

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 7, 2022**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the seventh day of June, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the City of Oneida Common Council Chambers, 109 N. Main Street, Oneida NY 13421.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Michelle Kinville

<u>Attendees</u>	Present	Absent	Arrived Late
Mayor Acker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Reisman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Laureti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Rossi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Kinville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Pagano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Councilor Simchik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Also Present

City Attorney Nadine Bell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire Chief Dennis Fields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Clerk Sandy LaPera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Police Chief John Little	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Engineer Jeff Rowe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Safety Com. Kevin Salerno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Codes Director Bob Burnett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor Brandee DuBois	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comptroller Lee Ann Wells	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor Mary Cavanagh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Supervisor Matt Roberts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PUBLIC HEARING: Unsafe Building-140 Madison Street, Oneida, NY 13421

**PUBLIC HEARING – PURSUANT TO ONEIDA CITY CODE CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE III, UNSAFE BUILDINGS–
140 MADISON STREET, ONEIDA NY**

RESOLUTION 22-82

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing Pursuant to Oneida City Code Chapter 34, Article III, Unsafe Buildings –140 Madison Street, Oneida NY be hereby opened at 6:32 p.m.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: City Attorney Nadine Bell explained the procedure and purpose of the Public Hearing pertaining to the unsafe structure located at 140 Madison Street, noting that the Fire Marshal performed an inspection, provided a report to the Mayor and members of the Common Council and that the Public Hearing provides an opportunity for anyone with an interest in the property or any member of the public to speak on this.

She advised that this also was an opportunity for the Fire Marshal for the City of Oneida to provide his report to the public and any other information pertaining to this unsafe structure, as well as to provide his recommendation so the Council can review it prior to deciding.

Fire Marshal, Brian Burkle, addressed Council and the audience advising that he had inspected the building, noting that the exterior walls and interior of the structure was deteriorating, and there was not much supporting the third floor. He stated that they did a fantastic job with the first floor and basement area, but there was no support in the back area or upper level. He stated that he had received an engineering report from a firm that was retained by the property owner; however, he was advised by them that they were no longer under contract. They advised Fire Marshal Burkle that they were also concerned about the building and do not deem it safe at this point. Fire Marshal Burkle also stated that recently he had received notification from the City Codes Department that part of the roof had started to collapse. Power was cut to the structure, and pictures were taken to substantiate this, which were circulated to Council.

The Fire Marshal listed the specific Codes that were in violation in response to a request for clarification from the City Attorney. When asked by the City Attorney if, in his professional opinion, the building was unsafe under the terms of the NYS Fire Code, City Code and the NYS Property Maintenance Code, to which the Fire Marshal advised that at this time, yes. She inquired as to what his recommendation was, as Fire Marshal, to the Common Council, as to what action should be taken. He advised that the building should either be fixed, secured, or torn down (demolished). She explained that the Common Council must first make a declaration that the structure is unsafe and dangerous. When that determination is rendered, then they have the opportunity to issue an order that either requires corrective remediation or demolition. She then asked if remediation was even a viable option in his opinion based on the fear of potential issues with an attached building, similar to a domino effect, the building next to the structure and the area between the buildings. He noted that, in his opinion, demolition would be appropriate. The City Attorney asked Fire Chief, Dennis Fields who was present in the audience, what timeframe he felt was appropriate for the demolition to be accomplished should the Council issue the order. Chief Fields advised that due to the current status of construction companies, 90 days would be feasible.

She asked if anyone was present on behalf of the property owner who would like to present any information, address any of the allegations or information that has been presented by the Fire Marshall, or any members of the public that would like to speak, noting that no one had signed up. She also advised that the property owner was listed as a corporate status.

APPEARANCES

None

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING – PURSUANT TO ONEIDA CITY CODE CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE III, UNSAFE BUILDINGS – 140 MADISON STREET, ONEIDA NY

RESOLUTION 22-83

Moved by Councilor Reisman

Seconded by Councilor Rossi

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing Pursuant to Oneida City Code Chapter 34, Article III, Unsafe Buildings –140 Madison Street, Oneida NY be hereby closed at 6:42 p.m.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

The City Attorney advised and confirmed for the record, that after the Common Council received the Fire Marshal's report and scheduled the Public Hearing for this evening, a last owner search was performed by an independent title company that had been retained for this service, noting that there were no other parties of interest that needed to be notified or informed; therefore, notice was provided in accordance with City Code. She also noted that property owners have a responsibility to keep municipalities apprised of a current address, and it is not the municipality's responsibility to track people down, noting that this is true for taxes and for notices. An independent search was also done to locate a second address that was provided, and both came back as "unreturnable/no longer viable." The City Code provides for circumstances where the property owner cannot be located by means of Certified Mail, the Notice of Unsafe Structure be posted on the property. This was done, and the City has an Affidavit of Posting confirming this, as well as Affidavits of Service with attempts to serve the property owner. Consistent with Chapter 34 of the City Code, the Unsafe Notice was filed with the Madison County Clerk's office so that anyone who searches for this property will see that this procedure has taken place, that the structure is unsafe, and that there is a hearing for this purpose, therefore putting any future property owners on notice. She concluded by stating that notice was provided as required and advised Council that they now have the opportunity to either make a decision this evening to declare the property unsafe and that an order be issued for its demolition within the next 90 days, beginning June 8, 2022, or to wait until the next Common Council Meeting on June 21, upon which time she would prepare a resolution for the Council to consider based on the information presented. She advised what would be included in the resolution.

The Council members present acknowledged that because the property was in imminent danger of collapse-presenting a danger to human life and welfare, and that this has been discussed and information had been previously circulated, they agreed to vote this evening to declare this structure unsafe, and based upon the recommendation of the Fire Marshal, the structure on the property be demolished, returned to grade, and all construction debris be removed within the 90-day time period, beginning June 8, 2022, and that in the event the property owner fails to do as ordered, the Fire Marshal is directed by the Common Council to undertake any and all action as is necessary to demolish the structure, return the

property to grade and clear any construction debris; the cost of which will be assessed against the property. Failure to comply will result in a lien against the property. Councilor Simchik asked the City Engineer to provide an estimate for the demolition, which he will produce and provide to Council upon completion.

**DECLARE THE PROPERTY AT 140 MADISON STREET AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE
AND ORDER CORRECTIVE ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 34 OF
THE ONEIDA CITY CODE**

RESOLUTION 22-84

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article III of Chapter 34 of the Oneida City Code, as amended, a public hearing was conducted on June 7, 2022, for purposes of receiving and considering evidence presented by the City of Oneida Fire Marshal to determine whether real property located at 140 Madison Street, Tax Map No. 30.72-1-66, in the City of Oneida ("Property") is a public nuisance; **and**

WHEREAS, the City Attorney confirmed issuance of the Notice of Unsafe Building/Collapsed Structure, dated May 17, 2022, such Notice having been duly filed in accordance with Section 34-11 of the Oneida City Code with the Madison County Clerk's Office on May 17, 2022, Index No. EF2022-1305; **and**

WHEREAS, in addition, notice of the due process hearing was properly served upon all interested persons, posted on the Property, and published in the official newspaper and on the City of Oneida website; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal presented his report, dated March 24, 2022, documenting the unsafe condition of the Property and informed the Common Council of the efforts made by the City to obtain voluntary compliance; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal testified to having inspected the Property and observed extensive damage to the attached-row structure situated upon the Property; more specifically, the Fire Marshal presented photographs depicting the partial collapse of the roof, and reported that from the basement through the third floor, structural members were missing and the eastern wall of the structure, was not longer structurally sound, bowing dangerously; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal acknowledged receipt of correspondence from John D. LaValle, St. Germain & Aupperle Consulting Engineers, PLLC dated May 12, 2022, a Structural Engineer, who had been formerly retained by the property owner and is familiar with the structural integrity of the building, advising that the structure was not safe in his professional opinion; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal determined that the condition of the Property violated Sections 108.1.1 of the New York State Fire Code, and Sections 107.1, 107.1.1, 304.1, 304.1.1, 304.4, 304.6,

304.7 and 308.1 of the New York State Property Maintenance Code, as well as Sections 34-9 and 34-10 of the Oneida City Code; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal opined that the Property, in its current condition, presents a danger to the health, safety and welfare of the public; **and**

WHEREAS, the Fire Marshal concluded his presentation, recommending that an order be issued requiring the structure be demolished within ninety (90) days; **and**

WHEREAS, no one appeared on behalf of the property owner, during the hearing, nor did the property owner submit any materials for the Common Council's consideration; **and**

WHEREAS, as a result, the findings and conclusions offered by the Fire Marshal were uncontested; **and**

WHEREAS, the Common Council closed the public hearing on June 7, 2022; **and**

WHEREAS, because it is the desire of the Common Council to undertake any and all measures permitted in the Oneida City Code and City of Oneida Charter necessary to protect the public's health, safety and welfare, the Common Council determined that the exigent circumstances caused by the condition of the structure and the imminent danger posed to the health, safety and welfare of the public necessitated the waiver of its standard procedure and render a decision and order on the information received.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council, having duly considered the documentary evidence, as well as the oral testimony presented by the Fire Marshal, hereby declares the property located at 140 Madison Street, Tax Map No. 30.72-1-66, in the City of Oneida, to be unsafe and a public nuisance; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council, having duly declared the Property to be a public nuisance, hereby orders the owner or persons with an interest in such Property to undertake the following corrective action within ninety (90) days in accordance with the recommendations of the Fire Marshal:

- The building shall be demolished as it is abandoned, unsecured, dilapidated, and failing and the land upon which it is located cleared of debris and all excavations filled and graded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event corrective action does not occur within the time provided, the Common Council hereby authorizes the Fire Marshal and the City Engineer to undertake any and all such measures as are necessary to effectuate the remedial action recommended by the Fire Marshal, and shall assess the cost of same against the Property; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost of such remedial action, if undertaken by the City, shall thereupon become a lien against the Property and shall be collectible in the same manner as taxes levied thereon; **and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of the Common Council's declaration and order shall either be served personally or by certified mail, to the last known address as shown by the records of the City Assessor's office.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT:

KELLY LEWIN - 616 DEERFIELD DRIVE, ONEIDA

Ms. Lewin commented that it was great to have the Agenda provided beforehand, but that she had a few questions/comments. These questions and comments pertained to Agenda Item No. 9-Agreement with the Oneida City School District regarding an SRO position.

- Why was the SRO position being provided by the City and not the County-questioning the salary, benefits, cost effectiveness of this and whether or not any studies or analysis had been performed;
- Why were there so many Executive Sessions being held by Council;
- The possibility of hiring of retired officers;
- If other municipalities were using SRO's in their school districts. To which Police Chief Little advised that there were several districts currently using SRO's;
- Has the homework been done, noting that she is not minimizing the position and appreciates having an SRO and believes in the health and welfare of the students, noting that it was going to be paid for either way by the taxpayers, but hoped that others, such as Sherriff Hood were contacted and things were weighed out;
- Will the SRO be taking a City car to the school

The Deputy Mayor advised that Council does not answer questions during Public Comment time, to which Ms. Lewin felt that was not right-that discussion should be allowed. The City Attorney clarified that typically with Public Comment time, the Council receives comments, and if there is opportunity to respond, they will. She did not wish for Ms. Lewin to feel that there was a "cloak of secrecy", noting that there was an SRO Agreement that was prepared that is up for consideration by the Council, and part of the reason why there might not be a very clear answer is because it depends on who within the Police Department fills different roles that comes with different pay. She advised that although the exact amount may not be known as far as the exact cost for this position, the way that the SRO Agreement was prepared that is up for consideration, noting that it has not been voted on, the school district is responsible for paying the City a total of 78% of the SRO's annual salary (to be reimbursed to the City), in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to be paid in ten equal monthly payments from September 1, 2022 to June 23, 2023.

The City Attorney advised that it was her understanding that there was discussion and communication with the County with regard to the cost, and an analysis was performed as to what the difference is. She stated that this is information that has been considered for a bit now on how they want to proceed and what their options were. Ms. Lewin inquired as to whether or not this has been on an agenda, to which the City Attorney advised she would have to look into that, as she could not tell what was on past agendas

off hand.

The Police Chief advised Ms. Lewin that she was welcome to call or email him, and he would be happy to discuss this with her. He also advised that when entering into an agreement with another entity, the details have to be hashed out first and that it is hard to gage an exact number based on who might be assigned to this position. There was discussion about the position and salary and the amount of time and discussion that went into this. He advised that the school does want this and has had it before. He stated that if Ms. Lewin is comparing a retiree (SPO) to a full-time SRO, it would be comparing apples to oranges, stating that having a full-time person, which the Police Department would have the extra manpower during the summer, would allow for engagement with the students who might have been struggling throughout the year. Not disparaging retirees, as he is eligible to be one very soon, Police Chief Little stated that there is a big difference between a retiree and someone who is younger and who isn't at the end of their career. He noted that these were just some things that went into this research and in talking with the school district. Ms. Lewin suggested that there were also social workers and guidance counselors who have been hired to fulfill this role using Covid money. Public Safety Commissioner Kevin Salerno also spoke, stating that in their perspective, it is not just about the person in the school, but in the interaction. He stated that the school district has a current relationship with the Sherriff's office with the Junior High School and Durhamville, noting that they sought out the City-it was not the other way around and had the opportunity to go there, but they chose to come to Oneida, noting that he could not tell her why, but that it was just the way it was.

OLD BUSINESS: None

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Rossi

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of May 17, 2022 are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Rossi

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 11, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$612,254.51 as audited by the Voucher Committee are hereby approved for payment in the usual manner at the discretion of the Comptroller.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

**LEASE AGREEMENT-KALLET CIVIC CENTER
RESOLUTION 22-85**

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Rossi

RESOLVED, to authorize the Mayor to sign a lease agreement with Madison County for use of the Kallet Civic Center, 159 Main Street, Oneida NY 13421 for the purpose of conducting elections within the election district for the benefit of the citizens.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)
MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT-ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS/PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION 22-86

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, that the Mayor's appointment of Todd Schaal to the Zoning Board of Appeals/Planning Board for a 7-year term be hereby approved.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)
MOTION CARRIED

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS-SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT

RESOLUTION 22-87

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for sidewalk replacement.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)
MOTION CARRIED

LEASE AGREEMENT-CHIPPER TRUCK REPLACEMENT (DPW)

RESOLUTION 22-88

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Rossi

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller be authorized to sign a Lease Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a 2022 Ford F-650 vehicle to replace the current chipper truck in the Department of Public Works.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Councilor Reisman asked is the estimated salvage value for the chipper truck was \$15,000 to which the City Engineer confirmed.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE LICENSE

RESOLUTION 22-89

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, that the 2022 Amusement Device License application from Stanton Automatics, 2150 Ellis Drive, Auburn, NY 13021 for machines located at Bec's Ivy Grill, Denny's, Frogs, Pepi's Pizza, Price Chopper and Glenwood Movie Plex be hereby approved.

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION 22-90

Moved by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

2022 Budget Adjustments

RESOLVED, to approve the following 2022 Budget Amendment/Transfers

	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>
\$ 24,300.00	001.9785.0600.0002 Principle on Lease-DPW	001.0001.0912.0000 General Fund Balance

To allocate funds for a replacement Chipper Truck

\$ 11,000.00	001.5110.0403.0000 DPW-Contracts	001.0001.0912.0000 General Fund Balance
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To allocate funds for Higinbotham Brook Safety Inspection and engineering Assessment

\$ 103,000.00	030.8110.0401.0000 Sewer Emergency Repair Main St	030.0030.0912.0000 ARPA Fund Balance
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To allocate funds for emergency sewer repair on Main Street

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

**INTRODUCE A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO
ABOLISH THE SIGN REVIEW BOARD**

RESOLUTION 22-91

Moved by Councilor Rossi

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 City of Oneida Common Council has the authority to adopt provisions to advance and protect the safety, welfare and aesthetics of the community; and

WHEREAS, this amendment to the Code of the City of Oneida will abolish the City of Oneida Sign Review Board; and

WHEREAS, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a local law 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, with the result that the Common Council shall act as lead agency in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review under SEQRA and the Common Council has determined that a short environmental assessment form (EAF) shall be required in connection with this matter; and

WHEREAS, said 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 the proposed Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of SEQRA review; and it is further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that the Common Council has determined this action shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment; that, accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) shall not be required; and that this resolution shall constitute a negative declaration under SEQR; and it is 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 June 21, 2022, 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: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

CITY OF ONEIDA

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO ABOLISH THE SIGN REVIEW BOARD

Be it enacted by the Common Council of the City of Oneida, that this local law amends Chapter 190 of the Code of the City of Oneida to abolish the Sign Review Board.

SECTION 1. **PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this local law is to abolish the City of Oneida Sign Review Board, the purpose of which has proven to be unnecessary due to the administrative review performed by the Department of Code Enforcement and the exclusive power of the City of Oneida Zoning Board of Appeals to authorize deviations from the signage regulations as set forth in the Oneida City Code. Furthermore, it is anticipated that abolishing the Sign Review Board will serve to expediate the land use approval process for applicants by eliminating the Board's subjective approval of a proposed sign's "design."

SECTION 2. **AUTHORITY.**

This local law is enacted pursuant to the New York State Constitution and New York Municipal Home Rule Law § 10.

SECTION 3.

So that Chapter 190, Section 15(C)(23) of the Oneida City Code, titled "Digital Signs," is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"(23) Digital signs. Digital signs shall require review and approval by the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer prior to the issuance of a sign permit. The message or display on any digital sign shall not change more than two times per minute."

SECTION 4.

So that Chapter 190, Section 15(G) of the Oneida City Code, titled "Administration," is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

"G. Administration:

- (1) An application for a sign permit shall be filed with the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer on a form supplied by the City.
- (2) Within five days of filing, the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer shall determine if the sign application is in compliance with the dimensional requirements of this section. If the proposed sign is not in compliance, the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer shall disapprove the application, and the applicant shall be so notified in writing. Further, the applicant shall be notified of the right to make an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance. The Zoning Board of Appeals will review the variance application and make a determination as to the variance application.
- (3) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer upon completion of any sign in full compliance with its approved application. A temporary certificate of compliance may be issued at the discretion of the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer."

SECTION 5.

So that Section 190-15(H) of the Oneida City Code, titled "Sign Review Board," is hereby repealed in its entirety, and Section 190-15(I), titled "Large-scale solar energy systems signage," shall be renumbered as Section 190-15(H).

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall be effective upon filing with the office of the Secretary of State.

DISCUSSION: The City Attorney stated that the Department of Code Enforcement recently brought it to the attention of administration that the procedure involving sign review can be unnecessarily lengthy, and when you look at what the City Code provides for the Sign Review Board to do with their authority, the reality is that the applications come in to the Department of Code Enforcement, then the Code Enforcement Officer looks at the application, and it immediately goes back to the applicant and states whether or not it complies with the City's Zoning Code and regulations. If there are any problems, the Code Enforcement Officer will tell the applicant what those issues are. The applicant can then either revise their application to comply with the City's code or they have to go before the Planning Commission/ZBA to get relief from the Zoning regulations. The Sign Review Board does not have the authority to vary the terms of the City's zoning regulations, so what was reported was that the majority of the time, applicants revise their proposal to comply with the Zoning Code. The Code Enforcement Officer will then review it again and send it on to the Sign Review Board to sign off on it. The concern expressed to administration is that applicants who are trying to do business in the City are made to go through a step in the development process that is not necessary, because if there are problems, the ZBA has already addressed it; it otherwise complies. In an effort to be business friendly, it was discussed to remove this step altogether. By abolishing the Board, there are only a couple of positions that would be impacted by the end of the year due to current vacancies.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS-LIQUID CAUSTIC SODA (WATER DEPARTMENT)

RESOLUTION 22-92

Moved by Councilor Rossi
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, to authorize the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for Liquid Caustic Soda for the Water Department.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION CARRIED

AGREEMENT-ONEIDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 22-93

Motion to Table by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Reisman

RESOLVED, to authorize Police Chief John Little, on behalf of the City of Oneida, to execute a School Resource Officer Agreement with the Oneida City School District, 565 Sayles Street, Oneida, NY 13421, wherein a School Resource Officer (SRO) shall be provided by the Oneida City Police Department to the Oneida City School District pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement, as attached.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Laureti/Pagano)

MOTION TABLED

NEW BUSINESS: None

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Rossi

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:13p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandra LaPera, City Clerk