

COMMON COUNCIL
of the
CITY OF SYRACUSE

(09/29)

REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 2, 2023

1:00 P.M.

1. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*
2. *Invocation*
3. *Roll Call*
4. *Minutes*
5. *Advertise Public Hearing – Relative to Agenda Item #10, “Authorize – The approval of a ten (10) year Cable TV Franchise Agreement (renewal) with Spectrum Northeast, LLC (Spectrum), to commence on the date of approval by the New York State Public Service Commission. Spectrum is a direct subsidiary of Charter Communication, Inc. (“Charter”). Charter is the successor in interest to Time Warner Cable which was approved by the Mayor and the Common Council to operate the Cable TV Franchise through the adoption of Ord. #491-1997. Spectrum will continue to pay the maximum allowed by law (5% gross franchise fee) that is currently being collected and will be required to follow City permitting rules for operating within the right-of-way”. (Public Hearing to be held on October 2, 2023, at 1:00 P.M.)*
6. *Petitions*
7. *Committee Reports*
8. *Communications*

NEW BUSINESS

BY PRESIDENT HUDSON:

9. *Resolution - Approving the Appointment of Various Persons as Commissioners of Deeds for 2023/2024.*

BY COUNCILOR GREENE:

10. *Authorize – The approval of a ten (10) year Cable TV Franchise Agreement (renewal) with Spectrum Northeast, LLC (Spectrum), to commence on the date of approval by the New York State Public Service Commission. Spectrum is a direct subsidiary of Charter Communication, Inc. (“Charter”). Charter is the successor in interest to Time Warner Cable which was approved by the Mayor and the Common Council to operate the Cable TV Franchise through the adoption of Ord. #491-1997. Spectrum will continue to pay the maximum allowed by law (5% gross franchise fee) that is currently being collected and will be required to follow City permitting rules for operating within the right-of-way. (Public Hearing to be held on October 2, 2023, at 1:00 P.M.)*
11. *Agreement – With Spectrum Northeast, LLC (Spectrum) to accept a donation of studio equipment at an estimated value of \$4,500. Under the new City-Spectrum cable television franchise agreement, the requirement to maintain a public studio facility has been discontinued. The equipment will be free, but the City will incur the cost of removal, as detailed in the agreement. (Public Hearing to be held on October 2, 2023, at 1:00 P.M.)*
12. *Agreement – With Sarah Stephens d/b/a SS Funding and Procurement and Consulting Resources, LLC, for grant management services that includes researching, writing, reporting, and incorporating best practices to fulfill grant requirements to make the City attractive to funding institutions, for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$6,330 from (ARPA Funds) PeopleSoft Account #800051821. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
13. *Approve – Settlement of Tax Certiorari Proceedings – 93 NYRPT, LLC vs. The Board of Assessors and the Board of Assessment Review of the City of Syracuse – Index Nos: 003000/2020, 003753/2021, 003237/2022, and 003723/2023, for the property located at 1931 – 1933 South Avenue & Valley Drive (Tax Map No.: 078.-15-31.0) relative to the assessed valued for Tax Years 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.*
14. *Approve – Settlement of Tax Certiorari Proceedings – 93 NYRPT, LLC vs. The Board of Assessors and the Board of Assessment Review for the City of Syracuse – Index Nos: 004048/2018, 003241/2019, 003017/2020, 003754/2021, 003245/2022, and 003714/2023, for the property located at 2430 – 2450 James Street & Forest Hill Drive (Tax Map No.: 024.-19-02.0) relative to the assessed value for tax years 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/20201, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, and 2023/2024.*
15. *Authorize – The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (Colliers Valuation & Advisory Services, for the properties at 327 South Salina Street to Bank Alley and 329 South Salina Street to Bank Alley.) Total cost not to exceed \$7,500 charged to Account #13550.01.541500.*

16. *Correct Tax Rolls – (645 Park Avenue & North Geddes Street, and 306 North Geddes Street, to change the assessment roll for tax year 2023/2024) as detailed in Appendix “A”.*

BY COUNCILOR PANIAGUA:

17. *Amend – Ord. #202 (05/10/2021) “Application & Agreement - To and with the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), to implement its Community Health Workers for COVID Response and Resilient Communities Program (CDC), in an amount not to exceed \$700,000, to identify and train residents about COVID-19 vaccination facts and opportunities for immunization. The workers will assist in building and strengthening community resilience to fight COVID-19 and address existing health disparities in the City. No Local match required.” Amend to increase the amount not to exceed to \$1,799,436. All other terms remain the same.*
18. *Authorize - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund, Inc, (CFE) to continue the use of CFE’s client data platform, and FEC counselor training, certification, and support, for a term ending August 31, 2025, as detailed in the MOU. There is no cost to the City.*

BY COUNCILOR GETHERS & COUNCILOR GREENE:

19. *Amend – Ord. #590 (06/20/2016), “Agreement – With MDS MT, LLC to lease and operate the Harrison Street Parking Garage, located at 607-677 Warren Street South and Adams Street East for the period of ten (10) years to expire June 30, 2026, with three (3) renewal options of five (5) years. The City will be compensated \$400,000 annually for each of the first five (5) years and \$450,000 annually for each of the next five (5) years”. Amend to extend the initial term to expire June 30, 2031 to accommodate the terms of a delinquent rent payment plan to address arrearage accrued by MDS MNT, LLC, to include two (2) five (5) year renewal options with the approval of the Mayor and Common Council, which will include an increase of \$558,336 in annual rent through June 30, 2026, and increase to \$608,328 from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2031, the tenants would be responsible for repairs and maintenance. All other terms and conditions remain the same.*
20. *Authorize – A payment agreement with MDS MS, LLC, for delinquent rent payment for real property commonly known as the Harrison Street Parking Garage, located at 601-677 South Warren Street, Tax Map #095.-01-01.1. The delinquent lease payment totals \$1,070,833 (exclusive of interest of \$53,541.67). In the agreement \$ 299,374.99 will be written-off (\$245,833.32-hardship, & \$53,541.67-interest) and will accept \$150,000 down payment, as detailed in the attachment. The remaining delinquent lease balance of \$675,000 will be amortized over the remaining term of the lease at an interest rate of 5.3%, as detailed in the legislation. Payments due on or before December 1, 2023.*

BY COUNCILOR GETHERS:

21. *Agreement – With Chuck It Haulers, for Supplemental Collection Services for Residential Solid Waste, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, for a period of one (1) year from the date of execution, with two (2) six-month renewal options with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. Total cost not to exceed \$239,000 from Account #01.14910.540552.*
22. *Accept – From Syracuse Industrial Development Agency (SIDA) an amount not to exceed \$500,000, to undertake repairs and improvement to the Center Armory Garage, located at 218 West Jefferson Street. The City will be responsible for funding the remaining 50% cost of the repairs, charged to Account #599007.01.99999.*
23. *Amend – Ord. #838 (12/19/2022), “Agreement – With Syracuse Industrial Development Agency (SIDA) for the City to be responsible for the maintenance and management of the Center Armory Parking Garage located at 218 West Jefferson St, for the first of (2) one-year renewal option, effective December 1, 2022-November 30, 2023. The City will pay SIDA the sum of \$1 per year”. Amend to modify the last renewal period from one-year to a three (3) year period, from December 1, 2023-November 30, 2026. All other terms and conditions remain the same.*
24. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2023/2024 Interstate Lighting Upgrades Program. Total amount not to exceed \$100,000.*
25. *Authorize – The 2023/2024 Interstate Lighting Upgrades Program, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, to replace end-of-lifespan and damaged interstate lighting equipment that is considered obsolete and past its useful life expectancy. Total cost not to exceed \$100,000.*
26. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2023/2024 Street Lighting Legacy Pricing Exceptions Replacement Project. Total amount not to exceed \$200,000.*
27. *Authorize – The 2023/2024 Street Lighting Legacy Pricing Exceptions Replacement Project, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, to replace end-of-lifespan street lighting equipment that is considered obsolete and past its useful life expectancy. Total cost not to exceed \$200,000.*
28. *Purchase w/c/b – From J&J Equipment, LLC., miscellaneous Sewer Camera System repair service and parts, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$25,000 charged to Account #06.81100.540710.*

29. *Purchase w/c/b – From Spring City Electrical, Hapco, Inc., Fonroche Lighting America, and Quantela, street lighting decorative fixtures and poles, aluminum poles and arms, solar lighting assemblies, and sensors for lighting fixtures, on behalf of the DPW, for the period of July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$350,000 charged to various accounts, as detailed in the legislation.*
30. *Authorize – An Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Dewitt, to assist with the operation of Dewitt Water Department, who no longer have a certified Water Plant Operator, for a period of one year from the date of execution, with two (2) twelve (12) month, renewal options with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. The terms and conditions are outlined in the legislation.*
31. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$1,500,000 to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Lead Service Line Replacement/Inventory.*
32. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$250,000, to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Facilities Securities.*
33. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$200,000, to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Fire Hydrant Replacement.*
34. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$150,000 to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 PRV Pit Replacement.*
35. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$100,000 to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Rehabilitation of Skaneateles Facilities.*
36. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$75,000 to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Valve Repair and Replacements.*
37. *Transfer Funds – From Water Cash Capital Account #05.99999.599805 in the amount of \$29,000 to a Capital Account entitled 2023-2024 Rehabilitation of Gate Houses, Pump Houses and Vaults.*

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN:

38. *Application & Agreement – To and With United States Department of Energy (USDOE), under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program, in an amount not to exceed \$196,000, to implement high-impact, self-sustaining clean energy projects that center the needs of low-income and Disadvantaged Communities. If approved, funds will be used to focus on energy efficiency retrofits. There is no local match required.*

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

39. *Accept – From Catholic Charities of Onondaga County, a donation in the amount of \$22,474.09, to be used for the installation of COPS Cameras at their facility located at 1801 Erie Boulevard East. Funds will be deposited into Account #427051.01.*
40. *Agreement – With Dr. William Cross, to instruct training and consult with the Police Department’s Peer Support Team and Officer Wellness Program, for a period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$2,500 charged to Account #541500.01.31230. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
41. *Agreement – With Dr. Rebecca Bernard-Dunn, to instruct training and consult with the Police Department’s Peer Support Team and Officer Wellness Program, for a period of July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$2,500, from Account #541500.01.31230. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
42. *Agreement – With Paradigm Polygraph Associates, LLC, to conduct polygraph examinations, on behalf of the Department of Police, as part of the recruit hiring process, for a period of July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$4,500 from Account #541500.01.31230. The Mayor waived the RFP Process.*
43. *Agreement – With Upstate Emergency Medicine, Inc., to engage medical professionals to support and oversee delivery of emergency medical services for the City during activations and trainings with the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team, on behalf of the Department of Police, for a period of five (5) years from the date of execution. Total cost not to exceed \$10,000 for 2023/2024, from Account #541500.01.31230.*
44. *Agreement – With SST, Inc., for ShotSpotter gunfire location, alert, and analysis services related to Phase II-Northside Expansion, effective for the period of one (1) year from March 2, 2023-March 1, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$149,800, charged to Account #540530.01.31220. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
45. *Appropriate Funds – From the 2023/2024 Unallocated Cash Capital Account #599007.01.99999, in an amount not to exceed \$3,037,500, for Vehicles for the Department of Police, as detailed in Appendix “A”.*
46. *Authorize – An Intermunicipal Agreement with Onondaga County, to provide two (2) Outreach Workers for Persons in Crisis (“PIC”) calls. The Police Department will refer appropriate individual to the team, the outreach team will assess, design plans for and refer individuals to the appropriate and desired services, which includes mental health services, substance abuse services, victim services, emergency departments, hospitals, homeless shelters, and respite care. The effective date will be November 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$180,000 charged to Account #541500.01.31230. as detailed in the legislation,*

47. *Purchase w/c/b – From Airworx LLC, a Transcend Tactical Vantage Robot with remote burn safe payload and related accessories, for the Department of Police Emergency Response Team, for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$50,000 charged to the 2020 NYS DHSES Tactical Team Grant, Account #599802.02.31225 and Account #520620.01.31230.*
48. *Purchase w/c/b – From Zistos Corporation, a thermal imaging pole camera and a dual view “under the door” camera, on behalf of the Department of Police, for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$40,000 charged to the 2020 NYS DHSES Tactical Team Grant, Account #599802.02.31225.*

BY COUNCILOR ALLEN

49. *Application & Agreement – To and With the Preservation League of New York State, for a Technical Assistance Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, to be used for an architectural feasibility/reuse study or limited condition assessment, to help determine a potential project scope and limitations for any future restoration project of the Stone Milhouse Building in Elmwood Park. There is a required local match of 20% or \$1,000 to be charged to Account #71400.01.541500.*
50. *Approve – An installation of an Honorary Street Sign in recognition of Michael Yorton, whose unique vision made him a legendary figure in the City of Syracuse. Yorton operated the Blue Tusk in Center Armory with his father, Tim , and other family members from 1992 until 2022. Blue Tusk won many accolades over the years. In 2008, national magazine “All About Beer” ranked the Blue Tusk No. 48 in its list of “Top 125 Places in the world to have a beer”, ahead of bars in London, Dublin, Munich, and New York City. Yorton is remembered for creating his own community and making many people’s lives more enjoyable.*

(SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA – OCTOBER 2, 2023)
WAIVER OF THE RULES REQUIRED TO INTRODUCE:

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

51. *Resolution – In recognition of Governor Kathy Hochul for legislation that designates the Asian Lunar New Year as a public school holiday, an important step in acknowledging the contributions of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities to the rich cultural diversity of New York State.*