

MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2025

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the twenty first day of January 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Common Council Chambers, 109 N. Main, Oneida, NY 13421.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Rossi.

Attendees

	Present	Absent	Arrived Late
Mayor Rossi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Kyle Lovell, CM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Szczerba	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Laureti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Hitchings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Winchell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Pagano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Simchik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Supervisors

Matt Roberts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary Cavanagh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandee Henderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michelle Kinville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Also Present

City Attorney Nadine Bell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Safety Comm. Dave Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Clerk Sandy LaPera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Chief Scott Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Chief Steve Lowell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

PUBLIC HEARING: A proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 180 of the Code of the City of Oneida relative to parking on Boston Street and Phillips Street

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 180, ARTICLE II OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA CODE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON CERTAIN SECTIONS OF BOSTON STREET AND PHILLIPS STREET

RESOLUTION 25-12

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 180, Article II of the City of Oneida Code to prohibit parking on certain sections of Boston Street and Phillips Street is hereby opened at 6:30 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

APPEARANCES

None

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 180, ARTICLE II OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA CODE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON CERTAIN SECTIONS OF BOSTON STREET AND PHILLIPS STREET

RESOLUTION 25-13

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on a proposed Local Law amending Chapter 180, Article II of the City of Oneida Code to prohibit parking on certain sections of Boston Street and Phillips Street is hereby closed at 6:30 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING: A proposed Local Law creating a new Chapter 96, titled "Murals," in the City of Oneida Code

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 96, TITLED "MURALS," IN THE CITY OF ONEIDA CODE

RESOLUTION 25-14

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that a Local Law creating a new Chapter 96, titled "Murals," in the City of Oneida Code be hereby opened at 6:31 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

APPEARANCES

RALPH KOHLER-ONEIDA

Mr. Ralph Kohler stated that during the last meeting, he addressed the weaknesses in the proposed Murals law. While he acknowledged some improvements had been made, he emphasized that issues still persist. City Manager Lovell noted that he had sent Mr. Kohler the revised version of the law, which included the changes implemented.

Mr. Kohler addressed the flaws he believed required attention, acknowledging that some may have already been resolved, as he had not yet reviewed the revised version of the law. He expressed concerns about the inclusion of themes, suggesting that this could pose a constitutional issue, and recommended removing the related paragraph. Additionally, Mr. Kohler proposed eliminating language concerning scales, emphasizing that murals are most impactful when displayed at their largest size.

As a private citizen, Mr. Kohler pointed out that the paragraph prohibiting murals on residential properties constitutes a First Amendment violation (in his opinion). He expressed his belief that such a provision would be unenforceable and recommended its removal from the proposed law.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 96, TITLED "MURALS," IN THE CITY OF ONEIDA CODE

RESOLUTION 25-15

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that a Local Law creating a new Chapter 96, titled "Murals," in the City of Oneida Code be hereby closed at 6:35 p.m.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

RALPH KOHLER-ONEIDA

Mr. Ralph Kohler explained that he was unable to attend the December 31st meeting, during which the vote to raise taxes in September was deemed invalid. From his understanding, the City was not authorized to raise taxes because there were not enough votes to approve it. He clarified that the City will collect the taxes in 2025, using the contingency fund to cover the difference. He also anticipated that next year, there would likely be a vote to raise taxes above the minimum in order to utilize the taxes collected.

Mr. Ralph Kohler expressed his desire to understand how the City can proceed without sufficient votes to collect additional taxes. He emphasized that taxes cannot legally be raised without the required votes, a situation he believes to be fundamentally unlawful. He acknowledged the possibility that he may be misunderstanding some aspect of the process and sought clarification on the matter.

Mr. Kohler stated that a significant issue he observes is the difficulty the public faces in understanding what is happening during discussions and votes. He expressed his desire for each representative to clearly articulate their position on what they are voting on. He believes this practice would make it easier for the public to stay informed and engaged.

Mr. Kohler concluded by expressing his agreement with a statement made at a previous meeting by Mr. Peter Hedglon, emphasizing that the budget process should begin earlier. He noted that starting the process sooner would allow for more input and suggestions, ultimately leading to a better final product with less contention.

JOE MAGLIOCCA-ONEIDA

Mr. Magliocca provided the attached statement and tax information that he requested be included with the minutes (ATTACHMENT A).

ROBERT BRITTON-ONEIDA

Mr. Britton stated that security at Council meetings is costing taxpayers between \$200 and \$220 per meeting, and sometimes even more. He expressed his belief that these funds could be better allocated to other needs. While acknowledging that this amount might not seem significant on its own, he noted that, over the course of a year, it adds up to a considerable expense.

Good evening

at a previous Council meeting regarding the proposed 2025 budget, myself and another citizen spoke in terms of cost vs value regarding our city tax rate. While others simply proclaimed that the tax rate, and taxes in ^{total} ~~all~~ here in the city are too high.

- So I wondered how too high as compared to what
- That what is before you now, in 2 hand written spreadsheets, comparing the cost of a theoretical \$100K house, in most every municipality in Madison County, and the City of Sherrill.
- All Madison County tax rate information was sourced from the County website, and the City of Sherrill rates were provided by the City Manager and Comptroller in Sherrill.
- The top sheet shows property tax rates and special district rates only. No school tax rates are included here for comparison, as a few of the more remote towns have multiple school district's serving them.

(x)

- Many towns and villages have multiple water, sewer, lighting, fire, ambulance, and drainage districts. Similar to the lighting, and hydrant districts here in Oneida. Most all were not included in the calculations, as they were assumed to not apply to the majority of properties.
- A quick review of this first sheet, compares the combined property tax rates for 17 municipalities. For many of the smallest municipalities, who provide limited services, their rates should be surprising, 18, 19, and \$20 per 1000, compare favorably to our City's inside rate of 23, and outside of 22.
- The second sheet includes school tax, and equalization rates for the 5 most comparable local municipalities. Oneida inside/outside, the villages of Canastota, Chittenango, Cazenovia, Hamilton, and the City of Sherrill are detailed here.
- Average total tax bill for that theoretical \$100k home in all these communities, is approximately \$4300. Oneida inside district total is 4411, just \$111 above that average, and Oneida's outside district total is \$4270 - \$30 BELOW that average.
- So, briefly back to that Cost vs Value consideration.

(3)

- What differentiates us from all those other municipalities on that second sheet?
- Dedicated to the City of Onondaga 24/7/365 Police & Fire Dept's
- a diversity of parks, events, a Rec Center, and unparalleled programming for adults and children of all ages
- Can this administration, working collaboratively with department heads, and the City Manager strive to increase efficiency, and reduce costs without short staffing or under funding vital services - ABSOLUTELY.
- But I would respectfully suggest that you start by explaining to the tax payers in this community, the value for their tax dollars, that they receive.
- The incomparable amount of services provided by the city to it's residents, and visitors.
- and as the old saying goes
"we get alot of bang for our buck here"

—thank you

- PROPERTY TAX COMPARISONS -
RATE PER \$1000 ASSESSED VALUE

Municipality	County	Village	Town	FIRE	OTHER	OTHER	TOTAL
Lebanon	\$9.56	NA	\$4.07	\$1.62	L \$0.70	NA	\$15.95
Lincoln	\$10.87	NA	\$2.76	\$2.00	A - \$0.16	L1 0.42 L2 0.16	\$16.65
Fenner	\$10.87	NA	\$4.29	\$0.99	L 0.49	A 0.27	\$16.91
Georgetown	\$8.68	NA	4.98	2.10	L 0.57	W 2.44	\$18.78
Sherrill	\$9.42	City - 8.25	1.11	INCLUDED	NA	NA	\$18.98
Nelson	\$10.86	NA	2.50	1.39	L - 0.29 A - 0.27	W - 3.99	\$19.30
Brookfield	\$10.86	NA	7.17	0.96	L 0.61	NA	\$19.60
Eaton	\$9.57	5.75	2.81	1.92	L 0.20 A 0.33	NA	\$20.58
Smithfield	\$10.86	NA	7.46	2.12	L - 0.44	NA	\$20.88
Derryfer	\$12.66	\$5.91	\$1.74	1.30	NA	NA	\$21.63
Oneida out	\$10.79	City \$10.88	NA	INCLUDED	L NA	L1 - 0.56 L2 - 0.22	\$22.44
Whitnango	\$11.04	6.95	2.66	0.92	S - 0.95	NA	\$22.52
Oneida - IN	\$10.79	City - 12.29	NA	INCLUDED	NA	L1 - 0.56 L2 - 0.22	\$23.86
Hamilton	\$8.94	11.00	2.65	1.48	NA	NA	\$24.07
Stockbridge	\$12.95	3.29	5.61	1.21	L - 0.77	W - 0.80	\$24.83
Madison	\$12.81	6.87	2.14	2.10	L 1.65	NA	\$25.57 *
Canastota	\$11.27	11.71	1.62	0.57	SU - \$115	25.17 + 115	\$26.32
azenovia	\$10.79	6.67	1.46	0.63	A - 0.25	W - 2.11	\$32.70

OTHER DISTRICT LEGEND

A - Ambulance

L - Lighting

L1 - Oneida Library

L2 - Oneida Library construction

S - SEWER

SU - SEWER UNIT

W - WATER

Total RATE PER \$1000 ASSESSED VALUE

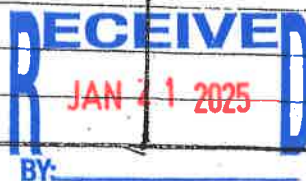
- multiply BY 100 for a \$100K Home

* Canastota total rate of \$25.17 per 1000
added \$115 sewer unit to achieve \$2557

PROPERTY TAX AVERAGE IS \$2175 / \$100K home

City of ONEIDA INSIDE IS \$2386 - \$2175 = \$211 above average

City of ONEIDA OUTSIDE IS \$2244 - \$2175 = \$69 above average

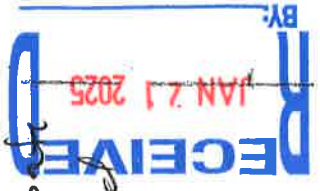


ESTIMATED TOTAL TAXES ON A \$100,000 HOME

Municipality	County Rate	Town Rate Special District	City Rate Village Rate	* School * w/ EQ RATE	Total
ONEIDA INSIDE	\$ 10.79 / 1000	Library 1 - \$ 0.56 Library 2 - \$ 0.22	\$ 12.29 / 1000	\$ 25.74 - 71% EX \$ 2025.74	\$ 4411.39 (5)
ONEIDA OUTSIDE	\$ 10.79 / 1000	Library 1 \$ 0.56 Library 2 \$ 0.22	\$ 10.88 / 1000	\$ 25.74 - 71% EX \$ 2025.74	\$ 4270.74 (4)
Village of Canastota	\$ 11.27 / 1000	Town \$ 1.62 FIRE \$ 0.57	V - \$ 11.71 sewer unit - \$ 115	\$ 27.53 - 68% EX \$ 2191.39	\$ 4823.39 (6)
Village of Chittenango	\$ 11.04 / 1000	Town \$ 2.46 FIRE \$ 0.92	V - \$ 6.95 sewer - \$ 0.95	\$ 24.86 - 69.5% \$ 1967.67	\$ 4219.67 (3)
Village of Cazenovia	\$ 10.79 / 1000	Town \$ 1.46 FIRE - 0.63 CAVAC - 0.25	V - \$ 6.67 consolidated water \$ 2.11	\$ 21.06 - 71% \$ 1657.42	\$ 3848.42 (2)
Village of Hamilton	\$ 8.94 / 1000	Town \$ 2.45 FIRE 1.48	\$ 11.00 / 1000	\$ 17.35 - 85.7% \$ 1288.93	\$ 3695.93 (1)
City of Sherill	\$ 9.62 / 1000	\$ 1.11 / 1000	City rate \$ 8.25 / 1000	\$ 34.03 - 45.58% \$ 2938.89	\$ 4836.49 (7)

Notes - * School tax estimates based on standard "Basic STAR" exemption multiplied by the municipality's equalization RATE.

- Example \$30,000 basic star @ 71% EQ rate $30,000 \times 0.71 = 21,300$ star rebate
- Only special districts that applied to the entire municipality, were used in these calculations
- Many separate water, sewer, lighting, and drainage districts were not applied, as they were assumed to not be typical
- TOTAL TAX AVERAGE IS \$4300.86 - ONEIDA INSIDE IS \$110.51 Above average
CITY OF ONEIDA OUTSIDE IS \$30.12 Below average



OLD BUSINESS: None

REPORTS:

- Mayor's Report:

Mayor Rossi advised that he was happy to see planning commencing on Fall Fest and looked forward to this event again this year.

- Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Mary Cavanagh reported that the State of the County Address is scheduled for March. She noted that the City of Oneida Supervisors will remain on the same committees as last year. She confirmed that she will continue serving as Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and serve on the Government Operations Committee. Additionally, she shared that she has been invited to join the Finance Committee.

Supervisor Roberts reported that sales tax revenue is approximately \$41.5 million, compared to \$41.9 million in 2024. He emphasized that all supervisors are actively involved in representing the City at the county level. He noted that he serves on the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee and is Chair of the Finance, Ways, and Means Committee. Supervisor Roberts added that they dedicate significant time to county matters and strive to be productive members who effectively represent the City.

- City Manager's Report:

City Manager Lovell announced that the OPFA negotiations are expected to be completed on January 22, with a tentative agreement anticipated this week. He highlighted that, following the strength of the recent PBA agreement, the City has received numerous applications for lateral transfers and others. He stated that this reflects the hard work involved and demonstrates how a strong contract can help address the personnel and staffing challenges the department has been facing.

Manager Lovell confirmed that he has started working on budget planning and expressed his agreement with Mr. Kohler's earlier statement regarding the importance of beginning the budget process earlier to allow for more input and better outcomes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 7, 2025, are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 2, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$813,926.63 as audited by the Voucher Committee are hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

MONTHLY REPORTS

RESOLUTION 25-16

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that Monthly Reports from the City Clerk, City Engineer, Codes Department, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation Department, and Police Department are hereby received and placed on file.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

INTRODUCE A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE INCOME RANGES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND AMENDING THE ALTERNATIVE VETERANS' EXEMPTION AND COLD WAR VETERANS' EXEMPTION AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 165 OF THE ONEIDA CITY CODE -SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION 25-17

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

WHEREAS, the proposed Local Law has been introduced and will be considered for enactment pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Local Law is intended to amend the annual income ranges for senior citizens as set forth in Chapter 165 of the Oneida City Code and to amend the veteran's exemption also under Chapter 165; and

WHEREAS, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of local laws in the City of Oneida, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) with respect to the proposed enactment of said Local Law; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that a short environmental assessment form (EAF) shall be required in connection with this matter; and

WHEREAS, the EAF has been prepared and has been reviewed by the Common Council; and

WHEREAS, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that there are no other involved agencies, that the Common Council shall act as lead agency and that the enactment of this proposed Local Law shall not result in any adverse environmental impacts, thus concluding the environmental review process; and be it further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that the Common Council shall conduct a public hearing as to the enactment of the proposed Local Law at the Oneida City Hall located at 109 North Main Street, Oneida, New York on February 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time all persons interested in the subject shall be heard; and it is further

RESOLVED, that notice of said public hearing shall be provided at least five (5) days prior to the date of said public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Oneida.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 (Winchell)

MOTION CARRIED

CITY OF ONEIDA

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW

**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE INCOME RANGES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND AMENDING THE
ALTERNATIVE VETERANS' EXEMPTION AND COLD WAR VETERANS' EXEMPTION AS SET FORTH IN
CHAPTER 165 OF THE ONEIDA CITY CODE**

Be it enacted by the Common Council of the City of Oneida, as follows:

SECTION 1.

So that the annual income ranges for persons 65 years of age or over as listed in Section 165-2 of the Oneida City Code, titled "Conditions for exemption," Subsection A(1) shall be revised, in its entirety, as follows:

No exemption shall be granted:

- A. If the income of the owner or combined income of the owners of the property for the income tax immediately preceding the date of making application for exemption exceeds the sum of \$36,500.00.
 1. Income in a lesser amount, subject to the provisions of this article, shall entitle owner or owners to an exemption according to the following schedule:

Annual Income	Percentage Assessed Valuation Exempt from Taxation
Less than or equal to \$29,000.00	50%
More than \$29,000.00 but less than \$30,000.00	45%
\$30,000.00 or more but less than \$31,000.00	40%
\$31,000.00 or more but less than \$32,000.00	35%
\$32,000.00 or more but less than \$32,900.00	30%
\$32,900.00 or more but less than \$33,800.00	25%
\$33,800.00 or more but less than \$34,700.00	20%
\$34,700.00 or more but less than \$35,600.00	15%
\$35,600.00 or more but less than \$36,500.00	10%"

SECTION 2.

So that the title of Article VI of Chapter 165 is hereby amended to read Article VI "Veterans Exemptions," and Section 165-14 is hereby amended in its entirety, to read as follows:

A. Alternative Veteran's Exemption

1. An Alternative Veteran's exemption is hereby provided for and ordained on real property taxes in the City of Oneida pursuant to §458-a of the Real Property Tax Law. The maximum exemption from real property taxes for veterans allowable is established as follows:
 - a. Qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of fifteen percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however; that such exemption shall not exceed twelve thousand dollars or the product of twelve thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
 - b. In addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (a) of this subdivision, where the veteran served in a combat theatre or combat zone of operations, as documented by the award of a United States campaign ribbon or service medal, or the Armed Forces expeditionary medal, Naval expeditionary medal, Marine Corps expeditionary medal, or global war on terror expeditionary medal, qualifying residential real property also shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed eight thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the class ratio, whichever is less.
 - c. In addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (a) and (b) of this subdivision, where the veteran received a compensation rating from the United States veteran's administration or from the United States department of defense because of a service-connected disability, qualifying real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property multiplied by fifty percent of the veteran's disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed forty thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, the latest class ration, whichever is less.
 - i. For purposes of this exemption for disabled veterans, where a person who served in the active military, naval or air service during a period of war died in service of a service-connected disability, such person shall be deemed to have been assigned a compensation rating of one hundred percent.

B. Cold War Veteran's Exemption

1. A Cold War Veteran's exemption is hereby provided for and ordained on real property taxes in the City of Oneida pursuant to §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law. The maximum exemption from real property taxes for Cold War veterans allowable is established as follows.

- a. Qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of ten percent of the assessed value of such property; provided; however, that such exemption shall not exceed eight thousand dollars or the product of eight thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
 - b. In addition to the exemption provided in paragraph (a) of this subdivision, where the Cold War veteran received a compensation rating from the United States veterans affairs or from the United States department of defense because of a service connected disability, qualifying residential real property shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of the product of the assessed value of such property, multiplied by fifty percent of the Cold War veteran disability rating; provided, however, that such exemption shall not exceed forty thousand dollars multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit, or, in the case of a special assessing unit, the latest class ratio, whichever is less.
2. The Cold War veteran exemption provided for in paragraph (a) of this subdivision shall be granted for a period of ten years.
3. If a Cold War veteran receives the exemption under Section 2(A), the Cold War veteran shall not be eligible to receive the exemption under Section 2(B)."

SECTION 3. Validity and severability.

If any section or part of this local law is declared invalid or unconstitutional, it shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force or effect of any other section of this Local Law.

SECTION 4. Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York, as provided in Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

ORDER OF SUCCESSION

RESOLUTION 25-18

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, to approve the order of succession for the members of the Common Council pursuant to Section 3.0 (2.10) of the Oneida City Charter.

Mayor Rick Rossi
Deputy Mayor Steve Laureti
Councilor Tom Simchik
Councilor Bill Pagano
Councilor Jim Szczerba
Councilor Andrea Hitchings **
Councilor Rob Winchell**

** Under the terms of the Charter, if two or more Councilors have the same length of service, the one to act as Mayor is selected by lot.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)

MOTION CARRIED

AMUSEMENT DEVICE LICENSE APPLICATION-NEIL'S VENDING LLC

RESOLUTION 25-19

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to approve the 2025 Amusement Device Application from Neil's Vending LLC, 6734 Strain Rd., Munnsville, NY 13409 for machines located at the Owl's Club, Elk's Club, Oneida Legion, Oneida Towers and Eclectic Chic.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)

MOTION CARRIED

**AGREEMENT – BRIDGES (A/K/A MADISON COUNTY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE, INC.)**

RESOLUTION 25-20

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

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 2025 Employee Assistance Program.

Ayes: 6
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION 25-21

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
 Seconded by Councilor Simchik

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.

	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>
2025 Budget Adjustments		
\$ 1,000.00	001.3650.0400.0002 Demolition-Protective Measures	001.0001.0912.0000 General Fund Balance
<i>To allocate funds to cover exoenses at 136 Madison St-Property owner invoiced</i>		
	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>
2024 Budget Adjustments		
\$ 2,004.85	001.9785.0600.0001 Police Leased Vehicles	001.9011.0807.0000 Police & Fire Retirement
<i>To re-alloccte funds to cover 2024 expenses on Police leased vehicles</i>		
\$ 2,000.00	001.1910.0400.0000 Insurance	001.9011.0807.0000 Police & Fire Retirement
<i>To re-allocate funds to cover cybersecurity insurance expenses in 2024</i>		
\$ 2,370.00	001.1420.0419.0000 Legal-Misc Attorney	001.8020.0101.0000 Planning Salaries
<i>To re-allocate funds to cover legal disbursement Expenses</i>		

Ayes: 6
 Nays: 0
 Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

ADDENDUM: Chart revised from original presentation due to clerical error.

DESIGNATE POLLING PLACES (2025)

RESOLUTION 25-22

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, that the polling places in the City of Oneida for 2024 are hereby designated as follows:

WARD 1-1	St. Paul's United Methodist Church-551 Sayles St.
WARD 2-1	St. Paul's United Methodist Church-551 Sayles St.
WARD 3-1	Kallet Civic Center. 159 Main St.
WARD 4-1	Kallet Civic Center. 159 Main St.
WARD 5-1	Kallet Civic Center. 159 Main St.
WARD 6-1	Kallet Civic Center. 159 Main St.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET TRANSFER/WATER FUND

RESOLUTION 25-23

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

WHEREAS, by Resolution duly adopted on April 7, 1992, the City has established a Capital Reserve Fund to finance the cost of construction or reconstruction of water treatment and transmission facilities, pursuant to General Municipal Law, Section 6-c, **and**

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Resolution, the City Comptroller has deposited monies of this reserve fund in a separate bank account known as the Water Reserve Fund, **now therefore be it**

RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to transfer \$123,966.73 from the Water Fund to the Water Reserve Fund.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

AGREEMENT-VILLAGE OF WAMPSVILLE SNOWPLOWING

RESOLUTION 25-24

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign the 2025 Snowplowing Agreement with the Village of Wampsville, 118 N. Court St., P.O. Box 51, Wampsville, NY 13163 for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Mayor Rossi explained that this pertains to a small stretch of property on Daniel's Drive in Wampsville owned by the City. He noted that the Village of Wampsville has agreed to plow the property for a minimal fee of \$1,000 per year, which he believes is a mutually beneficial arrangement for both municipalities.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

RESOLUTION 25-25

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Sunshine Hammon, President, Oneida Memorial Association, to be co-sponsors of the Memorial Day Parade on Friday, May 23, 2025, whereby the Association will organize, conduct, and be in charge of the Memorial Day Observance, and the City of Oneida will provide liability coverage for the parade.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)

MOTION CARRIED

AGREEMENT-SHERRILL-ONEIDA KENWOOD SEWAGE TREATMENT

RESOLUTION 25-26

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with the City of Sherrill for sewage treatment (Sherrill-Oneida Kenwood) commencing on the date the agreement is executed by the last to sign of Sherrill and Oneida and terminating ten (10) years thereafter.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

AGREEMENT – NY URGENT CARE PRACTICE P.C. (WELLNOW)

RESOLUTION 25-27

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Szczerba

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign a service agreement with NY Urgent Care Practice P.C., 7375 Oswego Road, Liverpool NY 13090 (WellNow Occupational Medicine) to provide occupational health services for the City's drug and alcohol testing and annual physicals for 2025.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS: None

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 (Winchell)
MOTION CARRIED

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandra LaPera, City Clerk