

MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the twenty fourth day of September 2024 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 Mayor Rick Rossi

<u>Attendees</u>	Present	Absent	Arrived Late
Mayor Rossi	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/> _____

Also Present: City Clerk, Sandy LaPera, Police Chief, Steve Lowell, members of the City Manager Search Committee

Call to order/Roll Call

PRESENTATION: Mayor Rossi requested Committee Chairman Peter Hedglon to give the council an overview of the committee's process and its final recommendation. Chairman Hedglon reported that the Search Committee held eight meetings and reviewed a total of 21 applicants, conducting preliminary interviews with eight of them. From this pool, three finalists were invited for in-person interviews, which included interactions with department heads, council members, and the public. During these sessions, the candidates had the opportunity to engage with all parties, respond to questions, and give presentations.

Chairman Hedglon reported that the Committee had carefully examined the Charter, as amended by the referendum, along with the local law detailing the qualifications and expectations for the candidates, prior to making their recommendation. He acknowledged that while all candidates were evaluated thoroughly, none fully met the complete list of desirable experiences outlined in the resolution.

Chairman Hedglon stated that the majority of the Committee members (5) determined that the candidates listed below met the requirements of the City Charter and the job listing, and they were ranked accordingly. He further noted that both Mayor Rossi and Deputy Mayor Laureti opted to allow the Committee to make the final decision and excused themselves from that portion of the process.

Chairman Hedglon recommended that the City of Oneida enter into an employment contract with its selected City Manager. He explained that such a contract would outline key employment terms not specified in the Charter, including compensation, benefits, performance standards, evaluation intervals, and provisions for both termination for cause and without cause. He emphasized that high-quality candidates would expect a formal contract and mentioned that a sample contract from the City of Sherrill was included in the materials provided to the council ahead of the meeting.

RANKING:

- Kyle Lovell
- Abby Woodcock
- Tina Louis

Motion to go into Executive Session with possible action taken by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 24-217

RESOLVED, to go into executive session as provided by section 105 1. f. of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to consider the employment history of a particular person and/or matters leading to the appointment or employment of a particular person; and be it further

RESOLVED, to receive and place on file the City of Oneida City Manager Search Committee's Report and recommendations; and be it further

RESOLVED, to authorize members of the City of Oneida City Manager Search Committee (the "Committee") to attend said executive session to be available to answer questions from members of the Common Council and otherwise discussing the Committee's process, Report and recommendations.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adjourn Executive Session by Councilor Winchell
Seconded by Councilor Hitchings

RESOLVED, that Executive Session is hereby adjourned to the Special meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

CITY MANAGER POSITION

RESOLUTION 24-218

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, The Common Council approves the ranking of City Manager candidates by the City of Oneida City Manager Search Committee as set forth in the Committee's report, and authorizes the Mayor to offer the position of Oneida City Manager to Kyle Lovell consistent with the approved budget for such position in the 2024 City of Oneida budget and to negotiate terms of a contract, subject to the approval of the Common Council pursuant to its appointment authority set forth in section 12.1 the City of Oneida Charter.

Ayes: 6
Nays: 1 (Szczerba)

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adjourn Special Meeting by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED/FAILED

The special meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandy LaPera, City Clerk