

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the fourteenth day of November 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
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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>6:36</u>
Councilor Simchik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Also Present

Comptroller Lee Ann Wells
City Clerk Sandy LaPera

**2023 CITY OF ONEIDA BUDGET DISCUSSION
RECAP SESSION**

The Council work session/meeting held was to recap what was previously discussed in the sessions and to make decisions based on the information presented, both by the Mayor in her Budget and by the Department Heads. The Comptroller advised that based on cuts and adjustments to date, there has been an approximate savings of \$23,000.

The following determinations were made:

- The Side by Side requested by the Parks and Recreation Department with a budgeted amount of \$15,000 would be removed from this Budget. There was discussion about the use of ARPA funds to cover this; however, it was decided to remove it from this Budget, and should it be deemed necessary down the road, those funds can be used.

- The request for \$55,500 for equipment under Traffic Expenses (DPW) was decreased to \$35,500 for a savings of \$20,000. This represents the estimated cost of 2 City owned traffic boxes, one located at Broad Street and Farrier and the other at West Elm and Main Street in need of replacement. The Council will ask the Traffic Safety Board for their input with regard to having a study done to determine the need for the number of traffic lights the City currently has and if any changes should be made.
- Flowers for downtown were decreased from \$9,800 to \$5,000 for a savings of \$4,800. It was noted that the City currently owns the flower pots and has the ability to store them ourselves. Options will be looked at with regard to purchasing them for less, as well as who will maintain them whence purchased.
- Council opted to not renew a contract with Pac 99 for the video taping of the Common Council meetings. This resulted in a \$16,000 savings. As the Clerk uses recordings to assist in the preparation of the minutes, there was discussion as to the purchase of a Dictaphone or similar recording device. It was noted that the County and other municipalities use Zoom to live stream to You Tube and/or Facebook; however, if the City wishes to have virtual meetings, the Council would have to pass a Local Law allowing this.
- It was agreed that all Management Confidential employees will receive a 3% salary increase, consistent with CSEA. The Comptroller, Deputy Comptroller and Deputy City Clerk will receive a stipend, in addition to the 3%, for taking on additional responsibilities outside of their current job descriptions.
- The Council agreed to a 2% tax increase, which will equate to approximately \$100,000 in revenue for the City.

The Public Hearing for the 2023 City of Oneida Budget will be held on Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Kinville

The special meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandra LaPera, City Clerk