proposed 2027 budget reflected a more conservative increase.

Council reviewed the possibility of increasing the 2027 sales tax revenue projection by approximately $42,000.

The City's financial consultant, Lee Ann Wells, explained that the adjustment would keep the projected sales tax increase below approximately 4%.

Council members expressed a preference for using a reasonable sales tax projection rather than increasing property taxes or relying on uncertain rental registry revenue.

There was general agreement to incorporate the additional anticipated sales tax revenue into the proposed budget.

Additional Budget Reductions and Future Cost Savings

Council briefly discussed whether additional reductions could be identified to further lower the proposed property tax increase.

The possibility of reducing funding for security cameras was raised. However, opposition was expressed to making additional reductions to that expenditure.

Council also discussed potential opportunities for future operational savings, including reviewing custodial services at the Municipal Building and Recreation Center.

Councilor McHugh suggested exploring whether consolidating or outsourcing custodial services could reduce costs in future budgets.

It was acknowledged that previous consolidation efforts had been considered and that further review would be necessary.

No changes to custodial services were approved.

DRAFT

Police Department — Uniforms, Ballistic Vests, and Equipment

Police Chief Lowell addressed the Council regarding reductions to the Police Department's proposed 2027 uniform and equipment budget.

He explained that the original request of approximately $30,000 had been reduced to $22,500, an amount sufficient to cover contractual uniform allowances but not the department's additional mandatory equipment needs.

Chief Lowell identified approximately $22,400 in anticipated expenses beyond the budgeted uniform allowances, including replacement ballistic vests and initial equipment for new officers.

He explained that ballistic vests require replacement on a five-year cycle and that seven vests would need to be replaced during 2027.

Additionally, the department anticipated hiring three officers to fill vacancies resulting from retirements. Initial equipment costs were estimated at approximately $3,500 per officer, totaling $10,500.

Chief Lowell emphasized that these expenses were necessary for officer safety and could not be indefinitely deferred.

Council questioned whether funding could be transferred from other Police Department budget lines, including training or crime prevention.

Chief Lowell explained that training funds were necessary for required law enforcement training, ammunition, equipment, and related expenses. He further clarified that certain crime prevention expenditures were supported by grant revenue and could not simply be redirected.

Chief Lowell stated that, if the necessary funding was not included in the adopted budget, he would likely need to request budget transfers or additional funding during 2027.

Council acknowledged the department's equipment needs but did not restore the requested funding during the discussion.

Council Direction: The proposed Police Department budget remained unchanged, with the understanding that additional funding requests may be necessary during 2027.

General Fund Balance

Council reviewed the projected General Fund balance and the extent to which reserves would be used to support the 2027 budget.

Ms. Wells indicated that the projected General Fund balance was approximately 14% of the budget.

Council discussed the importance of avoiding additional reliance on reserves to support recurring operating expenses.

It was indicated that the revised proposed budget did not include an additional appropriation from General Fund balance to reduce the property tax increase.

DRAFT

Final Proposed Property Tax Increase

Throughout the budget discussion, Council reviewed several possible tax levy scenarios associated with restoring partial-year funding for the Planning and Codes position and adjusting sales tax revenue.

The discussion included estimated increases of approximately 9.35%, 10.03%, and other preliminary figures as budget adjustments were considered.

Following discussion, Council generally agreed to restore partial-year funding for the Planning and Codes position and increase the anticipated sales tax revenue by approximately $42,000.

The resulting proposed property tax increase was discussed as being approximately 9.35%, subject to final calculations and adjustments.

Mayor Rossi confirmed that Council members were generally satisfied with the proposed budget changes and wished to conclude the budget review so that the necessary documents could be prepared for adoption.

Ms. Wells advised that the proposed budget needed to be finalized in accordance with the applicable notice and filing requirements before the scheduled December 1 adoption.

Council Direction: Proceed with preparation of the proposed 2027 City Budget, incorporating the discussed adjustments, for consideration at the December 1, 2026, meeting.

2027 Water Department Budget and Water Rates

Proposed Water Rate Increase

Mayor Rossi opened discussion regarding the proposed 2027 water rate increase.

He reiterated his concern about increasing water rates during the same year that residents would experience a substantial property tax increase.

Mayor Rossi acknowledged the Water Department's financial and infrastructure needs but expressed a preference for avoiding an additional increase in costs to residents.

Council discussed the Water Superintendent's recommendation for a 10% water rate increase and the Water Board's support for that recommendation.

Concerns were raised that maintaining existing rates could delay infrastructure improvements, reduce the Water Fund balance, and limit opportunities to expand water service to underserved areas.

Council also discussed the potential loss of wholesale water revenue from Verona, noting that the anticipated change had been delayed but could eventually affect the department's financial position.

Councilor Simchik emphasized that the City should avoid postponing necessary rate adjustments until a larger increase became unavoidable.

DRAFT

Other members noted that the Water Fund remained in a substantially stronger financial position than the General Fund.

Water Fund Balance and Projected Deficit

Ms. Wells reviewed the Water Fund's financial position and explained that its fund balance was approximately $5.6 million, compared with approximately $2.5 million to $2.8 million in the General Fund.

She indicated that the Water Fund balance represented more than 100% of annual budgeted expenditures.

Without a rate increase, the proposed 2027 Water Department budget would require approximately $921,000 in fund balance appropriations.

Following that appropriation, the remaining fund balance was projected to represent approximately 101.75% of the department's annual budget.

Council discussed whether the existing reserves provided sufficient flexibility to defer a portion of the proposed rate increase while continuing to maintain essential services.

Some Council members expressed concern that continued use of reserves could eventually place the Water Department in a financial position similar to that of the General Fund.

Consideration of a 5% Increase

Council discussed a 5% water rate increase as a compromise between maintaining current rates and adopting the Water Superintendent's recommended 10% increase.

It was noted that a 5% increase would have a relatively modest impact on an average residential customer's quarterly bill while generating additional revenue for the department.

Council members discussed the importance of maintaining financial stability, supporting infrastructure improvements, and avoiding significant future increases.

Mayor Rossi continued to express reservations about increasing water rates but acknowledged the concerns raised regarding the department's long-term financial needs.

Several Council members indicated support for a 5% increase, while at least one member expressed a preference for the originally proposed 10% increase before agreeing to the compromise.

Council reached a general consensus to proceed with a proposed 5% water rate increase for 2027.

It was also confirmed that sewer rates would remain unchanged.

Council Direction: Prepare the necessary action to establish a 5% water rate increase for 2027, with no increase to sewer rates.

Wastewater Treatment Plant — Potassium Permanganate

DRAFT

Following the water rate discussion, Ms. Wells advised Council that an expenditure for potassium permanganate had not been adequately included in the proposed 2027 sewer budget.

She identified an additional funding requirement of $16,815.80.

Ms. Wells explained that the proposed sewer budget anticipated approximately $1.2 million in available funding to be placed in a reserve for future bond payments and other long-term obligations.

She requested authorization to reduce the proposed reserve allocation by $16,815.80 to fund the necessary potassium permanganate expenditure.

Council expressed agreement with the proposed adjustment.

Council Direction: Incorporate the $16,815.80 expenditure into the proposed 2027 sewer budget by reducing the anticipated reserve allocation by the same amount.

Following completion of the budget discussions, Mayor Rossi requested a motion to recess for approximately five minutes and enter executive session for the purpose of seeking advice from legal counsel, with possible action to follow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE SESSION
RESOLUTION 26-178

Requested by: Mayor Rick Rossi

Motioned by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor McHugh

RESOLVED, to enter into Attorney-Client Privileged Session at 8:00 p.m. pursuant to Public Officers Law §108(3) and CPLR §4503: Confidential communication between the Common Council and its attorney for the purpose of obtaining or receiving legal advice.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

ATTENDEES:

☒Mayor	☒Councilor-Ward 1	☐Councilor-Ward 4
☐City Manager	☒Councilor-Ward 2	☒Councilor-Ward 5
☒City Attorney	☒Councilor-Ward 3	☒Councilor-Ward 6
☒City Clerk		

DRAFT

ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Session adjourned to the regular meeting at: 9:36 p.m. with:

☒No action taken (No minutes required-Public Officers Law §106(2)

Motioned by Councilor Smith
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion to adjourn regular meeting by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Smith

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Jones)
MOTION RESULT: ☒Passed ☐Failed

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the regular meeting adjourned at: 9:36 p.m.

Minutes taken by: Sandra LaPera
Title: City Clerk
Date: November 17, 2026

DRAFT