

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 6, 2024**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, NY was held on the sixth day of November 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"/> _____
Kyle Lovell, ACM	<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

Attorney Stacy Marris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Safety Comm. Dave Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Clerk Sandy LaPera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor Michelle Kinville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire Chief Scott Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Codes Director Bob Burnett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Chief Steve Lowell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assessor Rebecca Lennon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Parks & Rec Director Luke Griff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

PROCLAMATION: Zonta Says No to Violence Day-Accepted by Faye Eastwood

Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals with more than 29,000 members in 62 countries working together to make gender equality a worldwide reality for women and girls, **and**

WHEREAS, Zonta International has contributed to help achieve a world free of violence against women and girls for more than 100 years, and, since 2012, continues to raise awareness of crimes of violence against women and girls through their yearly “Zonta Says No To Violence” Campaign for 16 consecutive days from November 25th through December 10th, **and**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization estimates that one in three women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual violence, **and**

WHEREAS, more than 650 million women alive today were married as children and 12 million girls are married before the age of 18 each year, **and**

WHEREAS, the crime of violence against women and girls continues to be the most prevalent human rights violation, and a global epidemic, due to systemic use of physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; such crimes do not know any national or cultural barriers and affect millions of women and girls of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds, in peacetime and conflict, **and**

WHEREAS, Zonta International envisions and continues to strive for a world where every woman is able to achieve her full potential, have access to all resources, is treated with dignity and respect, and is represented on an equal basis with men; **and now therefore**,

I, **Rick Rossi, Mayor** do hereby proclaim November 6, 2024, as:

“Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Day”

in the City of Oneida and encourage all residents to practice and promote gender equality, to advocate for survivors of gender-based violence, and to act in service on their behalf.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the official seal of the City of Oneida on this 6th day of November 2024.

Mayor Rick Rossi

SWEARING IN: Swearing In of City Manager, Kyle Lovell

PUBLIC HEARING: A Local Law amending Chapter 116 of the Oneida City Code regarding Peddling and Solicitation

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING
AMEND CHAPTER 116 OF THE ONEIDA CITY CODE REGARDING PEDDLING AND SOLICITATION**

RESOLUTION 24-244

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing to amend Chapter 116 of the Oneida City Code regarding Peddling and Solicitation is hereby opened at 6:35p.m.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPEARANCES

None

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING
AMEND CHAPTER 116 OF THE ONEIDA CITY CODE REGARDING PEDDLING AND SOLICITATION**

RESOLUTION 24-245

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing to amend Chapter 116 of the Oneida City Code regarding Peddling and Solicitation is hereby closed at 6:35p.m.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

WAYNE WINCHELL-ONEIDA

Wayne Winchell stated that he feels a lot of people in the City think they can do whatever they want and do not care about the state laws. Wayne Winchell raised concerns he had previously communicated to the administration two years ago regarding the Fire Department and commercial inspections. He specifically highlighted issues involving one inspector, which he had detailed in an email to the Council.

Mr. Winchell requested that the Council address his concerns in an open forum rather than in an executive session, emphasizing the importance of transparency with the public. He also expressed apprehension about the Police Department's officer turnover rate. Welcoming City Manager Lovell, Mr. Winchell expressed hope that these issues would be resolved without burdening taxpayers.

PETER HEDGLON-ONEIDA

Peter Hedglon, with nearly six decades of observation of Oneida's city government, noted that many decisions have been driven by self-interest or political motives. He cited examples such as hiring and firing practices, neglecting issues, and failing to maintain infrastructure.

Peter Hedglon explained that one year prior, voters in the City of Oneida had approved an amendment to the City Charter to revise the form of government. He elaborated on the purpose behind this change, stating that the elected Mayor would no longer serve as the Chief Executive Officer. Instead, the elected Common Council would act as the legislative and governing body responsible for policymaking, while an appointed City Manager would take on the role of Chief Executive Officer, responsible for executing the policies.

Peter Hedglon remarked that a pessimist might view the facts and see numerous problems, whereas an optimist could look at those same facts and identify many opportunities. He acknowledged that both perspectives could be valid but emphasized the importance of choosing how to approach those opportunities. Mr. Hedglon shared that he had the privilege of chairing the City Manager Search Committee and noted that none of the candidates claimed to have a "magic wand" to make problems disappear; however, many expressed seeing potential to make a positive impact in Oneida. He stated that Mr. Lovell was their first choice due to his strong credentials and experience. Although it might be tempting to believe Mr. Lovell could solve issues effortlessly, Mr. Hedglon does not believe anyone holds such a "magic wand." He concluded by stressing that effective governance would stem from the collective efforts of elected officials, city employees, residents, and taxpayers engaging actively, understanding the facts, and listening to one another. He emphasized that the most vital aspect was working together for the city's best interest.

ROBERT BRITTON-ONEIDA

Robert Britton expressed gratitude to the Council and welcomed City Manager Lovell to Oneida. He mentioned that he had learned police officers were leaving the city due to financial reasons, acknowledging that they could earn higher salaries elsewhere.

Robert Britton suggested that if raising taxes is necessary to retain police officers, then it should be considered, noting that the city is currently 10 officers short, with more expected to leave by the end of the year. He emphasized that this issue needs to be resolved, as the city relies on its Police Department.

He pointed out that officers are there for the community every day when needed and stressed the importance of focusing on measures to retain current officers and attract new ones.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Szczerba inquired about the current status of the wind turbine situation, noting that he has received calls and questions regarding the moratorium and the Planning Board's role. Councilor Hitchings mentioned that the moratorium is set to expire this month and suggested an extension, citing the absence of a Planning Director, which has hindered the city's ability to conduct necessary due diligence and research. Mayor Rossi acknowledged the confusion stemming from the vacancy of the Planning Director position and expressed optimism that, with the recent hiring of City Manager Lovell, open positions would soon be filled. He advised that there has not been much movement since the moratorium was approved. Councilor Szczerba expressed concern that allowing the moratorium to expire without further action could leave the city vulnerable.

The City of Oneida enacted Local Law No. 1 of 2024, establishing a moratorium on wind energy conversion systems. This moratorium was adopted on May 21, 2024, and is set to expire in November 2024. Mayor Rossi advised that the moratorium could be extended, with Councilor Hitchings confirming that it would still need to go before the Planning Board.

Councilor Szczerba shared concerns from residents about this disrupting well water, the appearance of the wind turbines, how it would affect animals, etc. There was further discussion, and it was determined that this could be addressed at the next Council meeting.

REPORTS:

- **Mayor's Report:** Mayor Rossi thanked all involved with the Phelps Street project, especially National Grid for their donation to make this green space for the community possible.

Mayor Rossi expressed his gratitude to everyone involved in the Trick or Treat Street event, highlighting the significant number of volunteers who contributed to ensuring the children had an enjoyable and safe experience. He also extended his thanks to the Oneida Police and Fire Departments, the Public Safety Commissioner, and the Department of Public Works (DPW) for their excellent efforts in cleaning up the area.

- **City Manager's Report:** Mr. Lovell thanked the Council, Search Committee and the citizens of the community who have reached out and welcomed him, stating that he truly appreciated it. He further stated that as he comes on board, he hopes to meet the high standards, and he looks forward to being a City Manager for all. He advised that he looks forward to the challenges and opportunities, and he feels that the City is not in a bad place but is going to get better, advising that we are going to do this together.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 2024, are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the special meeting of October 21, 2024, are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Szczerba

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 22, checks and ACH payments in the amount of \$674,363.30 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: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

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

RESOLUTION 24-246

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law, a proposed Local Law, titled “A Local Law Amending the Annual Income Ranges for Senior Citizens as set forth in Chapter 165 of the Oneida City Code and Creating a Cold War Veterans Exemption” was presented and introduced at a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Oneida held on October 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on such proposed Local Law on October 15, 2024, by the Common Council of the City of Oneida and proofs of publication of notices of such public hearings, 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 a Type II action and will have no significant effect on the environment, thus concluding the environmental review process; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, does hereby enact a Local Law of 2024 as follows:

“LOCAL LAW 2024

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

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 the combined income of the owners of the property for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making application for exemption exceeds the sum of \$37,000.00.

(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
\$29,000 and less	50%
\$29,001 - \$30,000	45%
\$30,001 - \$31,000	40%
\$31,001 - \$32,000	35%
\$32,001 - \$33,000	30%
\$33,001 - \$34,000	25%
\$34,001 - \$35,000	20%
\$35,001 - \$36,000	15%
\$36,001 - \$37,000	10%

Section 2.

So that the title of Article VI of Chapter 165 is hereby amended to read “Article VI Veteran Exemptions,” and Subsection A of Section 165-14 is hereby amended in its entirety, so as to read as follows:

“A. Exemptions.

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, but subject to the qualifications, limitations and application procedures stated in said section.
2. 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, but subject to the qualifications, limitations and application procedures stated in said section.”

Section 3. 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.”

Mayor Rossi YES
Councilor Szczerba YES
Councilor Laureti YES
Councilor Hitchings YES
Councilor Winchell YES
Councilor Pagano YES
Councilor Simchik YES

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Councilor Hitchings thanked City Assessor Rebecca Lennon for her assistance in bringing this local law forward. She explained that as the deadline for the 2025 taxes was May 1, 2024, any changes with this local law will take effect with the 2026 taxes. The paperwork will need to be submitted to the Assessor by May 1, 2025.

LEASE AGREEMENTS-POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

RESOLUTION 24-247

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign lease agreements with Enterprise Fleet Management and T&D Fleet Solutions for the lease and upfit of replacement police vehicles.

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Councilor Laureti inquired about the number of vehicles being addressed, and Police Chief Lowell confirmed that these were replacement vehicles, noting that this was the first time the unmarked cars were being replaced. It was further explained that the cargo van would serve as a replacement for the CSO vehicle. This change was considered necessary due to an upcoming 2025 law requiring animal control vehicles to be temperature controlled.

**INTRODUCE A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT
ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C-SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING**

RESOLUTION 24-248

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Pagano

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 (SEQR) 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 to said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review under SEQR; 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 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 the enactment of proposed Local Law is an unlisted action, there are no other involved agencies, and this Council shall act as lead agency in this matter for purposes of SEQR review; and it is further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED 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, that a proposed Local Law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-C be hereby received and placed on file as follows:

**CITY OF ONEIDA
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW**

**A LOCAL LAW OVERRIDING THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW
§3-C IN THE CITY OF ONEIDA**

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to allow the City of Oneida to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2025, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Common Council of the City of Oneida, County of Madison, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2025, that requires a

real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 4. Severability

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-C be scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 1 (Laureti)

MOTION CARRIED

MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY BILLING-SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION 24-249

Moved by Councilor Hitchings

Seconded by Councilor Pagano

RESOLVED, to receive and place on file the City of Oneida Miscellaneous Utility Billing for unpaid service charges, water rents and sewer taxes; authorize the charges in the 2024 assessment roll to be re-levied onto the 2025 tax roll, and to schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:30p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, 109 N. Main Street, Oneida, NY 13421.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

2025 CITY OF ONEIDA MAYOR'S BUDGET-SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION 24-250

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, that the 2025 City of Oneida Mayor’s Budget be hereby received and placed on file and schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed budget for Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at City of Oneida City Hall, Common Council Chambers, 109 N. Main St. Oneida, NY 13421.

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION 24-251

Motion to amend the budget transfers to reflect the **removal** of the third entry of \$8,080.46 from ARPA-Oneida Rail trail Improvements (001.1410.0200.000) to ARPA-Rec Volleyball Safety Equipment (030.7140.0409.0000) 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.

	<i>To</i>	<i>From</i>
<i>2024 Budget Adjustments</i>		
\$ 15,000.00	001.1420.0410.0000 Law Litigation	001.0001.0912.000 General Fund Balance
<i>To allocate funds to cover law litigation costs for remainder of 2024</i>		
\$ 643.02	001.1410.0300.0000 Clerk's Office-Materials & Supplies	001.1410.0200.0000 Clerk's Office Equipment
<i>To re-allocate funds for the Clerk's office to purchase additional materials & supplies</i>		
\$ 8,080.46	030.7140.0409.0000 ARPA-Rec Volleyball Safety Equip	030.7140.0406.0000 ARPA-Oneida Rail Trail Improv
<i>To re-allocate unused ARPA funds to purchase Volleyball Safety Equip for Rec Center</i>		

\$	2,500.00	001.3410.0403.0000	001.3410.0300.0000
		Fire Contracts	Fire Medical Supplies

To re-allocate funds to purchase a Fire Preplan program

\$	7,000.00	001.1220.0400.0000	001.0001.0912.000
		City Manager Contracts	General Fund Balance

To allocate funds as per the approved employment contract for payment of moving expenses

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: The City Clerk explained that Director Luke Griff had requested that this entry be removed from the budget transfers.

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS-WWTP CHEMICALS AND LAB SERVICES

RESOLUTION 24-252

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, authorize the Purchasing Agent or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services, to advertise for bids for WWTP Chemicals and Lab Services.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

WATER DEPARTMENT AGREEMENTS

RESOLUTION 24-253

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager to sign the following agreements:

- 2025 Marble Hill Maintenance Agreement

- 2025 Stockbridge Water District Maintenance Agreement
- 2025 Prospect Street Water District Maintenance Agreement

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

FIRE APPARATUS RESERVE FUND

RESOLUTION 24-254

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that expenditures may be made from said Fire Apparatus Reserve Fund for the payment of technical equipment/machinery as it relates to the Fire Department Vehicles; **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller, or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-h, is hereby directed to deposit and secure moneys of this Reserve Fund into a separate bank account to be known as the "Fire Apparatus" Fund **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller, or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services is hereby authorized to invest the moneys of this Fire Apparatus Reserve Fund pursuant to the provisions of Section 11 of General Municipal Law, and any interest earned and/or capital gains realized on said investments shall accrue to, and become part of, this Reserve Fund; **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller, or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services, shall account for the Reserve Fund in a manner which maintains the separate identity of the Reserve Fund and shows the date and amount of each sum paid into the fund, interest earned by the fund, capital gains or losses resulting from the sale of investments of the fund, the amount and date of each withdrawal from the fund and the total assets of the fund, showing cash balance and schedule of investments, and shall, at the end of each fiscal year, render to the Common Council a detailed report of the operation and condition of the Reserve Fund; **and it is further**

RESOLVED, that except as otherwise provided by law, expenditures from this Reserve Fund shall be made only for the purpose for which the Reserve Fund is established; **and it is further**

RESOLVED, that no expenditures shall be made of this Fire Apparatus Reserve Fund, except upon authorization of the Common Council, pursuant to Section 6-h of the General Municipal Law.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Fire Chief Scott Jones responded to Councilor Laureti's question regarding the source of funds for the account. Chief Jones explained that, due to the increasing costs of fire apparatus, a portion of the surplus from the department's annual budget would be allocated to this fund to help mitigate these expenses. He pointed out that the trucks are aging, and this approach could help manage larger expenditures. The Mayor added that, rather than returning this surplus to the General Fund, allocating it toward the department's own expenses would result in cost savings.

In response to a question from Councilor Laureti about who would determine the amount allocated to the account, Fire Chief Jones explained that his department would propose the amount, subject to Council approval.

AGREEMENT-CITY MANAGER MOVING EXPENSE

RESOLUTION 24-255

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, authorize the City Manager to sign a contract with Brown's Moving and Storage as outlined in the City Manager's Employment Contract and approve a one-time payment to said vendor for moving expenses

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION: Councilor Winchell inquired as if it was known what this amount would be, and Mayor Rossi advised that it was just under \$7,000.

AGREEMENT-MADISON COUNTY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

RESOLUTION 24-256

Moved by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Winchell

RESOLVED, authorize the City Manager to sign an updated Madison County Interoperable Communications System Agreement for the use of public safety interoperable

communications equipment and systems.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

WAIVE RULE TO ACCEPT AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLUTION 24-257

Moved by Councilor Winchell

Seconded by Councilor Hitchings

RESOLVED, that per Resolution 08-180 adopted by the Common Council on August 19, 2008, the provisions of the procedure to accept agenda items is hereby waived.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE BID-WATER SHED TIMBER SALE

RESOLUTION 24-258

Moved by Councilor Hitchings

Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, to approve the highest bidder meeting specifications for Water Shed Timber Sale to M.J. Lyndaker Logging LLC, 6606 Old Indian River Rd., Castorland, NY 13620.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Rossi mentioned that he had overlooked expressing his gratitude to the City Clerk for purchasing the banner for the Trick or Treat Street event and for all the effort she put into making it happen.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Go into Executive Session to seek advice of Counsel

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 24-259

Motioned by Councilor Hitchings
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that the meeting is hereby adjourned to Executive Session at 7:06p.m. to

Seek advice of Counsel Discuss a personnel matter

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

PRESENT: Mayor City Manager Council Attorney Stacy Marris

Also Present: Fire Chief Scott Jones and Public Safety Commissioner Dave Jones

1. Discussion was held to: Seek advice of Counsel Discuss a personnel matter

Motioned by Councilor Winchell
Seconded by Councilor Simchik

RESOLVED, that Executive Session is hereby adjourned to the regular meeting at 8:28p.m.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Simchik
Seconded by Councilor Szczerba

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The regular meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandy LaPera, City Clerk